



On page one of this week's issue of The Birmingham Eccentric is a story NOT there for you to read.

It is on the front page of most newspapers most days.

This is the same story you can't read in a magazine.

TV can't give you a picture of it. You can't hear about it over the radio.

For it is the particular story which censorship has denied you today.

IT MIGHT BE a big story. Then again it may be a small one.

It could make a great deal of difference how or whom you would vote for on Nov. 4. On the other hand, perhaps it wouldn't.

Maybe that story would result in your writing your Congressman a blistering letter letting him know what you think. Or the letter might contain your warmest congratulations.

Maybe . . .

BUT THERE WILL NOT be any letter from the people regarding this story. For it is blank, it is hidden, it is buried deep in the files where only the eyes of officials—paid by taxpayers' money and using power the people gave—can see it. The people will not be permitted to see it.

For such is censorship.

This is not to say that all censorship is bad. It isn't.

True military security is vitally necessary . . . it saves lives of our troops and helps us win battles.

So we insist on true military security just as strongly as we condemn false censorship that each day can deny American newspaper readers the information to which they are entitled.

BEFORE THE "Korean police action," newsmen knew what stories were being denied you. When these newsmen believed some well-meaning or misled government official was taking advantage of you, they could appeal the case.

Today, however, newsmen don't know. You can't appeal from mistakes the censor makes. Because only the censors know what those mistakes are. And those mistakes can cover up stories about jobs well-done just as much as they can hide jobs which are botched up.

There is no appeal, but there is a remedy. This remedy is to return to the vol-

untary censorship that carried us through World War II.

BECAUSE JUST AS LONG as government officials are a law unto themselves, then the people shall not know.

They shall not know if the blank story on the front pages of their newspapers is justified . . . or unjustified.

Remember: for each blank story, there is a blank space in your mind, a blank space you can't use. You, the people for whom this government is, of, for and by.

This is one of the reasons why American newspapers this week are observing and drawing attention to "National Newspaper Week," Oct. 1-3.

Each year the free, democratic American press sets this week apart as a period of self-examination, re-dedication.

"So what?" you may ask. For one thing, it's YOUR week, too, just as much as the newspapers'.

FOR IN 1952 this week is dedicated to YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW.

Another of its chief purposes is to inspire better journalism—so that your newspaper may better serve YOU.

Another is to remind each American of the importance of guarding freedom of information guaranteed to our people by the very first article in the Bill of Rights.

The individual reader and his news-

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW



paper have a common, inseparable interest in this constitutional guarantee because:

The American people must be free. To remain free, they must be informed.

TO HAVE ADEQUATE information, they must have unshackled sources of information.

"National Newspaper Week" belongs equally to you and your newspaper.

We must constantly work toward the day when there are no blank stories on Page One.

TRYING TO BEAT THE CONDUCTOR!



Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Blasted From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Made Up The Drilled Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO
October 3, 1902
The wedding of Miss Bertha A. Bigelow, elder daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Allen Bigelow, and Dr. J. H. Neff of the Eastern Michigan Asylum of Pontiac, was solemnized in St. James church last week Wednesday evening.

William C. Jenks has sold his beautiful home on Woodward avenue to a Mr. Dickinson of Detroit who, we have been given to understand, will at once move in.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Martin of Northern Michigan are making their Birmingham friends happy by visiting them. The relatives all come in for a share of the happiness, too.

The State Library Association meeting in Detroit on Friday and again on Saturday, Persons interested in the welfare of our own library are invited to attend and should feel it their civic duty to do so.

A. E. Gorton, after a four year's session in Porto Rico, is home for a month's vacation. Starting as a stranger in a strange land, he worked himself up to a position in the auditor's office with a salary of five thousand dollars a year. He was the guest of George H. Mitchell Wednesday of this week.

20 YEARS AGO
October 6, 1932
Birmingham will join county and state authorities in the observance of Fire Prevention Week. A concerted campaign will be conducted here, under the direction of the fire department, to educate residents in proper fire precautions.

The Rev. John Marvin of Detroit last Sunday assumed his duties as the new pastor of Emory Methodist church. He succeeds the Rev. Leigh H. Hagle who has been transferred to Berkley after two years here.

Founders Day has been selected at the opening date for the fund-raising campaign for the Birmingham Y. Team leaders have been

named for the groups which will handle the collection of \$4,800 to finance Y activities for the coming year.

The nocturnal journey of Genevieve Gay's pet con, Ollie, are causing residents of the area to sleep with their bedroom windows closed. Several have been somewhat startled lately to find themselves starting into the face of the sleepy con when they awakened in the morning.

Joseph Proctor, 24, of Bloomfield Hills, suffered a fractured skull when the car he was driving was struck by a Grand Trunk train Wednesday in Pontiac. Hospital attendants say his chances of recovery are good.

