

A Generous Heart

Once again Birmingham and area has more than met its community health and welfare obligation.

At the conclusion of the 1953 Torch Drive, the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin division of the United Foundation had contributed more than \$171,000 to the campaign, or almost \$20,000 more than its quota.

The generous heart of this area was visibly demonstrated through its pocket-books, so much so that the 112 per cent of quota led all units in the suburban division.

13,000,000 More Connections

We suspect that many Birmingham telephone bills this month will include charges for at least one long distance telephone conversation.

The reason, of course, will be "testy" by the customers of the nationwide toll dialing service which came to Birmingham Friday at 2 p.m.

At that moment, Birmingham was connected direct to 14 metropolitan centers, stretching from the East to West Coasts, and more than 13,000,000 telephones in those areas were brought as close to Birmingham as an additional three digits on the telephone dial.

BIRMINGHAM IS PROUD to be honored by the American Telephone & Telegraph Co., through its subsidiary Michigan Bell, as being the first city in the United States to receive this innovation on a regular, commercial basis.

A Great Public Servant

Perhaps one of the most highly respected of all public officials in the federal government is J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI.

When he recently testified before a Senate Committee about the Harry Dexter White espionage case, the words that dropped from Hoover's lips were succinct and right to the point.

Those who heard him testify assuredly believe that they now know one of the best reasons why Mr. Hoover is so esteemed by all fair-minded politicians, regardless of party.

We Are Gullible People

How wonderful are the promises of panaceas!

People will accept many nostrums for their ills and ailments, insofar as their health and/or physical appearance is concerned. Equally, they accept many alleged remedies and cure-alls for their economic and political troubles.

In the past few years, millions of Americans have purchased various tooth pastes simply because of the advertised claims of the use of chlorophyll. Yet the American Dental Society recently stated publicly that chlorophyll has no beneficial effect upon the problems of teeth.

BIRMINGHAM'S GENEROSITY was made possible only through the efforts of the 1,000 volunteer solicitors who took time from their business or family responsibilities to contact the rest of the people in their communities.

Headed by local drive chairman Everett Fisher and campaign director Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, the army of local volunteers met with a 112 per cent success.

This is just one more feather in the area's cap upon which is embroidered, "Leadership and Responsibility Demonstrated."

While we like the idea of being able to, within seconds, dial our friends or business contacts in far away places, with some apprehension we wonder just how big our telephone books eventually will be. Boy, wouldn't anyone like to have THAT printing job!

County clerk Brown has already issued 115 deer licenses (Oakland County mireds). If Oakland County men use up all the tags they are supplied with they will gather 'round the whole season's crop of deer.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Thurber of Wing Lake a ten pound boy on Friday, Nov. 13, but we are betting the stars were in the right position to give the lad good luck three times. He is, in the meantime grandpa Hagerman is as happy as can be as the years roll around.

Walter Nichols, proprietor of the Birmingham Buggy Spindle Works, was badly burned by the explosion of a gasoline tank attached to the spraying machine in Zimmerman's handle factory on Monday last.

A school teacher, not a thousand miles from Ortonville, received the following note from the mother of one of her pupils: "Dear Miss, you write me about whipping Sammy. I hereby give you permission to beat him up any time it is necessary to discipline him. He is just like his father—you have to learn him with a club. Found note in his box. I want you to get it, and don't pay any attention to what his father says. I'll handle him."

Starting a few weeks ago, two policemen have been assigned on night duty instead of one. This action was taken as a means to prevent the continuance of night robbery, a number of which have occurred during the summer.

Reconstruction work on the Field Building, which was burned this summer, has been progressing in such a manner that it is expected to be ready for occupancy about December 11.

John Gore, Russell Schorr and Rollin Smith leave today for River Rouge where they will represent the Baldwin high school in the debate to be held in that city.

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Happenings of Long Ago

Bits Of News Cleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO November 20, 1903. Richard Helms wants to be sheriff again. We will get the nomination the door will be open for him.

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Canadian National Railways' President, Donald Gordon, told a luncheon group recently that the volume and tone of diesel engine horns on Canadian railroads was playing hob with Canadian moose. It seems that the diesel horns sound very similar to the vocal responses of moose cows.

Naturally this is disturbing to the male moose, who spends considerable time in the mating season prowling the forest calling for lady friends. Gordon says bull moose have mistaken the sound of diesel horns on some occasions with "disastrous results."

I guess it's just a case of moose bumping into civilization.

Difficult to imagine: the frustration of a woman with laryngitis sitting through a session of her weekly bridge club.

Americans studying the effects of the two atomic bomb explosions in Japan during World War II have discovered a Japanese worker who survived the atom blast at Hiroshima although he was only 100 yards from the explosion itself.

Apparently, the facts have been thoroughly tested and the survivor becomes the first human to live through an atomic explosion at such a proximity to the blast.

The Japanese survivor reportedly was in the basement vault of a building only 100 yards from the center of the explosion when the first atomic bomb explosion went off.

The building above him, of course, was smashed and obliterated and he, no doubt, emerged from his basement vault to find the most terrifying scene around him ever witnessed by an atomic survivor.

DESPITE HIS close proximity to the detonation, the survivor is reported today to be in good health and this proves an important point concerning atomic explosions. While it had been known that protection of a similar type would protect persons from atomic blasts, it was not known that such protection could be afforded to one only 100 yards from the center of the explosion.

