

Torch Drive Funds— And Who Uses Them

Close to 1,000 volunteer workers began Tuesday to move throughout the Birmingham-Franklin area to obtain a local quota of \$182,000 for the 1953 United Foundation Torch Drive.

This money will be used during the coming year to support 150 essential services and agencies which care for the health and welfare of the communities in the Detroit metropolitan area.

A Detroit-born idea which has been copied by a number of other U.S. metropolitan centers, the Torch Drive is an effort which deserves the utmost support of each and every individual in this region.

THE BENEFITS ARE MANIFOLD, and go to the deserving people and families which are in need of one or more of the 150 services included in the campaign. Often, the persons who feel they will need such services the least, suddenly are precipitated into a situation where these services must be utilized.

A contribution to the Torch Drive is continuing insurance against the time—most always unseen and unpredictable—when the need must be there for you to fall upon. On the other hand, if you never have to use any of these services, your contribution assists in lifting a financial burden from the back of the unfortunate and deserving.

However, as this 1953 Torch Drive gets under way, The Birmingham Eccentric desires to point out one fact which has

caused considerable confusion among a number of contributors to the Torch Drive in the past:

TORCH DRIVE FUNDS obtained in the South Oakland county area (which includes Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin) include ONLY A PORTION of the money needed from the SOC area by the county chapter of the American Red Cross.

Therefore, it should be distinctly understood that the Red Cross necessarily will have to canvass this area next March for the remaining monies needed to bring the SOC area up to its Red Cross fund goal.

How or why the impression has gotten around that the Red Cross quota is included in the UP quota seems to remain a mystery. But last March, especially, Oakland Red Cross officials and their SOC area campaign chairman were getting steady complaints from householders: "Why, I was told my Torch Drive contribution included Red Cross, too. Get your money from them."

SO, IN AN ATTEMPT to head that off this year and get the record straight, it should be repeated:

The Torch Drive in the South Oakland area includes ONLY A PORTION of the county Red Cross chapter's next year's financial needs.

The county chapter WILL HAVE TO CAMPAIGN next March for the remaining amount.

Playing Both Ends—

Here's a sample of how people who are interested in getting special privileges (or subsidies) from government operate: talking with a union leader recently, he argued that the Republicans aren't willing to change enough of the Taft-Hartley Act to make it more favorable to labor.

So we asked him how he votes, and he

replied with vigor: "Democratic, of course!" Somewhat facetiously we then asked: "But for whom would you vote if the Democrats were in again and drifted the nation closer to bankruptcy, and a depression came on..." quick as a wink he laughed: "Why, I'd vote for the Republicans!"

When Shall We Say: 'STOP!'

You know that those who constitute Russia's Kremlin got where they are by murder and bloodshed, and that they will use the same means to stay where they are.

Out to conquer the whole free world, this Kremlin gang has made of its subjects mere slaves, using them to build up and maintain what they hope to become, the strongest military force on earth.

When they have accomplished this, they no doubt will unleash it upon free nations wherever they find them. That is their sole intent, their self-conceived destiny.

BOASTFUL AS THE FREE WORLD is of the value of freedom and liberty and much as these conditions must be defended, how this march of the Soviet over the boundaries of newly conquered areas?

Perhaps history alone will provide the answer... yet we often ask ourselves this question: Is not freedom worth defending enough this very day to show these Reds that we really mean business when we say to them: "This far you may go... and no farther!"

Michigan Losing Business

Taxes on businesses operated in the State of Michigan are increasing to such an extent that, according to reliable reports, a considerable number of corporate industrial companies are moving their operations to other states. There is no question about the looseness of Michigan's tax system; the various sources of taxation, to a large degree, are inequitably assessed.

Some units of government, chiefly the townships, are receiving a major portion

of their funds from levies made by the state itself.

When the State ceased to get its major revenues from real estate taxation, it then was forced to seek a variety of other schemes to get money... and it naturally followed the ancient axiom that goes: "Taxation consists of plucking the most feathers with the least amount of squawking."

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

So Sir Winston Churchill receives this year's Nobel prize for literature! The \$33,840 that Winnie will get ought to keep him supplied with Scotch and big cigars for several years to come—and we hope the fine old cool lives longer than that, and contributes his customary portion of good effort in world affairs.

A year ago Troy township decided to have a police department, and today there are two paid full-time men, plus five citizens who volunteer their services free of charge.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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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 October 16, 1903 "The new law prohibiting hunting on Sunday is a good one and Warden Tom will see that the law is enforced."

"Frank Briggs of Southfield was knocked down and run over on our main street Saturday night, and received a bad gash in his head, besides being otherwise injured. Dr. Shaw attended him. The driver of the rig failed to stop and his identity is unknown."

