

The Birmingham Eccentric

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\$46,398 Is Birmingham's Journey To Korea Not Without Humor

By GEO. H. L. BURDICK, JR.

(Editor's note—George Burdick graduated from Birmingham high school in 1948. He wrote for high school publications while starring on football, baseball and basketball teams. A freshman at Miami University, Ohio, when he entered military service in January, 1951, George shipped to Korea early in August of this year. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Burdick, 685 Pierce. This is the first of a series of articles in which George gives some of his impressions of the Korean battlefield and the men that make up the United Nations' armies.)

The U.S.N.S. Gen. Meigs took on a little over 4,000 service men the day I departed from the shores of the U.S. in San Francisco. Half were Air Force men, of which I was one, and half were Army. All of us were going to either Korea or Japan as replacements on the rotation plan.

This was to be a new experience to most of us, traveling across the ocean. The ship failed to look very grand as we were crisscrossed up the gangway and down into our compartments. At first I couldn't imagine how they were going to squeeze all of us on board. It didn't take long for that question to be answered as I focused upon my sleeping quarters.

I WAS IN ONE of the smaller compartments and there were 350 of us humping into one another as we tried to maneuver into our "grab at will" sleeping areas. The beds or cots were stacked four high and were nothing but canvas stretched across metal frames. A rope was used to support the canvas from the metal frames. The whole compartment was congested with these makeshift beds.

Not more than 30 inches existed between men in their cots. The man on the bottom slept only a matter of inches from the deck where the water on the top was allowed enough room to sit up before his skull touched the overhead. Each canvas cot was equipped with one blanket and a life preserver along with a pillow. This was to be our home for twelve rolling days. Taking a quick glance around I was reminded that this wasn't to be any pleasure cruise.



Church services at SEA. Sings-going altar for 4,000 servicemen (Photo by George Burdick)

ALL THE TROOPERS were given liberty before we pulled out of going top side to grab one last look at the scenic sky line of San Francisco. A Dixieland band was playing as the lads cluttered the rail.

Many were joking one another about the play fate had bestowed upon them. Others were still in meditation. A friend next to me stated, "It is beginning to seem rather real to me now. This is it. I guess a lot of us started realizing that fact also as we crossed under the Golden Gate and out into the Pacific."

In the minds of many was the thought of the day they would re- (See KOREA, Page 2)

Most home-owners are willing to pay the cost of insuring their homes, even though they have to pay a higher rate. Equal quantity and quality of insurance should be shown by voters toward issues in candidates—... we are against corruption, incompetence, etc.

REMOVE THE CLAMOUR BRING IT DOWN TO EARTH!
Please do not be mystified or confused by the spectacle of the nation's quadrennial political vaudeville-specifying now being presented to you.
This business of two major parties pitting themselves against each other, using practically every emotional (and often too little logical) device to win your support is, after all, a simple routine.
To be sure, each major party has within it men and women of real honesty and sincerity, people who give more than lip service to their claim to patriotic and loyal democracy. Each party has within it varying quantities of civic stupidity... plus human credulity.

YOUR JOB IS TO Look, listen, think, and then vote correctly. For whom you finally vote is your own blessed right, of course. But you who are not aware of the tricks of politics, yet who want to be right in deciding how to cast your vote, are the ones who need to be made aware of "the game of politics."

Take both Gen. Eisenhower, the Republican nominee for President, and Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic opponent. Both are mere human beings, like, by his record in office, Adlai Stevenson. Both are fully recognized a great American, a great man.

Adlai, Governor of Illinois, is presumed to have effected considerable improvement in those portions he controlled within his state, and that, too, is good.

BUT, on the basis of comparison in personal achievements, most people will agree that the possession of a certain status in this country, like, thus far in the campaign has presented his case with deadly earnestness.

Adlai, brilliant with the word and phrase, has sought to win public applause by his wisewords, via the method of ridiculing his opponent and the latter's party.

BUT WHAT I really started out to write in this piece was intended to emphasize the fact that you, as voter, are not to be misled by the status of a certain two of your own people and/or by the fact that they are in your own living room, or talking over the back fence with you, on the issues.

The issues, in and of themselves, are not beyond the understanding of average people.

Do we want war, or peace? The answer is peace.
Do we want corruption in government? The answer is no.
Do we want unnecessary high taxes? The answer is no.
Do we believe that any political party can remain honest and efficient if left in power too long? The answer again is no.

DO WE WANT pinkies and subjective to operate within the protection of the government payroll? No, of course.

Now, these and other questions are the issues at stake. Do not be confused by the fact that the high office of the Presidency itself is involved, or that the personal brilliance of any candidate can obscure the issues.

Game of Politics
Not When You Use the
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THE MYSTERY OF WHO DID THE DIGGING is still not solved. Bees are busy excavating dirt from this hole at the home of Miss Jeannette Guyard, 1595 Oxford, and Miss Guyard contends that the bees have handled the entire job. Dr. Walter P. Nickell of Cranbrook School surmises that the original hole was dug by some animal and that the bees are merely making a good nesting place from an existing crater. The photographer didn't take sides but he knows now that bees can move a good deal of earth from watching them 10 minutes. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

Skaters to Have 5 Parent Group Sought for Subdivisions

Rinks will be maintained at Harmon, Pembroke and Poppleton parks and Terry school, he said. The rink at St. James park will be ready by the time the skating season opens here, Sata said, "but at present needs a bit more work done on it."

