

Let Us All Work Harder To Relieve Maple Traffic

There is no question about the need for developing a way, or ways, to allow local east and westbound automobile traffic to get about its business with more mobility and less hazard.

Birmingham's city commission, in delaying the elimination of on-street parking on Maple, between Hunter and Southfield, has revealed its willingness to cooperate with business concerns who would be affected. At the same time, as Mayor James Allen stated, the commission is entitled to the more vigorous help of everybody concerned to obtain assistance in getting state and county aid in developing the 14 and 16-mile roads to relieve the Maple traffic.

Monday night of last week the commission room was filled with representatives of local business who urged the officials to postpone action to take parking off Maple. Various suggestions were made, some of them worth applying at once, others requiring considerable time to effect.

WORTHY OF IMMEDIATE ADOPTION is the suggestion to eliminate left-hand turns on Maple from Henrietta, Pierce and Bates, plus the better synchronization of traffic lights along the entire East and West Maple avenue route. It also was suggested that a local committee be appointed, consisting of city of-

ficials and local representatives of business, and perhaps residential members, to perfect a continuation plan of action to develop nearby east and west roads, thus to relieve and help Maple in the carrying of traffic.

There no doubt are numerous things that can be done to relieve the situation in the immediate future. These will be advanced, no doubt, by various interested people.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE commission's delay ought not be assumed an indefinite maintenance of the status quo. Maple avenue is, at present, not only the community's main east and west highway, but also contains its heaviest concentration of shopping establishments.

A street in such a shopping area that becomes only a tremendously overburdened automobile highway is of no value to either the businesses that front it, or to the shoppers who seek to patronize its stores.

The commission is entitled to every loyal and vigorous support from all to solve this traffic problem.

Through its Chamber of Commerce, local business interests, plus residents of our community, should lose no time, we urge, in putting its collective shoulder to the wheel in endeavoring to solve this traffic problem.

A Free Education Should Refuse Federal Aid

The way to remain a free people is to keep education from Government control. Let the states, counties, cities and towns retain control of their schools and the tax revenues to maintain them; and not pass them over to the federal government.

Moscow runs Russia. Are the United States to be run from Washington? In Russia, first come the police, next education, then public health. All run by Moscow. If the tightly centralized Kremlin controls were relaxed, the Soviet despotism would quickly fall apart.

The question facing our country is AMERICANISM, an "indissoluble union of inderstructible States"—or Communism. Two systems of government will gain strength. With one system, freedom cannot long survive.

IF WE EXPECT TO DEFEAT Communism, and remain free, we must keep our schools from control of a centralized government. The Constitution gives no power to this government over our schools.

Every one of the 48 states is able, if it will, to provide schools and educate its

children. There is no state that is not more solvent than our government. Our government owes about \$277 billions. All 48 states, added together, owe only around \$8 billions.

Sound thinkers recognize the menace to freedom of a highly centralized government, whose powers reach into and throughout too many of our states already. Further dependence upon Washington, D. C., for funds to build and operate public schools is like stretching out our hands to receive the manacles of federal bureaucracy.

BUT TO POLITICAL-MINDED people, to public officials and citizens alike who believe in a federal Santa Claus, sound civic and economic principles seldom appeal.

Perhaps such are in the voting majority in our nation today. It looks that way.

Indeed, freedom faces greater threats today than it did back in the days of our Colonies. Are there any Lexingtons and Concord remaining with us today?

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Personally, this newspaper approves the idea of Genesee, Macomb and Oakland counties getting together to solve their common water supply problem. Indeed, perhaps Wayne, too, may get into this picture later. To be sure, bringing fresh water down from Lake Huron, or even Anchof Bay, is going to cost a lot of money. Stretched over a period of many years, plus suggested aid from Uncle Sam (much as we dislike this idea), should bring the cost within the ability of the several counties concerned.

Well, with the hot summer soon to be here, can one be too severe on our Tigers who, it now seems, have selected the league's cool basement as a place of residence?

