

# "Invest - in - America" Week Should Remind You Of . . .

Whether you live in Birmingham or in another city, America is your residence; in some part of it you work; within its boundaries, somewhere, you have your home . . . thus, so far as you directly are concerned, America is where you hope to bring yourself and your loved ones as close to Utopia as possible.

You should, therefore, know much about your country, its long struggle for freedom—its longer struggle to keep it free. Perhaps most of what you own is within the United States of America. Perhaps every dollar you may earn during the remainder of your life you will expect to earn in America.

**YOU ARE, THEREFORE,** investing not only your money but yourself in the present and the future of the land you call America.

All of which suggests that you ought to observe "Invest-In-America-Week", which is between April 25 and May 1, 1955.

The high standard of living in the United States has come about through no accident. Within the protective folds of freedom's flag in this nation there was spawned, and maintained, the so-called "American Way of Life"; economically, it means the "competitive free enterprise system."

**WITHOUT THIS FREEDOM** we would not be the prosperous country that we are. Freedom to write, to speak, to worship, to petition government for redress of grievances is possible only when all people have the opportunity to work and prosper.

Without our economic system we would have only some form of tyranny, of despotism, of dictatorship. If you have invested some of your money in some form of wealth, then you are an heir to those economic freedoms guaranteed by our U.S. Constitution.

Here are a few thoughts in keeping with your observance of "Invest-In-America-Week":

**ONE OF THE BASIC** characteristics of capitalism is that thrifty people can put their surplus funds to work in the ownership of industry, and may participate in the profits. There is no stock exchange in

Moscow, nor is ownership in promising enterprises in Russia available to the public.

Benjamin Franklin, key noting his strong belief that money, if properly put to work, will reproduce itself in time said: "Money begets money and its offspring begets more."

There are approximately half-a-million corporations in the United States, each owned by stockholders. Any man, woman or child in the nation who has a few dollars can join the ranks of corporation owners by merely purchasing a single share of the capital stock of a corporation; thus the purchaser becomes an investor in the American system of Free Enterprise.

**OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES,** well known for courtroom wisdom and literary achievements, had the following bit of advice: "Put not your trust in money, but put your money in trust."

In 1791, Benjamin Franklin left \$5,000 to the city of Boston with instructions that it be allowed to accumulate at interest for 100 years. In 1891, 100 years later, the fund had grown to about \$400,000. It worked so well that around \$300,000 of the fund was reinvested in a second century fund and today the fund is worth one million dollars.

Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, organized the first company in the nation's history to issue stock to the general public.

**IN ESSENCE AND AS** defined by Webster, a capitalist is an owner. Thus, if you own an automobile, a home, a life insurance policy, bank account or share of stock, or several of these, you are then a Capitalist.

On Free Enterprise, Abraham Lincoln said: "The prudent, penniless beginner in the world labors for wages awhile, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, and at length hires another new beginner to help him . . . with progress and improvement of conditions to all."

## The Last Word Not Spoken

The New York Times recently carried a story which illustrates the difference between being a country's ally and being its satellite.

On the island of Tan, near Quemoy, the Chinese Nationalists and the Chinese Communists were exchanging insults over loudspeakers. "Running dogs of the American imperialists," shouted the Reds. "You're the same," replied the Nationalists.

Finally the Nationalists, who had maintained that they were at least free to criti-

cize the Americans while the Reds had to remain silent about the Russians, proposed a dare. "We will say three times that Americans are blankety-blankety-blanks. You say it once about the Russians."

True to his word the Nationalist broadcaster shouted the phrase about the ancestry of Americans three times. The Communist broadcaster fell silent and for the rest of the night not one more word was heard over their loudspeaker. Very eloquent silence, indeed!

## The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Zeenote Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

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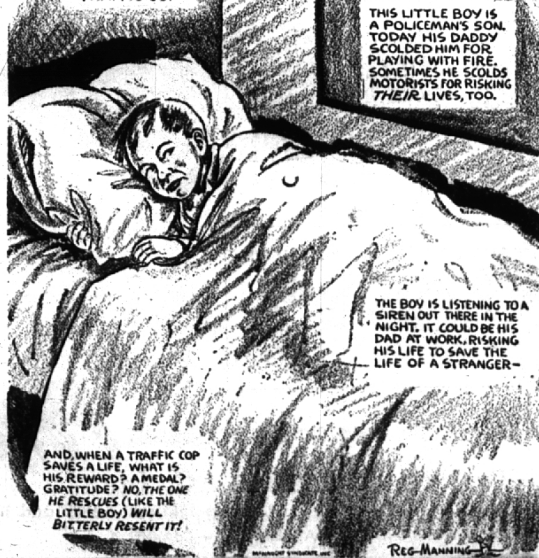
The Eccentric is a member of:  
National Editorial Association,  
Michigan Press Association  
and University Press Club

National Advertising Representatives  
Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc.  
1618 Guardian Bldg.  
DETROIT 26, MICH.  
220 Broadway  
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcomed. 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 gladly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

## The "Ordinary" Americans

AMERICA IS MADE OF PEOPLE—  
GOOD PEOPLE—  
HARDWORKING PEOPLE—  
BRAVE PEOPLE—  
PEOPLE LIKE THE  
TRAFFIC COP



THIS LITTLE BOY IS A POLICEMAN'S SON. TODAY HIS DADDY SAVED HIS LIFE BY PLAYING WITH FIRE. SOMETIMES HE SCOLDS MOTORISTS FOR RISKING THEIR LIVES, TOO.

