

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

IF IT IS true that women's hats are puzzles to men, there are plenty of men who are completely in the dark. This Wanderer is speaking specifically of the "novelty" straw hats worn by a number of the ladies attending the Detroit horse show last week. They had all manner of decorations on crown and brim, including buildings, farm stock of all kinds, jumping horses and a wide assortment of people doing a wide assortment of things. Some did make the ever popular sun visor look pretty drab and dismal.

THERE WERE some sorry youngsters out at Springdale Park Saturday afternoon. A local family arrived there, only to find all tables taken. Rather than completely spoil the boys' day they spread their lunch on the ground and juggled paper plates on their knees. Just as they finished their meal a small group came along, cleared their gear from the table and went away. Rather inconsiderate, it seems, to use a table for a storage space and deprive someone else of eating in comfort.

LELAND GUNN, former DPW boss in Birmingham, has earned a word of praise for the part he has played in the rebuilding of quake-shattered Bakersfield, Calif., where Gunn now is city manager. Ripped apart by a severe quake nearly a year ago, the west coast city's officials have faced the task of rebuilding a vast area and doing it quickly. Gunn's office came in for its share of the praise in an article appearing in last week's issue of a national publication.

THIS SHOULD BE A COOLING THOUGHT! The Eccentric this week was sent the first samples of 1953 Christmas cards. If you believe a cool mental attitude is necessary in part to combat the high temperatures, you're welcome to stop by and give a look.

ROY B. WALBORN, RESIDENT MANAGER of the Birmingham Garden Terraces and the Birmingham Hills Apartments, recently came up with the idea for a children's party for youngsters living in the terrace units. Friday afternoon, June 26, he and his wife entertained 55 children at the Birmingham Garden units with a picnic, games and gifts. We understand that cost of the food, beverages and gay table decorations came out of Walborn's pocket but the prizes were donated by Birmingham merchants. The party was such a success that a second party for the Birmingham Hills apartments is being planned for later in the summer.

NOT THAT THEY EVER DOUBTED that there was anything seriously wrong with the youngsters of this day and age, but after the following incident Mrs. Maude Brooks and Mrs. Maude Bismeyer are fully convinced that they are tops in courtesy and ability. The two ladies were driving near Springdale Park on a recent evening when a fire on their automobile took the inopportune occasion to become deflated. In similar spirits, the ladies proceeded to the clubhouse at the golf course to phone for help. Two caddies, hearing of their misfortune, took over from there and told them not to worry about a thing. They smilingly went to the automobile and had the tire changed in a jiffy. When the ladies asked their names and wanted to pay them for their help, the boys only laughed and said both their names were Jack and that helping ladies in distress was their specialty . . . without pay.

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Just why some people appear to get pleasure from insulting others is a mystery to most of us. To be sure, one can come upon signs at various places, but to do the insult is to lower one's own mind to the low level of the pattern of the insult itself.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Young Illinois Rider Takes Top Event at BOH Show

By ALICE E. MORGAN

After getting off to a stormy start, the weather cleared and favored the 36th annual running of the Detroit Horse show with perfect conditions. More than 300 of the top horses of the United States and Canada took the courses at the Bloomfield Open Hunt grounds in one of the club's biggest events.

Thursday's opening operated under difficult conditions when junior classes in the morning worked through a steady downpour. The afternoon show was battered by heavy winds which took down two tents and a broadcasting tower. A stock tent, housing several horses, escaped damage.

The show was highlighted Sunday by the sensational ride of 12-year old Donald Marganz of Palo's Park, Ill., riding a Tom Fox Farm entry who won the high jumping event Sunday against some of the country's top senior riders. The boy also won the junior reserve hunter championship.

MEMBERS OF the Metamorph Hunt club's Junior Equestrian team took the special team event for young riders, with Grant's team second and Outland's, third.

These riders are considered top material for future Olympic competition, placing this event as one of the most important of the show. Pike's Peak, from the Fox Court farm, owned by Samuel Pierce of Bloomfield Hills, took champion of championships in the confirmation hunter title.

The show was exceptional for the few falls and injuries to either riders or mounts. Most serious injury reported was a broken rib suffered by a Grosse Pointe rider.

RIDERS WHO have been following the show circuit for a number of years were loud in their praise of how the show was handled and how, in spite of the severe storms on opening day, events were handled quickly and promptly.

