Each of us, every day, has the opportunity to become better. But we can do so only by meeting every detail, every problem, with the conviction that only by being thoroughly honest can we lay the foundations for happiness.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION ONE

26TH YEAR—NO. 7 · BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1953 · 32 PAGES SEVEN CENTS

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

The manner in which the Chinese Reds are exchanging military prisoners continues to prove the barbarism of that nation—aided and abetted, of course, by Moscow. Naturally, the United Nations group bungers for the return of all their living bons, and the Reds are taking advantage of this deep human emotion. Some day, somedrm within or without, the whole Communistic leadership must be destroyed.

It seems that the U.S. Army spent 45 millions of your tax dollars on a type of winter overcoat, with pants legs connected . . . and finds that they are not exactly suited for military wear. Having done this, will they now go after us with shirts?

As an international device, the United Nations is a good article to keep for trying to settle international problems. However, it is merely a pattern for getting various national representatives together.

Its ability to settle everything—including causes for war—is in keeping only with the honesty, sincerity, unselfishness, and character of the nations thus represented. Its limitations, as well as its potentialities for good, should not be lost sight of.

Well, we observe that early summer of 1953 is here, as the list shows the Detroit Tigers last year, of course, while there's life there's still hope . . . so let's send out hopes for them to win games!

Republicans in Michigan's legislature must be establishing some form of record, for they've spent nearly two years in a vain effort as this is written to get more dough to balance the States' budget. They have horsed around so much on the subject that they—according to some—look in part like horses.

Impoverished as they may be these days, those loyal Britishers will go sledlength to provide for their Royal Family. They always have, too. Which is why the plan to provide Queen Elizabeth with a $5,000,000 floating palace meets with the approval of most every economic level of British life. (In the U.S.A., a far wealthier nation, President Eisenhower is putting the Presidential yacht in mothballs. "It's too much of a luxury," quoth Ike.)

Quite often you read that Michigan's third largest business is the tourist industry. When I was in Lansing as former Gov. Sigler's executive secretary during 1947-48, I asked the Tourist Council to furnish statistics on how it arrived at its estimate of $500,000,000 of tourist revenues.

After nearly two months of waiting, its paid secretary came over with some figures, far from $500,000,000, and admitted to me that he couldn't get further data to support the billion sum. No doubt the same situation exists today. (But the answer may be: "One can dream, can't he?")

BULLETIN

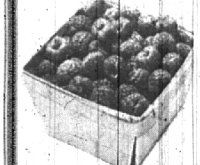
Sgt. William Green, USA, Killed in Japan

Lt. William Green of the Birmingham police department has been notified of the death on April 16 of his son, M/Sgt. William Green, Jr., USA, in Japan.

Sgt. Green was serving with the 7th Regiment, First Cavalry Division, and had been in Japan since March, 1952.

After attending school in Birmingham, he enlisted in the Army in January, 1940, and served in Germany during World War II, later serving with the Military Police in Maryland.

Funeral arrangements are pending the arrival of the body in Birmingham.



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Eccentric Named Nation's 2nd Best Suburban Weekly

Second ranking suburban weekly newspaper in the United States is the honor bestowed on The Birmingham Eccentric by the National Editorial Assn. meeting in annual convention in New Orleans April 26-30.

The Evanston (Ill.) Review, a magazine-style newspaper printed by offset printing process, was named the first place winner.

This in effect makes The Eccentric the nation's 1953 leading suburban weekly printed by normal letterpress method of average newspaper size.

Third place winner is the Ridgewood (N.J.) Sunday News.

THE JUDGES FOR the 1953 NEA Better Newspaper Contest commented:

"Upon completion of the judging of entries in the suburban weekly division, the judges found that they had given highest scoring to three quite different types of publications, but all of them outstanding examples of suburban excellence.

"All three scored high in mechanical excellence and in general and departmental news, and they had editorial pages, exhibited unusual advertising enterprise and fulfilled the other requirements of general excellence in the suburban field.

