

A Contribution Worth Making For a Risk Worth Taking

How much would you risk to protect your children and all children forever from the threat of polio? A dime? A dollar? Twenty-six and a half million dollars?

IT CAN BE DONE TONIGHT very easily—just turn on your front porch light. Because this evening that light will be a signal for one of the several hundred Birmingham and area women to come to the door for your contribution to Birmingham's third annual "Mothers' March on Polio."

Our Nation, Alone, Can Be Secure

"These United States, with a present population of 160 million people, can support another 30 millions by 1975, providing them with a 72 per cent increase in average income... assuming that our national economy continues to provide incentives for people to produce and to invest and devise better ways of producing the increased goods and services our hugely expanded population will require."

QUITE NATURALLY THIS FORE-

A Normal Adjustment Period

During most of World War II, and since, the United States has been going through economic conditions that are not typical of those that exist when our world is at peace. This simply means that we have been living in an economy stimulated by an inflation that always attends war conditions.

You Can't Outlaw 'Truth'

Dominion of China by anti-Christ Communities has almost eliminated the existence of Christian mission organizations in that ancient land. Starting in the Seventh Century, missionaries began to bring the Christian religion to China; considerable progress had been made, resulting in the embracing of the teachings of Jesus by hundreds of thousands of modern-thinking Chinese.

March of Dimes, has assaulted polio from every possible direction—through scientific research, through professional and public education, and by paying the treatment costs of citizens of all ages who couldn't foot the bill alone.

Now, after 16 years of preparation and defense, the National Foundation has moved into position to strike back at polio—to move into the attack by launching a series of vaccine tests aimed at establishing the effectiveness of polio prevention and by stepping up gamma globulin injections.

THIS IS WHAT the \$26,500,000 is for. This is the added cost of the fight which the March of Dimes will have to face in 1964. This is the extra you are asked to pay; now to the end that polio may be conquered once and for all.

That is why you are being asked to give more in '64—when you join the March of Dimes.

cast is based upon the belief that most Americans continue to support our free competitive enterprise system; that they will oppose any extension of government into the areas of socialistic operations, and that those engaged in producing this nation's wealth will "give an honest day's work for an honest day's wages."

What other nation on earth today can, with reasonable expectancy of fulfillment, look forward to such material progress? There is not one that can even come close to the security guaranteed average American workers by the economic system that made possible our great development.

It is up to all of us to keep it that way!

A Normal Adjustment Period

production processes... the slack to be taken up later by the unleashing of capital and labor on producing peace-time commodities. It is to be hoped that the majority of Americans will understand this, and not get panicky and blame the party in power. The exact condition would exist were the Democrats in power at the moment, and dedicated to a restoration of a non-war economy.

closed up most of the missions, but it is hardly possible that they have annihilated the inner thinking of many who still follow the words of the Galilean. When the Communists are finally overthrown—as they ultimately will be—once again the Truth embodied in Christian teachings will flourish in the environment of personal freedom that will come to China.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

During 1953 American colleges and universities awarded 374,000 degrees, a decrease of 29,000 degrees from 1952. Well, speaking of degrees, the American temperature is due for a healthy drop, anyway.

In a constitutional Republic like ours, the ballot is the citizens' greatest and only defense against tyranny. When a ballot is cast by a voter who knows exactly why he is voting for either a candidate or an issue, such a ballot is backed by intelligence. Such a ballot is comparable to a good bullet in the rifle of a soldier who is using it to defend his country against a foreign invader. You cannot defend your country with blank cartridges...

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone Midwest 4-1100. GEORGE R. AVERILL Editor and Publisher PAUL NEAL AVERILL Business Manager GEORGE W.M. AVERILL Managing Editor HAROLD P. BURGER Advertising Manager The Eccentric is a member of: National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association and University Press Club. National Advertising Representatives: Weekly Newspaper Representative, Inc. 1618 Guardian Bldg. 920 Broadway DETROIT 26, MICH. NEW YORK 10, N.Y. The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcome. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be promptly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

So They Say...

