

CLASSIFIED ADS

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96 Painting and Decorating... THOMAS SHEA... 97 Garden and Yard Service... FAY'S PATIO... 98 Roofing-Tinmith... GAULT SHEET METAL... 99 Trucking-Hauling... LIGHT HAULING... 100 Heating-Air Condition-Plumbing... 101 Radio-Hi-Fi-TV Service... 105 Upholstering-Slip Covers-Draperies-Repairs... LANDSCAPE AND MAINTENANCE... DON HOLLIS... LLOYDS DIRT SERVICE... TRACTOR WORK, PLOWING, DISCHING... A-1 MERION SOD... ROTULLING... RENTAL & SALES... MICHIGAN FIRST AID... HOLLYWOOD ADJUSTABLE WALKER

Taxes Take 39% of Average Local Income

NEW YORK, Sept. 4—If the average Birmingham taxpayer should discover how much he really pays each year to tax collectors who nibble at his wallet, he would be astounded. He would find that his income and property taxes are only part of what he contributes as his share of the cost of Federal, State and local government. The rest of it is in indirect taxes, hidden in the price he pays for nearly everything he buys.

For the average Birmingham taxpayer, it adds up to a surprising \$490 a year. Such is the total, based on a study made by the Tax Foundation, the non-profit organization that keeps tabs on indirect taxes at all levels of government. It covers 1956.

THE HIDDEN TAXES are not the familiar luxury and excise taxes. They are the additional three cents on pack of cigarettes, passed on to the consumer by the manufacturer and the distributor, who had to pay them in the form of transportation taxes, gasoline taxes, license fees, inspection fees and the like.

They are the five percent tacked on to the cost of a refrigerator, added to the sales price because the manufacturer was assessed that amount in selling it to the retailer.

They are the 20 percent of the cost of food and the \$800 on a \$3,000 car, although the buyer thinks it is only half that much.

THE AVERAGE Birmingham taxpayer, a married man with two dependents, had a gross income last year of \$12,720 and a net, after income taxes, of \$9,980. From his net income must be deducted what he pays for the cost of the many numerous hidden taxes contained in nearly everything he buys.

The average taxpayer who earns \$12,720 per year, he must add this estimated hidden tax total of \$2,200 to his \$2,740 income tax payment, or a total of \$4,940, which is his family's annual "tax take" by agencies of government. The Tax Foundation finds that a \$3,500 family pays \$772 in Federal and local taxes, a total of \$1,043. This includes hidden taxes.

THE \$4,500 FAMILY pays \$1,068 to the Government and \$357 in State and local taxes, or \$1,425 in all. The \$7,500 family pays \$1,964 to Uncle Sam and \$673 in other taxes, a total of \$2,637. The \$15,000 family pays \$4,578 in Federal and \$1,579 in State and local taxes, or \$6,157 in all. Applying the findings to Birmingham, where the gross income in the past year was \$95,300,000, an estimated \$37,200,000 was exacted by tax collectors along a \$3,500 family pays \$772 in Federal and local taxes, a total of \$1,043. This includes hidden taxes.

THE TALL ENGINEER estimates his shortwave equipment cost about \$3,000. He economized on his hobby, though, by building the set himself. Some hams spend \$5,000 and more for their sets, Burnett said.

Besides talking to other hams and GIs around the world, these shortswave enthusiasts sometimes contact Air Force planes on long-range flights around the globe. The hook-ups are made in cooperation with the Air Force, whose long-range flights might use the hams for contact in a national emergency.

Meanwhile, Burnett will go on collecting the cards he exchanges with hams all over the top for airmen, who he has talked. Soon he should be receiving a card marked "Major J. S. Army, from the best looking guy in Little America."

Dislocated Knee Susan McCulloch, 14, of 1592 S. Bates, Birmingham, was rushed by ambulance to William Beaumont hospital Tuesday evening, suffering from a dislocated knee. A hospital spokesman said the girl was discharged after treatment.

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maple telegraph near mccllland & son open sat until 200 Medical Mirror WHAT DOCTORS SAY ABOUT: • Astigmatism • Bright's Disease Q. What do doctors mean when they say you have astigmatism? A. Astigmatism (pronounced as-tig-ma-tis-m) is a faulty vision caused by the lens of the eye being more curved in one direction than another. Some people have lenses that are as perfectly shaped as the lens of a camera. They can see or focus on all parts of a flat surface clearly. But the eye lens of most of us are not so perfectly formed. Doctors have much better ways of testing your eyes than by making, but for fun, try this. Take your glasses off, if you wear them, and look at a circular figure. Move the paper in different directions and you'll see some parts of the lines clearly but other parts are out of focus. Astigmatism is not a disease. Many people have the condition to some degree. If it is enough to cause eyestrain and headaches, your doctor will prescribe corrective glasses.

Bright's disease was common years ago but seldom heard of now. Why? A. Bright's disease is still with us but doctors now use terms patient that have more exact meaning. In 1827, Dr. Richard Bright described a group of kidney diseases which "terminated in dropsy." Dropsy, another word seldom used today, means the accumulation of watery fluid in body tissues and cavities causing swelling. For many years every sort of urinary disorder was called "Bright's disease." It is no longer true that the kidneys can be affected in many ways so the general term "Bright's disease" isn't used very often. Material in MEDICAL MIRROR is based on various scientific publications and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of all doctors. The diagnosis and treatment of disease requires the skill and knowledge of a physician who can apply it personally attending the patient.

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