5 YEARS AGO
October 9, 1947
Russell Barnes, celebrated fornicator, commentator, will speak at the fall conference of the Eastern Michigan Congress of Students government, sponsored from six league schools will meet at the Birmingham Community House on Oct. 15.

This year's "champion" sunflower, grown by Fred Mallender, is on display at The Eccentric office. The 14.5 foot stem is crowned by a single bloom, measuring 16 inches across.

The Rev. Emil Kontz of Chicago will preach at the First Baptist church Sunday according to George Goodwin, pulpit committee chairman. Mr. Kontz, comes here as a candidate for the pastorate of the church.

Parents and teachers of the Bloomfield Hills school district will meet at Vaughan school Thursday evening to discuss the formation of a Parent-Teacher association for the district. About 30 met last week at the home of Dr. H. G. Clark to arrange preliminary details.

Birmingham's parking problem still is not solved. Further action has been ordered before final action is taken to pass an ordinance to control parking within the city.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE
BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Uncle Abner, along with a lot of other people, is pretty much upset about the campaign for the Birmingham Y. Team leaders have been

of course, but he does admire a fighting man. He has always admired a man and he liked Nixon's reference to the one-and-only Abe.

UNCLE ABNER looked serious when he heard that. After the broadcast was over he said, "It used to be that every mother and father drilled me that and I believed it. Some place down the line that's gone out of style. The boy's right, dad gum it, it sure looks like a man has to be rich to me."

"My folks told me that and I believed it. Some place down the line that's gone out of style. The boy's right, dad gum it, it sure looks like a man has to be rich to me."

"Remember the Depression days, we used to say we'd give the country to the poor people. They sure don't have it any more!"

He thought a minute or two more and then he said, "Seemed to me a couple times that boy was pretty near cryin'! I was."

"I WASN'T cryin' for him, exactly. If he'd done wrong he should take his medicine. I was cryin' for the principle of the thing."

"He wasn't doin' a bit different than a lot of others. They just didn't get called on it because the other fellow didn't have an axe to grind. Now they have and he's the result."

"I guess maybe I was cryin' for the country and the way she's headin' right now. Somebodys gotta put some sand on the track and hold her back. Guess maybe I think Nixon's got a pretty big bucket of sand, right handy."

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

"Junior, take it easy," exclaimed Mama Pig. "Stop eating like a man!"

It takes a lot of electricity to keep the lamp of knowledge glowing at the University of Michigan. In fact, the University consumes as much electricity each year as the two Michigan cities of Sturgis and Charlevoix. The electricity is steam-generated at the J-M power plant as a by-product of heating buildings.

A broadminded individual is a person who agrees with you.

Never put off until tomorrow what you should have done yesterday.

Certain marriage counselors, trying to figure out how to save the "happy home," suggest the husband forget his morning newspaper at the breakfast table, and become a conversationalist.

What puzzles me, what does one do with a newspaper that would provide subject material?

As soon as a man starts in romancing a woman, she at once becomes a military strategist. First she plans how to resist his advances, and finally she figures out how she can block his retreat.

Municipal health departments constantly check food establishments, particularly restaurants, in order to have them maintain sanitary standards.

But a kick from a customer is worth 10 compliments from the health inspector.

If you are given a dirty knife or coffee cup, refuse it and insist on a clean one. If you do this several times, or several other customers do it, too, chances are good that the waitress will pass along to the proprietor that the customers are displeased with the dirty dishes.

If he wants to keep your business, he'll see that the dishwasher does a better job or he'll replace the dishes. But if you merely keep quiet and ignore or forget the dirt, you'll still have to keep on eating it.

Have you seen the latest thing in men's clothes? It's women.

When the American public pays its state and federal senators and representatives' letter, then we won't have to worry about the government payroll, and the other borderline methods of supplementing income and tax evasion that have received so much publicity of late.

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From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

• How tragic is the story of that young Lansing couple who, before their child is born, agree to give it to adoption so that the husband can continue his education without parental responsibility? It may never be known that failure to assume this "burden of joy" played, in the future, a tremendous part in the couple's possible lack of success and happiness in life. For the struggle to acquire security in itself is a wonderful help in achieving it.

• So, Gen. "Ike" has kissed "his first baby" Way up in Montana, on his recent political campaign tour, he cuddled a girl in his arms and snacked her before thousands of people! (Well, the baby was only five months old . . . and who, in or out of politics, would not like to do likewise!)

• Typical of the Truman type of exaggeration is the one when he told an audience that "I average 17 hours of work every day." He hasn't since changed that statement. Anyway, hasn't he a peculiar sense of political humor?

So They Say . . .

CARLTON S. PROCTOR, engineer, who worked in Russia:
"I don't believe Russia has one single atom bomb."

GEORGE JESSEL, entertainer:
"A politician who delivers a ghost-written speech is speaking under an assumed mind."

PAUL R. ALEANDER, judge, Family Court:
"Selfishness is the real cause of divorce."

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