

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

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54 PAGES SECTION ONE

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



There never was a blast of life so chilling that it could freeze the warmth of affection that binds the hearts and souls of a man and a woman truly in love. Clad in the clinging garment of love, though they be of broadcloth and silk, of tattered-rags, a woman in love with a man in love with her is a heavenly state on earth.

79TH YEAR—NO. 37

This and That

by George R. Averill

What some men do not like about women often is not understood by the men. It is reported by the experts, however, that women understand men better than vice versa.

Reformers in all ages have discovered that it is impossible to legislate against the tendencies of human nature. Even regulations fail to achieve all their objectives until the mental processes of evolution catch up.

The milkman often is the recipient of strange and funny notes. One such link in the chain from pasture to the breakfast table found this note: "Will you please be kind this week and not slam front door? Am on vacation and do not have to rise at 7 a.m. You can begin slamming it again next week as I have to get up anyhow. Thanks."

On another route the milkman was greeted with this note: "We don't want milk every day. We want it like this: Today we want milk. Tomorrow we don't want it. And the next day we will be just like the day before and the day after, like tomorrow."

Overhead can be, for some, gazing upward toward mental and spiritual things that promises enduring rewards. Or too much of it can be, in business, the practice of allowing unnecessary expenses to overcome solvency.

Unfortunately, it is noticed that some people now and then are kinder to the family Towson than they are to some member of the family. Dogs, however, are known to remain loving and faithful to all members of the household where they live.

When a man is paid a hundred dollars for making ten items of some kind, and later is paid ten dollars more for making only the same number of items, he is thus made a part of the causes of inflation.

Should he make eleven items, however, he would be contributing toward a stabilized economy, maintaining his production in keeping with his wages.

The fact that many producers do not keep production in line with wages is the greatest cause of any nation's inflation.

It is reported that we Americans eat 65 million pounds of meat every day, enough to fill 2,540 railroad cars. While that may result in a lot of dirty dishes to be washed, think of the destruction of western prairie inhabitants of the remote prairie who must go to their eternal slaughterhouses en route to the kitchen stoves.

Many things for many needs for many people come out of many bottles. Thus it must be admitted that he who invented the removable cork needed a bottle in which to insert it. All of this, of course, predated the invention of the various stuff that is used to fill bottles.

Silence is the absolute absence of sound; sound is the audible expression of many things, including nonsense.

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WITH FRIENDS and family gathered around him, Ernest R. Breech, chairman of the board of Ford Motor company and a Bloomfield Hills resident, smiles from the stage of Ford auditorium. Just half an hour before, Breech had been sitting in the audience, unaware that he was the reason why "This Is Your Life" was being televised from Detroit. In the foreground are (from left) Bobby and Andy Lee Breech, their famous grandfather, and Marjorie Breech. At rear are (from left) Mr. and Mrs. William Breech, Ernest R. Breech, Jr., and two-year-old grandson William.

This Is Your Life, Ernie Breech: A Fine Family, Many Firm Friends!

Millions of Americans last week saw what Bloomfield Hills' Ernie Breech had that they didn't have—his loving family, his sincere friends, and loyal business associates, including his boss, Henry Ford II.

An intimate glimpse of these relationships came last week Wednesday night when a most surprised guest of modern American business found himself on stage watching his past life being recalled.

For Ernest R. Breech, chairman of the board of the Ford Motor Company, was the "subject" of Ralph Edwards' famous television program, "This Is Your Life."

THE SKILL WITH which Breech's family and the show's producers kept the secret unaltered until World War II's famed Manhattan project, which later turned out to be the atomic bomb.

The trick was to arrange for Breech to be in town and at the Ford auditorium Wednesday night without arousing his suspicions. It was accomplished when Mrs. Breech arranged for a special dinner party before the show. It seemed natural to invite the dinner guests to see the show afterward.

Once a long distance call from the show's producers in Hollywood was made to Mrs. Breech. She had to think up a quick explanation when her husband wondered what the call was. Story is that the fast-thinking Mrs. Breech answered that the call was from her son, Ernest Robert, Jr., who lives in Los Angeles.

Soon after that, son Robert, Breech's brothers and sisters, and son William, of Bloomfield township, were attending a rehearsal for the show.

Meanwhile, the subject of their schemes remained unaware of the plot. He didn't suspect that out-of-town members of his family and friends and associates of his earlier years were staying in a downtown Detroit hotel while waiting to surprise him.