THE BOY IS LISTENING TO A SIREN OUT THERE IN THE NIGHT. IT COULD BE HIS DAD AT WORK, RISKING HIS LIFE TO SAVE THE LIFE OF A STRANGER—

AND WHEN A TRAFFIC COP SAVES A LIFE, WHAT IS HIS REWARD? GRATTITUDE? NO, THE ONE HE RESCUES (LIKE THE LITTLE BOY) WILL BITTERLY RESENT IT!

REG-MANNING

## One Less Dragon



## HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

By ALICE E. MORGAN

The future, for thousands of parents of young children, is brighter medically than it ever has been before. Medical science has put another weapon in their hands to help them protect their children—to save them from one of the most dreaded of all 'common' diseases, polio.

From Ann Arbor last week came the report of Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr., who reported on the 1954 program of the Salk vaccine. It showed the new preventive medicine to be 90 per cent effective among the three highest vaccinees yet known to mankind. For years many parents have come to dread summers when children are out of school and at their most active and social stage. This, the happiest time of a child's life, was the season when polio incidents soared to their highest.

**TO MANY** parents, these months have meant a nightmare of dread and a sensation of horror at the mere mention of not feeling well by one of their children.

In many parts of the country these summer months have meant sadness to families, pain to children, and hours of stress and strain to hospitals, nurses and doctors. There has been no respite for persons. It has struck in the slums and in some of the best-run children's camps in the country.

Nearly always it has seemed to attack those boys and girls who were the healthiest and brightest. It has left hundreds of them helpless wrecks and thousands more with twisted limbs that kept them from the full joy of living.

**LAST YEAR** hundreds of parents "took the chance" and asked that their children take part in the pioneer program to prove whether or not this newest vaccine could possibly remove the danger.

For nearly a year they waited for final medical reports, and then,

## ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

An experiment in handling offenders against motor-vehicle laws is under way in New York City. It is the New York City Traffic Court School and it holds its sessions in the grand jury room of a criminal courts building.

Students at the school are persons who have violated traffic laws, some seriously, some not so seriously. The faculty of the school is composed of court officials, a psychologist, an optometrist and officers of the city safety council, and the safety department of the Automobile Club of New York.

**STUDENTS GET A CHANCE** to hear lectures, watch movies on safety and answer questions on correct driving procedures and attitudes. Those who complete the course successfully can hope for reductions of the sentences that they would ordinarily receive for their violations.

The idea seems sound and could well be adopted in any city, no matter how large or small.

Simply punishing a traffic offender does not assure that he will not commit a future violation. A program of education, however, may help violators to avoid repeating their past mistakes.

Birmingham's seven-member city commission—including the three newly elected ones—come from the area north of Maple or west of Southfield.

This leaves about two-fifths of the city available for a "direct representation" campaign should some political hopeful there get the urge to file a petition next year.

Happy the residents of a certain large metropolitan suburb (not this one). No longer will they be awakened from dream-

less slumber by the harsh, penetrating sound of the fire siren in the dead of night. On the advice of physicians, who said that such shocks were not good for heart patients, the town council voted to substitute chimes.

These, instead of gongs, already awakened the local firemen from their beauty sleep. The council thinks that what is good enough for the firemen is good enough for citizens generally.

Most people will understand the change. In many households the repellent but necessary clang of the alarm clock has been replaced by a softer sound, often musical. Apparently sleepers react to it as well as to its noisy predecessor, for they get to work on time.

This fits in with the effort to do away with harsh street noises. Unnecessary honking and mufflerless cars are already banned in many places.

Only young children delight in noise. The abolition of unnecessary harsh noises like the fire siren proves, perhaps, that our cities are growing up.

Union representatives are asking the big automotive companies for a guaranteed annual wage for employees. Such a benefit would provide payments to workers who became unemployed, with the cost to be borne by the employer through a special fund he would be required to establish for just this purpose.

Some employers now wonder if the union, to show where its generous and responsible heart is, is going to establish its own fund from which it will pay the employer his normal profit during periods of unauthorized work stoppages.

## Have You Met

THE James H. O. Pages, who moved here from LaGrange, Ill., last month? Residents at 1714 Gravelly, they have a daughter, Molly, 3. Page is in the sales department of the Gasket division

of Detroit Gasket and Mfg. Co., and is a graduate of Trinity college, Hartford, Conn., where he was a Delta Kappa Epsilon. Mrs. Page is the former Marilyn Gould of Birmingham and attended Monticello college in Alton, Ill.

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