

## Our Statue of Liberty Is A World Symbol

People returning from Europe — and those coming to our shores for the first time — always crowd the port side of the ship to see the grand figure of "LIBERTY," enlightening the world. One gets a lump in his throat, and small tears easily flow. "LIBERTY," "LIBERTY!" There it stands now and we hope, forever.

Thanks to a Congressional resolution, made law by President Eisenhower's signature, the grand figure of "LIBERTY," enlightening the world, says good-by to what has been called "Bedloe's Island."

Isaac Bedloe, who once owned the island, was no doubt a good man, and true. But his name doesn't fit the "STATUE."

THE "STATUE OF LIBERTY" was a gift from the people of France. It was shipped in sailing vessels, piece by piece,

## It Depends On "Whose Ox Is Gored"

This is about Governor J. Bracken Lee of Utah, who has announced that he will not pay any more income taxes until the courts decide whether the Constitution authorizes Congress to toss his money, and yours, around the world in global welfare schemes.

This is an important question and should be decided by the highest court in the land. For the President has said he wants the program made permanent.

But the Internationalists, One-Worlders and the rest of this group have landed on the Governor like a ton of bricks. He is defying the law, "setting a bad example," etc., etc., they say.

In reply, we call their attention to the following. Last summer Congress put a

and erected on the small island. We are thankful that every piece arrived—none missing. All this took many years.

A Senator from the smallest State in the Union—Rhode Island—proposed to change the name from "Bedloe's Island" to "Liberty Island." We are thankful, too, for this. How easy to remember—and how inspiring—is the name, "Liberty Island!"

Among our 169 millions of people, there are many who have never seen the "STATUE" except in picture. No matter, they understand the meaning of the word, LIBERTY.

Is not this entire North American Continent an island in the world's great ocean? Is not all of it LIBERTY's island? It is, if every American continues to love LIBERTY, and will labor and sacrifice, when necessary to keep it so!

provision in an appropriation bill that the government could not stop competing with free enterprise unless Congress O.K.'d it.

Now, hold your horses and grip your saddle horn! President Eisenhower, on legal advice, said that he would not comply with this "law." He says it is an unconstitutional interference with the executive branch of the government.

Maybe he is right. But maybe Governor Lee is also right. Nothing is "the law" that is not authorized by the Constitution. But did any of these boys who skinned Governor Lee alive make any howls of horror about President Lee "violating the law?"

Nah, a word! Silent as the tomb! It wasn't their ox!

## No Man, Or Nation, Can Purchase Friendship

Seven years ago, Henry Hazlitt, economist, asked the question: "Will dollars save the world?"

Now, a good many billion dollars poorer, Hazlitt's question appears in a clearer light—the light of experience.

It is doubtful if we, Americans, were ever disliked more cordially by more people in more countries than now, after spending \$5 billion \$'s since 1945 in "saving the world."

This world-saving business made us partners with the European colonial powers, and has got us in bad with the yellow and dark-skinned races of the world.

Political world-saving is always done through politicians—those in power. Naturally so, but in every country there are one or more parties that are not in power. How do they like our help to their political opponents?

THEY DON'T LIKE it any more than the Republicans liked Harry Hopkins pouring "Federal aid" into the big cities of America, and other close political dis-

tricts every time an election rolled around.

World-saving puts the politicians, who get our aid, in the position of being flunkies to our own politicians. Finally, they get kicked out, and the "outs" take over on an anti-U.S.A. platform.

Mankind long has known that "the best way to lose a friend is to loan, or give, him money." That same truth holds good between nations, too.

TO BE SURE, when a nation emerges from a war in ruins and poverty, so to speak, financial aid to a certain practical limit may be justified.

But to continue pouring money into its outstretched hands is morally wrong. That's what Uncle Sam, under Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower have been doing.

Does the United States have many good and enduring friendly nations today? No! That's why our Congress is beginning to wake up to the economic fact that American taxpayers are tired of being exploited by whatever political party is in office.

## From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Come to think of it, a considerable number of men from our Birmingham area boast of their culinary talents, especially in the presence of outdoor grills. Yes, Sir, they certainly can turn a hamburger or a steak to a King's taste! (However, don't they now and then, like a new bride, bring forth results that are far from matching the cuisines of their wives?)

Republicans today are the sponsors and defenders of Ike's "soot bank" program, designed to help the nation's farmers. It is from the good earth that we get most of our food . . . but some of those "dirty" Democrats are now selling their tongues by spewing out condemnation of this type of farm aid. Well, what can you expect in an election campaign, anyway—certainly not soil that grows manna from Heaven!

