

Millions . . . Are Fearful of Future

By nature, we are optimistic about life and the opportunities afforded human beings for "the pursuit of happiness."

Yet, for the moment, we are compelled to agree with: "It is a gloomy moment in history, not for many years—not in the lifetime of most men who read this—has there been so much grave and deep apprehension."

"IN EUROPE AND ASIA the political caldron seethes and bubbles with uncertainty. Russia hangs like a cloud, dark and silent, upon the horizon of Europe, while all the energies, resources, and influences of the British Empire are sorely tried, and are yet to be tried more sorely, in coping with the vast and deadly disturbed relations in China and India."

"It is a solemn moment and no man can feel an indifference which, happily, no man pretends to feel—in the issue of events."

"Of our own troubles no man can see the end. They are, fortunately, as yet mainly political and industrial; and if we are only to be taught wisdom—the wisdom of honor, of faith, of sympathy, and of charity—

no man need seriously to despair. We must resist and subdue the forces, which are the occasion of this widespread evil and harmful distress."

"THE SUNSHINE COMES and goes, the clouds lower and pass. The road has its peaks and its valleys. But, with our feet firmly planted on God's good earth—with a heart full of courage and love—we can join in the work of creation by making out of the world what God intended."

Now that you have read the above lines, let us remind you that they were written way back on October 10, 1857, as an editorial in Harper's Weekly.

Between then and now, mankind has made considerable progress toward an improved environment, physically speaking, of course. It's material existence has changed for the better, and even it's thinking has advanced quite a bit; yet those lines from Harper's describe present domestic and international conditions.

PERHAPS, EVERYTHING CONSIDERED, we may take encouragement in the knowledge that, since 1857, mankind has made progress . . . despite the troubles that also made themselves manifest. Many physical barriers have been overcome . . . perhaps the next 100 years will record comparable improvement in mind and spirit, which really will be something to chronicle with pride and glory!

Why Should Results Be Expected?

Actions by Soviet Russia in the United Nations organization proves that the free nations do not get along with that Communistic state. So why should we expect good results from the truce council in Korea, which has been going on for about eleven months?

Yet our leaders continue to pour men and money into that stalemate, without much help from other nations. It is like committing a sick person to a hospital . . . but instead of trying to cure him, let him get much sicker, then a little better, but never well again.

It's a Good Plan, Senators

IT'S A GOOD PLAN, SENATORS Both of Michigan's U. S. Senators, Blair Moody and Homer Ferguson, currently are trying to get Congress to set up a body, appointed by and responsible only to Congress itself, whose job will be to maintain constant review and appraisal of all phases of the federal budget, appropriations, etc.

We think the idea a good one. It will provide Congress with its own information on national needs, and not make Congress so dependent upon the Executive Dept.'s Bureau of the Budget—a bureau that too often stacks its figures against the taxpayers and in favor of some politicians and the bureaucrats.

Competition for Civic Rewards

This business of nominating candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States every four years certainly requires a lot of human energy, human manipulating, divine tolerance, and public apathy.

it out, since so much of it seems later to fade into invisibility on the paper on which it was written.

It is, however, a sort of political amphitheater where men and women delegates, alternates, and guests, may enjoy the task of selecting somebody to carry out their platform . . . or at least to carry part

National political conventions are, of course, arenas for the battle of competition in civic rewards. That's why so many engage in them.

Poor as some of them are, they must be retained if this nation is to keep its civic pattern.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

See where the old moth-eaten fedora of Vice-President Alben W. Barkley has been tossed into the Democratic political ring, with a Presidential tag affixed to it. Well, the old cod is entitled to do whatever he wishes with his fedora, isn't he? Isn't this a free country? . . . free if you have a good "in" with the national administration in Washington.

Neither members of Congress, of the Executive or Judicial departments are supermen. Most of them are little men who got where they are by playing politics—had they remained in private life they would never (most of them) risen beyond the reputation of an honest and quiet neighbor, or a sharp in some racket or other. Being in a public office doesn't change the character of many people for the better. The devil would still be the devil, wherever he is for the moment.

Always remember that it is from Washington, D.C., that most of the laws are made that take away your incomes.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 320-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

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

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

So They Say . . .

Harland Cleveland, assistant director for "Europe of the Mutual Security Agency; "United States military and economic aid to Europe must continue indefinitely unless present world conditions change substantially."

WILLIAM K. HARRISON Jr., Major-General, Chief Allied negotiator at Korean truce talks: "The word (demand as used by Communists) has no significance if it can't be enforced by military power."

But Actions Count



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 July 25, 1902

A delightful social function of the past week, which was part of this week's Grand and Grandina Benedict are putting on airs while Papa Pool can hardly work for boasting.

A new rural free delivery is about to be established from Birmingham P. O. and there are at least 44 applicants for the position.

A big bouncing baby boy came to Mrs. Henry Pool as part of this week's Grand and Grandina Benedict are putting on airs while Papa Pool can hardly work for boasting.

Mrs. Mary Cooper and Miss Anna Mulbare are enjoying a week at Niagara Falls. A fine lake trip from Detroit to Erie with fine weather was the first part of the journey.

J. Zimmerman has a flowing well for the new house on his lot, struck by J. H. Carter, the always successful oil driller, makes the little home worth \$100 more than ever.