W. Randolph Burgess, deputy to the Secretary of the Treasury: "The national debt cannot be reduced until the security of the United States and other free nations is assured." Grayson Kirk, president, Columbia University: "The eternal task of a university, any university worthy of the name, is the pursuit of truth." Frederick Brown Harris, Chaplain, U. S. Senate: "With all the opulent wonders of this inventive age, there are signs on all sides, in human relationships, of tarnished integrity."

Be My Valentine!



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 JANUARY 29, 1914 "Sixteen degrees below zero Monday morning last was all we could see, but with a cheerful heart, plenty of ambition and a full coal bin we expect to pull through." "Chicken thieves are doing a foul business at and near Milford."

"The Detroit Free Press has abandoned the Twice-A-Week Free Press and will hereafter publish the new farm paper, known as the Free Press Farm and Livestock Journal, edited by Mr. Robert Gibson." "Going to Pontiac by trolley is like going to the north pole. The roadway is abandoned for horses and sleds, and if anyone has to drive to Pontiac he must take the electric road. The snow is about five feet deep over the road and men are, in a small way, trying to dig out so travel can be resumed."

30 YEARS AGO JANUARY 25, 1934 At their meeting Tuesday night the Village Commission refused, temporarily at least, an offer from the Birmingham Estates Co., owners of the subdivision known as Birmingham on the West, for the payment of \$100 annually for assurance of village fire protection.

In response to a request made by Luther D. Allen, supervisor of Bloomfield township, two experts from the state tax commissioner's office, traveling arrived in Birmingham Tuesday of this week and began the work which will spread an increase of approximately seven millions of dollars on the property of Bloomfield township.

What is claimed to be one of the prettiest new subdivisions de-

velopments in the Birmingham district has been recently opened on East Maple road and is known as Birmingham Gardens.

Believing that the work of village clerk has grown to such a point that an increase in salary should be made, members of the village commission Monday night passed a resolution to be approved by local voters at the annual election which will raise the salary from \$1,300 to \$1,500 per year.

A total of 154 permits were issued during the year in Birmingham representing the value of \$578,325.

15 YEARS AGO

JANUARY 26, 1949 Fire, said to be caused by an over-taxed heating system, broke out Wednesday at 5:10 p.m. in the two-family residence at 1268 Southfield road, causing an estimated damage of \$10,000 to the building and contents. After three hours of debate in which a delegation of more than 70 Birmingham residents took part, the City Commission Monday night voted to purchase for \$8,000, 15.69 acres in the northeast section of the city as a playground or park.

A career of public service, beginning back in the days of large lumbering operations in Northern Michigan, and extending to the present development of modern communities, ended with the death of Wilbur Whitman McAlpine, last Wednesday evening in the Florence Crittenton hospital.

PONTIAC—Participating organizations of the community chest received funds totaling more than \$40,000 during 1958 according to the report presented at the annual meeting.

St. James Episcopal church of Birmingham will participate in plans for the 106th annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral in Detroit.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Uncle Abern made the kids groveled the other evening. Outside the weather was the kind easily described as "unfit for man or beast." A fog that would credit to London itself, smothered everything. Lights were only little yellow blobs, shining through the stuff like small stains on a bed of white cotton. Inside the fires burned bright and cheery, and Uncle Abern talked of "When he was a boy."

HE DESCRIBED the skating parties the gang used to have with huge bonfires spouted along the shore where kettles of coffee simmered and steamed and dozens of doughnuts kept warm in ovens made out of old milk pails.

He talked about the rolling hills where several feet of snow offered ideal skiing conditions and where toboggan and coasting parties held forth.

Back then, Uncle Abern's day skiing was mainly a sport for the young men and most of them made their own skis. He described the process of lightly scoring the tips, steaming them, bending them and then the final shaping and dressing. The small fry used barrel staves, mostly, and since speed was nothing to brag about few injuries were received in spills.

SKIP JACKS, one-runners affairs with a narrow set perched over the middle, formed another winter sports equipment in his day, along with any large, round-bottomed pan. All this went on for a couple of hours, between puffs on his pipe and bites of an apple, and Uncle Abern was having a wonderful time. He just glowed with contentment.

