

# Birmingham Tries for Its 2nd D-Day Victory

The President's Committee for Traffic Safety again is sponsoring a special day dedicated to safe driving—S-D Day.

That day is today, Dec. 1, and the aim is to hold deaths and injuries to the lowest possible level for a 24-hour period.

While perfection probably is too much to expect—even for one day—from a combination of about 72 million drivers and 58 million motor vehicles, no sensible person would argue for a minute that the usual toll cannot be substantially cut by more sensible driving.

IT'S TOO BAD that such a worthwhile effort must be limited to only one day. The sponsors apparently think so, too, because one slogan urges "Make Every Day S-D Day."

There lies the irony of our traffic accident problem—that it takes a Presidential blessing and a high-powered educational effort to achieve reasonable conduct on the highways for only one day of the year.

Safe driving should be the year-round rule, not the one-day exception. We could "Make Every Day S-D Day."

HERE IS HOW we can do it:

Be sportsmanlike on every drive. Obey all traffic regulations.

Keep speed reasonable. Start earlier and drive slower.

Don't drive when you drink.

Remember, danger increases with darkness. At sundown, reduce speed so you're within range of your headlights.

Stay in line—don't weave.

Don't pass unless there's plenty of room and never on hills or curves.

Allow sufficient stopping distance between you and the car ahead.

BE EXTRA ALERT at intersections. Always signal your intention to turn or stop.

If the weather is bad, don't drive unless you must. If you drive, double your care.

Check your brakes, lights, windshield wipers, tires, and steering.

Cross streets only at crosswalks.

Before crossing, look both ways.

Cross only on proper signal.

Watch for turning cars.

NEVER GO INTO THE roadway between parked cars.

If there is no sidewalk, and you must walk in the roadway, walk on left, facing traffic.

When walking at night, wear or carry something white to help drivers see you.

## Public Best Suited to Clean Up Comic Books

There are three ways in which the quality of "bad" comic books might be improved. One is government regulation or censorship. The second is exercise of self-discipline by publishers. The third is elevation of public taste to the point where there would not be a substantial market for low-grade comics.

Government control by censorship violates the guarantee of free speech embodied in the Bill of Rights. Even with regard to so humble a form of communication as the comics, this right to think, speak and publish as we please is precious. Censorship of comic books might pave the way for censorship of other more serious books,

and that would be a calamity.

THE SECOND WAY TO MAKE comics less objectionable has been tried for a year now. Charles F. Murphy, administrator of the code adopted by the Comics Magazine Association of America, says the results have been "significant." He believes comics generally are more acceptable to decent people than they were a year ago.

There are, however, limits to improvement from this source. The only really effective means in the long run is the third method—the elevation of public taste. That is a task worthy of the best efforts of school, home and church.

## Material Wealth and Progress Unlimited

There is more money in circulation today than ever in the history of the United States. It is hardly big news anymore to learn of large corporations planning huge multi-million dollar expansion programs.

Recently L. L. "Foxy" Colbert, of Bloomfield Hills, president of the Chrysler Corp., announced a billion-dollar expansion program of his company during the next five years.

To be sure, that's a lot of money yet... and added proof that, barring an economic depression, these United States are making rapid strides toward more and more material wealth... wealth which will tend to make its way into the hands of Americans.

The potential wealth of mankind, measured in material things, is unlimited.

## From The Eccentric's Point of View...

It is observed here by numerous Birmingham citizens that frequently the city, after having paved a given street, allows it to be dug up in order to make sewer or water connections for a new house. "Is there any reason why such connections cannot be made before the pavement is laid?" asked these citizens. When patched pavements still look ugly, and present rough surfaces.

There are only 39,601 one-teacher schools left in the United States. There are only 39,601 schoolrooms left in the United States where children are left to the designs and devices of perhaps the

most disciplinary teachers left in 39,601 one-teacher schools.