"Final point-scoring in an extremely difficult classification gave top honors to the Evanston Review with The Birmingham Eccentric and the Sunday News of Ridgewood, N.J., as very strong second and third place winners respectively."

THIS WEEK'S HONOR makes the fifth time in four years The Eccentric has been accorded national recognition by the NEA.

In 1949, The Eccentric was awarded a second place for community service performed by a weekly newspaper. Two honorable mentions were won in 1951, the first for community service, the second for excellence in typography. Last year The Eccentric received an honorable mention for its general excellence, the same contest in which it placed second this year.

Other Michigan newspapers which took top honors in other NEA contests were the Pontiac Daily Press, the Highland Parker, Lapeer County Press, Midland Daily News, Frankenmuth News, and Hartford Day Spring.

To Consider Methods Of Financing Junior Achievement Program

A major step toward bringing Birmingham area will be taken by public-spirited representatives of business, industry and civic life gather at a dinner meeting at the Birmingham Community House.

The group will discuss ways and means of obtaining the necessary financial support and advisory personnel to operate the program.

Junior Achievement gives boys and girls the facts about American free enterprise by enabling them to actually engage in their own businesses. Groups of 15 to 18 boys and girls form a company, float stock, provide a product or service, market the product or service and handle the other details involved in modern business operation.

HARVEY B. GREENE, secretary-treasurer of National Automotive Fibres, Inc., is general JA chairman for the Birmingham area. Representing Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan at the dinner will be Wallace L. Fleming, executive director.

A business center equipped with production machines, office equipment and other facilities is to be established. The center will be used by each of the eight Junior Achievement companies scheduled to be formed starting in September.

A part-time coordinator is to be employed to supervise the use of the business center.

EACH COMPANY will have three adult supervisors who are experienced in business and production procedure. These supervisors will undergo a training course given by Junior Achievement specialists in August.

"Those of us who have studied the accomplishments of Junior Achievement in other cities are convinced that this program is a wonderful thing for boys and girls," said Greene.

"It's the type of program which will teach our future citizens in a very concrete way the value of the American way of life. In addition, it can give them invaluable training in business methods and procedures."

To Discuss JA Program

Del Walsh program director for the Junior Achievement for Southeastern Michigan, Inc., will speak on "Junior Achievement in Your Community" at Monday luncheon meeting of the Birmingham Rotary club.

Foreign Diplomats To Address Seminar

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Scheduled to speak at the "One World Seminar" to be held Thursday and Friday, April 30 and May 1, for students of Kingswood School Cranbrook are Consul Kei Miyakawa of the consulate general of Japan; Consul Basri Hazmah of the consulate general of the Republic of Indonesia; Colonel Ben Limb, Republic of Korea representative to the United Nations; and Sien-Yung Yu, Consulate General of Nationalist China.

Prior to his recent appointment as Premier of Pakistan, Mohamed Ali, former Pakistani ambassador to the United States, was due to appear with the group, but may now have to send an alternate. Delegates from the Philippines and India have not yet been named.

Maurice Broady, former civil affairs officer in Singapore for the British government, and former intelligence officer to the Malayan government, will discuss the policies of the British Commonwealth in the Far East. He is now a graduate student in Far Eastern affairs at Harvard.

THE SEMINAR will consist of half-hour talks followed by one hour discussions on each of the represented countries and their relation to United States foreign policy and the United Nations. Groups will be limited to approximately 20 girls each to facilitate discussion.

The representative from India will speak to the entire student body Thursday afternoon, and an informal reception will be held for the visitors Thursday evening.

Organized to interest American students in the attitudes of other nations to world affairs, the "One World Seminar" program has been held in various schools in the East and Midwest during the past two years.

Named To Zone Board

Lance Mackey, 18577 San Jose, was appointed to the Southfield township zoning board by township board members Tuesday night. He will fill the vacancy left recently by the resignation of L. R. Steele.

SOC Cities Request B'ham Site For Temporary Garbage Disposal

Seek Delay On Answer To State

Birmingham has asked the Michigan Water Resources Commission for an additional six months so sewage disposal problems in surrounding communities may be studied before making any determination on whether the city will independently solve its disposal faults or make additions to the present plant in conjunction with other areas to correct their disposal practices.