Soon Birmingham's downtown shopping area will have two more off-street parking lots adjacent to Hamilton Avenue. This should help folks find convenient parking spaces while shopping. Another aid is, of course, reasonable consideration for the needs of others by decreasing unnecessary parking space time requirements.

If you live on a gravel street that surfaces upon road oil to maintain its surface, please don't start autumn leaf fires along your curb line. Why? Because your fire will burn up the oil base, leaving nothing but gravel to soak up water and become muddy in wet weather, dusty in dry weather. City director of public works Dick Gare suggests, instead, that you burn your leaves on areas other than oiled gravel streets.

## The Birmingham Eccentric

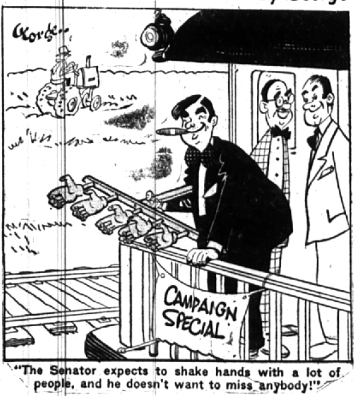
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## Ticklers



"The Senator expects to shake hands with a lot of people, and he doesn't want to miss anybody!"

## By George

## All-American Game?



## NATURE NOW

By Lydia King Frehe

Special Writer for the Birmingham Eccentric

## Sassafras Once Used As Cure-All

On a blue October day, nothing in nature testifies more surely to the glory of nature than a sassafras tree.

Its colors are the brightest in the spectrum. On one tree will flare from yellow through blood-orange, on another they will glow from salmon pink to the deepest of vermillions.

In the spring the greenish-yellow flowers bloom in drooping clusters from separate male and female trees just before leafing-out time. The smooth and aromatic leaves are borne singly and grow alternately on the branch.

Most characteristic in the tree's habit of bearing three distinct types of leaves, one unlobed, one mitten-shaped and one three-lobed. The unlobed seems to be most common on mature trees.

THE VARI-SHAPED patterns are easily observed on young suckers which frequently surround the foot of older trees, in open fields and roadsides.

Many of the leaves will always serve to identify the sassafras, since only the mulberry follows a similar pattern.

However, the latter have fine-toothed leaves. These are borne singly, while the sassafras leaves are toothed.

Sassafras twigs are bright green and are smooth, and when broken are so aromatic that they serve as an easy identifying mark when the tree is leafless. The bark soon roughens and on old trees is reddish-brown and deeply furrowed.

ON MY DESK as a reminder of yesterday's walk is a branch of a female sassafras tree laden with deep blue fruit. These are borne on bright crimson-purple stalks which thicken into cup-like holders. Their unique shape and bright colors serve to attract at least 18 species of birds which eat and disperse the seeds. This plus the fact that the tree grows best in lands opened by agriculture, will insure its future range.

The sassafras is not a timber tree, although its soft wood is useful for nautical and rail, for crates and boxes. Because it is durable

Mrs. Frehe

BECAUSE of a greatly exaggerated faith in its medicinal properties, the sassafras was the most sought-after tree in colonial America, where the Indians claimed it as a cure-all.

The early settlers brewed a much-prized beer from the sassafras. With its bark the colonial housewife made a yellow dye for her wool and with its oil she perfumed her home-made soap.

Today even the harmless custom of drinking sassafras tea to "thin the blood" is fast becoming a memory. But when spring comes our way your scrub sometimes sees small bundles of its aromatic root-bark in farmers' markets. In this way it comes away in remembering the sassafras plant in a certain link-up on her grandmother's supper table.

## 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

October 12, 1906

Does your boy smoke cigarettes? Statistics show that 90 of every 100 boys have the habit. "Cigarettes make weak boys and weak boys make criminals." These are the words of a New York City judge, and he further says that cigarettes make liars and thieves of boys. Isn't that enough to startle a boy who does smoke the deadly things.

Seven and one half acres in the pretty little village of Southfield, the property formerly owned by Dr. Holcomb, contains three buildings valued at \$2,500. House finished in natural woods, 12 rooms, three verandas, cement walks, a round building which are insured for \$2,000, and all this can be had for \$2,500 cash, or will trade for good improved property in Detroit or Birmingham.

