

## U. S. Supreme Court 'Busts Out'

Two U.S. Army wives, living abroad, murdered their husbands. Each was found guilty by court-martial.  
But was the trial constitutional? Yes, said the U.S. Supreme Court a year ago. Now it says NO. The murderers go free.  
Now, judges have the right to change their minds, but who changed the U.S. Constitution?  
In the light of this case, the saying that "The Constitution is what the Supreme Court says it is" appears to be the nonsense that it always has been. It was the same case; same murderers; same facts. Nothing had changed except that two new judges had joined the Court.

**NOW, AS A LINCOLN SAID** respecting the Dred Scott case in 1858, there being no higher court, as a practical matter, its judgment is final as to the parties to the case. Right or wrong, they are stuck

with it.  
But the Constitution does not say that the Court's judgments are the supreme law of the land, binding on everybody. Lincoln said he would not be bound by the Dred Scott decision.  
President Jackson had said the same thing with respect to another famous case.  
When the Court acts as judges only; upholds settled law and stays within its proper bounds, its decisions deserve respect and are generally followed.  
But the Court is hurting itself when it overrules long-settled law and become a super Congress, or a super Constitutional Convention.  
It has no law-making authority, under the U.S. Constitution.  
Perhaps we need another amendment to it, which in plain words will inform this Court exactly what its legal jurisdictions are!

## Colorful Autumn Soon to Be Here

With the arrival of August—the eighth month of the year—one is reminded that two-thirds of 1957 will have passed into history at its end. This is hard to realize. After August, of course, comes September—the month in which fall begins, with Hallowe'en, Thanksgiving and Christmas not far behind.  
August is the last month of vacation for millions of youngsters, who will soon be going back to school. It is also the last month of summer weather in the more

northern climes.  
**THE COMING OF AUTUMN**, however, is not an unpleasant thought for many, for Autumn has its own beauty and many think that it is the prettiest and most pleasant of all the seasons.  
This is because the weather is often clear, crisp and cool, the earth still retaining much of the summer heat, thereby making for brisk but not too severe nights and pleasant days.

## A Danger Next to Atom Bomb

Where can we find one country whose money is not being destroyed by inflation? There is no security in rotting money. Like termites, inflation is eating the foundations of our savings.  
Bernard M. Baruch, adviser to Presidents, says: "Inflation is the next greatest danger to the atom bomb."  
From 1792 to 1950, our government collected 406 billion \$'s in taxes. From 1950 through 1956, our government collected 433 billions in taxes.  
For 406 billions—158 years—we fought and won six wars. For 433 billion \$'s, in seven years, we fought one war in Korea, which ended where it began.  
**HOW MANY WARS** have we actually

won since 1914?  
We should support every reasonable move to reduce government spending—federal, state and local. It is our money that government spends. If we stop asking for services which could be deferred or eliminated altogether, the savings would strike a mighty blow at inflation.  
Instead of being spent on unnecessary services, they would be invested in permanent values, like debt-free homes, ample schools, factories, machinery, highways, etc., which would add to the value of all goods, and thus keep prices from going up and dollars from going down.  
This would help to check inflation; and thereby protect the value of our savings, our country, and our children.

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

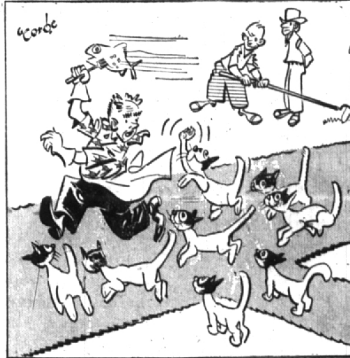
It looks to us as though Ike's "palace guard", headed by Sherman Adams, favors the Santa Claus idea of operating the federal government. Apparently, just like the late Harry Hopkins, FDR's top aid, operated. "Tax and tax, spend and spend, elect and re-elect" was Harry's idea. Give-away programs always attract crowds. Of course Ike cannot run for a third term . . . but there's nothing to stop the "palace guard" from trying to nominate and elect Ike's stand-in, Dick Nixon, the Veep.  
Delightful Lt.-Gov. Phil Hart is spending much of his time going about the State making speeches, shaking hands with present and potential supporters, should he run in 1958 for Governor or U.S. Senator. He probably is expending more energy than is required of a man to earn a couple of million dollars. Boy, when that political virus inoculates one, he certainly breaks out all over. (Phil, don't forget how hard Blair Moody worked, and what overtook him.)  
Television, declare some psychologists, has disrupted the warmer intimacy and friendliness of the family circle. Young-

sters, they say, pay less attention to parents than they do to TV programs. "As social and cultural influences increase, the function of the family decreases," one psychologist said. What happens to a nation when the family life within it disintegrates?  
If it were possible to create a sort of counterpart of the law of harmony that could be fitted to social, political and economic truths, what kind of sound do you think federal and state government officials would issue from their variety of, let us say, "musical instruments"? Already you know, as you reflect upon the past and current scenes—that you would hear the darndest and most discordant assortment of plain noise that ever sounded upon your ears. You certainly would get sounds that would be worse than the poorest jazz-jive band.  
A Scottish doctor declares that he has found a way to determine the sex of a baby before it is born. There goes another phase of the mystery of life. Why can't science pause for a brief spell in its adventure into the Land of Not?

