

44th Birthday for an Important Organization

One of America's far-reaching organizations... the Boy Scouts of America...

In Birmingham and neighboring communities alone, several hundred scouts and their advisors will be participating in this observance.

Today throughout the nation, 2,440,000 boys are enjoying the "game of Scouting" in its three distinct programs, Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and Exploring, each appealing to boys of various age levels.

WE SELDOM STOP TO THINK that this great work is made possible largely through the active sponsorship of the church, the school and other community institutions.

If We Want to Sell, We'll Also Have to Buy

Charles P. Taft, brother of the late Senator Robert Taft of Ohio, said in Washington recently the United States was pursuing a dangerous trade policy...

Taft believes the United States should develop a far-sighted national trade policy, one which would be so dependable our neighbors would know what to expect...

TAFT SAYS THE United States, in its battle against Communism, will have to rely more and more on foreign resources and that dreams of self-sufficiency in this country will lead only to weakness and isolationism.

Our Lady Public Officials

The Women's Division of the Republican National Committee recently reported that more women are now serving in public office than ever before.

The study showed that there will be twelve Congresswomen in the second session of the 83rd Congress, six Republicans and five Democrats in the House, and one Republican in the Senate.

The study also showed that there are 289 women in the State Legislatures today, whereas the figure was only twenty-nine women in the Legislatures in 1920—the first year of women's suffrage in the

30 Billions of Socialism

There is one way to make a really heavy cut in the cost of government without touching spending for national defense or any other necessary purpose.

That is to turn thumbs-down on all proposals for putting the government further into commercial business—and to start getting government out of the businesses

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Although motion pictures years ago spelled out the doom of the vaudeville show, a phase of it has now come back with the development of television.

Private business operates on the hope that people will purchase its goods and services at a price that will return a profit to the business.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has new value. Suggestions are welcomed. Any criticism reflecting upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

The Wishful Thinker



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 February 3, 1904 "Whitehead & Mitchell give 15 pounds of sugar for \$1.00 and a supply of needles worth 10¢ and over-unmixed."

"M. H. Blunt had a great shock a short time ago, on going to his wheat bin to load up a grain—found the bin empty. About 60 bushels was gone and he does not know when it was taken."

"Oliver Davenport was bitten on the thumb two weeks ago by a pet cown which he was handling, but paid little attention to it the first few days, and it finally got so bad that Dr. Shaw was called and he found a bad case of blood poisoning."

"Three mild cases of scarlet fever are in our village. The sick ones have it very mild and all are safely quarantined."

"The alarm of fire, Wednesday evening at 6 o'clock called out a crowd who flocked to V. Nixon's store where one of his show windows was all ablaze. Miss Beatrice Brown was lighting one of the gasoline lamps and in some way the contents spilled out on her, taking fire. Miss Brown's hands were slightly burned. Her clothes were soon ablaze and but for the prompt action of Mr. E. Montgomery in throwing a shovel about her, the lady would have been badly burned. The goods in the show window were ruined. Loss about \$30, covered by insurance."

30 YEARS AGO February 1, 1924 For the first time in the long history of Bloomfield township a general primary election, instead of the open caucus meeting will be inaugurated this spring, at which time votes will be cast for candidates to fill the various township offices.

Birmingham's brand new \$12,500 fire pumper, purchased from the

American LaFrance Co. last October, arrived in town Wednesday morning.

Wilson Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Jones of North Woodward avenue, who has been the past two years been in California, returned to his home last Friday in company with his father.

The Ladies' Church Society of the First Presbyterian church held nearly 300 at their annual snapper given Thursday, Jan. 24, in the church dining room.

Members of the Village Commission Monday night passed a resolution whereby they will give fire protection to the residents of Birmingham Estates for one year, upon payment of \$250.

Enrollment in the Birmingham schools, as shown by the register, Monday, the first day of the new semester, was 2631, according to Howard D. Crull, superintendent.

Rice A. Howell of 588 Southfield road, has been appointed district governor of the National Exchange club to succeed Dr. Otto C. Beck, retiring from office.

A fractured vertebrae, believed to have been received last summer when he fell from a horse, was said to be the cause of the death last Friday morning of 10-year-old John Strom, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Strom of 792 Fairfax road.

Fire loss of .47 per capita in Birmingham for 1938 is the lowest recorded in the past six years, according to the annual report of the local fire department compiled by chief Vernon A. Griffith for City Manager Donald C. Egbert.

Godfrey Streiger of 1283 Dorchester road was elected president of Orchard Lake Country club at the annual meeting held Jan. 26.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

The coming weeks will be selfish ones for Birmingham people. It is the time of the year when Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham are asked to do something for Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham and all the little Birminghamians with no part of their generosity earmarked for out-of-town building.

It is the time of the year when we, the people of Birmingham, are called upon to give our support to a strictly local enterprise.

ODDLY ENOUGH, newcomers to our community are generally more impressed with the Community House than are those who have watched it grow from an idea into an institution that is now "big business."