20 YEARS AGO July 28, 1932 Unless stamp sales increase at the Birmingham postoffice there is a grave danger that the first class rating will be lost, according to Postmaster James Cobb.

The Bloomfield Hills Savings bank, which discontinued operating on June 23, will soon be depositors off in full it has been announced. Directors have decided to liquidate all accounts because of general business conditions.

Winners in the vegetable garden division of the first Yard and Garden contest here will be announced at the Aug. 5 program at the Birmingham theater, judges were David Ladd, L. M. Baker

Monday, Aug. 1, will be the last day to pay value taxes without the additional penalty charge.

Treasurer C. E. Plumstead said payments up to yesterday accounted for only about 12 per cent of the total levy.

Curriculum staff and salary reductions are seen as unavoidable by school board members as they try desperately to balance the current budget. Based on present payment rates, the board foresees the collection of only twenty per cent of the taxes due this year.

5 YEARS AGO July 31, 1947 The Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church, has been selected as one of the 22 delegates to represent the World Alliance of Churches at a meeting scheduled for Aug. 11-18, Geneva, Switzerland, next year.

Al Smith of Detroit was saved from a hot foot by members of the Birmingham fire department last week when a short circuit under the floorboards of his rubstrik car started a fire.

An estimated 2,731 students will be enrolled in the Birmingham schools this September. The estimate was based on figures of the school census taken last May but does not include the Walnut Lake district registration. This area became a part of the Birmingham school system as of July 1.

The facilities of Howarth Park are receiving a great deal of attention these days from mothers in the neighborhood. It is splendid to have a recreation area in the neighborhood where smaller children can go without having to travel main streets.

Additions and renovations to the First Methodist church are nearing completion and plans are being made for an "open house" in early September. The program included a remodeling of the kitchen and floor space and improve facilities.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE BY ALICE E. MORGAN

All in favor of a change in administration say "Aye!" It makes quite a noise when you hear it like that, but the big question is how much noise will the levers on voting machines make next November?

Concerted efforts based on personal appeals and house to house checking brought an astonishing number of registered voters to light in the City of Birmingham. Those connected with the job were well pleased with the results, and rightly so. They worked hard and faithfully and their efforts bore good fruit.

Now we are faced with a difficult situation. Since we do not have portable voting machines, the job of getting these registered voters to the booths may be something else again. Remember the old political gag . . . nominated but he's not elected for the presidency all lined up. Some of us are pleased with the convention choice, some are not. Be that as it may, "He's" now "our man." What are we going to do about it?

As far as the GOP is concerned, they've had more chances than they actually deserve. Look at the time element this way: A lot of first voters (1952 vintage) were worried only about their four o'clock feeding or their strolers when the Republican party had its last president in office. That's a lot of chances.

IN BIRMINGHAM there are some 13,000 men and women who are possessors of those little cards which say they are regularly registered voters. Some are Democrats, some are Republicans. How many will vote?

Too many of us are guilty of acting as though we were glued to our receiving sets on Election Day, when we can do it if we report that puts our favorite son lower and lower on the side.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

I think I've finally figured out what happens to all the tires that men will not buy in the stores these "discards" are placed in a special drawer, then sold to the women who come in to buy tires for men.

It would have a land-office business for a few days, until these redlight-runners decided it was too expensive.

What are we Americans exporting to England in retaliation for having to import their English tweeds? However miserable my troubles become, I'll never take them to a Dorothy Dix.

A couple of years ago there used to be parallel parking on Woodward south of Forest and Brewer. But at Chief Ralph W. Mosley's suggestion, the city changed it back to angle parking.

Among one of my responsibilities as managing editor of The Eccentric is to see that the hundreds of letters a week of pure puff, sent by publicity agents in the guise of news, does not appear in the news columns.

I may be wrong, and if I am, I'll be corrected—but fast. However, this was reported to me as being a fact.

Would you care to hazard a guess as to what these refer to—Buffalo, Beaver, Crow, Elk, Eagle, Falcon, Fox, Lion, Panther, Tiger, Wolverine?

He may be the best, most honest and reputable lawyer in the state, but because he fails to pay these dues or doesn't pay them because he just doesn't want to, he no longer can practice before the state association, by law he automatically becomes disbarred.

If it hasn't already been done, some of the telephone executives in this area might take this suggestion to Mr. Bell, the research unit for AT&T.

Although a doctor is under tremendous association pressure to remain a member of his respective local, state and national profession group or else is officially ostracized, he still can't violate the rules and regulations of the state medical or dental examining board.

People are divided into two types those who talk to their friends during performances, and those who came to see the show.

If I could get a special deputy's badge and a dozen pads of police violation tickets I could pay my own salary and bring in hundreds of dollars to my comparison.

"Would you mind repeating that last remark? I couldn't hear it because they are making so much noise on the (stage platform, hall, dress-room, and it with the word required by the particular circumstances.)"

HUGH C. WHITE Multiple Line Insurance Agency. 217 Pierce St. Birmingham, Mich. Bill Roberts Telephone Midwest 4-3610

A SUPERMARKET RIGHT IN YOUR HOME WITH AN ELECTRIC FREEZER! You'll save shopping time and carry home when you can just step the freezer instead of your meals without fuss or bother. Ask your appliance dealer for details. Frozen Freshness the Whole Year Round. See Your DEALER Detroit Edison