

## Some Are Spared Disaster

No covering ever invented by man can stay the deluge of rain water that Nature now and then pours earthward . . . as witness the recent downpour in southeastern Michigan. Flood and fire are two disasters that wreak great havoc upon the lives and properties of many human beings.

Yet, it is revealed very often, that in these disasters countless numbers of people have been spared the loss of either life or property.

Do you believe in the existence of "poetic justice" in the influence of those eternal, inexorable laws that balance mankind's life upon the scales of "Law and Order"? . . . do the conditions place some "under the protection of His Almighty wing" . . . and as the Psalmist said: ". . . because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most high, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling".

## Filibustering In U.S. Senate

Echoes, this time of a forensic pattern, of the arguments that once set the north and the south of the U.S.A. against each other, are being heard in the U.S. Senate currently.

President Eisenhower and his supporters favor a civil rights bill that will guarantee southern Negroes the right to vote without maneuvering hindrance from the whites.

The southern Senators oppose this, fearful that some of their States and/or cities and villages may be "taken over" by the preponderant Negro vote.

So the Senators arrange and array themselves in verbal armor, and talk, talk, talk . . . otherwise, filibuster. Which

means the southern filibusters will extend their verbal assaults for hours, days, even weeks, hoping to get the northerners to agree to weakening amendments . . . so that Congress' remaining business may go on.

LOGICAL? DIGNIFIED? Exemplary to the citizenry-at-large? Well there are various opinions about answers to these questions. Yet it is in keeping with U.S. Senate traditions. Every Senator, to date, is granted unlimited time to present his thoughts, his full or empty words, under certain Senate rules. In this respect, they conform to the general pattern of stentorian, Old Faithful oracles.

## Governors Oppose Ike's Tax Plan

President Eisenhower's suggestion at the recent Governors' Conference, that they spearhead a movement to get the States to assume many responsibilities now centered at Washington, has not met with much applause.

Why? Simply because most Governors don't want to fasten higher State taxes on their citizens, even though the equivalent of those taxes are to be reduced from the federal "take".

To levy the taxes on a State level, you see, would bring direct criticism against the officials of the States, including each State's Governor.

Do you realize the political obstacles to Ike's suggestion? And this is so even though every dollar collected and spent

within a State would be a larger dollar than though it first went to Washington and part of it spent in maintaining the extravagance of a federal bureaucracy.

OF COURSE, IF ENOUGH CITIZENS in a State were acquainted with these facts, and then let their Governor and Legislators know how they feel on the subject, something might come from Ike's plan.

But we don't believe anything will come from the citizenry in the way of a demand for Ike's ideas. Thus does so-called self-government fail to find loyal support among those who are by surffiance the very victims of personal civic apathy.

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

When the Harry S. Truman Memorial Library was opened in Independence, Mo., a few days ago, many notables were present, including former President Herbert Hoover. In keeping with custom, the President of the United States is called upon to offer a few words on the Memorial program, either in person or via a high emissary. Well, Ike did send a few words by the custodian of U.S. property . . . none of them containing an eulogistic peroration of ex-President Truman. Ike has not forgotten those very unkind words Harry said about him during the 1952 Presidential campaign.

Imagine living in Los Angeles when that formerly fair city was free from its distressing smog . . . and now when it isn't. No doubt there are many of its citizens who long for a return to the days when Los Angeles was much smaller . . . much freer from those conditions which result in smog. After all, exactly what in the pattern of community happiness does bigness bring?

## So They Say . . .

"A week after their wedding they were throwing crockery at each other," said a landlady in court recently. It is not every couple that settles down to married life so quickly.—The Humorist.

People who insist on drinking before driving are putting the quart before the horse.—Jax Air News.

Long before the day of television, baseball entered the living room—but the window panes had to be reset.—Christian Science Monitor.

When opportunity knocks it only means the new electric chimes aren't working.—Wall Street Journal.



## NATURE NOW by Lydia King Freese Michigan Cherries Leads All States

If your vacation takes you into the region of Grand Traverse Bay, make it coincide with the cherry season. Michigan not only leads all states in cherry production, but the 145 million pounds which it produces represent half of the nation's crop.

Except for the accidental planting of a few cherry trees in the 1880's, this area might have shared the fate of other northern Michigan communities which were financially doomed at the end of the lumber era. Because soil and climate combine to favor this crop, cherry orchards now stretch along the Lake Michigan shoreline from Ludington to Charlevoix producing a million dollar agricultural industry.

TO THOUSANDS of summer visitors, the well-tended orchards hanging heavy with rich fruit spell summer in Northern Michigan. No other crop has brought us so much fame. These are the cherries which fill plates all over the country with the second most popular pie in America (apple leads).

Five counties bordering the Bay produce over half the cherries grown in Michigan. Peninsular township on Old Mission peninsula leads with 1,367 commercial orchards. These annually yield sixteen million pounds of fruit from 500,000 trees.

The red and tart Montmorency is our most widely grown sweet cherry. About seven million pounds are frozen and shipped to pie bakers all over the world. About 10% of the entire crop is retained as fresh fruit.

NO VACATION trade treat can rival the large sweet black cherry, many quarts of which are sold directly to tourists along the highway. The rest of the crop is canned or made into jam or maraschino cherries. The latter are picked slightly under-ripe and are artificially colored and flavored.

