

Watch It Boys!



England Is Having a Crime Wave

Great Britain is now experiencing a crime wave that is disturbing both Parliament and the public. The wave consists largely of robberies, including large jewel thefts and mail robberies.

From Our Point of View

Our government (federal) is the biggest business in the world is a statement you often hear members of Congress and the executive department make.

The astronomers tell us that there are about a billion suns in the universe, each with a family of planets circling around it, just like our own earth and planets do around our sun.

Crimes in the United States, during 1951, rose to a new high, it is reported. This, of course, probably includes all the known ones within the high personnel of the federal government.

Harold E. Stassen, actually a splendid former youthful Governor of Minnesota, has fallen on his political face in the present campaign he is staging for nomination as Republican candidate for President.

IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN interesting how the British manage to achieve considerable success, far superior to that of many states in this country, with their system of unarmed policemen.

It is also interesting to note that in the recent crime wave, no one has been killed and the robberies have been pulled off with enough finesse that guns were unnecessary.

In a sense, then, the robbery business is a more sporting trade in England than it is in the United States, where law officers and gangsters often lose their lives in the execution of same.

The British system, which has been successful for centuries, is certainly the best system although it might not be practical in a country so large and so diversified as the United States.

One can only hope that the law-breakers and bobbies in England continue to go about their business in sporting fashion, unarmed.

Everyone's in the Act

Seems more than the usual variety of strikes have been going on late. There are labor strikes; prisoners strike against their keepers, then negotiate for better conditions; school children at St. Clair Shores walk out of classrooms for a day because voters refused to approve a bond issue for increasing teachers' salaries;

Both Have Their Share

Let us never forget that not all the rats, or all the angels, are in any one political party in the United States. Both major parties have within them men and women, in and out of office, who would not hesitate to steal coins from a blind man's tin cup.

Intelligent voters now and then look beyond a candidate's party affiliations and into the principles for which he stands, plus his reputation and record.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Someone's been doing a good job of promoting a well-rounded high school education for Birmingham school district girls with similar educational advantages for the boys have been sadly neglected.

Who's responsible for the lopsided picture undoubtedly will never be known. But it can be corrected.

After all, the women have been fighting for equal advantages with the men and have accomplished quite a bit... the girls have succeeded in gaining recognition of their right to smoke, to frequent bars, to earn the same factory pay as the men operating machines along side them, etc., etc.

BUT WHEN it comes to educational advantages, in the new Birmingham high school the women and their high school daughters have put one across on the men and their sons.

JUST WHY the modern high school girl today has to have such an elaborate course in home economics is beyond my comprehension, when in the school district itself are thousands and thousands of kitchen sinks, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, stoves, refrigerators, sewing machines, etc., etc., in the homes. And don't forget the thousands of home economics instructors also in these "terrible" (instructors) schools.

Let us never forget that the boys have been neglected... let's hope the boys have been neglected... let's hope the boys have been neglected... let's hope the boys have been neglected...

So They Say . . .

Haydon L. Boatner, Brig-General, new Commander on Kojic Island: "Prisoners of war do not negotiate."

John M. Devine, Maj.-Gen., U. S. Army: "Patriotic talk is no proof of patriotism. Anyone can wave a flag."

The Birmingham Eccentric

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The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcome. 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.

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 June 20, 1902 Birmingham is contributing to the European tourists this summer in the person of Mrs. Addie L. Stearns who will accompany Miss Grace Cooper of Houghton on the adventurous trip across the blue Atlantic to foreign shores.

5 YEARS AGO June 16, 1947 After 14 months of waiting, the Birmingham fire department is due to receive its new 1000 gallon pumping engine sometime today.

20 YEARS AGO June 23, 1932 Nearly 200 entries have been made for the annual flower show sponsored by the Bloomfield Horticultural society.

As a matter of fact, my professional name has always been that of "Eva Mudge" until eventually (upon my return from South Africa and Australia) to the United States of America to other productions my "married" name oddly became attached to my English contracts; thus professionally I am also known as Eva Mudge Nelson.

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HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Trends It seems to us that trends hit just about everything. A boy comes home with a hidden string, striking becomes the trend of the hour. Even jail strikes and riots have to get in the act.

