

I have never known a man or woman whose life was entirely free from care, responsibility or sorrow. But I have known a man or woman who, by adversity, have somehow exulted themselves through personal burdens by a good job done for within.

74TH YEAR—NO. 35

S and THAT

By G. R. A.

Confusion on TV

In the few times that I have observed the TV program known as "Keeping Posted," it has been interesting, and no educationally very confusing. With so many people on it, each either asking questions or trying to answer them, there is not sufficient time, between commercials, for the program to do a good job.

In a lesser way, another program, "Meet the Press," sometimes leaves its audience (and an average viewer) quite confused.

ALL OF WHICH causes me to believe that, unless certain types of programs, discussing certain subjects, are more times held by the less than half hour allotted them now, they are, in fact, a disservice to the country.

How, for example, can you expect men like Gov. Stassen and Admiral Zacharias to cover America's foreign policy, what the UN should do in Korea, how to combat communism, etc., etc., in about 22 minutes? It simply cannot be done. The result is confusion compounded in the public thinking.

Courageous Cobo

For Detroit's sake (and thus the cause of self-government) it is good to learn that courageous Al Cobo has been re-elected Mayor of Detroit. His recent success again proves that most good public officials, if they have intelligence and use it, and are willing to stand up bravely against pressure groups or quacks and demagogues, can win the public's approval.

Some day Al Cobo should be governor of Michigan, and then he ought to grow up to be the U.S. Senator. Maybe he will—because he does, no doubt it will be because he is, and doesn't allow himself to be higher public office than he is worth in his current public service record.

So far as we know, the illicit peddling of narcotics among school kids has not struck Birmingham and adjacent areas. However, should some local youngster be "approached" to the effect, "We want you to sell us some stuff," he should be courageous to report the situation to the proper police or public authorities. Such an act could save not only countless heartaches but lives as well, including the informer.

I observe that State Senator Frank Heath, of Big Lake, is going to call a meeting of State officials to see what can be done about the water level in the Great Lakes. Frank is quoted as saying that his group will look into the problem, and possibly the whole public mind. Being a staunch Republican, maybe Senator Heath will place a developed solution in his legislative program. It may be something like causing water to run uphill and empty into Hudson Bay.

Speaking of uncontrolled inflation, what about those \$1,000 per capita checks being held by both the Republican and Democratic parties? Wonder why these "Dollars" don't look into the menus and prices on such occasions. Certainly these checks could hold that much in more food values!

When a politician, or a political party, in an "emergency" (whether or not said emergency exists) find it easy to tax and tax the people, then there grows a sort of patriotic appetite for more and more taxes—for with these tremendous taxes great power accrues to the politician or the political party. This is what we have been witnessing for many years under the New Deal Government. They are drunk with power... so drunk they have lost most of what American civic sobriety they ever had!

Refunds Due Property Owners in 2 Districts

Special assessment refunds totaling \$14,708.94, are being prepared for property owners in two districts.

Eaton road paving, from Webster to 14 Mile, estimated in 1946 to cost \$22,000, was completed at a cost of \$22,445.35. The unexpended balance amounts to \$13,950.67.

Estimates on the pavement of Mansfield between Sheffield and Bradford, and Sheffield, between 20th and 21st, were \$18,915. The work was completed for \$18,324.46. Accrued interest brings the amount to be refunded to \$17,872.27.

Roll Call Plans

A discussion of dates and plans for the annual Community House Roll Call was held by board members Monday night. It is expected that final details will be worked out at a meeting next week.

All members of the Community House should attend the ROLL CALL. PHONE EM 9191.



"THE THING" WILL GET YOU if you don't watch out! Sgt. Robert Emmett (left), and Patrolman Lyle Serre hover under the case containing "The Thing" which will begin tripping local speedsters on or about Dec. 1. In this case "The Thing" is the radar speed control unit, purchased by the city, after a successful demonstration before city officials and police department personnel last fall. The unit, will be mounted on a police car within the next few weeks and appropriate warning signs are posted at city entrances, will be put into active use controlling speedsters, the No. One cause of street and highway fatalities throughout the nation. (Dick Shirk Photo)

NSC Expert Discusses City Traffic

Birmingham's traffic analysis was the subject of a meeting attended by city officials' school representatives, police and justice court judges at the municipal building Monday.

Harold Porter, Jr., supervisor of annual traffic inventories for the National Safety Council, lead the discussion which was based on the recently published NSC report, described as a yardstick against which needs and progress should be measured.

The report shows the Birmingham traffic record bureau to be underfunded. The NSC recommendation for a city of this size is 60 man hours to process the volume of reports. The local department used only 30 man hours.

RECORDS ON accident reports are filed by report number, in Birmingham. The traffic inventory does not consider this system adequate and suggests all should be filed according to location. These reports should be available for study at any time to facilitate correcting high accident locations.

