

A Millionaire Who "Roughed It"

Millionaires are not necessarily stuffy. Joseph Joseph Drexel Biddle, who died in 1948, was far from it, as is revealed by "My Philadelphia Father", a biography by his daughter, Mrs. Cordelia Robertson.

He was a boxer, a teacher of jujitsu, an actor, an explorer, a Bible teacher with 200,000 pupils, an author and a clubman.

At sixty-seven he taught our Marines the art of rough-and-tumble fighting. As one of the men remarked who at first regarded him as a kindly, grandfatherly type, "That old geezer knows more ways to kill you with his bare hands than any man alive."

ONCE HE WAS dining with a friend in Philadelphia's most expensive hotel. The topic of jujitsu came up, and to illustrate a point, Biddle said, "Stab me with your dinner knife."

"What, here?" asked his astonished friend.

"Why not?" said Biddle.

His friend made a motion with his knife and the next moment, without knowing how it happened, he found himself flat on his back.

Biddle's money did not fence him from the rough and tumble aspects of life. To say he contributed much to both that rough and tumble would be the kind of description he would heartily approve.

Isn't Man More Than A Pig?

A pig originally rustled for his food and shelter in the wilds. Then he was seduced with "free" meals to fatten him, and his life and freedom were forfeited for board and room. The wild pig had a future, but only one end awaited his caretaker.

Man has a mind to choose freedom, but history is a sad record of results under

socialism to which he has often succumbed. This course has led to servitude and subjugation. Man found lost freedom the price of false security.

There is no shortcut to a fruitful life. Man can delegate a few duties to government, but to maintain his liberty he must not submit to government for subsistence. Isn't man more than a pig?

TV Critical Of Ladies' Clothes

Just about anybody knows that you're not supposed to sit down in clothes and watch TV.

Fashion magazines and something called "haute" design has demanded that women watchers dress up for the occasion in togs that bear more watching than most television programs. But not too many people are aware of the shenanigans that go on in picking the styles the gals in the TV programs wear.

At Milgrims, a fashion shop in New York, there is not the smallest sign of frenzy when a woman customer lugs a gun in with her and picks out the handbag that shows the latest badge.

Not a hair is turned nor even a bead when a lady complains too much "haute"

showed with the last gown she chose. Both ladies are easily recognized, not as a vixen or an angel, but as TV actresses.

SOMEWHERE IN ALL THIS there are a few rules that make sense to these women. White material usually causes a halo effect by creating a black edge around the person. The TV camera has a tendency to shorten and squat people. To keep figures "on camera" — appearing natural — the girls look for solid colors and simple design.

If any of the ladies are hoping to be picked from a studio audience at one of the hand-it-away-shows, they must avoid checks or dots, they shimmer on the video screen, and shun black and white prints. They are not at all "on camera."

No Intelligence In Mere Noise

In an address before his fellow West Point alumni, President Eisenhower remarked that "outside the armed forces there seems to be a prevalent notion that if you call enough names, if you hammer enough desks, you are a great leader." He added that happily West Point has never subscribed to such a false belief.

Unfortunately there is too much truth in the President's comment. Petty tyrants, demagogues, penny-ante politicians who bluster because they have nothing

important to say, are all too frequent.

THE MEASURE OF GREATNESS in a leader is how easily he can exercise his authority, how well he remembers that dignity is called for in performing his duty because he is the delegate of the people and the symbol of their authority.

In the long run, the blowhards are discovered for what they are, however, and the people turn to men whose strength is in their character and judgment and not in their vocal chords.

From The Eccentric's Point of View ...

There's as much total released energy in 40 acres of burning brush as there is released in the explosion of one medium A-bomb, reports a University of Michigan forestry professor. In this prolonged dry

spell, we should all be especially careful of our matches and lighted cigarettes. With the heat we already have, there's definitely no sense to adding even part of the blast of any size A-bomb!

The "Ordinary" Americans

AMERICA IS MADE OF PEOPLE — GOOD PEOPLE — HARDWORKING PEOPLE — PEOPLE LIKE THE CIVIC CLUB MEMBER.