## 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  
July 19, 1907  
"The two little cupids holding the little Willie Bell in their arms are wearing veils of the finest mesh woven by the active spinners of the mill. The girls are picked slightly under-ripe and are artificially colored and flavored."

"The new model Irish lace dresses are quite delightful, especially those which have loose lace coats and skirts which fit lightly round the hips and flow outward at the feet. I prefer the loose coat and the thin blouse which is entirely made of lace, and more especially would I recommend this to the stout woman, for there is much reticence in the full loose coat which at once conceals the outlines and disguises its attempt. Lace is not as transparent in its method as in its outward seeming."

"Thursday evening another step was taken in the right direction when the Village Council unanimously accepted the deed for the library property in behalf of the Willie Bell in the park. A trustee to receive the assignment of the mortgage held by Mill Baldwin and see that the conditions of the gift are fully carried out. The matter has been placed in excellent hands and a short time hence the people will wonder how they ever got along without a public library."

30 YEARS AGO  
July 21, 1927  
"Three building permits totaling \$15,000 have been filed at the village office in the past week. The largest one was filed by Roy McBride last Friday for a residence costing \$7,000 to be built on Henna street."

"While the deputation from the National Women's Party was visiting President Coolidge at the summer White House in the Black Hills last Friday, the Michigan Branch of the party, which includes several Birmingham members, along with the other state branches was sending telegrams to the President asking him to use his power to secure the passage of the equal rights amendment which would insure to the women of the United States equal rights as they have always had equal responsibility."

"Passenger airplanes, so novel in the United States, had been established in Europe and the airplane passage from Paris to London, as described by Mrs. Charles Stain this week upon her return from Europe, is a fairly uneventful affair, except for its novelty to tourists."

15 YEARS AGO  
July 16, 1942  
"Stamp number 7 in the war ration book has been declined. The ration board in the purchase of two pounds of sugar anytime between now and Aug. 22, the ration board at Pontiac revealed this week."

"Capt. John B. Schoenfeld, former physician in Birmingham and at Cranbrook school, and Capt. John B. Hollister, Birmingham dentist, left their homes and families this week for Army service going to Fort Cavazos with the Harper hospital unit."

"Seven per cent \$5 costs for blackout violations when they appeared before Justice Forbes S. Stussell last Thursday. Sentences of 60 days in jail were suspended."

## ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

A considerable number of Birmingham's citizens are alarmed over this year's increase in the fee for the recreation board's summer swimming program at two school pools.

Last year it cost only 15 cents for a 30-minute period—half instruction, half free swimming. This year the cost has climbed to 35 cents for 20 minutes of instruction, an equal time for swimming.

At each pool, these periods add up to a weekly total of 20 hours. If a youngster just wants to swim, or get wet because it's hot, he has only 7½ hours a week. And three of these must be in the evening and only if his parents are along.

What with all this instruction, some of these summers the recreation board is going to find that everyone knows how to swim, but they just want more time to do it.

Meanwhile, when it gets hot at the wrong time of day, the backyard plastic pool is the community's kiddie cooler.

When we're leaving a job, we hope we're leaving a vacancy.

Michigan's new state highway commissioner John C. Mackie and the people of Taylor township have discovered that former highway commissioner Charles M. Ziegler didn't always let on what his department was doing.

Birmingham area residents have suspected this for quite some time.

In attempting to learn more about proposed freeway locations through South-

field and Bloomfield townships, the Birmingham Electric and other interested parties obtained conflicting stories whenever they spoke to Lansing.

ONE HIGHWAY OFFICIAL would make a statement, only to have some days later another department official give another version. Even Commissioner Ziegler contradicted himself on several important occasions.

This week Commissioner Mackie himself was at a loss to explain how a freeway location was decided upon from Sibley road north to the Willow Run expressway.

"The previous highway department administration had given the public and myself the impression no final route agreement had been reached on (that) location," Mackie informed the newspapers.

HE THEN TOLD HOW he came across a letter in highway department files showing that the location had been submitted Aug. 22, 1956, to Washington for approval, and had received approval March 1, 1957.

"For some reason, no public announcement of this approval or the application for approval was made," this new commissioner commented. This seems to confirm the fact that Ziegler and his group had no coordination between their hands and their mouths when it came to many important matters of public interest.

We trust that Mr. Mackie's comments imply that nothing of the kind will happen in his administration.

## Two Army Privates Complete Training Named to Society

Two Army privates from Birmingham, have completed eight weeks of basic combat training with the 4th Armored Division at Fort Hood, Tex.

Richard P. Sutkin, son of the Murray J. Sutkins of Charrington, is a 1957 graduate of Wayne University and a former agent with Murray J. Sutkin & Co.

Ronald W. McCumb, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McCumb, live at 1585 Holland, is a 1956 graduate of Birmingham high school and a former employee of Arno Bros.

To buy or sell a used automobile, read and use Eccentric Classified Ads.

LATHRUP—Edwin R. Chaufy of Lathrup Village has been named to membership in the Society of Golden Eagles of the Ferris Institute Alumni Association. The society is an honorary group of former Ferris students for whom 50 years have passed since they last attended the college. Edwin was in the class of 1905.

On December 27, 1776, George Washington was made dictator of the United States—the only one we have ever had.

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Ticklers By George

"Leave him be! He only wants to watch you snore!"