The city commission Monday night passed a resolution asking for additional time to review the problems of the area when City Manager Donald C. Egbert explained that engineering firms for Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield township and Southfield township were not finished with their sewage disposal surveys.

POSSIBILITY of a near-future Rouge Valley interceptor sewer to this area from Detroit has caused all city and township officials to hesitate on spending money in other ways to secure sewage treatment facilities.

The City of Birmingham would be faced with nearly a quarter of a million dollar addition to the present city plant if portions of Bloomfield township, Bloomfield Hills and Southfield township were to be served by Birmingham facilities.

All three communities have also been cited by the commission to abate pollution of the Rouge River and consulting engineers are being pressed to find the best way out for these areas.

THEY FEEL that if the Rouge interceptor sewer is a near reality, steps should be taken immediately to push its construction so that any money which would have to be spent on Birmingham plant additions could be expended instead to finance the interceptor.

The Water Resources Commission is expected to act on the request at its May 21 meeting.

To Pave Pierce All the Way To 14 Mile Road

Some fairly complicated parliamentary and assessment hearing techniques were resorted to Monday night by Birmingham city commissioners as they enlarged the assessment district for the proposed paving of Pierce street between Lincoln and 14 Mile road.

A second assessment district was created for the proposed paving of Northlawn and Southlawn for several blocks west of Pierce.

First hearings have been set for May 18 on both these districts to decide their necessity.

Because the Birmingham board of education has agreed to pay for the paving of Pierce immediately in front of Pierce school, the city commission decided that to keep the paving project from becoming more complicated than it need be, the district should be enlarged rather than create a second one merely for the paving of the southern third of the street.

AS TENTATIVELY agreed by commissioners, Pierce will be 29 feet in width from Lincoln to the alley in the middle of the short block north of 14 Mile. The remaining half block will be 36 feet wide because of the business properties on both sides of the street.

Pierce residents have agreed that parking may be prohibited on one or both sides of the 29-foot portion should traffic conditions warrant.

In front of the school, commissioners believe it will be necessary to prohibit any parking whatsoever, and allow motorists to stop briefly to load or unload school children on the east side only.

Recommend Vet As CD Director

Recommendation of Henry R. Von Blaskewicz, 21009 Van Buren, to become director of Civil Defense in Southfield township was approved Tuesday night by township board members. The appointment is subject to approval of the Oakland County Civil Defense Director and Gov. G. Mennen Williams.

Von Blaskewicz, a Marine veteran of World War II, will replace Fordon Niles who resigned the post because of illness in his family. Von Blaskewicz is an architectural designer.

Lusitania Survivor Leaves Friday For Special Party Aboard 'Queen'

The 38th anniversary of the sinking of the SS Lusitania on May 7, 1915, will be observed by the Cunard line in New York City when survivors of that World War I ordeal will be special guests of the company.

Among those who will attend the celebration is Alice Middleton (Mrs. George) McDougall of Walnut Lake, who leaves next week to spend several days in New York and attend the "reunion."

"Most of the world has forgotten the sinking of the Lusitania," Mrs. McDougall says, "just as they are fortunate in never having had to go through such an experience.

"It is something I should like to forget, but cannot. It has been with me since the moment I felt that great ship lurch as the first torpedo struck her."

The Lusitania, Mrs. McDougall recalls, was nearing her port on the Irish Sea when struck. She, with many of the passengers, was below decks. The force of the first blow and explosion blacked out the ship's lights, tossing passengers about like nine-pins.

MRS. McDOUGALL, then Miss Middleton, doubts that her legs were paralyzed and she was only able to crawl.

Pulling herself along by the arms she made her way up to the promenade deck, praying constantly that she might be saved. As she clung to the rail one of the male passengers came along and insisted that she accept his lifebelt.

"It was a heroic thing to do," Mrs. McDougall says today. "I never heard what became of him, for just then the second torpedo struck the ship and she started to nose downward into the sea.

