

THURSDAY, OCT. 11, 1951.

Has Danger of War Increased?

Insistence upon prompt and speedy organization of fighting forces in Europe leads some Americans to wonder whether the threat of war is more imminent now than when the United States began to rearm.

There can be no positive answer. Everybody recognized that there was the danger, if the Soviet Union was determined upon the use of force to advance its ambitions, that before permitting us to balance the military advantage of the Russians, the Communist leaders would take the risk of war.

THE THEORY WAS that the Russians, having an advantage, would use it before we could be strong enough to thwart their aggression.

From Our Point of View

England's Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, has decided to hold a general election in that country on October 25. His Socialist-Labor government has so narrow a majority in the House of Commons that Attlee is afraid to wait too long for public reaction to his inability to better the average Britisher's lot—so he chooses the early date, hoping to gain more strength in Parliament. In the meantime, Winston Churchill's conservative group expects to unseat Attlee when the votes are counted Oct. 25. England certainly does need this great maugrain in its current atomic hour of economic need.

So They Say . . .

John Foster Dulles, U. S. Ambassador-at-Large: "The United States, as occupying power, has put up \$2,000,000,000 for economic relief of Japan."

Lynds D. McCormick, admiral, commander U. S. Atlantic Fleet: "Eventually, I think every carrier will be equipped with atomic bombs."

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager
GEORGE W. WYLLIE, Managing Editor
HAROLD P. BURGER, Advertising Manager

The Eccentric is a member of: National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association and University Press Club

The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcomed. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

NEW LIFE FOR OLD OIL FIELDS

With the continuing increase in the mechanization of the American economy, just how much oil does the United States have left?

How long will it last?

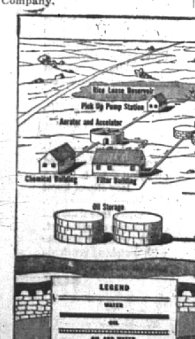
What are the possibilities of new fields being discovered?

The answer to the first question can be reasonably estimated if based on known U. S. fields.

The second and third questions are continual question marks. It depends on who you ask—who will probably get different answers from one geologist to another.

But new life for old oil fields is promised by the success of a conservation project demonstrated at Benton, Ill., last week before a group of civic and industrial leaders.

CALLED THE Benton Water Flood, the project consists in pumping water down into oil-bearing formations and thus forcing to the surface millions of barrels of oil which would not otherwise be recovered. The flood was planned and is being operated by Shell Oil Company.



According to a company official, the Benton flood "points to greatly increased production from the old and lagging fields in the mid-continent area. Tremendous quantities of oil remain in these fields, but natural pressure has fallen so far that very little oil can be recovered economically by ordinary methods. Water flooding, such as that used at Benton, may well solve the problem."

By last week—less than two years after starting water injection—the Benton Water Flood had produced 1,000,000 barrels of oil more than would have been recovered from the field in the flooding method had not been used.

PRODUCTION, which had fallen to a few hundred barrels a day before the flood, is now 7500 barrels a day. Millions of barrels more are expected to be taken from the field before the flood is completed.

Installations needed for the flooding operation include a reservoir, water-greating plant, and an elaborate system of pumps and pipes.

Water is piped to the reservoir from a lake six miles away. The treating plant removes contamination that might plug the oil sands and also block the flood.

As water is pumped into the field it fills the space left by oil and gas already produced and pushes remaining oil to the wells and up to the surface.

For a water flooding operation to be practical, the entire oil field must be operated as a single unit. At Benton, this required the agreement of 276 interested parties. When this had been obtained, Shell converted certain of the field's wells from oil production to water injection, installed the needed equipment, and proceeded with the flood.

EACH OWNER receives a share of the newly increased production based on his share of the field's total production before the flood was started. This ensures all owners a proper return regardless of how their wells are used.

The following sketch shows in more detail how this flooding operation works.



A Tough Job—Even for the Plumber



Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned from Old Files of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO
October 11, 1901
John Rainey of Chicago is home for a short visit. He is the same John as of old and his friends are all glad to see him once more.

Last Sunday being a very nice day our village was filled to overflowing with strangers. Nice people, just strolling around and enjoying Birmingham ozone.

The Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star is meeting this week in Grand Rapids. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Bartraw are there. We are pleased that Birmingham chapter could be so ably represented.

John Wilber of Troy narrowly escaped a serious accident Friday morning last while attempting to cross the tracks at the corner of Saginaw and Brown streets. The upbound car caught the shoe and threw him to the ground cutting his head slightly. Our neighbor was frightened but unhurt.

Schuyler Adley with the good will of the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ford, Schuyler has not been in Birmingham for 20 years and notes our steady growth and population.

20 YEARS AGO
October 15, 1931
State librarians honored Mrs. Nancy B. Thomas of Baldwin public library last week when she was elected president of the Michigan Library association at their convention in Battle Creek. She has been in charge of the local library since 1927.

More than 1,000 Baptist delegates held their state-wide convocation at the University of Michigan last week. The main address will be given Wednesday by Gov. Wilbur Bricker.

Thumb jerkers will have to find some other means of getting from

place to place. Commissioners Monday night voted to make hitch-hiking illegal, regretting that it will be a blow to the boys working at the golf clubs, but an action officials feel it necessary.

Bloomfield township officers have approved the proposed Rouge drain plan. Country drain board members stated that the work would be scheduled for some later date, when financial circumstances were better.

Bloomfield Hill, Fire Chief Russell V. Moore was overcome by fumes Friday while fighting a fire at the home of Paul A. Thompson, Cranbrook staff member. Moore has been returned to his home after spending some time in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac.

