

Newspapers Safeguard Your Freedom Of Choice

AS AN AMERICAN, you are free to think, choose and act for yourself. But, unless you also had the right to know the truth, these precious freedoms would immediately become meaningless and soon disappear.

The right to know is fundamental to democracy. It is guaranteed to you by the First Article of the Bill of Rights, which established a free press. It is predicated upon the faith of the founders in the wisdom of the people... provided they have the facts.

To bring the truth right into your family circle is the purpose of your newspaper. It tells you what is going on across the world... and across the street! Without fear or favor, it gives you authentic facts which you must have if you are to think, choose and act in the best interests of your family, your community, your country.

Freedom of the press is primarily the freedom of all the people to know all the facts. It is the basic freedom upon which all other freedoms depend... without which, none could long endure.

TV Entertainment

We note that some of the television columnists are now complaining about the deluge of psychodrama being strewn about the nation's television screens.

No doubt the average youngster, who goes in search of entertainment, in his living-room, sees a lot of queer characters, and queer dramas enacted.

If he were to judge the nature of the outside world by what he sees on the television screen, he would probably conclude that more than half the population is in the category of alcoholics, in need of psychotherapy, or dealing in other vices, even worse than alcoholism.

We have mentioned this industry failing on other occasions and think the general

average of programming is not what it might be.

PERHAPS ONE OF THE causes of the difficulty is that so many of the TV plays are produced in New York and Hollywood, centers of the fast-moving life which characterizes show business.

The average youngster in Podunk lives in different surroundings and circumstances, and, therefore, would enjoy clean and typically American entertainment.

We hope the sponsors—with whom the final responsibility lies—with exert sufficient pressure in the right places to raise the standard of their presentations to a more acceptable level.

Loose Civic Thinking

If our memory is correct, 17 years ago the United States citizenry did not feel as antagonistic to Soviet Russia as it does today. It was then that Lucille Ball, the TV star, registered to vote on the Communist party ticket.

This having just been revealed, the lady was having some jitters over the possibility of losing much of her popular prestige.

Economic Leadership Is Lacking

On the belief that a national sales tax will enable Congress to remove all special excise taxes, except on tobacco and alcoholic beverages, the National Association of Manufacturers is plugging for this new tax.

It will bring all the money needed to replace excise revenues," argues the NAM. All of which proves how naive and innocent of practical politics even our big busi-

ness leaders can be—for this proposed sales tax will finally turn out to be just another added and perpetual tax—not to overlook the fact that it invades areas of taxation now used by many states.

Truly, the United States of America is impoverished when it comes to leadership in the economic realms of our type of society.

Smoke Dreams



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
September 25, 1903
School bells are ringing again calling more than 300 busy and interested boys into the halls of learning here. High school teachers are particularly happy this year with their family of 95 brilliant youngsters eager for knowledge.

I will pay \$500 reward for information which will lead to the arrest of the party who broke the large street lamp near the depot last Saturday night. J. I. Rindell, Village President.

Our physicians were at once supplied with fresh aseptic vaccine points from the world renowned laboratories of Park, Davis & Co., as soon as that firm learned of the small pox scare in Birmingham.

That queer specimen of corn Whitehead & Mitchell are showing was grown by Matthew McBride. There are seven perfectly formed ears clustered in a circle around one center ear. It is something you don't meet every day.

Mrs. Frankie George of Big Bear entertained some of her friends and their little ones last week in honor of her son Herold's Second birthday.

30 YEARS AGO
September 28, 1923
Officer Lawler made like a cowpoke in the early hours of Tuesday morning when he mounted his trusty motorcycle and neatly roped a Holstein cow strolling down West Maple. Hisay attracted the officer's attention when she "parked" on the wrong side of the street.

Clifford A. Fairbairn, son of Peter Fairbairn of Bedgier Farm is with the East Coast Expeditionary Corps, USMC, on maneuvers in Virginia. The exercise which began Aug. 27, will continue through Oct. 7.

Civic Day will be observed each Monday afternoon at the Birmingham Community House, to create a greater interest in the affairs of the community. Discussions and speakers will be planned for the group.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE
BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Fall in the country is so wonderful. The greater distance and space gives so much more chance to see the beautiful blend of color which restricted city views do not permit.

On a city street one may see the blending of color from the comparative narrow lane. An individual tree may stand out, possibly made even more beautiful through its nearness to an attractive dwelling.

