

So That None Shall Be in the Dark

If Can't Happen Here, You Say?

Can the free press of America be destroyed? It happened in Germany when Hitler burned "forbidden" books and seized the newspapers...

What About the U.S.A.?

The U. S. Constitution guarantees freedom of the press to the people. The U.S. press is controlled BY the people. Newspapers are published FOR the people...



reporters from hearings affecting the public in the community.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.: News photographers are subjected to physical attacks, cameras are smashed, film destroyed.

GREENSBURG, PA.: Judges ban photographs of criminals—not only in courtrooms, but in areas such as courthouse corridors and en route to jail.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.: All newspapermen are barred from a vice trial. Later, on grounds that since press and the public were not permitted to attend the trial, defendant won a new trial to which the press was admitted.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.: A judge orders jurors not to give interviews in a perjury trial after they had delivered their verdict and were dismissed.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.: A judge refuses to permit a newspaper to obtain a copy of part of a trial transcript.

DULUTH, MINN.: Two newsmen forcibly ejected by police from a "closed" meeting of city employees on salary matters involving taxpayers' money.

Do People Want a Free Press?

Does the man on the street want something in Government to decide what information is "useful" or "interesting" enough for the public to know about?

Would Americans have faith in Government-controlled newspapers grinding out pre-censored, pre-condensed, pre-pulverized "news" in easy doses?

Are the people ready to accept cradle-to-grave control by a Super-State without hearing both sides of an argument as presented in a free press?

Are the people ready to give up newspapers that fight for their right to know? The newspapers of America don't believe it. The Birmingham Eccentric doesn't believe it.

Newspapers are of the people, by the people and for the people.

Newspapers will continue to fight for the people's right to know.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

By ALICE E. MORGAN

There are times that writing of a large block of castor oil paper blank, and so, we must admit, is the mind.

Rarely on those vacuums does anyone come along with an idea. Fellow workers, neighbors and friends, shrug and shake their heads. While they don't say it, they plainly imply: It's your headache, chum. Don't bother us.

WHERE DO the young couple go when they are tired, when their minds are whirling from the demands of modern living? To spend the evening or weekend with mother and dad.

Where do the youngsters go when they want a little more pampering than mother can give? To grandmother and grandfather.

How wrong they are. Look about you and see the wonderful men and women, old enough to relax after their work, who are not only enjoying the "vacation" of life, but are giving so much to younger persons.

They are the mothers and fathers who make their daily contributions to the "children" in their stead—estimates and loyalty. They are the wise ones who already have experienced life's bumps and know how to deal the soreness of the daily combat that comes from just being alive.

THEY ARE the elderly neighbors whose lives are mellowed and deepened by the years. They are the ones to whom young wives and husbands can go for home-making advice; the ones whose gentleness helps the young mother over the scare of her baby's first illness.

The old gentlemen are the ones who pass out the sage advice to the young men whose first at-

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

It's not required, but we think it would be wonderful public relations:

To include on notices of hearing for proposed municipal assessments, its estimated costs and the unit price to the property owner.

We've witnessed countless hearings on streets, sewers, water, roadolings, and similar projects—and in all of them the question is raised at least once: "What's the project going to cost—and what's it going to cost ME?"

Normally, the estimated cost is known pretty much by the first hearing (of two which the city must hold by law).

The second, or assessment roll hearing, is when the exact cost to each property owner is available.

However, we think the city could come up with a "shock" estimate (if not more exact) and some projection of the average per foot, or square yard, or unit price. This would enable the public to make a few rapid calculations to see how the proposed assessment shapes up for their individual parcel.

Noting these averages and estimates at the bottom of the formal notices when mailed out would seem to make them more meaningful to the citizen who receives them.

Will using those new pink bulbs result in a pink eye?

Michigan Supt. of Public Instruction Clair L. Taylor, is quoted as saying he is convinced a compulsory driver education law will be introduced at next month's special legislative session.

We're interested in what the "compul-

sive" feature of any such law would be. If it compels all students to take the course, it's as senseless as legislating that all students must learn to use a typewriter.

However, if it compels all students under 18 who are applying for a license to take the course before the license is granted, then we're wholeheartedly in favor of it. That will save lives on the highways.

Social and family customs and economic pressures once were the reasons why most women got married.

Then they succeeded in breaking into the business world where they could earn their own living. Marriage to them came more to include love and spiritual motives.

It calls for both man and woman to realize that marriage is a noble relationship. No longer is it dominant male and subordinate female.

Because men are slow to realize this, and because women are too eager to test out their newly won freedoms, successful marriages are becoming more difficult to achieve.

Whether to keep the Birmingham municipal building concealed behind shrubbery or reveal its architectural qualities by trimming and re-landscaping still is a matter of disagreement on the city commission.

Commissioners, at a committee meeting, tried once again to come to some understanding, could only agree some of the shrubbery could be drastically trimmed.

But no one seems ready yet to touch any of the forest surrounding the structure.

Several Small Annexations Being Readied

Annexation of some very small bits of Bloomfield and Troy townships may come before voters next April.

To facilitate the opening of Oak street between Woodward and Hunter, a triangle of Bloomfield Woodward, received by Birmingham area should be annexed, according to Birmingham City Manager C. Ebert.

Annexation of a gas station on the corner Ebert said.

HE WAS instructed by the city commission to see if Troy officials finally will approve several other tiny Troy pieces isolated between the city and the railroad embankment.

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FORMERLY THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC PRINTING DEPARTMENT

Advertisement for Electric Clothes Dryers. Features a woman with a clothes dryer and text: '140,000 of your neighbors use Electric Clothes Dryers'. Includes a coupon for a free literature kit.

The Birmingham Eccentric. Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., 220-222 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone Midwest 4-1100. GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher. PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager. GEORGE W.M. AVERILL, Managing Editor. HAROLD P. BUEGE, Advertising Manager.

Meet Your Michigan. MICHIGAN'S BIRTH PLACE: IN 1701 MICHIGAN'S 15,000 COLONIES OF HONEY BEES PRODUCED OVER 21 MILLION POUNDS OF HONEY AND 15,000 POUNDS OF BEEHIVE WAX. DETROIT: IN MEMORIAM: AN UNFORGETTABLE DETROIT SIGHT WAS THE SITE OF MICHIGAN'S STATE CAPITOL BUILDING IN 1822. LUMBER TREES: MICHIGAN'S LUMBER INDUSTRY IS STILL A SOURCE OF GREAT INTEREST.

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: Sept. 29, 1905. The farmers are having the hardest kind of luck this year with their threshing machines burning up all the profits. 15 YEARS AGO: Sept. 26, 1940. Annette Lamb, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John S. Lambie, of Aspen road, will enroll in the University of Michigan this week. 30 YEARS AGO: Sept. 25, 1925. For the second time in the past six months a cigarette is blamed for a conflagration in Bloomfield township. Mrs. Ezra Mills Lawton, Australian Consul-General for United States, and Mrs. Lawton are on their way from Sydney to this country.