"Somehow, in spite of my useless legs and the hobble skirt which

MRS. GEORGE McDOUGALL

was the style of the day, I managed to leave the ship and get into the water. The suction of the sinking vessel nearly claimed me as it did so many others. I did pull my head into an open porthole and how I got free I shall never know."

FIVE HOURS after the sinking Mrs. McDougall was picked up by the rescue ship HMS Juno, and taken to Queenstown, Ireland. Her condition was such that she was considered dead and assigned to the morgue with many other victims.

She lay there for 24 hours. Prayers for the dead had been said over her and she was awaiting burial.

A man seeking his nephew who had been a member of the Lusitania crew passed by. He noticed one of her fingers seemed to have moved and called an attendant.

From the morgue to the hospital and a month of care and treatment was next for the young woman who had been called home to England by the death of her father.

WHILE HOSPITALIZED she wrote a poem, recounting her experience in the United States where she had come in an effort to regain her health, the news of her father's death and her passage on the ill-fated liner.

A nurse, she tried after being released from the hospital to work at her profession, helping her homeland with its burden of caring for war victims.

The sinking of the Lusitania had been too much of a shock for her nerves and the nobles of war which had blanketed England were more than she could stand. After a year she returned to the United States where she has since lived, the last 13 years at Walnut Lake.

Mrs. McDougall feels herself the most fortunate of the 1,800 who sailed in the Lusitania's last voyage, for she was not only spared her life but by pitch chance was able to save one of her most precious possessions.

IN 1911 THE Lord Mayor of London had honored her by granting her "the freedom of the City of London." The parchment, bearing this message and the coat of arms worn in her clothing when she was thrown into the ocean. Today she dearly cherishes this waterstained and worn bit of parchment.

"President Eisenhower has received this same honor," Mrs. McDougall said, "but so far as I know, only one other woman holds it and she is England's present Queen Elizabeth."

While in New York Mrs. McDougall will be a guest aboard whichever one of the Cunard's "Queens" is in port.

Birmingham with many other communities, has a frequent reminder of this gentle little lady in their midst.

Whenever a patrol boy stands on duty at a school crossing, wearing his white "Bobby cape" to protect him against the rain, his comfort is her contribution. Mrs. McDougall is the designer of these capes, reminiscent of the capes worn by the London "Bobbies."

Lions Club Gets Use of Springdale Cabin for Scouts

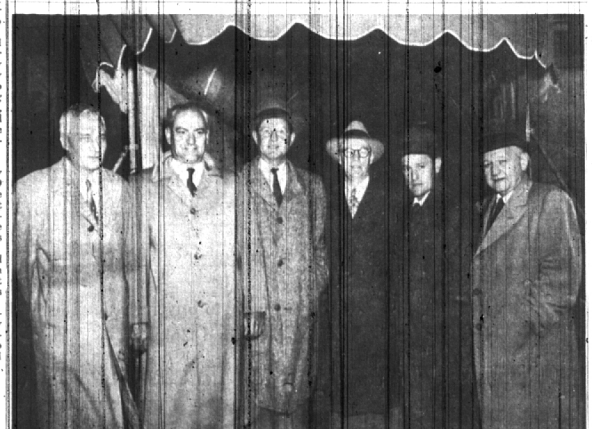
Management of the cabin at Springdale Park has been turned over to the Birmingham Lions club by Birmingham city commissioners at the request of Donald J. Parry and Robert J. Gougeon, members of the Lions boys' and girls' work committee.

The cabin, built by the Lions for the girl scouts, has been relinquished by the girls after about 15 years of usage. The girls have recently become affiliated with the Oakland county council and as members the cabin will be of no further use to them.

Parry and Gougeon informed the commissioners that the Lions would assume upkeep and supervision and would make the cabin available to the many Boy Scouts units, as well as other boys' and girls' activities.

CITY ATTORNEY Forbes Hussell was asked to draw up a satisfactory lease to operate on a yearly basis.

Commissioners are notifying the various heads of their decision since that group had considered using the cabin as a day camp in connection with a year round recreational program.