THIS IS NOT THE WEEKLY LUNCHEON — IT'S HIS NIGHT OUT WITH THE BOYS — BUT HE'S NOT PLAYING CARDS — HE'S DEALING OUT WORK-LIFE — HE'S NOT GAMBLING THAT MONEY; HE'S DONATING IT —

THIS IS JUST ANOTHER COMMITTEE SESSION — LONG, UNSUNG HOURS, WORKING ON PROJECTS TO HELP HIS TOWN, OR AID THE UNFORTUNATE.

WHAT DOES HE GET OUT OF IT? A BETTER TOWN — A BETTER NATION.

McNaught Syndicate, Inc.



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

By ALICE E. MORGAN

Y'know, there are a lot of people who have an idea that working a newspaper is just about the most glamorous, most thrilling job there is for the so-called white-collar class.

To us, it is a first love kind of job. We had our fling during the war years of getting into another field and washing the ink from our hands forever. We fiddled and dived until we got back into it again, so we know our case is hopeless. But in that moment, we'll deny the popular opinion of the job from here to somewhere else.

This, remember, is on a paper where the "double in brass" system is used, not one of those huge departmentalized deans where each man is a specialist in a given field. This reporter, we'll call Jones, checks at his desk, facing another day. He handles routine matters which walk in the door and leaves to cover a beat.

En route to his first call Jones alters his wall of fire engine and huffs his bike. Hours later, weary and hungry, he goes back to pound out his story for the next edition. Some of his work has been done by another reporter; some still remains for him. The deadline does not change. He forgets his hunger and weariness and digs in.

Finally, with the paper just being started out in search of food, the restaurant is not on an all-day schedule. Jones is satisfied with what remains of the afternoon again routine. Some of it is crassly dull, some sources are powerless. All must be done.

As he sits at his desk at the end of the day, the editor reminds him

of a governmental body that meets in special session that night: the reporter's sock-and-unders wearily.

A hasty shower, shave and change of clothes and he's off to spend several hours listening to the latest problem in a nearby municipality. Perhaps this problem is one he has already sweated through in several other towns. He's bored, he's tired, he's representing the public and can't miss a thing. Something big just might come up in this one.

It's over, finally, and he corners officials to clear up a few facts hazy in his mind. He climbs in his car and goes home. As he unlocks the door, the phone is ringing. It's the police.

There's been a murder, body found in the swamp about 10 miles out of town. Better get over there with a camera. Make it fast, they're pretty near through over there.

Bright dawn paints the sky when he starts home again to catch a short sleep and get back to his desk.

Not every day is like this — some are worse.

What ever happens, there's enough in the job to make it one of the greatest on earth. There are people who are small and mean, but more who bring a special something into life that few professionals but the reporters can ever find.

There are those who need help; those who should be revealed for what they are. There are the good and the bad things, the pleasant and the mean, just as in any job.

But beyond that there's constant, hourly changing world we work in. Unless you can get tired of changing, there's no chance of boredom in reporting.

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
July 28, 1905

While out in the country Sunday we saw a number of men hanging over the fence watching his corn grow. The rows were far from straight, and we wondered how they happened to be so crooked.

He replied that they were all right until the heavy rains a few days ago. Then when the ground dried up a shrank unevenly, "got up, Broome," and we were off for home.

The supper given by the Ladies Aid of the M. E. church on Mrs. Thibault's lawn last Friday evening was a success. More than \$15 were the proceeds.

TROY — Adolph Smith opened the three-day season with a new J. C. separator at Will Clark's last Monday.

30 YEARS AGO
July 24, 1925

After a residence of 28 years in her home at 515 Pierce street, Mrs. Sarah R. Albright recently sold the place to Hoyt Jackson and has purchased the Frank McHugh home at 516 Pierce street where she expects to settle soon.

The Birmingham Eccentric
Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue, Telephone MidWest 4-1160.

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

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

National Advertising Representatives
Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc.
2026 Guardian Bldg.
DETROIT 26, MICH.
920 Broadway
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

15 YEARS AGO
July 25, 1940

For her numerous and diversified interests, for her encouragement of her husband's hobbies, for her home that has unfolded from a mere shell, Mrs. Jean M. Schwank, 711 Bonnaville avenue receives this week's nomination for Birmingham's Interesting Woman.

