

Thursday, February 26, 1933

## Death Is Penalty for Treason, And Rosenbergs Are Traitors

For many years this newspaper has opposed the restoration of capital punishment as a punitive measure for the committing of major civil crimes in Michigan. We do so only because the use of this method does not deter others from slaying people, as proved by the records of States where they have capital punishment.

Also in those States where death may be the penalty, more often than not juries are loath to return guilty verdicts. We believe, however, in severely long terms for slayers—always including, as juridical experience has considered wise, the quality of mercy . . . which is merely to say that even life sentences should mean that good behavior in prison may reasonably shorten the period of incarceration.

**HOWEVER, THE CASE** of the Rosenbergs, Julius and Ethel, who have been found guilty of traitorous treason against the welfare of the people of the United States, and who are scheduled to be executed in Sing Sing prison, is in another category.

We do not oppose the execution of the Rosenbergs, for the following reason:

They deliberately handed over to Russia

## Oppose Detroit Merger

For long it has been the dream of some Detroit civic leaders that a merger of their own city with many suburban areas might be affected. So long as it remains a dream, let it so remain! Seriously, why do they assume that Birmingham, for example, would merge with Detroit?

Birmingham folks, many of them, work

## New Moon Is Discovered

Astronomer Seth E. Nicholson, of the Mount Wilson and Mount Palomar Observatories, recently discovered a new wrong-way travelling moon, which circles the large planet Jupiter. The announcement was made recently by the Carnegie Institute of Washington, in its annual report.

This makes the twelfth moon which has been discovered around Jupiter and three of them violate traffic regulations by cruising around the big planet in an East-to-West direction. The discovery of the moon came about in an unusual way.

Nicholson had spotted his first moon in 1914, and two others in 1938. He was checking on these previous discoveries, to bring his information up to date, when he found the new moon on his photographic plates.

**THIS DISCOVERY** is not of major importance, although it does give astronomers something to think about in the way of reverse-action moons. Perhaps a more interesting discovery was made by astronomers at Mount Wilson and Mount Palomar.

**From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .**

Perhaps you read that news story recently about how cheaply one can live in Spain's Canary Islands, located about 60 miles off northeast Africa. It was reported that one can get along very well at fifty cents per day. No doubt there will be a certain manner of rush by some to look into the situation . . . why not encourage Uncle Sam to annex the bits of land and make available to some of his nieces and nephews this alleged economic Utopia? (But with the imposition of Americans, the bloom'ning place no longer would be Utopia.)

Grand Rapids' police chief tore up 51 parking violation tickets because the violators were attending nearby church services. "When they are in church, that is different," he said. Yet he'd hardly allow a thief caught with his hand in the collection plate to get away" . . . because he is in church."

## The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue  
Telephone Midway 4-1100

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

National Advertising Representatives  
Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc.  
14th Guardian Bldg. NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcome. Any original reflection upon the character and status of a paper or magazine or firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of *The Eccentric*, will be gladly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

certain of our country's atomic secrets, thus menacing the lives of millions of us. Such menace, of course, should only come into actuality in a war; and although we are said to be in a "police action" in Korea, practically all citizens agree it is, indeed, a real war, even though it is in its initial stages.

So we construe the Rosenberg act to be one comparable to a Russian enemy soldier shooting at us.

**ACTUALLY, THE EXECUTION** of the Rosenbergs, or any other traitor to the United States, is purely a military punishment.

While the Rosenbergs, in secretly giving away our atomic secrets were not on a battlefield shooting at us, they were on the assembly line that leads to a battlefield . . . and what is the difference in this case?

That is why we do not agree with those who, in the name of Christian charity, seek clemency for the Rosenbergs.

In brief, if it is acceptable to execute an enemy on the battlefield, it is equally acceptable to execute him wherever you find him arrayed in the clothing of an enemy warrior.

In Detroit, they live it for certain reasons, respect it for many other reasons . . . but they want to remain their own splendid residential community!

(Incidentally, one economic reason why the suburbs will oppose merging with Detroit is the latter's ever-increasing high tax rates.)

Joe Smallbones will be the man to buy back the old Whittemore farm, Mack Island, where the handles over on the Dewey farm during the coming season.

E. C. Fish has been hired to help Andy Anderson and wife to settle and sell Mr. and Mrs. Fish's residence on the lot. They will be in charge of the auction, and it is expected they will assist himself with credit to himself and his new business.

Uncle Tom, the old man, and his son, a constable, bought that little farm for the magnificent sum of \$40,000.

**20 YEARS AGO**  
February 27, 1913

George H. Mitchell, for the past 14 years head of the Birmingham post office, today retired from that position and was succeeded by James W. Collier.

A light delivery truck owned by Dave Anderson and driven by an unattached driver, was involved in a morning when struck by a Grace Trunk passenger train at the Hazel Avenue crossing. Graves was not injured.

Birmingham's Parent Teacher Association is seeking funds to permit the free distribution of milk through the public schools. This program is being launched in an

effort to provide better physical growth to undernourished children.

W. N. Whitemore, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, and now of Santa Barbara, Calif., has joined forces with a west coast floral wizard in flowers growing. Whitemore is in the process of creating a garden of bigger and better gladioli.

