Once kept virtually hidden by their own bewildered families, retarded children now are beginning to receive a measure of institutional help which will enable many of them to lead productive lives.

The changing attlinde toward this problem can be traced to the national Association for Retarded Children, which is campaigning for more humane treatment of the 5,000,000 retarded persons in the United States.

United States.

As a result of its efforts, institutions gearer to help these children have been opened in several states and special classes are being established, in public school systems throughout the nation.

THESE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOP-

Retarded Children Deserve Assistance

MENTS have occurred within the past ten years. Until then, retarded persons were the responsibility of their own fam-ilies, who lacked the knowledge or the facilities for helping them. Now it is generally recognized that such children are capable of some education, that as adults they can do certain types of work involv-ing considerable routine and little com-petition.

tarded children and their parents, and to educate the public about this important problem, are of genuine service to the nation. Michigan currently is paying atten-

We Cannot Ignore Events in Other Lands

Why die for Quemoy and Matsu? Many Americans do not see the point of dying for either of these two small islands off the Chinese coast, wrote Hanson W. Bald-win, military analyst of the New York Times some months ago. It may be possi-ble to escape dying for Quemoy, said Bald-min but if we refere ble to escape dying for Quémoy, said Baldwin, but if we refuse, mpsef of as may have to die for New York and Washington. A line has to be drawn somewhere, and Quemoy and Matsu may be the places where it should be drawn. The issue seems to have subsided for the moment, but it has historical parallels. Just before World War II many Frenchmen cried, "Why die for Danzig?" Danzig was a German city under the protection of the League of Nations, and threatened by

EVENTUALLY NO ONE proved willing to die for Danzig, and Hitler felt en-couraged to begin World War II, to overrun all Poland, and eventually almost all

run all Polahd, and eventually 'almost all of western 'Europe, Quemoy and Matsu may be remote, but they nome the less concern us. Sarajevo in Yugoslavia also seemed remote to the Americans of 1914, but it was here that the heir to the Austrian throne was murdered, and a war started that eventually brought in the United States, and cost thousands upon thousands of American lives.

Trouble in any part of this world may some day come back to us.

Teachers, Too, Must Earn Decent Wages

Recently the Fund for the Advance-ment of Education published a report which stated that if our supply of teach-ers is to meet the demands of increased school enrollments more than one-half section of the committed of increases of section of complete secti

SOME GAIN HAS BEEN NOTICED in ncrease the salaries of teach-the financial lot of teachers

ers. Certainly the financial lot of teachers is better than it once was. Yet the potential earling of the young man who wants to be a teacher is still Bar below that of the young man who intends to enter other professions or businesses.

Those who teach—the very best of them—do not expectato get rich in their jobs. There are many excellent people working in our schools who do so for the personal satisfaction they get in teaching the young.

Yet teachers, like the rest of us, have responsibilities to their families. If we are to attract the number of new people we need—people who have the desire and the ability to teach our young people to take their places in the worldbe willing to pay the price.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

New purchasers of Birmingham business property should be warned about the city's offstreet parking ordinance which city's offstreet parking ordinance which requires parking space before a building can be erected on the land. Unless the piece of fand already is in a special assessment district that operates off-street parking area, or can buy required land alone or with others within 600 feet, then the land purchased for building purposes must provide the parking space . . . unless, of sourse, the courts sometime hold the local ordinance unconstitutional.

Mankind's basic political and economic

enough truths about these subjects to enough truths about these subjects to prevent the current generation from making too many mistakes. These political and economic truths, even laws, were discovered certuries ago, just as mathematics were revealed. Mankind uses and obeys mathematical truth and law but so little of other truths and laws that really would bring him closer to Utopia.

very mean and prejudiced columnist who wrote: "After a woman driver has parked her car, her big probich is which of the three parking meters

Meet Your Michigan

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The Birmingham

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NATURE NOW

Reptiles Described By "Guide-a-Phone"

By LYDIA KING FREHSE Special Writer for the Birmingham Eccentric

The age of the great Coal Swamps ended the Paleozoic era of ancient life. It was followed by the Mesozoic era which marks the middle point of geologic time. During this period, animal life reached a new climax in the grotesque shapes and balks of a family called the dinosaurs.

Of these great reption backets grow the product of the grotesque with the product of the grotesque with the grotesque shapes and balks of a family called the dinosaurs.

Of these great reption backets growed on a recent visit to the Amer. Second of a heavy beak, a short joint Moseum of Natural Hardy, neck and a spherical production of Status Hardy, neck and a spherical production.

EQUIPPED with a "guide-a-nhone" which explains the exhibits

can Museum of Natural History, in life they dominated the earth of the 120 old million years of heir reign.

In death their fossil remains lower over and outshine in interests hose of any other group.

