

Wylie Groves Fittingly Eulogized

Recently Rev. Arnold F. Runkel, minister of the Birmingham Methodist Church, paid glowing tribute to the life and memory of the late Wylie E. Groves, who served for nearly a score of years on the local Board of Education, as well as performing many voluntary services for his church.

Rev. Runkel used as his text the first Psalm, which starts: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful..."

The clergyman pointed out some of the

voluntary community services performed by Mr. Groves, and added: "Wylie Groves received his 'delights', he knew something of that 'inner joy' that comes naturally to them who do the bidding of the Lord. Wylie never 'sat in the seat of the scornful', but rather personified the quiet, helpful, positive type of man, always ready to help another."

Rev. Runkel ably pleaded the cause of Christianity as he eulogized Wylie E. Groves... for all who knew this gentleman sincerely nodded "Amen" to the words from the pulpit that day.

High School Grads March Forth

Four-hundred-ninety-seven Birmingham high school seniors recently marched away from protecting roof and portals into a wide world that beckons them (as it has their predecessors and will their successors). This more adult world will accept many of them into various colleges and universities, and some into the work-a-day "campuses of life".

With these young people go the hopes and desires and the many sacrifices of their parents. Their teachers have labored to instruct them, their clergymen to in-

culcate in them ideals. The young graduates, too, have, in varying measures of dedication, worked for their diplomas.

In other words, the young folks will some day take over the social order handed to them. It is to be hoped that they will improve upon it; that, in the doing, they will enjoy even greater quantities and qualities of happiness, peace and security than any generation before them. What they do accomplish will be up to them... to none else.

Ivan Is Perplexed—So Perplexed!

Ivan looked as sad as Lenin in his mausoleum.

A friend asked, "What's eating you?" "I failed to pass the Party exam. I'm ruined!" Ivan answered.

"What did they ask that you couldn't answer?" Ivan replied, "They asked me the difference between Capitalism and Communism. I didn't know. With the iron curtain preventing my visiting foreign lands, how could I know?"

His friend said, "You're a lucky mansk. Another guyvitch answered the same question correctly. He's still in jail!"

No wonder Khrushchev wants everybody out of West Berlin. They know the answers. So do the poor slobvitches in East Berlin, which is supposed to be the show window of the Red Heaven.

FOR YEARS NOW, the East Germans have been escaping westward at the rate of 1,000 a week, more or less. "They vote with their feet."

But who escapes eastward from the "capitalist tyranny" of West Germany? Only a few screwballs.

The recent election in West Berlin to

the local parliament was a sorry advertisement of the much touted blessings of Communism. The Reds got only 2% of the vote and didn't elect a single man.

The people inside the iron curtain want to get out, and the folks outside the iron curtain want to stay out.

That says it in words that bounce along the sidewalk, as Al Smith used to say.

Force and terror can never raise living standards of the people—only freedom can provide the way to better living.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Louisiana's Gov. Long has been having some strenuous personal experiences. His wife, and others, had him committed to a mental hospital, but the brother of the late Huey Long finally managed to recover his official toga, fired several high state officials who failed to protect him, and started divorce proceedings against his wife. Seems as though the people of Louisiana have, for a long time, suffered the influence of the Long family.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

This business of living for its effect on others is for the birds.

What's the matter with living for yourself?

Six months ago we were modern if our wives work blue jeans, if we had a Picasso painting in the parlor.

We ate with flat silver.

We barbecued in the backyard.

We had wall-to-wall carpeting.

We were do-it-ourselves.

IN THE PAST SIX or so months, some changes have been made, according to those authorities (?) who watch over this sort of thing.

Today, if we want to be somebody, to be in the know, doing the latest, in the swim, ahead of the pack, etc., we've got to:

Have small rugs to show off house floors (no more of this wall-to-wall carpeting).

Whenever we give a party, we've got to turn off all the electric lights and light the candles.

No more big groups in for an evening, either. Small groups is the fashion today. Black-tie suppers for four. Caviar and sour cream and chopped onion show your elegance.

GET A FOREIGN CAR—even if it's only big enough for yourself. (The rest of the family can walk.)

Start drinking American wines, eat

American cheeses.

Take out membership in some amateur theatrical group.

Do these things and you are of an elegant group.

To be fastidiously tasteful, you've just GOT to do it!

As for me, a room-sized rug seems most practical.

MY EYES ARE BAD and I can't see well by candlelight.

I like people, and when acting as host, have a better time in a large group than with only one other couple.

I eat caviar and sour cream only occasionally because they are not my favorite foods. My onions I like in slices or in fried rings.

My family also needs to ride on occasion, and I can't afford a fleet of cars, or one for each of us.

I DON'T PARTICULARLY LIKE wine, but I do eat plenty of American cheeses.