They come to Birmingham as strangers, and sooner or later some gathering takes them to the House. They are, in most cases, amazed at what they see there and utterly unable to imagine the hundreds of other activities which center around this comfortable looking white building.

After seven years of quiet close association with the House through many channels, we are still left open-mouthed when we stop to really think about it. The figures of the annual report leave us astounded, for a count of individuals of a good sized city's population is in and out of those doors each year.

THEY COME here for entertainment, for education, for quiet companionship, for personal health benefits. Yes, many come to the Community House as a place of worship, getting comfort and solace through group contact with God. The Community House serves all ages, in all walks of life. Men and women with college degrees come to learn from those whose degrees came only through experience and hard work.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

I wish the people who know all the answers would move to New York City or Hollywood where they could spend all their time on those radio or TV quiz shows.

To date, I have seen no reports out of Washington that the present Republican Administration is going to be any more forthright in collecting monies for operation of federal government than were the Democrats for 20 years.

Perhaps that old bromide should be changed to read, "Death and hidden taxes are here to stay."

Wonder if it would save any lives if a hunter who "accidentally" shot another hunter would not be permitted to hunt again for a specified number of years following the "accident"? Suppose it would make more hunters less careless about how they hunt?

There will be no objection from me concerning equal rights for women—if our laws are amended to give equal rights to men.

Because I believe newspapering and politics should not mix (except in rare circumstances), I expect never to be able to put this campaign method to actual test. But perhaps there is some future candi-

date who might like to try it—so here it is:

In my campaigning, I would tell the people anything I felt would get me elected. I'd tell my audiences what they wanted to believe I would do for them, if elected. That way you get their votes—by playing along with their opinions, pre-conceived notions, desires and imaginations.

And I wouldn't worry about the small minority in the audience which won't be pleased by what you are saying. Their votes won't affect the final outcome, if you program your remarks (reversing them if necessary) for the particular audience you will be talking to.

And once elected, I wouldn't worry about the occasional letter that begins, "When you were in Tanktown, you said that—"

Forget it. You may lose, but vote next election, but there will be plenty of brand new voters you can bamboozle in your next campaign.

How can I get away with this type of campaign? Because most people forget. Most people can't remember.

And from past electioneering I have seen, I would not be the first candidate to get elected in this fashion.

The easiest way to get into a conversational hole is to use your remarks on ignorance.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN St. Extension Is Attacked By Resident

To the Editor: This is a copy of a letter which I am sending to City Manager Donald Egbert. I hope you will publish it because then, perhaps, other citizens will express their opinions about certain intersections and help find a better traffic plan for them.

I think the proposed cross over at North Woodward and Hunter, as published in the Jan. 21 Eccentric, will be a tragic mistake. It is almost the same change that was made at South Woodward and Adams.

Traffic is now routed west from Adams to turn left (South) on Woodward. The result has been one of the worst intersections in the suburban area.

THE SOLUTION to the Adams-Woodward intersection was (and still is) a traffic signal at the intersection, allowing Adams traffic to enter southbound Woodward directly instead of using Lincoln. It has always been just that simple.

I hope the proper authorities come to realize it and give up the senseless tangle at Woodward and Lincoln.

I cannot sit quietly by and watch the same unworkable cross over used at the North Woodward end.

Fun for all the family... But who's getting dinner?



... Mom's ELECTRIC RANGE, of course

Sit down and enjoy television with the family. Mom. Dinner always cooks to perfection in an electric range...

and it's ready on time. Automatic controls maintain the one right heat for perfect results. No need to experiment with different cooking speeds for surface cookery, either. Simply snap a switch for the exact amount of heat you need!

BE MODERN COOK ELECTRICALLY

SEE YOUR DEALER or Detroit Edison

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Academy Grants Mid-Year Degrees

Six mid-year graduates have been granted bachelor or master degrees by Cranbrook Academy of Art, Zoltan Sepeshy, director of the Academy, has announced.

Master of fine arts degrees were awarded to painters Julio Arana, Bogota, Colombia; Joseph Burgess, Delmar, New York; and Anthony Vianonnes, Detroit.

Detroiters Leo Stein and Earl Krentzin, a metallurgist, received master of architecture and master of fine arts degrees, respectively. Paul Gedeon, Rochester, N. Y., was granted a bachelor of fine arts degree in painting.

When Buying or Selling Stocks or Municipal Bonds—Think First of

First of Michigan Corporation

Member Midwest and Detroit Stock Exchanges

BUHL BUILDING, DETROIT NEW YORK CHICAGO

Grand Rapids Port Huron Battle Creek Bay City Columbus Lansing Flint

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So They Say . . .

Lady Rama Rau, president, All India Women's Conference:

"Indian women are a great deal more interested in what other women in the world are doing than other women are interested in what Indian women are doing."

Dwight D. Eisenhower:

"We and our friends in the free world must build a reputation and pay for a military might assuring us reasonable safety from attack."

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