THE BIRMINGHAM COUNTRY CLUB's canopy shields from the rain both national and Detroit representatives of the Professional Golf Association as they arrived Monday to hold the first joint meeting of the group preparing for the National PGA tournament at the club July 1-7. From left to right are Ray Maguire, Birmingham Country club pro; Harry Moffitt, national secretary of the PGA; Horton Smith, president of the PGA; Ray Zebedee, tournament chairman; Harold Sargent, PGA treasurer; and Tom Crane, executive secretary of the PGA. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

City Gives Unofficial Approval

Troy township board members Monday night approved the use of the Walker gravel pit as a garbage and rubbish dump for the Southeastern Oakland County Garbage and Rubbish Authority subject to the inclusion of the township in the use of the proposed incinerator and the proper covering of the refuse at the dump.

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

For the next 18 months, Birmingham garbage and rubbish trucks may have the shortest haul of any of the member cities in the Southeastern Oakland County Garbage and Rubbish Authority, Birmingham City Commissioners learned Monday night.

A quiet search for an acceptable dump site for South Oakland communities hit by the recent closing of Oakland county piggeries has centered at the Walker gravel pit, north of Maple between Coolidge and Crooks, in Troy township.

The garbage and rubbish authority has petitioned the City of Birmingham to lease a portion of the dump site (owned by Birmingham) for the disposal of garbage and rubbish in a land-fill method until the proposed incinerator in Royal Oak township can be constructed and put in operation. They also have asked permission to operate the dump from Troy township.

Birmingham commissioners Monday night unofficially approved of a contract with the disposal authority, which could use the site for no longer than 18 months.

THE CITY would receive $5,000 from the authority during this period, the amount to be applied on the city's first payments to the authority when the incinerator is in operation, according to City Manager D. C. Egbert.

Egbert was instructed to negotiate further with the authority and report the final lease terms back to the commission for official action.

Birmingham, a member of the authority, also has been denied the dumping facilities at an Avon

(See SITE, Page 2)

Troy Supervisors Approve SOC Use Of Walker Pit

SOC Garbage and Rubbish authority will soon run trial dumping operations on an isolated portion of the dump for, the benefit of Troy township board members, the authority decided Tuesday afternoon. Authority members met with officials of Troy and agreed on the trials to prove that the dumping operations can be maintained free of any nuisance.

Marine Escapes Harm In Bennington Blast

A telegram that brought welcomed relief to an anxious family arrived at 8 a.m. Wednesday morning at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Thomas, 652 Hupp Cross.

The message revealed that their son, Pfc. Charles A. Thomas, Jr., a Marine serving on the United States Airfleet Carrier Bennington when an explosion occurred in the boiler room Monday night, was not injured.

Pfc. Thomas, a graduate of Birmingham high school, was a student at Michigan State College before going into the service in March, 1952.

Offer Withdrawn

Because the definite number of the 75th Anniversary Edition copies had to be determined in advance of May 21, the publication date, The Eccentric as of today has withdrawn further pre-publication orders for extra copies. It is planned however, that sufficient copies will be available to meet the reasonable demands of such an Edition.

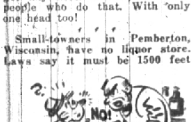
STRICTLY FRESH

Revaluing a junked second-hand car, an expert found gold worth over $21,000 hidden inside. Is that what you'd call "junk jewelry"?

A far western city councilman serving a five-day jail sentence for speeding complained about jail food, threatened action when he got out. Guess he's planning to bite the hands that fed him.

A two-headed turtle at Mississippi College tries to walk in two directions at once and can't get anywhere. Shucks, we know people who do that. With only one head too!

Small-towners in Pemberton, Wisconsin, have no liquor store. Laws say it must be 1500 feet



from the school and the town's not that big. No elbow room? Heck, you can't even "bend an elbow" in Pemberton!

About 60 city halls in a New England state have been sold by county sheriffs to be sold at auction for unpaid state taxes. We've heard of folks buying their way into city hall before but didn't know it was legal.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY. Old "O" and oak for ENterprise 6316.