Records being filed in groups such as drunk driving, pedestrian accidents, day or night mishaps, teenage drivers, etc. The classification system was rated as more valuable in educational programs.

Although traffic law enforcement here was tighter during 1950, the analysis dropped Birmingham's rating of efficiency from 1949's 78 percent to 46 percent for last year. The city rated 43 among 294 cities studied in '49 and 166 among the 314 surveyed last year.

THREE ADDITIONAL officers should be added to the police force for this community. The work time of five additional men should be devoted to traffic work, to meet NSC standards.

The council also suggested that all police personnel should have two weeks or more each year of specialized traffic administrative training.

It further recommended that Birmingham should undertake a

(See TRAFFIC, Page 2)

NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE WILL BE IN YOUR MAILBOX ONE DAY EARLIER

(On Wednesday, instead of the usual Thursday) Because of Thanksgiving Day Therefore, all copy deadlines—news, display and classified advertising—must be advanced one day to MONDAY, NOV. 19, AT 5 P.M.

Rain, Mud Fail To Halt Maples

Slipping and sloshing through the mud at Pierce field, the Birmingham football team gained a 21-0 victory over Berkley Tuesday night.

Water from the week-end thaw, combined with intermittent downpours throughout the game, turned the field into a sea of mud. In some places water stood four inches deep. One of the game officials described it as the worst playing condition he had seen in 20 years.

Despite the slippery condition of the field, Maple halfback Tom Tracy turned in his usual outstanding performance, scoring all his team's points. In the fourth quarter Tracy suffered a broken nose and was forced to leave the game.

BERKLEY RECEIVED the opening kickoff and in five plays moved the ball 45 yards to the 17, where Birmingham dug in and took possession of the ball on downs.

With Tracy and Gordon Match were forced to kick. An exchange of punts followed as neither team could move the ball.

Birmingham started a drive from its own 40 that reached the

'Miss Great Lakes' Is Purchased by Birmingham Man

By RAY DENNIS

One of the racing world's most colorful and well known power boats has recently been purchased by a Birmingham man.

Richard H. Riley, 32346 Arlington drive, Beverly Hills, has acquired the famous Gold Cup and Harmsworth race boat, "Miss Great Lakes", from Al Fallon, Detroit manufacturer and sportsman.

Riley announced this week that the craft will be renamed "Miss Birmingham" and will represent this city at the various speed-races next year.

The boat, which was the first to be powered with an Allison engine, came to Detroit in 1946 when Birmingham started a drive from its own 40 that reached the

at Washington, breaking two world records and lowering Count Theodore Rossi's record. That October, "Miss Great Lakes" turned over a new record doing nearly 150 MPH. The boat and the mechanic were seriously injured.

During the 1946 Gold Cup race, an overcrowd crowd of 800,000 spectators watched the boat set a record of 150.7 MPH. The same year with Danny Foster at the wheel, the craft won the President's Cup race

To Award Garbage Contract

Consideration of awarding a contract for collection and disposal of garbage in the city has been continued until next Monday's city commission meeting.

Four proposals have been received and City Manager Donald C. Egbert recommended that the city authorize a contract with T. G. Stewart for 1952. Stewart's bid is at the rate of 58 cents per month for each residential collection, which is the current charge.

Present contractor, Veteran's Disposal Service, submitted the highest proposal, 75.4 cents per month.

EGBERT STATED Monday, "Veteran's Disposal Service has been performing this service for the city for the past three years.

Garbage, Rubbish Authority Asks Advance in Funds

The city commission Monday evening approved an advance of \$77,335.60 to the Southeastern Oakland County Garbage and Rubbish Authority, subject to agreement of all members to sign a contract.

The authority recently passed a resolution requesting the advance funds from the members. A total of \$80,000 is needed for completion of engineering plans, making of bids and commencement of construction.

The authority's legal counsel has advised that issues of an initial revenue bond issue solely to finance preliminary expenses, the advance in funds is based on 50 cents per capita on the official 1950 census of the participating municipalities. The money each city advanced would be returned upon the sale of the bonds that were to be used to construct the incinerator.

They have acquired very satisfactory equipment. We haven't been satisfied with the quality of service which has been performed by this company and we have had a large number of complaints.

We discussed the equipment which Stewart proposes to use with the General Motors Corp. Truck and Coach Division in Pontiac, and they advise that he has arranged to purchase a General Motors truck equipped with a nine yard load packer. The truck that delivery will be made on the load packer prior to Jan. 1, 1952.

Egbert continued, "Stewart has two pick-up trucks in addition to the truck which he proposes to purchase. He has been engaged in the business of picking up garbage."

(See CONTRACT, Page 2)

Christmas Prevue Slated for Dec. 3

The first Monday in December again has been designated as Christmas Prevue for Birmingham and keep the celebration launch their third annual program.

