

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eclectic

54 YEARS AGO

December 4, 1909
"There is a good fire, a rocking chair and any number of late magazines at the library. It is warm, cozy and comfortable."

"Robert Hanna's family moved into their new home on Ann street Friday. They have a very nice house of cement blocks, heated with the hot water system. The lower

floor is finished in oak complete. The bathroom is furnished with hot and cold water and a tile floor which makes it a very pretty room. The whole house is wired for electricity."

30 YEARS AGO
November 29, 1928
"The other day a certain young man came from the recently opened Birmingham school of childhood

Page PHAM ECCENTRIC
4-B Thursday, December 4, 1928
and announced in an excited manner: "We have a new victrola at school and we say grace."

"Even our bewhiskered friend from the north pole must feel the high cost of living. In the still quiet hours of the evening when at this season of the year mothers go about with shopping lists one villager was seen to point in a window and remark: "There, that's the train I was telling you about. Five bucks for that."

15 YEARS AGO
December 2, 1913
"God Save the Mark! The Lions' club of Birmingham officially announces that its favorite song is "Pistol Packin' Mama."

"Pfc. James Alta, who is now stationed at Lowry Field, Colo., would like to know who carved Birmingham, Mich., on the draft board he is using at Lowry now? The least they could do is put their name down too! That's the kind of thing that causes a man sleepless nights."

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Cleaning and Pressing
Cash and Carry
Suits—Top Coats—
Plain Dresses— \$1.70
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NATURE NOW

By Lydia King Fehse
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

Soil Means Life To World Today

Harvest time as we experience it today in our western hemisphere is more than an array of tempting and colorful fruits and vegetables in market place or highway stand.

Its opulence is more than overflowing; grain bins or long lines of loaded trucks and railway cars. It also marks our present place in the long development of agriculture which we may define as man's care and use of the soil he tills.

When he had killed the animals and eaten the plants in one vicinity, he moved to another more promising site. If the season was unfavorable, he starved. In time he learned that there could be no sure and permanent life for him until he settled in one place and learned to control his products for his own use.

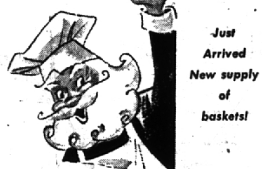
LOOKING back through the dim corridors of time, we see man as a nomadic savage, his life dependent upon such wild fruits, tubers, nuts and grains as he could gather in his immediate surroundings. He had no tools. He could force only within that circle defined by the distance which his two legs could carry him.

BUT there is scant space here to trace primitive man's conquest of the soil through stone and metal ages to today's pattern of mechanized agriculture. As a crooked stick became a steel blade drawn by a gasoline tractor, as a hand sieve tumbled in the wind became a combine, man gradually improved his methods of nurturing and harvesting those products which satisfy mankind.

Christmas Treats

for your Holiday Table!

Christmas
BEEF
Fancy
POULTRY
Christmas
HAMS



Just
Arrived
New supply
of
baskets!



OLSEN'S
MARKET
West Brown at Cheater
WE DELIVER
MI 4-1916
Closed Sun.—Ample Parking

ONE of man's early homes was within the rich valley of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Here the long season, the deep soil, the abundant water contributed to make a great center of civilization. Many of our present day vegetables and fruits were developed from wild strains found growing in this area and along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

As agriculture grew, it was not necessary for all the people to cultivate soil and tend livestock. The strong and the warlike became soldiers, the creative worked in the arts. Cities were established and man prospered on the lands of the eastern hemisphere. Settlements in villages and farms in China and Egypt and in southern Europe began to exchange products and the system of trade was born. But as now, all were fed by the farmer.

IN the middle ages, agriculture centered on the European estate, one of the great feudal lords. Here, because of the abundance of the land, was first practiced the rotation of crops.

When explorers discovered the richness of the Americas the Indian Incas and Aztecs were already successful farmers growing potatoes, corn and many other vegetables. The ruins of a crude system of irrigation unearthed in the northwest bear mute testimony to their ingenuity.

IN North America our pioneer forefathers found a stand of hardwood forests which reached like a green tide from the eastern seaboard to the central plains. They cut and burned the trees the better to cultivate the rich soil.