"With Harvey Hedding as village marshal it is hoped that Birmingham will quiet down to a decent, sober place again. Mr. Hedding has had years of experience on the police force and knows right well how to handle and care for drunks and disorderly persons. He is paid to do his duty, and he will do it without fear or favor."

A 12 foot stalk of corn from the Cooper farm adorns our sanctum. It also has two large ears of yellow dent on it each of which measures 12 inches in length."

"The heavens were illuminated with northern lights last week and for the first time in our history the weather is now up. Let it come—we were here first."

30 YEARS AGO October 19, 1923 Birmingham P.T.A. accepted the offer of Dr. A. W. Newitt, it was announced this week. The doctor has proposed that he supply free medical services to the schools for one year to help promote better health among students."

The village commission has decided to see that water supplies are such that they must refuse the service request from J. H. St. John & Co. for their new plant. The plant is a 20-acre tract south of Lincoln, opposite Bates, Chester and Stanley streets."

Although the arresting officer failed to see that witnesses were present, a clear case was presented in Bloomfield justice court against Eckford Walker. Walker, charged

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Uncle Abner's going deer hunting, to see that water supplies are such that they must refuse the service request from J. H. St. John & Co. for their new plant. The plant is a 20-acre tract south of Lincoln, opposite Bates, Chester and Stanley streets."

"I ain't Uncle Abner's first hunting trip by any means. He has not been for the past few years, but before that, every fall found him getting ready for the hunting season."

"He's a hunter who, faithful as he has been to the woods, has never brought back a deer. He goes empty handed, and he returns empty handed, year after year."

"One evening as we all sat around the fire some of the youngsters were talking about the size of his hunting experiences."

UNCLE ABNER filled his pipe, poured a big glass of cold cider, stretched his feet toward the fire, settled back in his chair and began to talk."

"I ain't Uncle Abner's first hunting trip by any means. He has not been for the past few years, but before that, every fall found him getting ready for the hunting season."

"The kids were peeped before he finished with that one and the ones who remembered the incident were shaking their heads and covering their mouths as best as they could."

Even though one reads about a situation that takes place hundreds, or even thousands, of miles away, it can never be certain that the event's effects will not shortly be felt some way or other very close "to home."

For instance, the FBI still is looking for the whereabouts of the other half of the \$600,000 ransom recently paid in the kidnaping and death of Bobby Greenlease.

Just last week, FBI agents—on a report that the money was being mailed there—spent several days scrutinizing every package that arrived for delivery by the post office in our neighboring community, Berkley.

Keep your hopes up, fellow motorists! The Oakland County plan board is trying to see what can be done along US-10 between Pontiac and Detroit, to keep traffic flowing smoothly, safely, and surely across the several "mile roads."

One of the suggestions which has been advanced to the planners is to bend Woodward to permit Woodward through traffic to go up and over the mile road intersections.

Through traffic would work its way to the two left-hand lanes, make a slight curve onto the bridge which would be on the "island" area.

Seventeen years ago, when Birmingham first held its city-wide Halloween party, it would have been difficult if not impossible to forecast how ensuing years would see it grow in size.

This year will see its first major change, a shifting of the parade's terminal point

LEGAL NOTICES CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland In the Matter of the Estate of Clark Brown Harper, Deceased

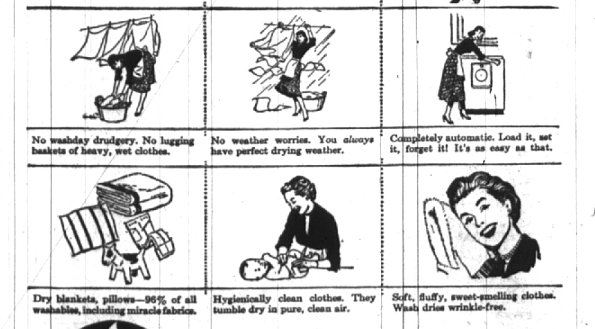
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS Sheffield Estates Road Office, 1954

While urging them to go to college if possible, Mrs. Lee Whit told Baldwin high school seniors that a college education was not a necessary for access or the role of a good citizen.

Boake Carter, columnist and newscaster, will discuss the European crisis when he speaks in Detroit on Oct. 30.

Important reasons why every woman needs an ELECTRIC CLOTHES DRYER

Handsome and trim (most models are table-high) electric clothes dryer is the hardest working appliance you can own. Here are some of the ways it saves you work . . .



Electric Dryer Days Standard installation wired without charge! See your favorite appliance dealer for the full story. Ask him to demonstrate the joys of an electric dryer. He has the particular model that will meet your family's needs.