

Our Postoffice to be Expanded

It takes a long, long time, and plenty of effort, to obtain physical additions and improvements to a community's U. S. Postoffice. So the news that Birmingham's postal service will be augmented with a new parcel post annex building, to be located in Birmingham's southern area, is good.

Postmaster Rollie Reese, aided by a few others, deserves much appreciation for his labors to obtain this annex. Birmingham's postoffice serves an area far beyond this city's boundaries. It handles much more than the average quantity of mail, due to the above-average income of many citizens it serves.

FOR EXAMPLE, the number of various

magazines subscribed to by our people makes a once-a-month mail delivery tremendous. At Christmas time, too, the people send and receive mountains of gift packages.

In brief, the unprecedented population growth of this area has created the need for expansion, both in physical property and employees, of the Birmingham postoffice.

To be sure, as we stated in the first sentence of this editorial, it takes time to get Washington, D.C.'s approval for better postal facilities.

Perhaps this is to be expected—human nature being what it is, and there being hundreds of other communities all demanding that Uncle Sam respond to their actual or fancied needs.

Where Are Today's Real Patriots?

Washington's FAREWELL ADDRESS is universally recognized as the wisest advice ever given to a nation. Its purity of purpose, loftiness of tone and wide grasp of every essential has never been equaled.

Worn out by years of struggle to make freedom a reality, and with only three years left of life, the solicitude of this old patriot for his country grips the heart.

As Lincoln said: "To add brightness to the sun, or glory to the name of Washington is alike impossible. Let none attempt it. In solemn awe pronounce the name, and in its naked, deathless splendor, leave it shining on."

Everything wrong in public life today, including the frightful mess we are in, is largely because a thoughtless people stopped reading Washington's FAREWELL ADDRESS 40 years ago.

IN ONLY ONE RESPECT did Washington fail to foresee the course of events, that is, the growth of party government, and its potential usefulness as a check on the abuses or failures of any Administration in power.

But he was right in speaking of "the baneful effects of the spirit of party," and to urge "vigilance to prevent its (partisanship) bursting into flame."

Today, facing the greatest crisis since Washington's death, we see politicians of

both parties blaming the crisis on the other party, in order to win an election, rather than all uniting to solve the crisis in order to save their country.

Where are today's real patriots?

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Experts on the nation's farm problems tell us that during the past 10 years over a million Americans have given up farming. They are composed mostly of the small subsistence farmer, who cannot stand up against the large, mechanized, commercial farmers who raise food in volume for a profit. Thus the ex-farmer gravitates to industry, unless he is above the laborer classification and wants to get into a business of his own. Yet such a transition is not easy, and many go broke in the attempt. In spite of the removal of a million farmers from the land, surplus crops continue to be an economic problem, as was expected. Both major political parties have wrestled with this subject for years, but have not solved the problem.

It is believed that women find it much easier to "altar" the opinions of men, than men can of women.



ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Today we men are talking about the launching of Sputnik III in Russia.

But the women are talking about a luncheon that happened in Abilene, Texas.

Here's why the hands that rock the cradles are applauding this news from that town in Texas:

A Dr. John P. Gibson seems to have come up with the important fact that whether it's hot or whether it's cold, it makes no difference to a baby—it just wants its bottle of milk.

IMAGINE WHAT THAT MEANS to Mom? She doesn't have to heat up Junior's formula. Especially at the 10, 2 and 6 nighttime feedings will this be welcome.

Dr. Gibson tested 150 infants for seven months. In the "Journal of Pediatrics," he reports not even one youngster showed a downward deviation from normal. In fact, he said seven showed improvement after being taken off warm formula.

HE SAID 89 PER CENT of the infants averaged less than a week to make the change to the unwarmed formula. "Unwarmed" means both cool (room temperature) or cold (right out of the refrigerator).

Mothers were "enthusiastic" about this easier way to feed their babies.

Is it any wonder? Mothers prepare about 1,400 bottles of formula in the baby's first eight months.

Now if some medical team will only come up with proof that adults can exist equally as well—maybe even better—on cold foods, why, Mom will think of her kitchen as a pal instead of a pest!