BOARD MEMBERS agreed that the rules set for the rinks last year would again hold true. Skids will be barred from the rinks and an effort will be made to plan parties for hockey teams to play when the smaller children are not on the rinks.

BIRMINGHAM police will again cooperate by frequent checks on skinks to keep hazards at a minimum.

ANOTHER FUNCTION of the group would be to promote the formation of additional youth sports associations in all sections of Birmingham and stimulate the activities of those now in existence, Brennan outlined.

REPRESENTATIVES at the meeting included Douglas K. Livy, 1555 S. Zoo; George W. Mullin, 1420 Buckingham; Richard A. Sauer, 2749 Pembroke; Walter K. Kell, 836 Lakeway; Raymond E. Munie, 403 E. Lincoln; Robert K. Baker, 163 E. Maple; William P. Kennedy, 1058 Floyd; and Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bronson, 843 Greenwood.

A PEDESTRIAN, Delphine Richland, 47, of Detroit, suffered serious lacerations and abrasions after being struck by a car driven by Walter O. Vogt, 48, of 515 Paritan, as she crossed Woodward at the Maple intersection, Sunday morning.

THE DEAD boy told police that the woman, driver of behind a car and he was unable to avoid hitting her, he was treated and released by a private physician.

Troy Youth Killed In Bike-Car Crash

An eight-year-old Troy township boy was killed Monday afternoon when he rode his bicycle into the path of a car at Livernois and Lincoln streets in Troy.

SERVICE MEN and women can vote in the Nov. 4 national and state election only if a registered voter in the immediate community makes application with the family township clerk for an absentee ballot.

Maples Upset Romulus In 13-0 Win

By CLARK HALLAS

A spirited Birmingham football team opened its 1952 season Friday night with a 13-0 victory over Romulus on the Eagles' field.

The victory marked only the second time in nine years that Romulus has been held scoreless. The Maples also handed Romulus its second defeat in 35 games. The Eagles ran up a 25-game winning streak starting in 1948 and extending to the third game of the 1951 season when they were defeated by Ypsilanti.

The Maples took the opening kickoff on their 35 and marched into territory twice during the first half but was unable to score. In the first quarter Romulus actually yielded 161 yards, but the Maples held it to a field goal.

BIRMINGHAM continued to dominate play until the final quarter. Romulus to play a defensive game. The Maples' consistent ground attack yielded 161 yards, but the Maples held it to a field goal.

THIS SITE would provide an elementary school to take care of the school children north of Maple and east of Woodward. The site would also provide a play area for the junior high school at a reasonable distance from the school to be accessible.

THESE NEEDS have been emphasized in the recent school survey by Dr. Holly and progress is being made as rapidly as time and finance permits. A site of approximately 12 acres has been purchased in the Beverly Hills tract on Beverly road, just west of Southfield.

THE INADEQUATE site at Birmingham elementary school has proved again and again the wisdom of adequate school sites and proved that a school which properly develop north of Pembroke and east of Grand Trunk.

THE BIRMINGHAM board of education purchased additional land at the Adams school site to maintain approximately 10 acres in the site after a right-of-way had been established with three or four years to take care of the secondary enrollment of the district.

Maples scored their second and last touchdown. After they failed to gain, Match was called on to punt. Bill Watson, Romulus back, momentarily caught the ball and then returned it to the Maples. Norman recovered the fumble to set up the final touchdown on the field.

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STARTING LINEUPS
Birmingham (13) Romulus (0)
Norman (13) Dawson (0)
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Amount Is 7.6% Above Last Year

Quota for the 1952 Torch Drive in the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin area has been set at \$146,398, William H. Breech, chairman, and William J. Scripps, co-chairman, announced today.

The goal is 7.6 per cent above last year's total of \$136,969 raised in the area last year. The amount sought in the metropolitan area as a whole is \$1,900,000, an increase of \$85,000 over last year's figure.

The higher goal will make the 1952 United Foundation campaign the greatest community effort in our history and naturally calls for the full support of every citizen, Breech said.

"We have every confidence that we are going to go over the top again this year, since our goal is a completely realistic one, and we have an excellent working organization set to go."

AND THE INCREASE in our quota seems conservative in the light of authoritative estimates that population in the area has risen about 12 per cent over a year ago, and our needs have increased proportionately.

The United Foundation, which has drawn national attention since its organization in Detroit in 1946, is the fund-raising agency for 150 health and community service organizations throughout the metropolitan and suburban areas.

FOR A COMPARABLE achievement, this is said to be the lowest in the area. The average for the country is about eight per cent in some cases it has gone as high as 12 per cent.

THE UP SUPPORTS agencies working in practically every branch of community services. They are working in the battle against major diseases such as cancer, heart disease, cerebral palsy, etc. They support character building organizations, etc.

CRITICALLY speaking it is not charity to park the fight against fearsome diseases, but an intelligent service to the contributors.

SHOULD Senator Richard Nixon be retained or asked to resign as the Republican vice presidential candidate as a result of the \$18,000 "gift" fund which he used only for his senatorial office and political expenses, and not for any personal benefit?

ITCH which trailed Staff Sgt. Donald Arrington through five years of Army. Arrington was shot in the hospital four times, was diagnosed as having a medical examination. He was allergic to, of all things, khaki.

MANUFACTURER of helium-filled, floating animals, used as displays, hired a car to drop down any stray flying cows, horses, etc.

BANG