Mrs. R. O. Mead entertained a foursome at her home Monday afternoon. Attending were Mrs. George T. Jeffers, Mrs. Fara B. Allen and Mrs. Roy Wheeler.

Barbara Jean Allison, Clara Johnson and Dollie Mae Moore, all of Birmingham, are attending the third annual convention and luncheon conference which opened Friday morning at New Concord, O.

Baer at ROTC Camp
Charles E. Baer, a student at Purdue University, is attending a six-week ROTC summer camp at Ft. Eustis, Va.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Baer, 1055 Portlan.

Business received in his college ROTC classes.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

It appears Birmingham's off-street parking program is going to proceed on the "Quadrant Plan."

That is to say, with Maple and Woodward as the boundary lines, the four quarters of the downtown business section will have their parking problems treated pretty much on an independent basis.

However, in the proposed southwest quadrant (where one parking lot is under construction and another comes up for hearing Aug. 8) the proposed special assessment districts' boundaries go beyond the Maple-Woodward line to include the northwest and southeast corners of that intersection.

Most assuredly these two corners also will be included to parking lot programs for their particular quadrants.

This is leading some local businessmen to wonder whether or not these four corners eventually might be tagged for a heavy contribution to lots in all the four quadrants.

I think I finally have found the answer to that encrusted question, "Why does a chicken cross the road?"

In today's traffic, a chicken crosses the road because it is just plain crazy.

When water was used only for washing and for floating of boats, only people had to worry about lack of it was in a desert region.

Today, of course, water is so important in planning a home, business or industry as it is in deciding how much is going to be spent in building and furnishing it.

Industry has become a gigantic user of water in its manufacturing.

For instance, 1,800,000 gallons of water were consumed in building a World War II bomber. To produce one ton of finished paper needs 50,000 gallons.

BUSINESSES NOW ARE demanding much more water than before simply to use in their new air conditioning units.

Even in and around the home the consumption has increased greatly. Automatic sprinkler systems, swimming pools, and other water-needing conveniences are the reason.

In the Birmingham area, municipal officials estimate the per capita consumption is about 250 gallons a day, more than double the normal community's average.

If South Oakland county could only figure some way to get Lake Huron to flow this way on its way to Lake Erie.

One of the most important phases of planning a motor trip is figuring the time it will take. Too little time can only mean unnecessary speeds, unnecessary risks.

Many persons use this method: a country-wide average of three hours for each 100 miles to be travelled. A minimum of two and a half hours to a maximum of three and a half to four hours.

Of course, safe travelling time also must consider local highway conditions and terrain.

Plenty of that "junk mail" still is being delivered. Prior to March 31, it could be delivered with practically no address on it. Now it still comes as "Occupant, 6420 Blue St., Elham."

Estimates say the average taxpayer pays from \$3 to \$50 a year to receive this kind of advertising matter he didn't order through the mails.

Emergy Graduates From Summer Camp

Richard W. Emergy was among a group of boys through each of the 250 AFROTC cadet's graduating vital parts of the air base. Each training unit at Hunter air force on the spot study of air base in Savannah, Ga.

The bulk of the program comes. Emergy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn M. Emergy, 311 South lawn. After satisfactory completion of his curriculum at Princeton University, he will receive a reserve commission in the United States air force.

House Organs - - - ?

YES... WE PRINT MORE PUBLICATIONS THAN ANY PRINTER IN MICHIGAN

Three Detroit Salesmen . . . TR 5-2629 . . . Plant MI 6-2000

The AVERILL PRESS INC. of Birmingham
A COMPLETE PRINTING SERVICE FROM TYPESETTING TO MAILING



Bake once a month the freezer way

Treats galore in your own "store"

Good buy on berries—how about baking some pies? Bake eight and "bank" six in your home food freezer. It'll keep them oven-fresh!

GLENN WING POWER TOOLS

- Atlas
- Delta
- Porter-Cable
- Shopsmith
- DeWalt Saws

1137 SOUTH WOODWARD
Five Blocks South of 14 Mile Rd.
BIRMINGHAM 18, ALA.
Daily 9 to 6:30—Fri. 8 to 8:00