

What Does It Mean, 'Be Kind to Animals'?

This week in the United States and Canada is being observed the 39th annual "Be Kind to Animals Week." More than 600 animal welfare organizations are participating.

What can Birmingham residents do to further the welfare of animals?

Within the city limits, none of us have horses or cows, or other farm-type animals. Some of us may have goldfish or canaries.

But over 1,500 of us have dogs, according to the latest tabulation from the city clerk's office.

"Now, don't tell me that I don't treat my 'dog properly,' you may be ready to exclaim. "Why, my pooch has a nice, dry bed, he gets fed plenty every day, and the kids shower all sorts of attention on 'im."

THAT UNDOUBTEDLY IS true—but there's more of the dog's welfare to be considered than merely a place to sleep, adequate food and a pat on the head.

How about his health and his life? Birmingham has a dog ordinance, enacted many years ago, primarily as a means of requiring dog owners to control their dogs so the animals would not injure other persons' lives and property.

However, this dog regulation can be interpreted—at least by the dogs, anyway—to have a definite relation to their well-being.

A Chain Reaction

A London bus driver recently slightly injured two little girls, when he knocked them down with his bus. The driver immediately called an ambulance to take them to a hospital.

The ambulance, answering the call, ran into a signpost. Another bus ran into the ambulance. Fire engines were called to separate the ambulance and second bus. Another ambulance was called to take the

No More Ermine and Jewels

Another evidence of the economic plight of much of Britain's elite is shown in that the ermine and jewels of former coronation days are not to be worn when Queen Elizabeth is crowned in June. Not that this change in attire is wrong, mind you... but simply that it proves the world has changed much since the turn of the century.

Once, even for scores of generations,

Conserving Soil Helps All of Us

It has been said, that "soil conservation is good farm management and results in additional income with a minimum of effort and expense. Soil conservation provides security not only for farmers and others of this generation; but also for generations to come."

Many people think of soil conservation solely in terms of huge regional projects which must be conducted at tremendous cost by government. But the fact is that some of the most effective and productive soil and water conservation is that which is conducted individually and cooperatively by the farmers themselves—including the owners of very small farms.

It is found in contour farming, in rotation grazing in the construction of ponds

Owners must keep their dogs under reasonable control at all times. If applied, this would mean a dog was not able to wander all over the city and be subjected to death or serious injury as he crossed streets.

IT WOULD PREVENT the dog from eating decayed food which contributes to the destruction of the dog's health.

A family pet often is picked up and confined to the city dog pound along with strays which can be unhealthy. If the owner doesn't call for him and no new owner offers to take him away, he necessarily has to be destroyed. (Last year, 800 dogs at the Birmingham dog pound had to be disposed of.)

In this "Be Kind to Animals Week," you might consider these suggestions in relation to your own dog's welfare.

Those people who don't really want a dog and don't intend to give it the necessary care and attention it rightly should receive, should not take on the responsibility of dog ownership. It will add nothing to the owner's happiness—rather it will be a nuisance to the owner as well as the neighbors.

AND THE DOG WILL BE subjected to a definite injustice.

A dog can be and wants to be "man's best friend"—man, then, should be the dog's best friend.

little girls to the hospital.

TWO POLICE CARS were called to straddle out the traffic jam caused by the accident.

The moral of all this, we think, is obvious: A little caution sometimes prevents a lot of confusion. In the case above, it could have prevented injury to two little girls, an ambulance, a bus and the occupants in the crashed vehicles.

England's wealth was concentrated in the hands of the few; Britain's vast empire was always shown upon, somewhere, by the sun; and now this is all changing. Perhaps, in some ways, for the better. In spite of forgotten ermine and jewels, however, England has a lovely Queen, and her subjects pay her great symbolic devotion;... and that's all that really counts anyway—don't you think?

to catch and save water, in careful soil management, and in other proven practices which will prevent erosion and soil exhaustion and protect both crop and pasture land.

OBVIOUSLY, WORK SUCH as this, on any scale at all, would be impossible if the farmers' working assets consisted only of his muscles and primitive tools. The solution is found in present-day farm machinery.

Even as mechanization has resulted in tremendous gains in agricultural productivity, so does machinery open the way for the farmer and his neighbors to save and improve the land. And the long-lasting benefits accrue to the entire nation.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Alger Hiss again has been turned down by the U.S. Supreme Court in asking for a new trial. It certainly took a long time to catch up with Hiss in the first place. On the other hand, how is it possible for Harry Bridges, pro-ink west coast longshoremen's union leader, to remain in this country when he is presumed to have been

ordered out of it? Apparently Harry hasn't yet burned all his bridges behind him.

Should Michigan auto license plates include some brief phrase of advertising value? Many other States, of course, stamp slogans on their plates, presumably for business purposes. So here's a suggestion for our Secretary of State, Pat Cleary: "Paid In Full." That would be a true phrase to affix to a license plate, would it not?

So They Say . . . Anne O'Hare McCormick, N. Y. Times newspaper correspondent: "Great Britain is slowly inching back from the brink of bankruptcy." Anetuin Bevan, Left-wing member, British Labor party, replying to Eisenhower speech: "I am not going to get peace in the world if you insist on the Soviet Union accepting a whole range of humiliating conditions and getting nothing at all."



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.

58 YEARS AGO Messrs. Monroe & Gravelin are busy decorating the home of E. W. Crawford, corner Brown and Force streets, and with the use of Detroit White Lead Works ready mixed paint he has a swell job indeed.

There will be "a" for breakfast at the editor's home, for Luther H. Tolles of the Walkins farm brought to market a very unusual thing we have ever seen in the egg line. It weighs seven ounces. We haven't measured it but it's a whopper.