NORMAN R. BARNARD, Troy township supervisor: "It would be advantageous for both the township and the City of Birmingham to join in a reciprocal agreement for fire protection. But unless we can find the funds necessary to bring our department up to standards Birmingham evidently believes are adequate, such an agreement seems impossible."

Florence Empey, 21 years old, of 1307 Dorchester road was injured shortly after midnight Friday when the bicycle which she was riding on was struck by a coupe driven by Howard Groves, 45 years old, of 162 W. Maple road.

Miss Florence Brotherton, outstanding junior student at the University of Michigan and a popular member of Birmingham's younger set, won one of the highest honors open to undergraduate women at a recent ceremony. She was elected to Wyvern, merit society for junior women, membership in which is based on achievement, character and scholarship.

One of the running shoes of the greatest high school half miler that the state of Michigan ever produced was on display in the Baldwin high school trophy case.

Jerry also loved his comfort. He would raise all kinds of fuss at door and window until he lured someone out of a soft chair, and then dart like an arrow into it, looking very smug and self-satisfied when the former occupant returned.

The St. Bernard we knew so well looked big enough to take care of a regiment—but what a scary cat! A tiny kitten could send him shivering into his dog house—a one-time highway in the Baldwin. A trip by car meant that someone had to sit in the back seat with him and hold his paw.

FOR SHEER daring and bravery, a tiny handful of pooch called Ching stands out.

Like all Peking, Ching was a fierce little character and wont to do battle with anything that crossed her path.

A complete reversal of character apparently took place when the four very tiny puppies were born and she became a devoted mother.

One afternoon a while ago Jerry strayed into Ching's yard when the pups were out for their airing. With a roar that would almost do credit to a lion, Ching launched herself off the top step and onto the terrier's back.

Surprise! Not only was she not hurt, the big white dog bounded out of the yard, yelping at every leap. Ching fell off and returned to her family.

Who says dogs aren't "people"?

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

For many years prior to the induction of the Eisenhower administration into office, many rumors and allegations of corruption in the Truman administration were circulated by prominent Republicans. Attorney-General Brownell recently stated that his office is going to bare such things on to public view, and that he will seek to prosecute malefactors wherever he finds them. Go to it, Mr. Brownell—and if among them you find some Republicans, please don't hesitate to pillory them as you certainly will the Democrats.

The University of Michigan's faculty has revived the program of having students evaluate their courses of study and those who teach them. Such procedure ought to be helpful to all concerned. We congratulate the faculty for revealing themselves as willing to learn from those they teach! What greater compliment, indeed, can they pay themselves?

In a recent speech here, Dr. Allen M. Frue, minister of Detroit's First Presbyterian church, argued that the ability of man to produce atomic and hydrogen

bombs has placed civilization at the brink of self-annihilation, should they be used in another war. This, he maintains, is the most powerful of all reasons why "atomic warfare is destined for mothballs." The Doctor's speech was quite effective upon his audience—except that some of those present felt that he had failed to argue that the greatest force on earth is that of Truth and Love . . . both qualities of God's providence.

The recent unprecedented warm November weather has been a constant topic of conversation. Mother Nature has her own ideas of making better conditions, paying no attention to mankind's wishes or laws.

Our nearby city of Royal Oak doesn't intend to allow the problem of public parking in automobiles to stop its growth. Already it has established municipal office-street parking areas, and now intends to buy land adjacent to its Grand Trunk railroad station for parking space for 200 cars.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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So They Say . . .

Mrs. Sanford V. Larkey, Democratic party worker: "More women are needed in smoke-filled rooms where important political decisions are made."

Richard Russell, U. S. Senator from Georgia: "I have a strong feeling . . . that we ought to get out of the field of giving economic aid to foreign countries."

V. K. Krishna Menon, Indian delegate to the United Nations: "I believe in toleration . . . Toleration is the intelligent and conscious recognition of the essential nature of the human mind and of the self—one's own and the other persons."

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

The other evening a gentleman told us his dog was a wonderful watchdog. As a matter of fact, he was a little animal would probably "watch" anyone attempting to rob his home and might even help detect the most valuable pieces.

His statement reminded us of various pooches we have owned and known and the bright and not-so-bright things they have done.

One was a friendly soul, and would let anyone in the house, whether the owners were home or not.

He did this one Sunday after the family had left for church. To put it mildly they were quite surprised to return home and find a man seated on the davenport, afraid to move. The pooch had been true to his own idea of hospitality.

STILL ANOTHER was very fond of riding in the car. Let the family go without her and she would immediately launch forth on a program of destruction. Nothing was sacred to her in one of these moods, not even her own bed which more than once met the fury of her teeth and nails.

When there was Dyo, the English Springer. He nearly drove himself and his owners crazy when they decided to raise a few ducks. As fast as the poor waddlers found their way to the stream which formed the back boundary, Dyo would plunge into the water and drive them back to dry land. Has not been for a few years, therefore, those poor ducks would have ended up as Sunday dinners without ever having had the thrill of a swim!

JERRY WAS a belligerent type who couldn't fight fast enough to keep warm but was always looking for a scrap.

Advertisement for Electric Dryer Days featuring an illustration of a woman sitting on a chair, a dog, and a dryer. Text includes: 'It's time to buy an ELECTRIC CLOTHES DRYER', 'ELECTRIC DRYER DAYS', 'Look for this "Electric Dryer Days" symbol. The daisy displaying the sunny blue and gold seal is a dryer specialist. See him today.', 'NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOUSE? Then locate it by reading or using the Classified Ads in The Eccentric each week.', 'see your ELECTRIC DRYER DAYS DEALER'