

Should Be All Right Now



More About Youth Auto Drivers

In our Sept. 25 issue we published an editorial captioned: "Under-age Youths: Don't Drive!" Unfortunately, we left out a certain line set forth in the State law covering the subject, so we herewith re-print the qualifications in full—the left-hand line we are printing in bold face type: "Many of these youths are too young to obtain a license. The law now provides that a person must be at least 18 years of age before he can apply for a license to operate a motor vehicle, provided he has not taken an approved driver training course, as taught in the public schools. "If he has completed this course he can obtain a regular driver's license at the age of 16. If he has completed the driving course before his 16th birthday and successfully passed the written test and road test, at the police station, his driving cer-

tificate will be signed by the license examiner and he can then drive with a licensed parent or guardian in the car.

"THE LAW ALSO provides that every person must be at least 14 years of age to obtain an operator's license for a motor-scooter or motor bicycle of five horsepower or less. We have found cases where parents have permitted their youngsters who were only 13 years old to own and operate these vehicles.

"Some parents also are building small cars and permitting 10 and 12-year-olds to drive them on the streets and sidewalks. Every motor vehicle must be licensed to operate on the street and these small vehicles do not possess the safety equipment to qualify for a license plate."

Where The Navy's Good Manners

Most Americans presume that the graduates of West Point and Annapolis, respectively our army and navy educational institutions, are taught subjects other than the hard facts of military maneuvers.

It is presumed that they receive much tutoring in the art of being gentlemen, of being aware of fine and decent human characteristics, and of the virtue of using them whenever and wherever necessary.

Which prompts us to ask: "Why did the U. S. Navy brass fail to include Rear Admiral Hymen Rickover when it recently held a White House ceremony praising the atom-powered submarine Nautilus for making a long trip beneath the polar ice cap?"

RICKOVER IS admitted to be the pioneer military man in the conception and building of atom-powered submarines. Certainly every bit of polished Navy brass knew and knows this. Yet in inviting important people to the White House affair, Rickover was overlooked.

Since then, of course, Congress has voted to give the Rear Admiral a gold medal. President Ike also made him his official personal representative to greet the Nauticus in New York upon its return from England.

The Secretary of the Navy also has admitted that, in error, Rickover was overlooked for the White House ceremony.

IT NOW APPEARS that the Navy will add another star to Rickover's shoulder boards, making him a Vice-Admiral, and thus preventing him from retiring.

... getting back to Annapolis, and its program to turn out "gentlemen" ... well, where were such nice people when Rickover was "snubbed"? We hear and read much about inability of the military services to get along together. How can they, if the Rickover affair could be spawned within a single service? It's just like the case of the late Billy Mitchell, who was court-martialed because he advocated a stronger air force.

NATURE NOW

by Lydia King Frehee
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

It's Binakwigisiss Through October

When Indian tribes roamed over Michigan's North country they used an expressive name for October. They called it "Binakwigisiss", the Moon of Falling Leaves.

Today in such former Indian strongholds as Cross Village, a few of their races remain. But on a day in mid-summer, remnants of tribes from all over the state gather to relive their ancient ceremonial songs and dances.

Now, in northern marshes, the wild rice yellows and bends to the autumn breeze. But no birch bark canoe moves silently along the water's edge while the squaws fill their woven baskets with food for the long winter. Most of the wild grain is now harvested by machine and stands boxed on your supermarket shelves at a price which is in keeping with its limited supply.

But the leaves fall as they fell on the forest paths of the Chippewa, Potawatomi and Iroquois; yellow of beech and poplar, red and purple of oak, scarlet of sugar maple and wood. The colors are the colors of the fall. The colors of the fall. The colors of the fall.

Mrs. Frehee

reaching a climax in the Smokies. At the same time, it extends to the Missouri and Arkansas Ozarks where sweet gum, sassafras, tupelo and scarlet oak are at their best.

Snow flurries fall softly on the North country while the yellow of aspen yet decorates the most southern valleys of the Rockies, and red maples spread their flame over Tyler park in Texas.

Early September and early October bring the peak of bird migration. Our garden has been a stop-over and feeding station for such warblers as the redbstart, myrtle, black-throated green, chestnut-sided and magnolia. And entertained the grey-cheeked thrush and the yellow-throated vireo. One day a flock of kinglets made a mad entrance while displaying their tiny beaks on our shrubs.

THE PRESS recently reported the collision of an airliner with a flock of some 100 seagulls. So great was the impact of these living birds that the strong metal of the fuselage was dented and damaged. Do not underestimate the power of a sea bird's wings.

Many of our interest in his feathered friends was recently attested when the powerful searchlight on the Emory State building was turned off for the duration of the migration period. In the past, hundreds of birds perished as they collided with the stone walls, attracted by the bright beams piercing the darkness.

The seasons are comparatively recent additions to Nature's plan and the world was old before the first autumn of the Cretaceous flamed with colors we can only imagine. But there was no man abroad to trace the intricate pattern of leaf and branch nor yet to stand silent under the light of a glowing tree.

From The Eclectic's Point of View . . .

So Detroit may get the 1964 Olympic Games! If it does, there will be assembled most of this earth's greatest amateur athletes. Too bad, of course, that more people are not likewise interested in the intellectual and spiritual status of the human family.