As the more adventuresome turned westward, they plowed up the deep prairie soil to make the new lands a grainery which yet feeds us well and keeps hunger at bay in many denuded areas of the world.

IN time all peoples found that the soil was not a free gift, and that civilizations waxed and waned in proportion to the care it received. During a recent trip to the middle east, we saw the poverty which is the result of centuries of man's misuse of the land.

At the same time we saw what miracles are being accomplished in such countries as Israel and Egypt by the introduction of modern farming techniques plus irrigation and expert adaptation of plant strains to soil, climate and the food needs of the people.

IN the United States 11 per cent of labor now produces what

LEGAL NOTICES
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, MICH.
Sealed proposals endorsed "Gasoline", for the furnishing of approximately \$6,000 gallons of gasoline for the period January 1, 1940 to June 30, 1940, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent in the Municipal Building, 151 Martin Street, Birmingham, Michigan, until 2:00 P.M., Dec. 16, 1939. After which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Specifications for the above may be obtained at the office of the Purchasing Agent. All proposals shall specify terms.

The City Commission reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any informality in the proposals received, and to accept the proposal which it shall deem to be most favorable to the interests of the City.

F. C. BRIEN, Purchasing Agent, Dept. of Public Works, 151 Martin Street, Birmingham.

STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, at a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 24th day of November, A. D. 1939.

Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate. In the Matter of the Estate of G. REA HUNTER, also known as GARNETT E. HUNTER, deceased. Laura V. Hunter having filed a petition praying that said instrument filed by her and instant said said document, and that administration of said estate be granted to the petitioner, the executor named in said Will, or to some other suitable person and for determination of the legal heirs of said deceased.

It is Ordered, That public notice of this petition be given by publication of a copy hereof, once each week for three successive weeks, previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eclectic, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County, and that proper copies of this notice be served personally or by registered mail, return receipt demanded, to each of the known heirs at law, legatees and devisees of their last known place of address at least ten days prior to said day of hearing.

ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate.

formerly demanded the efforts of 85 per cent. We are also fortunate in having a potential of yet surplus crops! If we are to continue doing our part toward feeding the hungry of the world plus our own population which will reach an estimated 200 million by 1970.



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for HIM

Hand Warmers \$3.95 to \$4.95

Soldering Gun; precision built; instant heat. \$5.95 & \$7.95

Torch Kits. A useful year 'round tool. \$5.69 - \$8.88 - \$9.95

Power Drill of Nationally Known Make. 1/2" Capacity Regular \$15.95

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Automatic Combination Push Drill and Screwdriver, complete with five bits, only \$4.98

Hi-Jac Coasters in choice of 8 colors. 98c

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Beacon Beanie New! 98c

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SPRING BY DENBY

A brand new graceful pattern with Spring Green, Forest Green and Dawn Grey leaves on Purest White. Made of finest stoneware and imported from England, SPRING by Denby is entirely detergent proof and can safely be washed in automatic dishwashers. Ovenproof... Strong... Chip Resistant... At home in modern or traditional surroundings... Your friends will compliment your good taste.

16 piece starter set 18.95

Includes 4 cups and saucers, 4 dinner plates and 4 bread and butter plates

regular open stock value 25.60

Additional serving pieces available in open stock

PONTIAC POTTERY

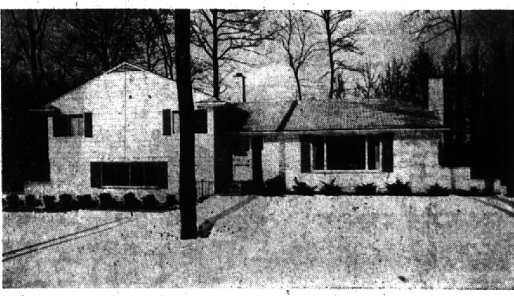
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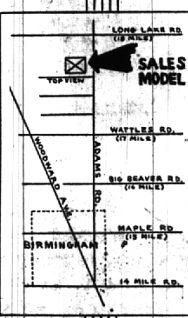


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