5 YEARS AGO
October 17, 1946
November 1st will see "Charter Night" for the new Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce. Dinner is expected for about 150 persons, including many men prominent in other such groups throughout the state.

Birmingham's city assessor, Elmer W. Haak, has been named president of the Municipal Association of Assessors of Michigan. The annual meeting of this statewide group was held in Detroit last Friday.

The school budget for 1946-47 was introduced at last week's meeting of the board of education last week. Operating expenses for the year are estimated at \$611,807, an increase of \$187,556.03 over the previous year.

Edwin Kirshner has been selected to serve as executive secretary for the Birmingham branch of the Detroit Y. M. C. A. The announcement was made to the local board of directors by Dr. John K. Ormond last week.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column. All must be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be limited to 500 words.

To the Editor:
I will take this opportunity to thank you for sending us your newspaper.

It has been a great source of information and enjoyment in our family. "Have You Met . . ." column is a fine way to welcome newcomers and is very much appreciated.

We like Birmingham very much and know we will be very happy here. I am anxious to make you feel at home.

MRS. R. B. ROBERTS
1259 Stanley

To the Editor:
At last, the low point in television advertising has been reached. One of the most popular programs, which is sponsored by a leading cigarette company, the

manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers was introduced at last week's meeting of the board of directors of the program.

The program opened Monday, while the country's baseball fans were in a high state of excitement over the New York Giant-Brooklyn playoff series.

After the introduction and a tremendous ovation, the subject of conversation was immediately switched to cigarette smoking and the manager gave an endorsement of the sponsoring brand.

The response to the advertisement delivered a ringing commercial for the cigarette.

This situation certainly should have made quite an impression on the youth of the nation. It's a pity that the manager of the program didn't have a wider known personality have to capitalize on such a popular event as a baseball playoff.

Disgusted

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE.

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

LOOKING FORWARD
Feeling that we had given too much evidence of our ignorance by not knowing all the comic book characters by name, we tried to steer the conversation to a safer level with a friend's kids the other day, and asked about Halloween.

If you think we didn't get an earful—well, you don't know these Birmingham kids!

It's just about a month before that Night of Nights, but they are already looking forward to it and it's amazing how complete their plans are!

The daughter knows just exactly what she is going to wear and will describe her costume in great detail. This one, she tells you,

doesn't want you to know what she will look like.

THE OLDER SON snorts at her plans for finery and swears you won't be able to tell him from Roy Rogers! He's quite heartbroken because no horse will be available, but he'll ensure that even the great Rogers has to walk to the chuck wagon.

Her number two is torn between two loves—Mickey Mouse and Leonard the Leopard.

Mickey, he feels, is much better known but on the other hand, Leonard is bigger and stronger and could probably eat Mickey in one swallow.

He has also pointed out that if he could be Leonard the drappings from his sandwich would not show

characters, he is driving his mother slowly nuts!

THERE ARE two new families in the block, and all the old kids are giving the new kids orientation courses on how they should act and what they may expect.

According to the mother of the old kids, the newcomers have been alerted as to which families consider small stomachs on doorbell night, and pass out such items as

oranges. They have also been alerted on the custom of one family to dress up with the kids and appear at the door as pirates, ghosts or what have you.

They are also telling the newcomers and kids who are in school for the first time, about the parties they may expect there. Bigger even than the parties are the drawing classes where ghosts, witches on brooms, black cats and pumpkin faces are the order of the day.

ONCE IN A while a tired committee member may wonder if the whole thing shouldn't be dropped. To dispel any such thought they need only a 10-minute talk with some of the kids themselves. Just the glow in their eyes will pay for the hours of planning and the hard work involved in the actual party. To them it is really a highlight of the year, and something they will not soon forget.

GET MORE

Here's What We Do:

- 1 Clean and Adjust Spark Plugs
- 2 Check Battery Cables and Wiring
- 3 Clean Carburetor
- 4 Clean Air Filter
- 5 Check Generator and Fan Belt
- 6 Adjust Points, Check Distributor Timing

Only \$4.95

Parts extra—If needed F.D.A.F.

with this FALL FOR Engine Tune-Up

HAROLD TURNER, Inc.
Turn To Turner — Your Friendly Ford Dealer

464 S. WOODWARD AVENUE Phone Midwest 4-7500 or JO 4-6266

OFFER GOOD UNTIL OCT. 31!

YOU CAN'T BEAT GAS FOR WATER HEATING

Gas HEATS WATER . . . Faster!

Gas HEATS WATER Cheaper!

Gas WATER HEATERS COST LESS TO BUY AND INSTALL . . . AS WELL AS MAINTAIN AND OPERATE

AND

FOR A Gas Water Heater THAT'S TOPS IN OPERATION AND ECONOMY—YOU CAN'T BEAT THIS AUTOMATIC HANDLEY-BROWN Speedmaster

Yes, this dependable Handley-Brown Gas Water Heater is the answer to cheaper hot water and plenty of it.

Your family will be able to enjoy all the convenience that hot water affords—24 hours a day—every day.

It's tops in quality, beauty, design and dependability, too! Come in . . . ask about its many outstanding features . . . Safety Controls . . . Extra Heavy Steel tank . . . Fiberglass insulation . . . Exclusive Uniflame Burner . . . Exclusive Reflecto-Plate and many more—you'll be glad you did.

Enjoy HOT WATER 24 HOURS A DAY Every Day!

Save Time—Save Money—Get this dependable **HANDLEY-BROWN Gas Water Heater Today**

Only \$117.75 EASY TERMS

AG-2803-33

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY