

Social Security 'Dishonesty'

These few words relate to the federal government's social security program, started under FDR 17 years ago...

about \$40,000,000 in interest, which is added to the book balances of the fund. Yet it all adds up to this: to retire all or any part of those bonds...

DURING 1953 THESE BONDS earned

You Are Perfectly Right, Adlai!

Adlai E. Stevenson, speaking recently in New York, called attention to the fact that the freedom of the individual in this country is the key to progress...

THE THEME EXPRESSED by Steven-

Politics' Controls Bridge Payments

The Mackinac Bridge Authority has sold \$95,858,000 worth of bridge bonds, and when the Michigan Supreme Court upholds that sale...

WHILE WE DISLIKE being pessimistic about the situation (but knowing how government and politics operate), we prophesy that eventually the state treasury will be tapped to meet part of the annual payments...

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Now is a good time to start preparing for next Christmas shopping. Also a time to go over bills for expenses from the one just past.

We do not expect, in the life-time of some generations to come, a real and definite solution for many of our social, political and economic ills.

This political hassle about Harry Dexter White already has crowded the Godfrey-La Rosa hassle off the front pages of American newspapers.

Don't ever forget that the career public official who is so partisan that he never sees any good in his opposition is tarred with the stuff of prejudice.

The Birmingham Eccentric Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone MI 6-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager GEORGE W.M. AVERILL, Managing Editor HAROLD P. BURGER, Advertising Manager

A Scotchwoman recently informed the world that she has a "perfect husband." She provides this as proof: he can bake, knit, sew and embroider.

So They Say . . .

Dr. David E. Alexander, Chicago Geriatrician, explaining why men die younger than women: "Women drive their husbands too hard." Grayson L. Kirk, president, Columbia University, deploring lack of leaders: "Maybe we're educating too many just pretty well."

An Easy One to Keep



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 8, 1904 The Royal Oak Hotel burned Monday night. Guests escaped in their night clothes. Loss about \$5,000.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Metered, off-street parking lots scattered strategically throughout its business section are credited with bringing White Plains, N. Y., a city of 50,000, the highest per capita retail business of any city its size in the United States.

- 1. Traffic congestion has been materially reduced, a survey of one main street revealing a flow of 300 cars an hour now as compared to 350 cars an hour three years ago. 2. Meter collections, taken in a five cent charge for two hour parking, brought revenue of \$149,000.

INABILITY TO PARK EASILY is not only reducing value of centrally located city properties and strangling retail trade, but it poses a threat to continued automobile sales which explains the interest of this particular auto company's dealers, the council explains.

- 3. Capacity parking on the first lot, which has 94 meters geared for two hour parking, was achieved two years after opening. Experience has proven no lot wins immediate acceptance as the public must become accustomed gradually to the new convenience. 4. DESPITE TREBLED BUSINESS volume since 1939 and a fifty per cent population increase in twenty years, the city's streets have comfortably handled the greater traffic volume.

These studies so far reveal that a dozen cities, approaching the problem in different ways, have found that solution of their parking problem is possible at reasonable cost and that it pays rich dollars and cents dividends. As in White Plains, many cities find their parking lots are self-liquidating.

- 7. EXPERIENCE HAS PROVEN no more than \$800 per space should be spent if the cost is to be recovered in ten to fifteen years. White Plains' second lot, to care for 208 cars, cost about \$71,000 including grading, paving, meters, lighting, signs, and incidentals of just under \$340 per space. "Making a beginning—wisely planned; the results will prove so valuable there will be no stopping," one White Plains businessman advised.

SINCE THEN, THE NUMBER of such lots has grown to thirteen, with three more planned. In addition to substantially increased retail business, these results are reported:

March of Dimes Chairman Urges City's Support

"Because of the current interest in the charity rackets investigation, we should like to see the people of Birmingham that the coming March of Dimes campaign is being conducted entirely by volunteers and not by professional collectors."

local reports on funds collected in the charity rackets investigation and spent. TAYLOR SAID fund distributions turned over 69 per cent to patient care; 18.7 per cent to research and education of personnel; 2.4 per cent for medical department services; 3.4 per cent for state of fees services; 1.5 per cent to chapters on county level; 7 per cent for public relations and 4.3 per cent for administration.

Smile A Minute

"The new baby has its father's nose and its mother's eyes."

Smile A Minute

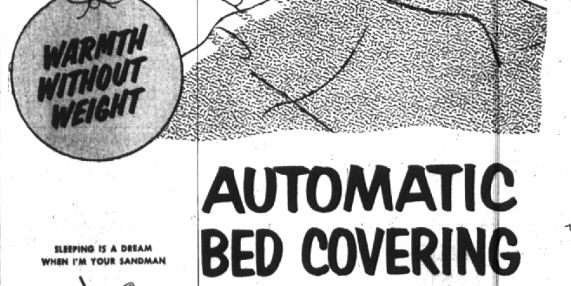
"Yes, and if grandpa doesn't stop leaving over the crib, it's going to have his teeth."

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Winter, with its related joys and woes, is with us. True, it seemed to be slow in starting, but we did get our white Christmas and temperature indications are that all those requests for ice skates have not been in vain.

Repeated traveling over the snow leaves a mass of ridges and bumps, slip enough to slip but not smooth enough to slide. All over town residents became victims of these walks and feel themselves lucky to escape with only abrasions and bruises.



Smile A Minute . . .

Tommy—that mouth organ you gave me for my birthday is easily the best present I've ever had, Uncle—I'm glad to hear that. Tommy—Yes, mother gives me a sapphire watch to play it.

Smile A Minute . . .

A mother was telling her six-year-old son about the golden rule. "Always remember," she said, "that we are here to help others." The youngster mulled this over for a minute and then asked: "Well, what are the others here for?"

SEE YOUR DEALER or Detroit Edison