

School Days Are Here Again

To many a freckle-faced Birmingham youngster September is a foreboding sound...

To the youngster who roamed the hills with an adventurous spirit during June, July and August...

To the freckle-faced lad who spent his time swimming in that nearby stream or lake...

TO MOST YOUNG GIRLS, the catastrophe of reopening schools is not as grave a matter...

Water from Lake Huron

Our nearby city of Ferndale, which gets its water from Detroit...

Chances of Atomic Attack

Julius Menken, a British writer who has been a student of Soviet affairs...

The British expert expressed the belief that China and Russia must destroy the power of the United States...

MR. MENKEN does not think the new leaders in the Kremlin will chart a different course...

We cannot agree with Mr. Menken's observations concerning the new leaders of

But the consolations which come with school and September are many...

To that youngster who hunts over hills and valleys, colored in brilliant fall hues...

And then, with September and the cooler weather, comes either thoughts of the first snow of the year...

AND DESPITE THE tremendous dread at the arrival of September, the consequences are neither serious or long-lived...

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 18, 1903. Some of the same spirit of lawlessness that has cut names and initials in the seats of our streets...

Mr. Lawrence Hulbert has secured a lucrative position with the dry goods house of Wm. J. Gandy & Co. in Saginaw...

Eugene Parsell of Flint, post-office inspector, was here last Saturday and found the local office in first class shape...

A prominent Birmingham businessman had an unexpected experience en route to Cleveland last week...

Things are shining on the John Kasper farm as Ray winds on the last of the painting...

30 YEARS AGO, September 21, 1923. "Gideon T. Bryce of Romeo, Mich. will head the new Michigan Dairy and Farm Produce company business here...

With a ten-game schedule lined up for Baldwin high school grid-iron team...

Test drilling on Birmingham's new steel plant will be completed today...

Just as bank account is built up of cents, so is wisdom acquired by the gaining and use of sense...

"One of the great regrets of my life," soliloquized Silas Haystack, local philosopher the other day...

In the final summary, the whole effort of mankind to be free and to govern itself lies in its right and ability to choose public officials, secretly, at election time...

So They Say . . .

Dr. Matthew W. Spinka, seminary professor: "The Christian must be a nonconformist."

Dr. Berwyn C. Mattison, health officer: "To overcome insomnia, listen to soft music and a funny story before retiring."

Look Who's Coming!



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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Along about the first of June each year—when the weather warms up pavement enough—motorists have to be careful to avoid the "wet paint" markers placed out by municipalities as crosswalks, centerlines, etc., are spruced up.

Credit for the first painted centerline has been given to the late Edward N. Hines who, as a Wayne county road commissioner, in 1911 was making an inspection trip along the Huron River drive...

He noticed a stripe of some unknown white material extending almost down the center of the road. Following the stripe, he came upon a horse-drawn wagon. The stripe was being created by mortar leaking out of the left rear corner of the wagon.

THIS CAUSED HINES to have painted centerlines placed on hardsurfaced roads and streets in and near Detroit, particularly on hills, curves, and across bridges.

This work was performed on limited scale until after the first World War. Mr. Hines, incidentally, was the man who also caused to be installed the world's first stretch of concrete highway—on Woodward avenue between Six and Seven Mile roads.

One person I'd like to meet is the one who writes the "filler items" which appear at the ends of newspaper columns—and makes them "come out even."

I've always wondered what kind of character writes such paragraphs as "World War II cost the United States

\$360 billion, or two years' average national income, against \$35 billion or six months' income for World War I."

Too, I'd like to follow his daily routine as he goes about accumulating such odd bits of information.

This business of municipal governmental policy and manipulation is getting beyond my grasp.

Especially in Birmingham, and to cite an example, take the city commissioner's decision a few weeks back in which it maintained that trees within the one-foot back-of-the-sidewalk area belong to the abutting residence, not the city.

The case came up in connection with the protest of 27 Suffield property owners who suggested that since many trees partially within this city-controlled strip had caused the sidewalk upheavals, the city should replace or repair the damaged walk and not the property owners.

THE COMMISSION, HOWEVER, decided that the trees belonged to the resident, therefore each would have to pay for the repair.

The question now arises in my mind: now that the city has formally turned over these half-and-half trees to the ownership of the resident, can said resident have the offending trees cut down without city permission, and thus prevent a recurrence of repair bills?

Maybe to clarify the situation, one of the Suffield residents would volunteer to exercise his new ownership privileges and see what happens?

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From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Rumors generally flow thick and fast about the actual or expected affairs of men who have gained places of leadership in American politics.

It is reported that in Michigan there are no less than 300 husbands and 180 wives who are just 14 years of age.

Honestly, while this newspaper in the past has little of great praise to heap upon the name and record of ex-President Harry S. Truman, we heartily endorse that gentleman's right to do and say anything he wants to.

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eight months of grueling labor in the White House, the chap from Independence, Mo., is entitled to have some fun.

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HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Just happened to think back a few years to the day when we, as youngsters, were taken to Birmingham and wholly uninitiated into the ways of Halloween in this town.

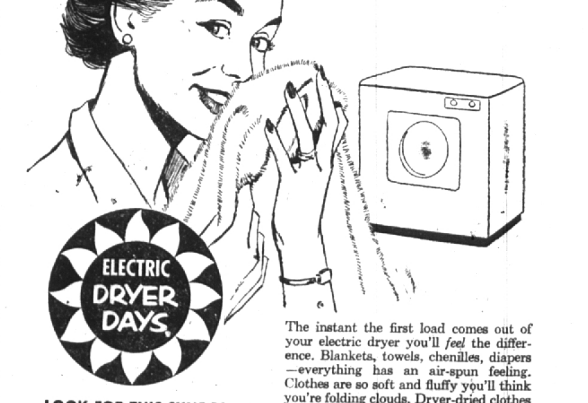
There are many other places in the land of ours which celebrate Halloween the way Birmingham does, but in none of our travels have we found them.

THIS PARTICULAR type of affair started several years ago when merchants toyed with the idea of boarding up windows for that one night. Police were kept popping and many law-abiding parent hiked down to the city hall to remove a crestfallen offspring in a clutch of the law.

WELL, YOU know kids, it wasn't long before Birmingham had a dual Halloween. The kids that's how we happened to have such red faces our first fall here.

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LOOK FOR THIS SYMBOL... The dealer displaying this sunny blue and gold seal is a dryer specialist.

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