Political writer Carl Muller of The Detroit News quotes Michigan's Junior U.S. Senator Pat McNamara thusly: "I do not claim to have set any rivers on fire in Washington, but I have been learning my job. I do not think it is the place for an apprentice to open his mouth too much, so I have been pretty quiet. But I have worked hard and kept my ears open. As time goes by, I hope you will never have to make apologies for your senator." Reports from others are that McNamara is doing very well as a freshman.

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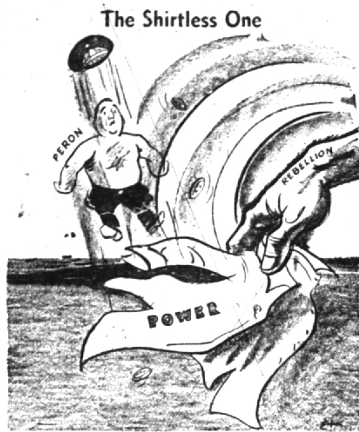
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## NATURE NOW Wildlife Exists In Central Park

By LYDIA KING FRESHÉ  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

As our plane approached La Guardia Field, we could see Central Park far below us. It shone like a rectangular oasis in the midst of an island of many-storied stone.

Here in Manhattan, central park must take the place of shady streets, quiet woodlands, running brooks and the wild swimming holes of some western nation. Its playgrounds, tennis courts and tennis courts spill the "out of doors."

It is no wonder that a natural area of 800 acres, should be so much sought after by those who have traded earth's natural living space to coexist with skyscrapers.

BUT IT is a marvel how much of wild life lives on in the midst of the noise and confusion of the world's largest city.

I walked from the steps of the south side of the park, the sun gleamed on the mica in the aged outcroppings of granite rock. Here are growing our familiar trees and shrubs and many imports and ornaments, including the egyptian and the gingko.

I stooped to pick up a Mrs. Freshé and yellow. The thought of the colorful habits and histories of these two ancient and primitive trees.

HERE WAS A witch-hazel, yellow with bloom, and there a single branch of green fruit on a wild cherry. No doubt the latter was occasioned by a limited and late blooming due to this summer's drought followed by abundant autumn rains.

Beside the quiet paths were the same weeds one can find growing anywhere along Main Street, U.S.A.—nettle, burdock, ragweed, knotweed and pokeweed.

A grey squirrel stood on his hind legs begging for the peanut I held. I bring. People hungry for life and companionship were feeding bread and grain to the pigeons and cooing sparrows and jays in a nearby pond.

TO THE birds in Central Park the city must seem like a human ruckery. Aside from the above-mentioned scavengers such as the hermit, all there are not many species which have the ability to adjust to city living.

Of these, the pigeons are everywhere. English sparrows are a close second, and I heard the late chirping of a pair of starlings.

All of these are introduced European species with a long background of survival in their crowded association with men. Here they must face predators, noise and glare, limited nesting space, the lack of forest fruits, seeds and insects.

THEIR AVIAN food habits must be related to our own. Not for them is the green forest abundance of our song birds.

Everywhere nurse-maids and mothers with their charges were basking in the late sunshine. All sorts of sizes of dogs were leading their dogmen by the leash, and old-timers' sleds lay on the morning.

Best of all, scores of school children were enjoying the skating rink and frolicking to the zoo.

As I returned along Fifth Avenue, I looked with new wonder at the displays in the many flower shops. Here were dainty forget-me-nots, many colored chrysanthemums, exotic orchids, pure white carnations, great-leaved tropicals.

And I understood why so many peacocks hurrying like ants to some hidden refuge, should clutch a wrapped flower or two in a carefully guarded hand.

## ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Mention "ice rink" to Birmingham's top city officials and they look like they want to forget the whole thing.

Last week commissioners approved minimum lighting for the rink, and just before the discussion got under way, Mayor Charles Renfrew was heard to mutter: "If we had spent as much time planning this rink as we have to explaining it, we'd have it operating now!"

Sleep heals many things—but it doesn't solve problems.

Are you using maladjusted methods in raising your children so they can readily fit into our maladjusted adult world?