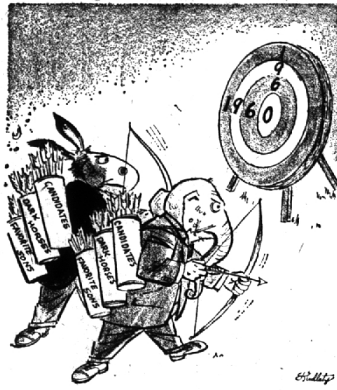
Years ago, I had supporting leads in a couple of high school plays. That seems to have satisfied my theatrical interest.

"As I said, I'm just not flexible enough, it seems, to change all my living habits to keep up with the fashion.

Somehow, I feel I still am getting a great deal out of life.

Do you suppose there are TWO ways of making a life worthwhile?

It Ought to Be Some Contest



NATURE NOW by Lydia King Frehse
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Family Camping Good Experience

(Editor's Note: "Nature Now" for 1958 is available at the Birmingham library in mounted book form for the use of scout leaders, teachers, parents and interested readers.)

July 4th signals the opening of another vacation season. Approximately 4,500,000 tourists from every state in the union as well as visitors from foreign lands will spend an estimated \$650,000,000 in our Water Wonderland. About half as many more of our own citizens will enjoy the holiday touring their own state.

Many of the above vacationers will be "camping out" with their families in our state parks and forests as well as in our national forests. Much of the success of their venture will depend upon the choice of a camp site which fits individual tastes, age requirements and hobbies.

A card addressed to the Department of Parks and Recreation, Lansing, will give the necessary information in regard to park location, equipment provided, cost, etc.

IN A DAY OF unprecedented insecurity, family camping can offer many meaningful and recreative experiences at a minimum cost. Nature's gifts are free to those who know how to receive them. With a little help and encouragement you can open for yourself a new world of family enjoyment and an interest which can enrich life throughout the years.

To guide you in beginning your adventures in the outdoors, Eastern Michigan University has prepared a series of Nature Interpretation programs in the following state parks: Portage Lake, Waterloo Recreation area, Aug. 4-5; Wilderness State park, Big Stony Creek camp ground, Aug. 11-12; Targumene, "Between the Falls" Nature Study area, Aug. 18-23; Porcupine Mountain state park, Aug. 26-Sept. 1. Plan to attend some of these informal field trips and camp fire talks.

THIS NEW VENTURE in nature education which will be similar to that successfully carried on by several neighboring states, will be under the direction of Dr. Robert Belcher, chairman of the nature science department of the sponsoring university.

It is also supported by the Michigan Botanical Club, the Michigan Natural Areas council and the Detroit Audubon society, organizations long known for their interest in conservation, and nature education.

Remember always that nothing can substitute for a first-hand experience in the outdoors. For nothing in nature can be viewed as a spectator sport. The thrill of the hunt is in the act of stealing your next morning's breakfast is quite another thing from seeing the same animal stuffed in a museum.

Camping can offer a unique vacation to any family which approaches it with interest and understanding. (Next Week - More about family camping)

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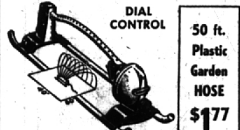


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Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

59 YEARS AGO July 9, 1899
"A man who sent a dollar for a potato bug killer received two blocks of wood with the following directions: 'Take block number one in the right hand, place the bug on number two and press them together until you hear the unfortunate and proceed as before.'"

"Have you noticed the many new faces in town? Two real-estate offices reporting a large number of private sales and summer resorts, make us feel as though we were growing, keep it up everybody!"

"Farmington had the most elaborate celebration in Oakland county. The fireworks cost \$12,000, partially insured."

30 YEARS AGO July 3, 1928
Eight days after the killing in a dairy field near the Birmingham golf club, police still have without clues to the killing of a local man and it is believed he was surprised when he "spied on" a car in a lover's lane.

Village planner and designer Arthur Conroy of Boston is expected Friday to present Birmingham village plans with his report for more regulated and planned growth for the village.

"Birmingham's Fourth of July tomorrow will not be featured by the usual bursts and booms of fireworks and torpedos, or the brilliance of nightly sky-rockets, as a result of the strict ordinance of

Michigan's new law prohibiting sale of fireworks..."

15 YEARS AGO July 6, 1944
A Birmingham man, John B. Hubert, a bank manager in Highland Park, was held up and robbed by a band of men who held his demands with a saved off shotgun. The bandit waited on a customer (who didn't know what was happening there), then helped himself to \$3,547 and escaped.

Ensign John Harwood, former Birmingham Eccentric managing editor, writes from a North African port about the life in that city—which, of course, he natives identify. He did mention that natives try to buy the clothes of your back to put into the black market.

"Leon de St. Nicholas, of Leon's beauty shop, is one of today's tastier tomato growers. Tuesday evening, Leon not only enjoyed two tomatoes out of his garden but made a complete salad of produce from the garden. And ate it!"

STRICTLY FRESH

The women for whom scanty bathing suits are designed seldom wear them. The other type always buy up the available supply.

An old-timer is a fellow who remembers when kids of every block set up lemonade stands during July.