Since the United Nations' founding, Russia's been having a nay-one time at the meetings.

Four out of five Birmingham city commission meetings are so routine that they contain little color for the regular visitor.

So he often finds his attention wandering to little things to relieve the monotony.

FOR INSTANCE, DID YOU KNOW that of our top nine city officials, five of them do not smoke?

They are Commissioners Florence Willett, Charles Renfrew, William Hutchinson, Jack O'Gorman, and Asst. City Manager Robert S. Kenning.

Mayor Carl F. Ingraham smokes a pipe. Commissioner Harry M. Denyes uses cigarettes. Commissioner William Roberts rarely smokes. When he does, he has to bump one from a nearby cigarette user. City Manager L. R. Gare sticks to cigarettes.

Not much of a smoke-filled room when these nine get together!

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Cleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—
The Items That Make Up The Historical Background
Of The Birmingham Of Today.

30 YEARS AGO
May 22, 1908

"The junior class of the Birmingham High School will hold their junior exercises in the Methodist Episcopal church on the evening of May 28. The present junior class is the largest that the high school has had for several years. There are 21 who have carried on the work successfully."

"The heavy rainfall is preventing the planting of sugar beet seed and may have a serious effect on the crop."

"Grand Rapids Park Commissioner Barlow denied the use of a public park there for a Socialist meeting."

30 YEARS AGO
May 24, 1928

"With clean up week about to close, James Parry, village manager, announces that hereafter there will be no annual cleanup but one day each week will be set aside for collection of rubbish."

"Plans are being completed today by the Rev. David Leon Woodward, pastor of the First Baptist Church here, for the cornerstones laying for the new church at Willets and Bates streets."

"The summer policy at the Birmingham theater is under way to-

day, according to announcement by Russell Chapman, manager. This has brought about a reduction of prices and discontinuance of vaudeville. The vaudeville showings are expected to be started again in the winter because of their popularity during the past season, Chapman said."

15 YEARS AGO
May 20, 1913

"The High Twelve Club is now Birmingham's largest service club with a membership nearing the club's 70 limit and attendance averaging between 45 and 50."

"Mrs. Guy W. Jensen was elected president of the MOMS Club at their election of officers held Thursday."

"Leading their closest challenger by 20 points, Birmingham's cinder team swept the 17th annual track meet last Saturday at Ypsilanti."

"The beating of precious metals into the form of leaf is an art dating back into antiquity but only recently has it been possible to secure palladium, one of the platinum group metals, in this form—a leaf less than one-two hundred-thousandth of an inch thick. This material is employed for decorating fine books, leather, picture frames, and for interior decoration where a white, non-laminating finish is desired."

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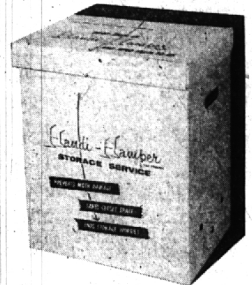
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He's Like Postman Going for a Walk



ECCENTRIC PHOTO

By JULIE CANDLER

After teaching French all year Mr. George A. Cooch (left) is going on a vacation to Paris.

To see the sights? No. To study French.

The well-liked Birmingham high school teacher will drop the French books long enough to visit Hely Heldenstein. Just the other day he got Hely's address from BHS senior Sarah Blum, with whom the APS exchange student from Luxembourg lived last year.

Mr. Cooch will also take in the world's fair in Brussels, and sneak over to England for a few days.

BUT MAINLY, he's going to study, from the moment he boards the SS United States with 24 other teachers who won scholarships on the program. The scholarship, a real honor, was awarded to him by the French-American cultural services in New York.

There'll be classes on the boat. When he gets to Paris and the Alliance Francaise, a private school now connected with the University of Paris, Mr. Cooch begins more classes.

The 32-year-old teacher will be studying French conversation, French culture, and French history.

Suburban Sentiment

ON MOTIVATION RESEARCH

Subconscious invaders
And hidden persuaders
Appeals to the instincts and such.
Really can't brainwash me much.
I'll tell you why—
I'm too broke to buy!

—Jean Payne