Back in Lebanon, Mo., scene of Breech's boyhood years, townspeople were reading a celebration for the night of the show.

The son of a blacksmith, Breech left college in 1917 to take a \$15-a-week job. It was the following year that he and Thelma Rowden, his childhood sweetheart, were married.

Irving Babcock, of Chicago, appeared on "This Is Your Life" to tell of hiring Breech in 1923 for Yellow Cab Manufacturing company. Arthur Wanner, of Chicago, told of belonging to a group which studied accounting with Breech during the 1920s.

Breech was controller of the Yellow Cab company when it merged with General Motors in 1925. He later became a General Motors vice president and head of Bendix Aviation.

Describing how he hired Breech, a slightly nervous Henry Ford II said that when he was looking for a top man at Ford Motor company, he had a list of names. Breech was the man best qualified for the job.

Breech, according to Ford, didn't accept his offer right away. But when he visited Breech to tour the Ford industrial empire with him, Ford said he could see that Breech was the future chairman of the board was becoming interested.

Breech joined Ford in 1946. He became board chairman in 1955.



RALPH EDWARDS (left) turns over to Ernest R. Breech a leather-bound "This Is Your Life" volume. Henry Ford II, (center) appeared on the show and told of the high regard in which Breech is held by members of the Ford organization.

Hundreds to Offer Thanks at Churches

Hundreds will flock to Birmingham area churches to offer their thanks at special services tonight and tomorrow.

Special community services sponsored by the Birmingham Council of Churches will observe the day tomorrow at the Congregational church of Birmingham, 388 N. Woodward.

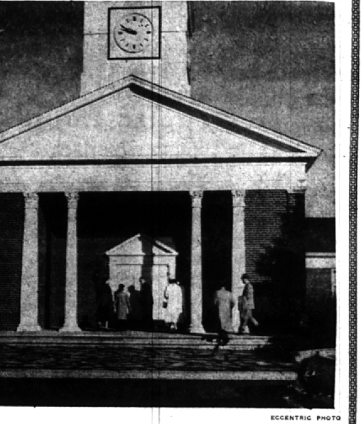
Rev. MacKay Taylor, minister of Northminster Presbyterian church, will preach at the 9 a.m. services. Rev. Dr. Robert A. Macoskey, assistant minister of the First Baptist church, and the host pastor, Rev. Robert D. Dewey, will conduct the services.

There will be special music, and President Eisenhower's Thanksgiving proclamation will be read.

AT HOLY NAME church, Monsignor Eugene Padlock, pastor, will sing a special high mass on Thanksgiving day at 9 a.m.

SOUTHFIELD churches will join tonight in an annual community observance sponsored by the Southfield Ministerial association at the Community Church, Congregational, 27800 Southfield road, La-thrup Village.

(See CHURCHES, Page 2, Sec. 1)



Former Postmaster J. A. Byrne Dead

Joseph A. Byrne, 78, who retired in 1948 after 15 years as Birmingham's postmaster, died Friday in Rochester, N. Y.

He was appointed acting postmaster here July 1, 1933, by the then Postmaster General James A. Farley. At the next session of Congress, Byrne's appointment by the late Franklin D. Roosevelt was confirmed by the U. S. Senate. On May 7, 1934, he officially became postmaster of Birmingham, succeeding James W. Cobb.

Following his retirement, Byrne took a position as department manager with Crowley-Milner Co., and in the fall of 1954, he took up residence at the Park hotel, Detroit. Early this year, because of illness, he moved to Rochester, N. Y., where he had a nephew, Joseph M. Byrne.

Funeral services and burial were Monday in Rochester.

BORN IN Albany, N. Y., Byrne obtained his elementary and secondary school education there and attended an Albany business college. He was the first agent for the Albany Railroad Electric Express.

Moving to Detroit in 1916, he was in charge of Ford Motor Co.'s parcel post department for five years and then handled special work in Ford's shipping and mailing department.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, came to Birmingham in 1923. At the time of her death, Feb. 10, 1954, they were making their home at 327 Greenwood.

Start Christmas Mailing Now, Asks Postmaster

Birmingham Postmaster Roland W. Reese urged today that citizens of Birmingham shop early, and mail early this Christmas season to facilitate the processing of what is expected to be the largest Christmas mailing in the history of the Birmingham post office.