## The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100  
GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher  
PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager  
GEORGE WM. AVERILL, Managing Editor  
GERALD E. JEHLE, Advertising Manager

### Ticklers



By George

## Fall-Out



**NATURE NOW** BY LYDIA KING FREHSE  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

## Ginkgo Tree is A Living Fossil

The ginkgo is the world's oldest tree. It may also represent the oldest living genus of our present day seed plants. Because of its ancient lineage, it is called a "living fossil".  
Once it was world-wide in its distribution, comprising many genera. That we should have a single remaining species is not an accident. This rare tree must have caught the fancy of primitive man who nurtured it longer than it became extinct in the wild.

IT OWES its last care to devoted monks who tended and worshipped it as a sacred plant in their remote monastic gardens in China. Here it was protected under penalty of death from the touch of all except the high priest.  
All our present day ginkgos have been re-planted from this source. In the northern hemisphere, they thrive in a wide range of habitats.  
One of the largest specimens in the world grows on the grounds of the Grey Herbarium at Harvard.  
Mrs. Frehse has seen the ginkgo growing on busy 22nd Street in New York City and on the wide avenues of our nation's capital.

**THE GINKGO** and Cycad families were the dominant plants of the Mesozoic period of the earth's history. Our present day variety (Ginkgo biloba) is an identical species thought to be delivered to us parcel post from the world of some 120 million years ago.  
The geological history of the ginkgo has been reconstructed from fossil leaves found in the rocks of such diverse locations as Alaska, Wyoming, Australia, Western Europe, Turkistan and Japan. This tree has its earliest begin-

## 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**  
August 3, 1907  
"Dr. J. L. Campbell is the owner of a fine auto, and what is better, he can run it all by his lonely, make it fly around in a way to almost cause the Marshall to take notice and read up on the speed laws. Not long ago he ran down to the water works and happening to think that he should call up a party by phone, he stepped inside, leaving all the water works people around the auto inspecting it. He made a mistake in the phone to use, and rang the fire alarm. Of course, all ran to the water works in answer to the alarm. They saw at once what was the matter, but to this "mini" the doctor does not know the excitement he unknowingly caused."

"Some bad boys or men, either to steal Thomas Cook's potatoes, or just to destroy them, had better watch out. Thomas is mad, clear through, and will watch his potato patch these nights, and woe betide the marauders. Fair warning. Whether they come to ruin or to steal, it makes no difference, Tom will be there with his gun loaded and watching."

**30 YEARS AGO**  
August 11, 1927  
"The temporary water ban for south Birmingham is nothing serious and has been issued more as a precaution than anything else, according to James W. Parry, village manager, and Dr. A. W. Nett, health officer.  
Residents in the south part of the village have been warned to boil water before using it for interior purposes until further word is issued. This is the result of a test made by the Detroit Testing Laboratories which showed a slight surface contamination."

"Residents in the south part of the village have been warned to boil water before using it for interior purposes until further word is issued. This is the result of a test made by the Detroit Testing Laboratories which showed a slight surface contamination."

"The temporary water ban for south Birmingham is nothing serious and has been issued more as a precaution than anything else, according to James W. Parry, village manager, and Dr. A. W. Nett, health officer.  
Residents in the south part of the village have been warned to boil water before using it for interior purposes until further word is issued. This is the result of a test made by the Detroit Testing Laboratories which showed a slight surface contamination."

"Residents in the south part of the village have been warned to boil water before using it for interior purposes until further word is issued. This is the result of a test made by the Detroit Testing Laboratories which showed a slight surface contamination."

"The temporary water ban for south Birmingham is nothing serious and has been issued more as a precaution than anything else, according to James W. Parry, village manager, and Dr. A. W. Nett, health officer.  
Residents in the south part of the village have been warned to boil water before using it for interior purposes until further word is issued. This is the result of a test made by the Detroit Testing Laboratories which showed a slight surface contamination."

## ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill



it thrives over a wide climatic range. It is also immune to insects and disease and is resilient to storms as well as to city dust, smoke and fumes.  
The ginkgo is classed as a hardwood. However, it has naked seeds and terminal fruit. Its woody cell structure resembles that of the conifers, and its pollen has swimming sperms as does that of the ferns.  
In structure it differs from each of the three. It represents a transition, a moment in evolution caught and fixed in mid-course so that those of us who are alive some 200 million years later may look thereon and wonder.

**WASHABLE RUGS**  
up to 50 lbs. washed & dried  
One Day Service  
**FLAT WORK IRONED**  
One to Two Day Service  
**BIRMINGHAM LAUNDROMAT**  
1000 S. Adams MI 4-8225

MEMBER  
CENTRE  
OF LAUNDRIES  
THE 5th IN LAUNDRY SERVICE

**Folders - - - - ?**  
YES . . . IN BLACK  
AND WHITE OR 4 COLOR PROCESS  
Three Detroit Salesmen . . . TR 5-2629 . . . Plant MI 6-2000  
The **AVERILL PRESS INC.** of Birmingham  
A COMPLETE PRINTING SERVICE—FROM TYPESetting to MAILING  
FORMERLY THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC PRINTING DEPARTMENT



**MORE HOT WATER WITH EDISON'S NEW ELECTRIC WATER HEATING SERVICE**  
Only electric water heaters give you all these important advantages:  
Plenty of hot water—24 hours a day.  
Safe—flameless.  
Install anywhere—no flame, no fumes.  
Long-lasting—meets Edison's rigid standards.  
Clean—no smoke, no soot.  
Outer shell—cool to the touch all over.  
Easy financing—up to 3 years to pay.  
Efficient—no heat wasted up a flue.

All this adds up to the best water heating service ever provided in Southeastern Michigan  
Ask your plumber or appliance dealer • **DETROIT EDISON**