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PEOPLE'S COLUMN

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

To the Editor: In a letter from Birmingham this morning I received there had enclosed a nice little item from your worthy newspaper (MI 2-23) under the heading "With pleasure, I now write to thank you."

It matters not how brief the item when it has been written from the heart; and as an actor's work has always dangled before me, I am hoping my dear friend, who is so full of the theater (even though long years and years still love and appreciate the warmth and thought from our press.

As an old player may I add (in my eagerness to clear the sense of my criticism of appreciation in this regard) the explanation: "THAT WE OF the theater who have known it many years, have long since come to realize that we are "just people" and of "no particular or grand success" in our profession, because after all it's "the message" we deliver and the "warmth of heart" in its illumination!"

And when our "message" has nature of temperament in a faith-ful understanding" to which we players seek or have sought to convey it, "the message" and not the player that was important.

As I wish the dear people in my Michigan could fully realize, as I do the worth of a citizen in California, I am spending their lives in. Not only the delightful four seasons, but the human warmth of others who find no place in heart for any personal concern when it is so utterly filled by his regard for others.

It is a sort of "reaching out" nature of temperament in a faithful earnestness "to convey" and far from any personal concern and to spend a dime.

So after all, we players are much the same as the actor's tools for its purpose and should be as free from self-thought. It is the human warmth of others that we so dearly love—and in this sense again I thank you.

Walter B. Fausner, district manager for Michigan Bell, has announced the company's plans for new buildings here and in Bloomfield Hills. The construction is part of a state-wide expansion program.

Announcement was made this week of the organization of a new retail firm here to be known as McClellan-Salt company. Robert M. McClellan and J. M. Ball have purchased outright all interests of the former Birmingham Feed and Salt Company.

Police Chief John Hackett is making a special appeal to Birmingham drivers to use extreme caution on the highways during the July 4 holiday period. State officials, he said, estimated the heaviest traffic since the war and are alerting all police officers to curb highway fatalities.

(part of the item) merely landed on the beginning of its paragraph when I beheld it in the morning where: "daughter Ruth portrayed Mrs. Wilson, etc. etc. played Eva Mudge (Ruth Nelson)" which is the actual fact and the son-in-law "Little Eva" (part of the item) merely landed on the beginning of its paragraph when I beheld it in the morning where: "daughter Ruth portrayed Mrs. Wilson, etc. etc. played Eva Mudge (Ruth Nelson)" which is the actual fact and the son-in-law "Little Eva"

IT IS SO "cozy" to feel the real joy in life's role of "Mammah-in-law" that I am hoping my dear friend, who is so full of the theater (even though long years and years still love and appreciate the warmth and thought from our press.

In the Detroit paper also I noticed it referred to my Ruth as in the east of "Point of No Return" when actually my Ruth was featured in "The Grass Harp" produced this spring in N.Y. While my son-in-law John (her husband) featured in "Point of No Return" and I was featured in production with T. Bankhead instead of that of Ruth in the role.

My Ruth and her dear John are the joy of my life and my other dear daughters and excellent features in my grandchildren (seven). So you see it is really an important role in life of human warmth after all and my other joy is my beloved theater.

They know and prepare for each "shift of scene" and the changes of color and effect (as with our effect) are most inspiring. Electrically heated houses require a high rate of color and steam heated apartment buildings are not easy to find and are extremely costly.

As to the sudden unexpected conditions of temperature, out here in "southern" California the 1st of June and the 10th (today) it is necessary for comfort to have the steam heat on in this apartment hotel.

In Michigan the lovely trees of Birmingham and the many localities for camping beyond it in balmy summer time, in the forests or by the lovely lakes, the spring blossoms to look forward to and the beauty of a white Christmas and the inspiring fog-freside—where could life find a dearer touch with nature than in our Michigan?

EVA MUDGE NELSON Gratefully, Hollywood, Calif.

To the Editor: The writer has read with interest the many genuinely sincere letters from disturbed Birmingham residents over the destruction of trees on West Maple avenue and in Baldwin Park in connection with the new highway. And the fears other streets are similarly developed.

the city's defense, it appears, is that all its acts had approval of were not protested. But the trouble with this attitude is that none of the intentions as they have been developed over the last three years.

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