A mass meeting will be held at Birmingham High school Saturday night to hear men who know and who have the facts and figures on State, County and Township valuations.

**15 YEARS AGO**  
March 3, 1918

A word of caution here: this week from Vernon C. Griffith, fire chief, on street and roof fires. He said spring, with its changeable weather, often caused overworked furnaces which started roof fires, burning grass, he added, should be handled with care.

The storm outfit himself last night came within 48 hours of getting the job done. Mr. and James were left at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hobart McMahan and Phillip and Phyllis with Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dafos.

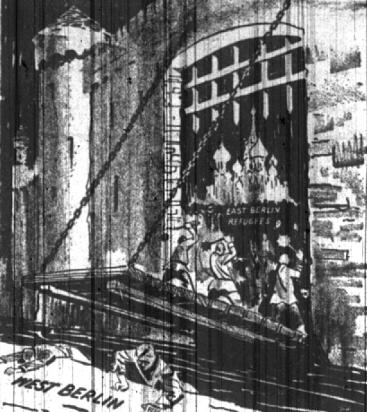
Prof. Elmer D. Mitchell, instructor in Community Play and Recreation at the University of Michigan, to speak at the Birmingham chapter, AAUW, at their afternoon meeting next Wednesday.

Birmingham, Mich., Oct. 12—Combination Monday night passed a formal resolution to loan the sum of \$10,000 bonds for the building of modern sewage disposal plant.

A motion was carried that \$140,000 would be voted on at the April elections.

**MARCH 12 IS THE DEADLINE** for filing nominating petitions for candidates for mayor, city commission, library board and city constable. Candidates must have been residents of Birmingham for two years.

## Raising the Drawbridge



## 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**

February 27, 1903

W. Scott Thurbur, the Chicago police chief, has been on duty Friday and Saturday with a wealth of beauty for our citizens to feast upon. It is rare for a collection of less than 5,000 souls to have this fine collection shown.

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E. C. Fish has been hired to help Andy Anderson and wife to settle and sell Mr. and Mrs. Fish's residence on the lot. They will be in charge of the auction, and it is expected they will assist himself with credit to himself and his new business.

Uncle Tom, the old man, and his son, a constable, bought that little farm for the magnificent sum of \$40,000.

**20 YEARS AGO**

February 23, 1923

George H. Mitchell, for the past 14 years head of the Birmingham post office, today retired from that position and was succeeded by James W. Collier.

A light delivery truck owned by Dave Anderson and driven by an unattached driver, was involved in a morning when struck by a Grace Trunk passenger train at the Hazel Avenue crossing. Graves was not injured.

Birmingham's Parent Teacher Association is seeking funds to permit the free distribution of milk through the public schools. This program is being launched in an

effort to provide better physical growth to undernourished children.

On the subject of skunking the water neglected to mention that they are gentlemen.

We recently had an afternoon when we drove the car home and left parked by the side of the house. Disengaging an oft-repeated admonition from the parents we left the door open—and got away with it.

It was just getting dark when a posse of rascals came along—but they didn't stop to knock. Instead, they burst in and while I stood outside, perfectly good garage stands were sent out to do our final duty.

WE SHED INTO the front seat started the motor and we began to move the car, felt something soft against our foot. Thinking it was the duster or some such thing, we stepped on it again—but the car stopped. It was the skunk.

Something caught our eye and we glanced down and put our face to face with a skunk. He was a little alarmed at my rough treatment, but took it well.

He crawled into the garage doorway. Something caught our eye and we glanced down and put our face to face with a skunk. He was a little alarmed at my rough treatment, but took it well.

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## ONE THING OR ANOTHER.

By George Wm. Averill  
And the invitation went along as like had planned.

Next time Tom Marion goes hunting, he's going to be especially careful of the trophy he brings home.

Last fall Tom, a salesman at Dickinson's Birmingham branch store, bagged a coyote near Glenview, Ill., one of the largest of the foxes conservation officer had ever seen.

Marion left the coyote's hide behind and collected the \$15 bonus given him by the state for killing a mink and a mutual friend, a retired general living in Florin.

The general was assigned by Marion to raise a drawbridge for the Normandy invasion to pick a staff of 85 officers to direct the artillery fire in the invasion.

But the general decided to him self, "Why only 85? Why not pick a second, third and fourth in line?"

The general was assigned to raise a drawbridge for the Normandy invasion.

Thereupon the general gathered under him some 300 junior officers on his staff.

"How come?" he asked the general. "What's the difference between a general and a colonel?"

"I'm a horsefeathers," declared the general. "Eighty-five is enough. I'll give you exactly 24 hours to send the rest back to the front. If you fail to do so, I'll be promoted. Or I'll bust you to a colonel and send you home."

Twenty-four hours later the general's staff was at 85.

Persons were killed. And more recently the Feb. 14 Lawson Lumber

and the invitation went along as like had planned.

Some authors don't realize the editor's statement to the editor that they have not been published and had never been published.

But it's easy for this editor to detect why.

Women don't give away secrets. They merely exchange them for another.

It's alarming to note how many happy homes are near the bustling up stage because of incompatibility.

Evelyn Peeler, Birmingham, drops by the office this week and gets this advice.

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With insight who can invent signed

For use in making up their mind.

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