Most merchants will join the program and keep their doors open from 7 to 9 p.m.; on Dec. 3. It will continue on the pattern previously set, operating purely on a "guest night" theme, with little or no selling.

Harold Kalbfleisch, Chamber of Commerce business committee chairman, has requested all merchants and keep the Holiday spirit through store decorations, especially brightly lighted store fronts.

Local UF Officials 'Light' The Torch

Thursday noon ceremony climaxes successful drive (Dick Shirk Photo)

"THE SCHOOL DRIVE was carried out with great cooperation and success, and the response of students and the school system to the editorial contest brought unusual attention to the meaning of the Torch Drive.

"The collaboration of the Birmingham community and the response of students and the school system to the editorial contest brought unusual attention to the meaning of the Torch Drive.

"The collaboration of the Birmingham community and the response of students and the school system to the editorial contest brought unusual attention to the meaning of the Torch Drive.



LOCAL UF OFFICIALS 'LIGHT' THE TORCH Thursday noon ceremony climaxes successful drive (Dick Shirk Photo)

Will Birmingham Become a New US Cotton Center?

Something new has been added to the possibility of Birmingham becoming a cotton center.

Malcolm Dadd, 883 Madison, brought proof to the Eccentric office Monday afternoon that cotton can be grown here. While vacationing in the south last year, he picked up a few seeds and brought them back for experimenting.

"We started the plants in the house," he said, "and set them out just before the weather turned cold. For some time the little plants just sat and did nothing. Finally they started to grow, although only three survived our Michigan weather."

Meals Late, Homes Cool As Brownout Hits Birmingham

Birmingham's scheduled brownout this Saturday evening delayed dinners, blocked out TV, stopped electric heating units and refrigerators and left a local switchboards as householders tried to find out what happened.

The trouble lasted from 5:30 to 7 p.m., cutting power in Birmingham, Oak Park, Beverly Hills, Royal Oak and surrounding areas.

The police radio here also was out of commission because of the power shortage.

Robert Jones Will Head Birmingham Kiwanis Club

Robert Jones, 1220 Buckingham, was named president of the Birmingham Kiwanis club Tuesday evening. James Riley will serve as first vice president and Marvin Kaufman, second vice president for the coming year. Anthony D'Agostino was named treasurer.

Directors are Garland Tait, Paul Stocker, Lee Howard, Ed Barber, Charles Savage, Cliff Wright and Clarence Clobert.

Chairman Praises Community

In a smashing finale, the United Foundation, Torch Drive in the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin area soared far over the top, exceeding the record quota by 11.5 per cent.

Nearly 400,000 was contributed in the last few days of the campaign to bring the total to \$136,284, against a quota of \$122,884. It was the largest fund drive type ever raised in the area, and helps assure successful operation next year of health and social service agencies joined together in the United Foundation.

Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, campaign director, said the total is still growing as volunteers continue to turn in more complete reports.

"The ranks of the volunteers swelled as the campaign progressed and by its conclusion, more than 200,000 people were engaged in community life—business, industry, home, club, school, church, or otherwise. It was a truly remarkable thing to see so many people so actively engaged in the community."

"An unusually sharp sense of civic responsibility" was credited by Campaign Director John F. St. Clair with the great success of the three-week fund raising program.

"This civic sense was evidenced strongly in every phase of the campaign," St. Clair said. "Merchants were generous in the contribution of special window displays and in the conspicuous use of United Foundation promotional material. Business gave a one hundred per cent backing to the sponsored advertising program.

Grandfather Don Egbert Welcomes Son's Daughter

It was candy and cigars, around the city hall Monday and Tuesday after City Manager Donald C. Egbert and Mrs. Egbert received the news about their first grandchild—a girl.

The baby was born Nov. 12 to Aileen and Mrs. Dwight Egbert in California. Egbert is stationed at the Navy's Alameda Air Base.

Former residents of Hills road, are now residing in Berea, Ohio.

Local Officers Arrest Pair Wanted in Pontiac

Radio and departmental cooperation paid off for Birmingham and Pontiac Police early Tuesday morning.

Pontiac Police broadcast an alert bulletin at 1:31 a.m., describing a car stolen there. At 2 o'clock the community unit, so strongly and this was a very important element in the unprecedented success of this year's Torch Drive."

Officers arrested Edward Lee Roberts and Maurice Roberts, both of Pontiac. The two were turned over to Pontiac officers for questioning.

Merry Christmas, Kids!

An appropriation of \$200 for the annual Christmas shoe drive for Birmingham school children has been approved by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. Further details will be announced after the program has been fully arranged.

Need help? Skilled or unskilled, you can get your man (or men) through The Eccentric Want-Ads.

PHONE MI 4-1100 Ask for the Want Ad desk.