Explained Reese: "To put off mailing Christmas cards and parcels until the last moment results in an extra burden being placed on postal facilities that already are doing 25 per cent more volume than a year ago."

"Every facility obtainable will be used to serve you. Your cooperation in mailing early will be appreciated by all postal employees. In recent years the cooperation by the public has been splendid in mailing early. This year we need that cooperation more than ever."

"BY MAILING early, wrapping cards in adequate material, and addressing plainly, the citizens of Birmingham will be assured of the safe and timely arrival of their Christmas mail."

Reese urges that all persons owning a pickup or panel truck that is suitable for delivery purposes, register same as soon as possible for Christmas use. Driver and truck will be employed or drivers may be furnished as the case requires.

Parish Drive, Car Caravan Slated For M-D Victims

To help the more than 200,000 victims of molar dystrophy in the United States, volunteers will stop at Birmingham's city hall next Thursday, Nov. 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. The same day at 4 p.m., a caravan of cars will drive through the city to remind citizens of the drive.

Volunteers will be asking residents to place a few coins in their canisters to help defray the dread disease.

W. C. Newberg, Chrysler corporation vice president who lives at 975 Fairfax, is Birmingham Bloomfield Hills campaign chairman for the drive.

Newberg said this week that the public is gradually becoming aware of the seriousness of muscular dystrophy.

"Its 200,000 victims suffer from a progressive disease which attacks the muscles," Newberg said, "eventually weakening and disabling the victim to the point where a minor ailment may prove fatal."

"There is no known cure," Newberg added.

Among volunteers who will be stopping at Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills are Mrs. Drew Haneline, Mrs. William Potter, Mrs. R. E. Fife, Mrs. Charles Delbridge, Mrs. C. H. McMahon, Mrs. J. G. Shannon, Mrs. Doug Livy, Mrs. James Reed, Mrs. Paul McInerney and Mrs. Robert Den Uyl.

Final plans are being made this week by the Birmingham League of Women Voters for the dinner to be sponsored by that group next Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Devon Gardens. Dr. Alfred H. Kelly, author and head of the department of history, Wayne State university, will speak.

Kelly will picture the present status of individual liberties in the United States as well as historical background on these liberties.

He has authored several books on the constitution and on American foreign policy. He has been a professor at Wayne since 1933. He served as director of the Freedom Agenda Program, a program for studying individual liberties sponsored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund, Inc., under a grant from the Fund for the Republic.

Mrs. Cleveland Walcutt is chairman of the individual liberties committee planning the dinner. Tickets are \$1.00. Mrs. Frederick L. Robinson, 287 Pilgrim, Birmingham, is the ticket agent.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dist. 97, ask for Enterprise 6212.

Porch Drive, Car Caravan Slated For M-D Victims

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To Evaluate Individual Liberties

DR. ALFRED H. KELLY

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Veteran Mail Carrier, Chris Bailey, Dies

The man who knew and cared for every merchant and businessman in downtown Birmingham's former days, Chris S. Bailey, 66, of Clawson, died last Thursday.

In his 29 years as a mail carrier in downtown Birmingham, he was known to many as "the man who knew and cared for every merchant and businessman in downtown Birmingham's former days, Chris S. Bailey, 66, of Clawson, died last Thursday."

Born in Birmingham, Bailey carried his mail in a horse-drawn wagon. He was known to many as "the man who knew and cared for every merchant and businessman in downtown Birmingham's former days, Chris S. Bailey, 66, of Clawson, died last Thursday."

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CHRIS S. BAILEY

French here April 19, 1917. They made their home in Clawson for the past 27 years.

HE IS SURVIVED by his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Margaret King of Clawson, and two grandchildren. A member of Metropolitan club, spirit nine, he had served on the Metropolitan hospitalization board. Services were Monday from Manley Bailey funeral home, with burial in Oakview cemetery, Royal Oak.

At Home on These Two Holiday Eves

There will be no Christmas nor New Year's Eve meetings for Birmingham city commissioners. These two Monday nights they have decided to spend at home. However, they'll be in session on Thursday night, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, instead. Regular hour, regular place.



VENUS tried a stand-on, ended up without a leg to stand on.

The only item never found in a glove compartment is a pair of gloves.

Turkeys are what dogs try to get without ending up with, and

what playwrights end up with without trying to get.

A thief broke into a shoe store in Milwaukee, Wis., and stole two shoes—one brown, one black—and both for the same get burglarly the local police got a boot out of.