Baseball crowds are very numerous in our village and every day when the Detroit boys play the beachers are lined at Veterans Park and around with the benches of our town.

Fred Cowles of Saginaw, a printer graduate of this office, accompanied by his wife and little daughter, visited friends and relatives in town last week.

Stanley Todd's milk route is constantly growing and in order to be a modern milkman he has just added to his outfit a Champion Aerator, a machine for sterilizing, cooling and making extra good the products of his Jerseys.

30 YEARS AGO May 4, 1923 According to the village officials a village hall is as necessary to Birmingham as sunshine is to flowers. The present village hall, housed the library, police and fire departments, jail and all village offices. A new building, more spacious and great convenience for all concerned.

A three-day program is planned by the members of Birmingham Lodge #444, for the dedication of their new temple. Invitations have been extended to area lodges and several members of the Grand Lodge of Michigan with numerous acceptances already in for the May 26 ceremony.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

We tried to get a mother to write our column this week. Tried several, in fact, but no one would take the assignment. So, it looks as though we were again patting our feeble best in an effort to put out the type of a Mother's Day column that Mother deserves.

Now we may be prejudiced, but we think our Mother is just about tops. As a matter of fact she has to be in order to have the patience to put up with us.

Mom has always seemed to understand the high moon and the low ones. She's bolstered and deflated our ego, as the need arose.

SHE NEVER nagged at us to do better but somehow played a great enough faith in us that it became a challenge and we worked hard to live up to it. When we fumbled a little and fell behind, she was there to help wash and could show us how we might do a little better.

We know that we've had a lot of wild dreams which we should never have followed. But did Mom, we know, did not approve, but she wisely let us stub our own noses and then helped us get up again after we fell flat.

Sometimes Mom is pretty hard to figure out and we doubt her. We suspect her of agreeing to things she does not really want to do, simply because she feels we want them.

WE MAY misjudge her or this but we can't help it. She is the one who couldn't possibly like everything we suggest, but she goes along with us about 99 per cent of the time.

It's hard to write about Mom. Try to describe her and you'll be lucky in a number of people would get the impression that we were laying it very much.

To write who we feel we're lucky in our choice of a Mom. There's a number of people would get the impression that we were laying it very much.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

While undoubtedly the most fair and equitable method of determining an assessment is used by any assessor in the state of Michigan, Birmingham City Assessor E. H. Black probably has the most complicated system—or so it would seem from the usual reaction of many special assessment district residents.

To save time in constant explanation of assessments, the city commission might consider the advisability of having these policies illustrated on large charts. Clearly visible to the last row in the audience, these charts could be pulled out early in the hearing and the assessing principle explained visually and in short order.

This then would leave the meeting free to continue with what specific kind of an improvement was being proposed, the estimated costs and assessments.

The sale of four acres of land on E. Maple, between the Berr Airport and Crooks road, has been made to the Fisher Industries. A large garage and building is being erected on the site. H. A. Fisher, is president. It is reported the land sold for \$550 per acre.

Lloyd Thornton, local plumber, who has just completed a new office, sales room and shop in the same area.

How's your driving performance when you are faced with a critical highway emergency? Can you make a split second decision and act on it in time to avert a bad situation?

The all-important thing is to know the right decision before you are called upon to make it. You can then take quick and decisive steps to prevent the accident.

Here are six questions which will help you to measure your driving skill when you're in a tight spot. If you can answer them correctly, chances are that you are qualified to meet these as well as most other dangerous situations.

FOR THE BEST STOP AT THE HEATH NURSERIES

EVERGREENS FERTILIZERS PEAT MOSS SUPPLIES RUST-O-QUEM Machinery & Implement Paint 30615 Southfield Road Just South of Tappan Mills Rd. MIDWEST 4-1284

Staff members of Cranbrook School's "Cran" were notified this week that their publication has placed second in the annual contest conducted among the nation's preparatory schools.

National Air Mail Week will have a special significance for Birmingham philatelists with the issuance of Birmingham mail cachet for Birmingham. The design will carry out the community theme as a strictly residential area.

Mayor John E. Marks turned the first sod Wednesday morning as construction got underway on the city's new disposal plant in Cranbrook. Located about 14 miles, the work will probably be completed within a year.

WED LIKE Mom to go on a spending spree—for Mom—once in a while. Her sense that there's always something we need and never anything she needs. She won't buy herself anything and she tells us when we buy for her, Guess most Moms are like that.

One of the most wonderful things of my life is to hear Mom sing at her work. She has a good voice and while she works she sings softly, almost to herself. Some of her songs are those we loved as a youngster when, with the day's work done, the family would sit in the yard or on the porch and sing together. Some are the old hymns that were so much a part of our childhood.

ONCE IN A while she surprises us and breaks out with some of today's tunes. Whatever the songs there's a happy, satisfied quality to her voice that chokes us up a little.

Yes, we're pretty proud of our Mom. There may be some as good in the world, but we know there are none better.

NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOME? Then heat it by reading or using the Classified Ads in The Eccentric each week.

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- (1) Blink your lights . . . slow down . . . pull over. (2) Grasp wheel . . . turn off ignition . . . steer to side of road. (3) You may have right of way, but forget it, stop quickly. (4) Blow your horn and get over to the right as far as possible. (5) You must decide in the sequence given whether you can (a) stop safely in time to avoid a crash, or, if not, (b) whether you can pass safely to the right, (c) or to the left. (6) (a) to avoid hitting the pedestrian, (b) to avoid hitting the animal if you can but your first consideration is to the safety of yourself, your passengers and other persons on the road.

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