### 30 YEARS AGO

October 7, 1926

A petition advocating the change of Birmingham from a village into city will be circulated by members of the Northwestern Civic Association as soon as a committee for the purpose is selected by the president, Gustave A. Ziegler.

A merchant was quoted, "I think radio is just about the most wonderful invention in the world. This fact was brought home to me when I stood outside Bailey's Smoke Shoppe on West Maple avenue and listened to the world series opener, play by play. Think of it! We didn't have to wait for the old 'sporting cry.' We knew what was happening almost as soon as those who

journeyed east just to see the game."

Construction of St. Joseph Mercy hospital in Pontiac is moving steadily to completion. Birmingham citizens subscribed to the building fund.

### 15 YEARS AGO

October 9, 1941

If runaway prices and inflation are not curbed, America will be faced with serious consequences, Dr. Raymond Buell told a crowd of 400 at the Community House Monday night. Paying for the war in Europe, the danger of inflation and the conflict between capital and labor will be the nation's greatest problem in the future Dr. Buell declared.

A cross-walk will be constructed at South Woodward avenue at Taunton and Smith streets, the city commission decided Monday night. The asphaltic walk will extend from sidewalk to curb, and in the island.

"The spare tire around your waist is the most expensive one you can buy!"

## ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Twice this summer, we've had the pleasant opportunity to sail or motor over the waters of Lake St. Clair and Anchor Bay. Thus we personally went right into the middle of a growing national sport—boating.

We'd read several comprehensive articles on this subject, but it takes a trip into the midst of these new sailors to realize how crowded our water traffic lanes are getting.

Inland lakes have felt the growing congestion of motorboats and small speedboats, while the Great Lakes have seen big increases in the numbers of powerboats.

Right now, the skippers of these smaller craft are not required to take marine instruction courses before taking their craft out for the first time.

VETERAN SAILORS NATURALLY are alarmed over such lack of procedure, although there are voluntary courses of instruction available.

About the only present way to impress on these new boat captains some of the risks while on water is to enforce the federal marine safety regulations.

That's what the U.S. Coast Guard has been doing with increasing vigor each season.

REAR ADM. R. A. LEAMY, commander of the 9th Coast Guard District headquartered in Cleveland, just announced that the Coast Guard has boarded more than 52,000 motorboats so far in 1956 on the Great Lakes.

They found 3,770, or one in every 14 boats, to be violating federal regulations. The encouraging news, however, is that this is a decrease in violations found in 1955. That year the Guard boarded 45,000 motorboats, found more than 5,000 (or one in nine) in violation.

THE ADMIRAL SAID the Guard is pleased to see the general boating public becoming more aware of the safety regulations and abiding by them.

As in past years, 75 per cent of the violations were for failure to have a sufficient number of lifesaving devices aboard.

Federal law requires all motorboats, regardless of size, when operated on the navigable waters of the United States (including the Great Lakes), to have a lifesaving device, approved by the Coast Guard, for each person on board.

But from a personal standpoint, it would be much better for boat passengers' sense of safety if they knew the skipper were properly trained, rather than feel it necessary to loop one arm through a life jacket "just in case."

## Peoples Column

## Home Vandalism Is Distressing To Suburbanite

To the Editor:

Until last week, vandalism was something that always occurred in some other town, on some other street. It was something that couldn't happen here, in my town or my street or across this way.

The paint that was smeared over the newly finished walls can be removed and the job will be done again.

The picture windows, punctured with tiny BB gun holes, will be replaced with new ones.

The bricks that were broken around the fireplace will be put in place and others will be put in their place. In another week the work-

men will have the house looking beautiful again.

COULD THEY, perhaps, come across the road and do repairs on my heart? It isn't singing and being happy like it was before this happened—across the road from me.

Doesn't any go any to tell it: "Come on, now. Don't take it so seriously! It wasn't your house, was it? So, why fret? Shrug your shoulders. Forget it."

Besides the shame, there is a fear. Because some sick mind in some person did that across the road. Whether that person was ten,

twenty or thirty or forty, he or she was not well. And what if that individual graduates from wrecking other peoples' property, to perhaps wrecking other peoples' children or their lives if their actions are interrupted?

That's why my heart isn't singing right now. That's why it's going to be harder to repair it. The responsibility of this freedom I have been enjoying rests on me . . . and you . . . and all of us.

A SUBURBANITE.

Looking for a pet for the children? See the Classified columns under "Pets for Sale."

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