Lovely as city homes may be though, there's something about a farm home against a background of fall colors that has an appeal all its own.

In the country, the wide sweep of hill and field spreads before you the glowing scene of fall. The delicate shadings of leaves on one tree, the massed colors of groves of like species and the break provided by these species go to make up a picture the city dweller cannot get.

NOR CAN the city dweller capture the sense of well being that comes from the sight of stacked ricks and vegetables, harvest of the fallow fields.

He is denied the peaceful view of cats grazing across a field that only a short time ago was a golden sea of oats, but now carries the soft green carpet of next season's clover crop.

He does not have the orchard full of trees laden with the rich red of ripening apples. Worse still, the city dweller does not have the chance to stop by the roadside and smell the heady, luscious and suggestive, which floats across the land from those same apples!

While the man in the city goes to the grocery store to buy the food for his table, the farmer looks at well-stocked shelves in a cool, dirt-floored cellar and sees not only

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

The late Malcolm Binney, back in the fall and winter of 1945 devoted several of his "Good Morning" columns to the dream restaurant he wanted to open.

He told of the day when—leaving his newspaper job behind—he would embark on the most fabulous restaurant operation the world had ever seen.

He characterized it as the eater's restaurant—no juke box, no floor show, lots of bright lights so you could read the menu which would contain no French or Italian words, waiters with college degrees... and very high prices. And most of all—good food.

I STILL HAVE that Detroit Free Press clipping—Oct. 14, 1943—in which Bing first proposed his dream restaurant. I got it out again this week as I was dreaming about my own ideal restaurant.

Well, not a restaurant exactly—probably more of a glorified lunch counter. My lunchroom wouldn't necessarily be in the high rent district—but not too far away from it.

You see, I plan to specialize in several down-to-earth, most commonly accepted American dishes.

I'd have ham sandwiches and cheese sandwiches, hamburgers and cheeseburgers. There'd be apple, cherry and some kind of berry pie. Milk and coffee. And ice

cream, which could be eaten by itself or pie and.

ANY COOK I'D HIRE would be a little near sighted so he'd slice the ham and cheese about a quarter inch thick. The counterman would be required to cut all pies into five pieces, instead of six.

The beef in the hamburgers and cheeseburgers would be generous and pre-scrubbed so it fit the diameter of the bun.

The coffee would not be yesterday's, nor a coffee bean soaked in hot water, nor strong enough for the spoon to stand up straight.

The scoops of ice cream would not have hollow centers, nor resemble the size of plums.

ALL THIS AND heaven, too. Because I'd let the customer get a couple of sandwiches or burgers, pie and coffee for not more than a buck total, plus Michigan sales tax.

I believe I'd make a wonderful success of this venture because the overhead would be low, the kinds of food limited, so my profit could be small but built on volume.

You wouldn't come to my place except for a fine, tastily prepared, generous and specialized lunch, supper or snack.

Maybe even Birmingham would welcome the idea of my opening my venture here. Suppose?

Blakeman on Panel At Plan Conference

T. Ledyard Blakeman, 5905 Wing Lake road, executive director of the Detroit metropolitan area regional planning commission, will take part in the national conference of the American Society of Planning Officials at the Statler hotel in Detroit Oct. 11-15.

Blakeman will participate in the formal program of the conference when he will appear on a round table discussion the afternoon of Oct. 12. Subject of the round table will be "The Planning Organization for a Metropolitan Area."

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From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Florence Chadwick, the American gal who braved the English Channel in a bathing suit, has done the same across the Straits of Gibraltar. In this second course she is said to have braved the proximity of many sharks, too. No doubt her ability to stand off numbers of American "wolves" aided her in the Gibraltar crossing.

An Ohio State University professor recently declared that "the climate" of the earth will not change sensibly for the next ten trillion years." All of which adds up to the probable fact that Californians will continue to boast about their wonderful weather.

Poland's first alternate delegate to the United Nations has repudiated his allegiance to the Communist-dominated country of his birth, and requests asylum in these United States. Surely, here is further concrete proof that the Kremlin's satellite countries are without freedom for the individual.

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So They Say . . .

Lewis L. Strauss, Admiral U.S.N., Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission:

"It is a fallacy to assume that a stockpile of atomic weapons in our hands is in itself any longer a complete deterrent in aggressive action."

Andrei Vishinski, Soviet delegate to the U. N. General Assembly:

"The Soviet Government sought to secure peace in Korea and throughout the world."