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He Will Always Remember This:

When Jap Planes Sank Ship, He Swam

By SUE GREENLEAF

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have to swim through shark infested water for five miles? That is one of the most unforgettable days in the life of Mr. T. G. Pasfield of Wing Lake Rd., Franklin, owner of Barden's Optical Co., East Detroit.

During World War II, ten ships (two were transporting high octane gasoline and ammunition) left for the island of Mindora in the Philippines to set up an airfield. Before they left they were told that 20 per cent of them wouldn't return. There were about 150 aviators and ground crew and about 130 troops on board the LST 738, the ship on which Mr. Pasfield was aboard.

ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 15, 1944, seven Japanese suicide planes were sighted coming off the starboard quarter. One crashed into the ship, splitting it in two. That started a fire. Mr. Pasfield and four others started to put out the fire in the front of the ship—all they saw were flames and smoke.

While they were doing this, the remaining 60 passengers and the surviving crew of about 120 men left the ship in life boats. Eventually the flames ignited the gas, causing explosions.

Then Mr. Pasfield, after the rest were off the ship,

jumped into the water. They couldn't wear life jackets because the explosions were sending shattered pieces of steel into the air, and when they came down, the men had to go under the water so they wouldn't get hurt.

AFTER MANY EXPLOSIONS, the ship sank. Mr. Pasfield and the other four men had to swim five miles to reach shore. It wasn't the five-mile swim that frightened them, but the fact that the water was infested with sharks and deadly coral snakes.

After an hour and 20 minutes of swimming, they were picked up by a PT boat. Of the ten ships that sailed, the two loaded with fuel and ammunition were sunk.

That goes to show what an excellent spy system the Japanese had. They knew which ships were carrying this valuable cargo. An airfield without fuel and ammunition is in a pretty sad situation. It took the Japs 14 planes, 7 for each ship, to sink them, however.

About 90 men died, and practically everyone else was wounded. This episode put these survivors in a rest camp for 60 days.

Although Mr. Pasfield made no mention of it, I noticed, in going through some of his mementos regarding this mission, that a citation for bravery was given to him by then Secretary of the U. S. Navy Admiral Forrestal.

Instrumentals Are Top Sellers In Record Marts

By LES CARTER

The year 1958 has brought a new trend to the record world. Instrumentals have suddenly become the top sellers.

Unlike last year, when only "Around the World" and "So Rare" were even in the top fifty, so far this year such records as "Baun-chy," "Tequila," "Muskeeta," "Little Pixie," "El Rancho Rock," "Windy" and "Let's Rouser" have soared high in the charts.

The record probably most responsible for this change was "Baun-chy," which came out in late '57 and continued in popularity this year.

Small record companies have all taken over the ten record business. Today it is very seldom that RCA Victor, Decca or Mercury have big selling hits. Many of the small labels, however, have only one hit before they go bankrupt.

Also, many of these companies are made by one singer and last only as long as their top singer. The best examples of small recording companies being lifted by a star are Dot record company with Pat Boone, Sun with Jerry Lee Lewis, Chess with Chuck Berry, and Imperial with Ricky Nelson.

In my opinion, "Poor Little Fool" is one of Ricky Nelson's best sounds, while Elvis' latest, "Hard Headed Woman," is his worst, and I see no chance of its becoming a hit. "Little Star" could go all the way.

Yours Truly, By Joyce Kettler

When one speaks of the landmarks of Birmingham, one must remember the Norway Spruce in the center of Shain Park, between the city hall and public library.

The city forester's office estimates the tree's age at over 100 years. An aerial photo taken in 1926, two years before the park opened, shows the tree, 9 feet high and 3 garages. Therefore, it wasn't planted in the park. The park was planned around it.

The tree has played quite a part in community activities. It can be seen skimming brilliantly in its Christmas lights in December, and has been the center of many rallies. Also, more recently, it was one of the focal points at the Art Festival.

But, during the week of July 6 to 12, the tree is to be cut down to make way for the re-landscaping of Shain park.

THE WALKS will be taken out because they are too low and are often submerged by water or covered with ice. The old and overgrown shrubs will have to go. The United Nations tree in the north-east section of the park, dedicated 2 years ago, will remain, along with the Ginkgo tree and the new Norway spruce recently dedicated (See YOURS TRULY, Page 7-C)

Kathy's Korner By Kathy Koenig

THE MAGIC BED KNOB has put Mary Norton on a level equal to that of such well-known and well-loved authors as Pamela, Travers and Kenneth Grahame; and the illustrations very well done by Waldo Ecker, help you to know the characters better.

Charon, Carrie and Paul are staying with a very old and not very entertaining aunt. They are unhappy with the visit until they meet Miss Price, who is studying very, very hard and a little unsuccessfully, to be a witch.