With increasing numbers of motorists on our nation's roads each year, the need for more and better highways is obvious. Perhaps one may compare the relationship between the number of cars and roads to a couple who, although married but, say, five years, have 12 children... a single, two sets of twins, one of triplets and one of quadruplets. That's about as rapid as the motoring population has increased in recent years.

A Wayne (Detroit) University professor recently told a PTA meeting that too many such organizations are "run by amateurs." He asserts that only a few, in each organization actually do the work. Thus, he reasons, not enough taxpayers are out "selling the public school system."

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"My Daddy doesn't always look like that—he's just learned that Mother has found the money he had hidden in the deer's head!"

By George



Just Before the Battle, Mother

NATURE NOW

Egg is Nature's Great Invention

By LYDIA KING FREHSE
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

As you read these lines, the bird nesting season will be well underway. Concealing their eggs in all sorts of artful ways or exposing them on the bare earth or some rocky ledge, the whole feathered tribe will be about the most serious chore of its life cycle.

A nest is not a home, it is a cradle. Only a few species of birds have any family life beyond the nest. The nest is located in the most advantageous place for securing building material, for water, food and protection for the young.

The nesting cycle follows a regular routine including the selection of a territory and a particular nest site within its limits.

THIS IS FOLLOWED by courtship and the accompanying chore of nest building, egg laying and incubation. Its climax is the hatching of the young which in the case of altricial birds (tree nesting) is followed by the care of the young.

Throughout the nesting season it seems apparent that each step must be completed before the next is taken. If the cycle is interrupted, a bird will cease laying its potential customary number of eggs, and the partially formed ova are reabsorbed by the ovary.

But if all or a part of the clutch is destroyed or some of the eggs are removed by intent the laying cycle is continued in an attempt to complete the clutch. When an egg a day was removed from a flicker's nest, the bird continued to lay 71 eggs in 73 days.

AN EGG IS nature's invention for carrying life from one generation to the next. Whether it be that of a worm, a bird or a mammal, when it is fertilized, it becomes an embryo with the potential for growing into a facsimile of the parent.

It is a single cell whose size is largely determined by the amount of food which surrounds it. Man-

mal eggs are small because they are nourished by an outside food supply.

A newly laid bird's egg contains a nutritious yolk with the embryo a tiny speck on its surface. This is surrounded by the albuminous white which supplies protein and acts as a neutral medium for toxic acids given off by the embryo.

THE WHOLE IS enclosed in a double protective membrane and a calcareous shell. The latter is porous to admit air, and to expel carbon dioxide given off by the growing embryo.

Many factors determine the color, shape and size of the egg. Those laid in exposed nests, like those of the sandpipers, are frequently colored or mottled to blend with surroundings. Those hidden in foliage, like those of the thrush or cardinal, are designed to blend with dappled shade. Eggs laid in dark or well protected recesses, like those of the woodpecker, are often white.

The eggs of the murre which are laid on rocky ledges are pointed to roll in a circle. Round eggs slightly pointed fit into a round nest.

EGGS VARY in size from the three-pound vesper sparrow to the largest living bird, the ostrich, to those of the humming bird no larger than a navy bean.

However, nature does not always practice this correlation, for the eggs of the ruddy duck are larger than those of the canvas-back which is three times its size.

The roe, an extinct flightless bird of Madagascar, laid the largest eggs of all time. These measured 13.5 inches by 9.6 inches and had a capacity of two gallons.

THE SIZE OF THE egg is also related to the length of the incubation period. The killdeer, a precocial (ground nesting) bird, lays

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits Of News Cleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO

May 18, 1906
Frank McHugh's new house on Pierce street is now under full sway. Workmen are busy and from now work will be rushed as fast as possible to a rapid finish. When completed, Pierce street will have a valuable addition to its residence and Mrs. McHugh a cozy and comfortable home.

Francis Russell Bluelee of Detroit inspected the Eccentric office Tuesday last and pronounced it OK in every particular. He was particularly impressed with the magnificent luxury of the majestic building—its dreamy language, and was particularly interested in our cyclone cellar and earthquake preventatives.