East Germany Communist leaders have decided that its youth, over 12 years of age, will have to give one free day each week to work in factories or on farms. "This technological and agricultural training will prepare them for the responsibility of adulthood", says the leaders. The day will not interfere with school work, either, it's reported. So, we think, here's another seed of rebellion being turned out to be harvested by turning out the tyrants.

Perhaps it ought to be admitted by the TV networks that it is impossible to maintain a whole day of interesting and entertaining program for viewers. This fact is well known to viewers, of course. Too costly, is the reason. More and more national advertisers—the chief support of network TV—are objecting to the high cost of using TV to merchandise their goods or services. Will "pay-TV" provide part of the solution?

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

If I had known the outcome, I'd have voted differently.

Perhaps more than anything else, the result has impressed upon me the importance of one vote. In this case, it was two votes.

You recall the instances where kings have been beheaded (or saved), where democracies have crumbled (or risen), where peoples have warred (or been kept at peace)—all because of a single vote.

HEAR MY STORY of how I won election to my first public office, a two-year job:

My vacation came during the August primary during my vacation. So, like a good voter should, I applied for an absentee voter's ballot. My wife did likewise.

We filled them out at different times and places the same day.

When I got home, I told the wife I'd voted, then asked, "Know the foolish thing I did on my ballot?"

OF COURSE, SHE HAD no idea. So I told her:

"There was no one on the printed ballot running for party precinct delegate. So I wrote in my name. What do you think of that?"

What did she think?

She laughed.

"You got two votes! I did the same thing!"

We both laughed. Nothing would come of it, of course.

LITTLE DID I KNOW what would not be the case. Upon our return 15 days later, I found in the mail the official notification of my election as precinct delegate!

I rushed to City Clerk Irene Hanley's office to see how the impossible had happened. Miss Hanley showed me: precinct delegate, George Wm. Averill, 2 votes. There were no other write-ins.

So that makes me it. The only votes.

I believe a working newspaperman should not hold public office. So I immediately looked for someone to resign to. I'm still looking.

Suburban Sentiment

BR-R-RISK WEATHER
Lovely indeed is the autumn moon,
But since I must be frank, it
Holds much less allure for me
Than my electric blanket.
—Dorothy Rockwell McWood

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eclectic

50 YEARS AGO

October 9, 1908
"Miss Jennie Keyes has donated to the Public Library, a beautiful picture of George Washington."

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hanley on Merrill street, Oct. 2, the prettiest little baby girl that

WHY?



John Emery

Do We Have Obstetricians?

Obstacles to attendance of qualified physicians during confinement were suddenly removed and religious notion that extreme suffering, even death, were proper expiation for original sin. Throughout Middle Ages, only ignorant unsanitary midwives attended at childbirth; mortality of mothers was high. When Louis XIV chose physician Bouchard as attend to his pregnant mistress, he sanctioned male midwifery, paved way for today's baby specialists and easier lot of our wives. (Copyright 1957, John Emery Ent.)

ever came down the pike for Mike or anybody else. All doing fine, and the parents' happiness is only equalled by Aunt Lizzie and several other aunts and uncles, who say nothing of Grandpa and Grandma Hawthorn."

30 YEARS AGO

October 11, 1928
"The story is told of one village family who this week decided to sell a barrel of empty bottles which had been in the basement since the Pro-Booting period. A junk man was called in and he estimated the price of the supposedly empty bottles at \$10.00. The man who had been with him had taken more than half the bottles. A member of the family discovered one that he left was full of very old beer—and the mystery today is whether the beer was many more full bottles that Joe Junk discovered before he made his hurried exit with them."

"Gordon Chamberlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Chamberlin of Ravine road, has enrolled in Stanton Military Academy, Staunton, Va."

10 YEARS AGO

October 1, 1948
"Was it by coincidence that the pilot of what appeared to be a small, single-engine airplane flew so low over the business district Monday that he seemed to be diving down at the Woodward and Maple intersection just before the air raid siren sounded at noon? In fact, he passed over twice and in case he doesn't know it, he was too low."
Occasionally this Wanderer hears that some of the younger married groups believe Birmingham should have more recreational facilities such as tennis courts, baseball lots, etc. for folks of their age."

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Medical Mirror
WHAT DOCTORS SAY ABOUT
• Food Cravings • Face Picking • Fluoridation
Q. Do doctors know why some expectant mothers crave certain foods?
A. There is no good explanation for this. Fruit seems to be a popular "craved" item but some women have a yen for such things as sour pickles, soap and toothpaste. One doctor advanced the idea that cravings by expectant mothers may be due to the desire for something to crunch. According to this theory, texture of the food is more important than flavor. There is not very much said in the scientific literature about "cravings" during pregnancy. Some of our readers might shed a little more light on the subject. Those who have experienced such "cravings" might like to drop us a line.
Q. I have been trying to keep my face clear of pimples and blackheads but squeezing just makes matters worse. What should I do?
A. Leave the pimples alone! An Indiana doctor questioned 96 acne patients and found that those who had the most trouble frequently squeezed and picked perfectly safe. It has been reported that fluoride irritates the gums and the mouth tissue of some people. Whether this will become a problem is not now known.
Answers do not necessarily reflect the opinion of all doctors. The diagnosis and treatment of disease is the function of the patient's personal physician. Questions directed to Dr. J. D. Ralston, Science Editors, P.O. Box 296, Madison Square Station, N. Y. 10 N. Y. will be incorporated in these columns when possible.
Q. "What is your report on fluoride in drinking water?"