Miss Price wanted to be a wicked witch, but she failed because she was too kind hearted. Several times at night, Paul saw her trying to ride her broomstick.

ONE TIME she fell off and sprained her ankle. The next morning the three children found her and took her home.

Miss Price is very proud of being a witch, but, of course, she doesn't want anyone to know it. (See KATHY'S Korner, Page 7-C)

PAGE 6-C THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC JULY 10, 1958

FOR AND ABOUT TODAY'S YOUTH

MARTHA V. HURD, TODAY'S YOUTH EDITOR

If You Entered My Field: Match House, Family And You Make a Sale

By JILL SHALLCROSS

To gain information about the field of realty, I have talked to members of the staff of Snyder, Kinney and Bennett in Birmingham. These people kindly gave me their views and opinions about their own job and these ideas I have summarized in this article.

Almost all of us, at one time or another, have been in on the purchasing of a house or some other piece of real estate. And I'm sure agency had a great deal to do with

whether or not you bought. For example, if the realtor tends to gloss over all the weak points of a house, the prospective buyer naturally becomes distrustful and over-cautious and a sale is hard to make.

Thus, as in any other occupation, a would-be realtor must examine himself in the light of native qualities and characteristics.

PRIMARYLY, a realtor must like people and have a sincere interest in them. A good realtor can put himself into the shoes of his clients, anticipating their likes and dislikes and being instinctively able to choose a house the particular customer will respond to.

Also, a realtor must have a great deal of patience. When buying their future home, people are naturally cautious and, in some cases, hard to please.

If he has a sale all lined up and the people decide not to buy, the realtor must accept this defeat philosophically and without discouragement and then go on to find a home his customers will like better.

THE JOB OFFERS fine opportunities for gaining knowledge of all kinds of people, but the would-be realtor must be eager to meet people and ready to understand them.

There are several good angles from which to approach specific training in real estate work. Universities offer courses in the intricate field of real estate law.

For students in the Detroit area, courses in real estate law and also extension courses in appraising are given at the Horace H. Rackham building. All these courses are extremely helpful in giving a better grasp of the field.

THE MOST important thing in real estate is a complete knowledge of the houses you hope to sell and the willingness to impart this knowledge honestly to your customers.

It is important to go to every inspection and ask all the questions you can think of.

Only then will you be qualified to answer confidently the myriad questions of your customers. Moreover, it is essential to be honest with the buyer as to whether or not the house is a good value.

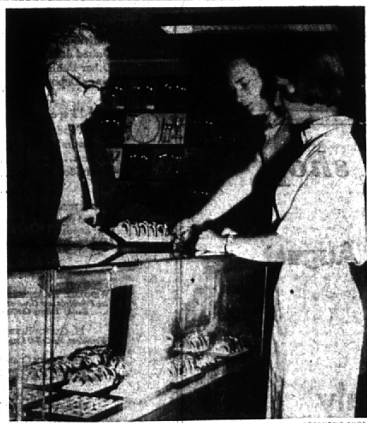
It may cost you the sale of that particular house, but in the long run it will earn you the reputation of reliability and integrity essential for someone in your field.

Birmingham's Top Ten

Compiled Weekly from Sales of Birmingham's Three Leading Record Shops
Reported by Les Carter, B'ham High School Sophomore

Week's This	Rating	Rank	Artist
1	1	1	Splish Splash Bobby Darin
2	2	2	Willie and the Hand Jive Johnny Otis
3	3	3	Rebel Rouser Duane Eddy
4	4	4	Secretly Jimmie Rodgers
5	5	5	When Katin Twins
6	6	6	High School Confidential Jerry Lee Lewis
7	7	7	My True Love Jack Scott
8	8	8	I Wonder Why Dion and the Belmonts
9	9	9	I'm Sorry Royal Holiday
10	10	10	Got a Match Daddy-O

Top Ten in Detroit	New Releases
1 Splish Splash	(Rated A, B, C, or D according to hit potential and past recordings)
2 Secretly	1. Poor Little Fool—Ricky Nelson—A
3 When	2. Kathy—O—Diamonds—C
4 Rebel Rouser	3. You're Making a Mistake—Platters—B
5 Willie and the Hand Jive	Album of the Week
6 Got a Match	Name: S'Awful Nice
7 Purple People Eater	Artist: Ray Conniff
8 Honolulu	Type: Dance Music
9 My True Love	
10 Fever	



Summer Helpers
Lloyd Lake, proprietor of Lake Jewelers, briefs Carolyn Batey and Jim Lewis on the features of a tray of new watches. Carolyn and Jim, both Birmingham high school seniors, are spending the summer working as sales help for the firm.

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