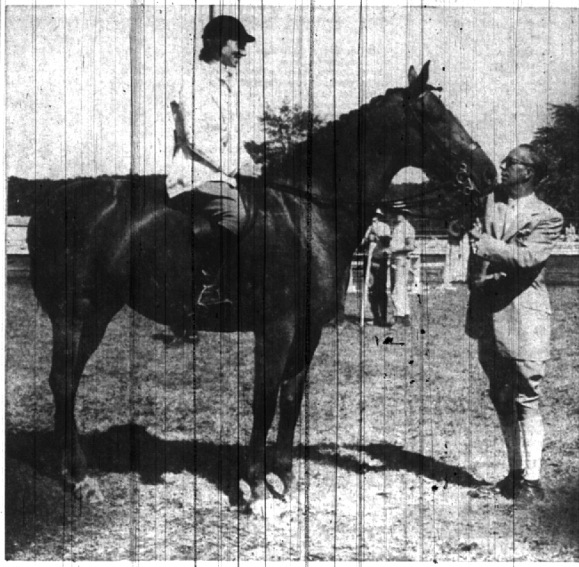
Pat Malley, show manager, and officials of the Hunt club came in for their share of praise from the many owners.

Riders from this area taking honors during the event included Patty Green of Birmingham and Margaret Mary MacManus, Bloomfield Hills lead line class, for youngsters. These under-21-year riders performed like veterans, in spite of the heavy rains.

Marilyn Anderson and Ralph Polk, Dinah Bugas, Jane Bugas, and Charlotte D. Nichols, all from Bloomfield Hills, also were among the winners.

OTHERS FROM Birmingham included Karon Parrish and Ray Leach.

In the three-gaited class, Beau Highland from the Echo Valley farm here took second place. My Own Tommy, owned by E. S. Nichols of Bloomfield Hills, took third in the open hunters for juniors class.



KINMOUNT (above) with Charlotte D. Nichols of Bloomfield Hills up took number one spot in the Lightweight Working Hunters class Friday afternoon at the Detroit Horse show, and receives the trophy from Clarence Craven, ringmaster from Brookline, Mass. Other pictures taken at the show are typical of the many fine jumpers and riders which took part in the 1953 event.

(Eccentric Staff Photos)

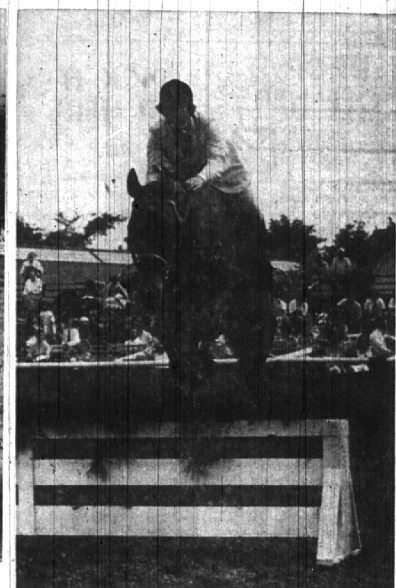
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Dismissed Case Gives Set Back To Dog Ordinance

Brakes were set on Birmingham's new dog ordinance June 24, when Associate Justice John Emory dismissed the case against Fred Harley, 480 Pleasant.

Harley asked a court hearing on a ticket issued June 7 by Dog Warden Ralph Riley, claiming that Riley had not proved ownership of the dog before issuing the ticket.

Harley's dog, a beagle, was off the property, according to Riley. Harley insisted the warden might have been confused about the animal, since another of the same breed lives nearby and might well have gone into the Harley yard.

Riley's answer was that he could catch the second dog, but not Harley's, and this formed the basis of his identification.

EMORY SAID that had Riley followed the dog into the yard to keep him under observation or seen the animal enter the house, evidence of ownership would have been stronger. A distinguishing mark on the dog also would be considered. Emory said.

The question of trespassing brought this comment from Emory: "If Riley enters upon my premises to seize the dog, I feel he might be open to charges of tres-

Miss Your Date With Death; Drive A Little Slower

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley said that because of the issue of trespassing and the public relations factors involved, he would instruct Riley to discontinue the practice of following onto private property any dog "not under reasonable control. Better evidence of ownership also will be necessary before any ticket is issued, Moxley said.

Moxley made the statement when he announced that Birmingham police were joining forces with the Michigan Safety commission in a concerted drive to stop speeding.

Moxley added that about 50 per cent of the accidents, especially those involving personal injury and highway deaths, are due to speeding.

In commenting on fast driving, "Speed is the thing which gets you into trouble faster than your brakes and steering gear can get you out. When a traffic emergency arises you can't stop or dodge fast enough to escape a date with the highways' Number One Killer."

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