The young folks, however, glowered with discontent. From where they sat they could see through the dining room and kitchen into the utility room. Shiny skates hung there while in the corner skis, ski poles and hockey sticks leaned against the wall.

DROPLETS OF water trickled down the windows, and dripped from the eaves. The fog grew thicker and the thermometer continued its slow climb past the 30 mark.

A few days before that temperature hit the skids and hopes had faded. Watchful eyes checked every available skating spot around the area and carried a hopeful gleam when a fair fall of snow began.

Over the weekend those skates and skis had a bit of a workout, the first since the Christmas wrappings had been torn away. Monday's school hours, never dreamingly given while the youngsters dreamed of after-dinner hours that were off.

Then, the weatherman lowered the boom. Any other time they would have enjoyed Uncle Abern's trip backward in time, but tonight, when all their dreams were literally melting away, they had little stomach for his story.

Unsuspecting, the old gentleman rambled on, never dreaming that the boys and girls were mentally accusing him of "rubbing it in."

PECK'S Cash and Carry Plain Dresses, Suits, Topcoats \$150 CLEANED and PRESSED For Delivery PHONE MI 4-7724 WOODWARD—NEAR MAPLE

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

A hard core of newspaper readers have formed their own conception of the responsibilities of an editor and it seems to be this—he is not someone to see about having a news item printed, he is the one to be told exactly where the item should be published.

Some people seem so disturbed over noise that they would like people to play chess with felt-based chessmen.

Every year at this time, this column publishes the attendance records of the seven Birmingham city commissioners. Our compilation is unofficial, of course, for nowhere will an official one be found—except meeting-by-meeting in the commission minutes. But this is what we have for the period between Jan. 19, 1953, and Jan. 11, 1954, inclusive: Mayor Ralph A. Main—absent 6 times, late 5 times. Mayor Pro Tem Lance Minor—absent 7, late 0. James C. Allen—absent 1, late 7. (He has served only 40 weeks, having been on the commission since his election last April.) Dean G. Beier—absent 7, late 2. Richard C. Patterson—absent 3, late 1. Charles Renfrew—absent 3, late 1. V. B. Watkins—absent 2, late 1.

What places a community way above the many good places to live? Perhaps these shining examples have in common these four qualities: Civic spirit that is indomitable. Citizenry that works as a team. Local government that is wide-awake. Civic imagination. How high do you think your community scores on these points?

Until recently, people used to look into their mailboxes with this in mind, "Wonder if there is any mail today?" If there were, it was a pleasant event, because most people didn't get too much mail—except at the first of the month, naturally.

But today? The householder doesn't worry about there being any mail. Sel-dom does the day go past but what the mailman hasn't something to leave. "The question now has become, "Wonder if there are any letters today?"

The New York World Telegram aptly summed up this new situation in the following recent comment: "Too Much Junk"

"People are finding more and more mail in their boxes lately, and quite a lot of it bears neither their names or addresses. It is the sort of advertising dodger or handbill that used to be distributed by private enterprise through neighborhood boys earning spending money."

"Uncle Sam is taking over this new field of endeavor thanks to a new Post Office Department decision. Some postal officials think the greater volume of this "third class" may reduce the annual loss on the Post Office Department."

"The gist of the reasoning seems to be that since the postman is coming by our house anyway, he might as well bring along copies of whatever circulars were left in the post office that day."

"In that case he might as well deliver the milk too, and collect the garbage on the way back."

"Letter carriers are a self-respecting and hard working group of men who take their responsibilities seriously and properly resent being made pack horses for a mass of junk that the sender doesn't consider important enough to write an address on."

"The Post Office department had enough problems to begin with. There is no excuse for taking on this one."

Advertisement for HUGH C. WHITE insurance agency. Text: "Let Your Insurance Problems Become Our Problems. SERVICE IS OUR BUSINESS. HUGH C. WHITE. Telephone Midwest 4-3610." Includes photo of Hugh C. White and Bill Roberts.

Advertisement for AUTOMATIC BED COVERING. Text: "LIGHT, WARM AND ALWAYS WELCOME... an AUTOMATIC BED COVERING... SEE YOUR DEALER or Detroit Edison". Includes illustration of a woman sitting on a bed.