Queen Wilhelmina, it is reported, expects an heir soon.

30 YEARS AGO

May 13, 1926
Acting upon suggestions made through Birmingham's planning commission, members of the local village commission Monday night outlined plans to put through a project that may mean much to the future of the community. The cooperation with the school board to acquire as a civic center the four blocks of land bounded on the east by Pierce street, south by Merrill street, west by Southfield avenue, and north by Martin street, is the project under contemplation.

Beginning next Monday, May 17, all village business except the police and fire departments, will be transacted in the new quarters, located at the corner of Pierce and Martin streets.

Mrs. Birmingham, better arrange to get your "garbage tickets" from the village clerk before June 1. Then, after you obtain possession of them, don't fail to place them where Mr. Scott can get one for each time he calls—else your garbage pail may runneth over.

15 YEARS AGO

May 15, 1941
New building in Birmingham valued at a quarter of a million dollars was at a standstill this week as carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers, electricians and other building trades workers stood idle in a sympathy strike for the teamsters' union of Detroit.

... the people... are confused today. They don't want to get into the war, even though most of them want to help Britain in every way short of war. Therefore, the only necessary act for President Roosevelt and his close advisors to do is to tell the utter and brutal truth: IS ENGLAND ABOUT TO FALL?

Black top soil with pest humus was advertised at \$1.75 per yard.



"The hardest job an independent man has today is keeping the government from taking care of him!"

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

In their opinions or reactions, a child generalizes, an adult specializes.

All men are "daddies", all women are "mommies" to a child. Because he once saw a drunken washerwoman, all washerwomen are drunks to a childish adult.

"This is MY daddy—that's YOUR mommie," says a discerning youngster.

"THAT washerwoman is a drunk—but I don't know about the others yet," says an intelligent adult.

Ability to accept responsibility— and its accompanying share of blame and criticism—is something a person learns, not a trait he is born with.

Nothing is ever the same way twice, in spite of how imperceptible the change may be.

No two persons have had exactly the same kind of life, nor have experienced the same sort of things. Thought and thinking are a summation of one's experiences at the moment.

Words are the only method by which one person can attempt to transmit his experiences, reactions, thoughts to another person. And we have so few words compared to the number of people, all whom are trying to get those words to convey a personal meaning.

Psychologist Irving Lorge has shown that the 570 most common words—the it, and, out, in, etc.—are used with 10,000 shades of meaning. This averages better than 17 meanings apiece for these most-used words.

So if someone is honest enough to admit to you that he doesn't know what you mean, it doesn't necessarily indicate he's

stupid. He's merely asking you to use other words that more nearly and clearly match his own personal experiences.

Many so-called questionnaires are nothing more than opinionnaires.

A surprising feature about the near-record April 28-29 rainfall here was that practically no basement back-up trouble was encountered in the area west of Quanton lake.

A few troubles mainly due to restricted private sewer services, reports DPW boss Bob Kenning, but nothing like what has happened there in previous years.

Kenning says an active sewer cleaning program before trouble arises must get credit for much of this improvement.

If you perform like you already have competition, you don't.

Birmingham city commissioners seem to be ready to adopt a water fluoridation program.

Exhaustive and conclusive tests show fluoride is beneficial when built into the teeth of growing youngsters. It hasn't seemed to do much for us adults, though.

Other day I read on page one of a Detroit daily—where some dentist in California seems to think he's found a specially cultivable microbe which, when swabbed on the teeth, lives on the saliva and secretes an enzyme which interferes with the growth of various types of bacteria believed to have something to do with dental decay.

If this west coast fellow proves his point, who knows—fluoridated water might give way to animated water.

Trichel Is Chosen

Paul Trichel, son of G. W. Trichel of Puritan avenue, and a freshman at Hillsdale college, was recently elected social-chairman of Hillsdale college sociology club. He is affiliated with Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity.

Want Ads cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. each Tuesday.

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