FOURDER, but the group was a support of the forcest carminors, was supported by magnitude all the forcest carminors, was supported by an endurer.

Visitors and mining explore clamsy less. The third dinosaur, Allosaurus, fept sents a fierce flesh-eating branch of the family tree. He is mounted as if feeding on a bronto-saur backhone.

mounted as if feeding on a bronto-sour backbone.

WHEN ALIVE he stood and ran on his lithd leav using his small the flesh he descured. His tail served as a prop and a potent waxpaon in battle.

His feet were equipped with sharp classes and his massive head sessed more brains than his plant-eating commiss, since his life de-pended upon his ability to outsmart his pres.

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.

crance. Research cink, in order to Mediugan National Goard.

30 YEARS AGO
December 11, 1925
Hiss Orlow M as ut e Schlaach.
Trash, doughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rathara Government Burdara Changler of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rathara was to become the brief brott, son of Mrs. May Daiey of Pontiae, were united in marrial Entire Grove Pointe.

Wednesday evening in the Methodist Dissepond parsonage. Rathara Gravel — "Allelm McGirr, real odd, the Dissepond parsonage. Rathara was to become the brief world by Dr. Eugene Miles More. Seen a deer in his orchard at his conditions of the miles of the Mrs. The formal dedication of the miles world do you suppose it Pierce school had been set, for came from?"

50 YEARS AGO Thursday, December 17, 8 p. H. N. Zanga carwaser for the most better the substantial the way that the property of the property of

15 YEARS AGO December 12, 1940 was rumored that the 210th

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

Been reading about that auto dealer, M. H. Yager of Albany, N. Y., who's been complaining to a U.S. Senate subcommit-tee about his treatment by General Mo-

tors.

This "treatment" was so bad, I see, that Mr. Yager couldn't afford to take it for the mere \$1 million he made in 14 years as a GM-dealer on an original \$5,000 investment.

investment.

Mr. Yager admits to having made a "small profit" this year. It's only \$81,898, including net profit after taxes, salary and dealer's bonus for the first 10 months of this many the first 10 months.

of this year. Well, Mr. Yager, most of us peasants wen, Mr. Tager, most of us peasants eagerly will volunteer to let you handle what you think are the "big" deals—we'll handle the "small" ones for you, the small

If Birmingham provides many more different lengths of parking periods, our city streets are going to take on a real rainbow look.

Already we are using green (30-minute), silver (1-hour), red (2-hour) and yellow (all-day parking) on meter nosts.

Posts.

City Commissioner Florence Willett feels we should have a men

City Commissioner Florence Willett feels we should have some 3-hour parking, too, for people who can't get their errands done in 2 hours.

About all the colors we have left are blue, brown, purple, white, black, orange, gold and bronze. If this trend keeps up, we won't be able to tell what time we've got without a program.

When a business requires a good part of the sidewalk when remodelling a building front, it seems the city temporarily could give up the necessary parking spaces so a board walk could be constructed around the obstruction.

I have in mind the two remodellings on W. Maple in downtown Birmingham, I'd be willing to bet that the contractors would jump at the chance to put the boards down if the city asked them to. As things have stood for some weeks

By George Wm. Averill now, the street parking goes on while the shoppers have had to single-file on a side-walk that even at best is none too wide.

All homes in urban areas are fur-

All homes in urban areas are furnished with house numbers. But in many instances, when you are out to locate a particular one, it seems the householder has entered into a conspiracy to coneral it in 1) the smallest numerals possible, or 2) in the most unlikely-to-be-spotted location.

Turkeys are not the only creatures which will experience a drop in life expectancy during this approaching holiday

eason.
The Christmas-New Year holiday time also is the most hazardous single period of the year for homo sapiens—that's you

and me.

Last year, according to statistics, 515
persons were accidentally killed in two
days at Christmas time. Traffic accidents
caused 392 of these deaths—fire and miscellaneous accidents, 123.

Over two days at New Year's 362 persons were killed—296 in traffic accidents,
of in fire and miscellaneous accidents,
This is a total of 877 killed needlessly
at what should be the happiest time of
the year for everyone.

This is a total of 877 killed needlessly at what should be the happiest time of the year for everyone.

Year after year the accident toll hits a peak in Docember. The holiday season coincides with many winter traffic hazards. In many parts of the country streets and highways are dangerously shippery. For, rain, snow, sheet and fewer hours of dishight reduce the visibility of both driver and pedestrian.

Family get-togethers impel people to drive long distances regardless of weather. Shopping draws more people onto the streets. And, of course, there is more drinking than at any other time of the year.

year.

It is a season of gaiety, to be sure, but gaiety to be enjoyed only if you protect yourself and others from accidents. Certainly a good time of the year to "live and let live".

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