

Retarded Children Deserve Assistance

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

MENTS have occurred within the past ten years. Until then, retarded persons were the responsibility of their own families, who lacked the knowledge or the facilities for helping them.

THESE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOP-

We Cannot Ignore Events in Other Lands

Why die for Qemoy and Matsz? Many Americans do not see the point of dying for either of these two small islands off the Chinese coast, wrote Hanson W. Baldwin, military analyst of the New York Times some months ago.

Hitler. EVENTUALLY NO ONE proved willing to die for Danzig, and Hitler felt encouraged to begin World War II, to overrun all Poland, and eventually almost all of western Europe.

Teachers, Too, Must Earn Decent Wages

Recently the Fund for the Advancement of Education published a report which stated that if our supply of teachers is to meet the demands of increased school enrollments more than one-half of all our college graduates for the next ten years will have to enter the teaching profession.

SOME GAIN HAS NOTICED in the move to increase the salaries of teachers. Certainly the financial lot of teachers is better than it once was.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

New purchasers of Birmingham business property should be warned about the city's off-street parking ordinance which requires parking space before a building can be erected on the land.

enough truths about these subjects to prevent the current generation from making too many mistakes. These political and economic truths, even laws, were discovered centuries ago, just as mathematical truths were revealed.

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NATURE NOW Reptiles Described By "Guide-a-Phone"

By LYDIA KING FREISE 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.

EQUIPPED with a "guide-a-phone" which explains the exhibits as one moves before them, we joined the group of visitors and school children who daily explore some portion of the 55 halls of great reptiles.

HERE PROTECTED against the biting elements, he would brush off offending neighbors with a flick of his long and mighty tail.

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 December 15, 1905 H. N. Zang, a canvasser for the new Detroit Suburban Telephone Company, was busy organizing rural lines in the vicinity of Birmingham.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

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

now, the street parking goes on while the shoppers have had to single-file on a sidewalk that even at best is none too wide.

This "treatment" was so bad, I see, that Mr. Yager couldn't afford to take it for the mere \$1 million he made in 11 years as a GM dealer on an original \$5,000 investment.

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 conceal it in 1) the smallest numerals possible, or 2) in the most unlikely-to-be-spotted location.

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

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.

Over two days at New Year's 362 persons were killed—296 in traffic accidents, 66 in fire and miscellaneous accidents.

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

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

I have in mind the two remembrances on 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.

Year after year the accident toll hits a peak in December. The holiday season coincides with many winter traffic hazards. In many parts of the country streets and highways are dangerously slippery.

As things have stood for some weeks

It is a season of gaiety, to be sure, but gaiety to be enjoyed only if you protect yourself and others from accidents.

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