If you are not, perhaps you would like these nine tips on how to accomplish it:

ONE: Don't tell your children have enough "living room" and they will be stunted physically and emotionally. (Children shouldn't have space in which to act and think and feel.)

TWO: Save your best silver and dishes for company or special occasions—don't let daily living become a gracious thing.

THREE: ESTABLISH and maintain a negative relationship among members of your family. If you let them consider the

four's and feelings of others, it only will foster love and goodwill.

FOUR: Children's natural curiosity should be stifled. If it is permitted to develop by experience, it will mean broken dishes or mud on the livingroom carpet—and that's not good.

FIVE: Don't help them in understanding and accepting reasonable limitations on their behavior. Children should not expect guidance from their elders.

SIX: Undermine and starve the emotional health of the children. (Heartaches are so easy to heal.)

SEVEN: Don't let them feel "at home in the world". Let them associate only with a few people.

EIGHT: DON'T EXPOSE THEM to an enjoyment and appreciation of music, art or literature. The only important thing about living is to know how to earn one, not how to live a full and rich life.

NINE: Keep from them the discovery of that wonderful blend of freedom and social responsibility that will permit them to be good, happy citizens of home, community and world.

Quite a goal these rules will bring you to, if you strive hard enough... your Jimmie or Annie a qualified member of the maladjusted mob!

## Roger Lienard Has Artillery Post

Specialist 3rd Class Roger C. Lienard, paratrooper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Lienard, of 1607 Hazel street, Birmingham, has been home on a 25-day leave from the Army.

65th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Campbell, Ky., having entered the Army in March 1954, Camp Coffee, Ark.

He graduated from Jump School and was awarded his parachutist wings in August 1954.

In January and February of 1955 his unit participated in "Exercise Follow Me," and at Fort Sill, Okla., in a Heavy Drop Demonstration in May 1955.

Before entering the Army, Specialist 3rd Class Lienard attended Birmingham high school.

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## 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  
November 1, 1905  
Mrs. Sheen very pleasantly entertained with progressive party on Friday afternoon. Mrs. I. Lee Tox was head prize and Mrs. Nasson the consolation.

The Birmingham football team intended to play the Cadillac Athletic club on Saturday last but the visiting team failed to show up so the game was necessarily called off.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac R. Strong of Petoskey, Mich. are visiting old friends in this vicinity after seven years' absence. They will visit around about two months before returning to their northern home.

30 YEARS AGO  
November 27, 1925  
An almost unanimous decision to seek annexation to Birmingham next spring was manifested Monday night when nearly 100 residents of Eco City met in the Pierce school auditorium to discuss the question of government and municipal improvements. The meeting was called at the Eco City Civic association. W. E. Barton, president, presided at the discussion.

The Baldwin high school debating team made a splendid impression on Friday evening in the Baldwin auditorium when it won from Royal Oak by a unanimous decision. The visitors from the Oak came here filled with confidence as to the outcome of the verbal battle and were visibly surprised at the stubborn resistance offered by the Birmingham team.

Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Glover of North Woodward avenue are visiting Mr. Glover's mother, Mrs. N. L. Glover of Akron, O. They went for Thanksgiving and will remain over the weekend.

15 YEARS AGO  
November 28, 1940  
Mr. and Mrs. Luther D. Allen, two of the best known residents of this area, celebrated on Tuesday their Golden Wedding anniversary, and greeted more than 150 friends who heaved the winter's first snowstorm to pay their respects.

The Selective Service act will become a reality this morning when two Birmingham youths report for induction into this year's training. They are Everett Elmer Castiel, 23 years old, 314 Hamilton street, whose name stood No. 1 on the official order list; and Richard George Shepherd, 21, of 1022 Bates, whose order No. was 14.

An ivory slipper-satin gown was worn by Ann Louise Russell on her marriage to Philip John Tarry in Holy Name chapel Saturday morning.

THE OLD TIMER  
"A philosopher is someone who always knows what to do—until it happens to him!"

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