

Boy Scouts Strengthen America

The many hundreds of Boy Scouts in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area—and their hundreds of thousands of brother Scouts across this nation—are to be commended for their 51st anniversary slogan: "Strengthen America . . . Character Counts!"

The impact and meaning of these four words are typical of Scouting. The slogan should inspire the rest of us.

We as a nation are strong. We are free. We have the dynamism of a still-growing democracy. That growth will continue only through constantly increasing strength. And nothing will strengthen us so much as high character levels of our citizenry.

FOR FIFTY-ONE YEARS the Boy Scouts of America has been dedicated to

He Is A "Good Samaritan"

To achieve distinction in one's profession, in one's own country, and then to serve as a medical missionary in a far-off nation, India, for nearly three years, is to exemplify something of the role of "a Good Samaritan."

In appreciation of these activities, a few weeks ago the Oakland County Medical Society recognized Dr. John K. Ormond, of Birmingham, at a dinner meeting here honoring him with the identity: "Physician of the Year."

Dr. Ormond, prior to his service in In-

dia (where Mrs. Ormond also accompanied him) had been a Birmingham resident for many years, while serving as chief surgeon on the staff of Henry Ford hospital in Detroit.

He and Mrs. Ormond had been associated with many local community volunteer activities. He is a member of many honorary lay and professional societies. For many years Dr. Ormond was a strong influence in the development of a Birmingham branch of the Y.M.C.A., also in Boy Scout programs.

WE ARE PROUD OF the 66,150 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers of our Detroit Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, and the 25,954 fire leaders who built with them. Here character is being built. We can help. Let us strengthen our local Boy Scout program.

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Kennedy Faces Foreign Competition

One of the major questions to be faced by the Kennedy administration will be economic. Are American production costs rising too rapidly? Are American goods beginning to carry price tags which compare unfavorably with those in other industrialized systems? Many of our friends in Europe, concerned with America's economic health, believe this to be the root cause of our present business stagnation.

They are fearful lest this stagnation infect their own economies. And while it seems a contradiction, they would like to see this country's products regain a competitive status in the world's markets.

WHILE THERE IS LITTLE direct action any administration can take under

present laws to keep wages down, and with them prices, Washington may exert great pressure if it chooses. It is, of course, the old story of price inflation. What good does it do American labor to have bigger pay envelopes if in so doing the businesses which grant these increases are starved for lack of sales?

Among economists there is considerable agreement that now is the time to insist that the only tolerable wage increases are those matched by a corresponding increase in productivity. But the vigor of American industry may well depend on decisions made in this area, both in Washington and in union halls and board rooms throughout the nation.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Refusal of Arthur G. Elliott, Jr., chairman of the Oakland County Republican Committee, to be a candidate for chairmanship of the State Republican State Central Committee is, we believe, a satisfactory decision. Young Elliott has a successful business to preserve, yet can find time to "politic" in his home County. To take the larger job would require all of his time . . . and, in the end, he'd return to private business that, perhaps, suffered by his absence. He would, we believe, find less personal satisfaction on the State level than on the County level. Remaining in Oakland County allows him to mingle with closer friends. Here, too, he will find plenty of opportunity to test his political skills in Michigan's second largest County. Already he has achieved much here for his Party. He can, no doubt, will, achieve more. So we compliment him on his decision to "stay home."

If Gov. John Swainson really has "something on the ball", something of civic value that he, himself, has "thought out", he will go further than if not tied up to labor alone, than though he merely becomes labor's "voice." Unless he is strong in his own right, he'll find it hard to make continual political progress if he depends upon the sole support of labor leaders. History reveals that labor leaders (like leaders in other segments of society) often will forsake a "rubber stamp" who has outlived his usefulness.

President Kennedy has informed his appointees and also those in the military services, that they must not make speeches that contain any statements not con-

sistent with the administration's own policies. He has agreed to allow military men to "speak their minds" when appearing before Congressional committees. Republicans, of course, will criticize this "gag rule", holding that the public will be denied information that presumably justifies itself for public exposure. This problem always has confronted every administration, and always will. How would you handle it, Dear Taxpayer?

Adlai Stevenson, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, was not provided with a special automobile in which to ride in the recent inaugural parade in Washington, D. C. But he managed to get a ride with Mrs. Alben Barkley. Yet this "embarrassment" was mentioned somewhat prominently in newspaper dispatches later, as though the oversight might have been deliberate. . . . White House aides say it was not. Thus, you see, how otherwise trivia makes news.

As this is written, the scrap to enlarge the Federal House Rules Committee is still going on. Speaker Sam Rayburn wants to enlarge it, so does President Kennedy. If they can, the more "welfare State" and "let-us-do-it-for-you" spending legislation will get through to your pocketbook, argue the more thrifty House members. (Al-ways, there are those who want to "tax and tax—spend and spend—elect and elect.")

Wives: take notice. A national federation of Catholic laymen, meeting recently in Detroit, passed a resolution which, in part, said: ". . . re-establish the father's true role as head of the family."



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Sets 'Record Straight' On Student Riot Film

To the Editor:

In connection with the letter written and published in the Jan. 26, 1961 issue of The Eccentric headlined "Student Demonstrations Film Called Misleading", perhaps this letter will receive the same size headlines and set-the record straight.

The film was edited and narrated by "Buddy" Lewis, the son of Fulton Lewis, Jr., well known conservative Mutual Network News Commentator.

Buddy Lewis performed this task as an employee of the House Un-American Activities Committee. The films were gathered from a number of different newswired cameramen, and of necessity, some editing would therefore be required in order to tell the story.

HOWEVER, since this is probably not sufficient, see what J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI and a man of unimpeachable honesty, has to say about this film.

In his report entitled "Communist Target—Youth", Hoover gives a detailed account of how the riots planned, staged and participated in these demonstrations.

He names numerous known Communists and describes what key role each played in "Operation Abolition", the Red's code term for the project.

Hoover says that immediately after the riots were over, national Communist party leader Gus Hall "congratulated West Coast comrades for the initiative and leadership they displayed at all stages of the demonstrations."

HOOPER, in his just released annual report to the attorney general, says that "Under direction of their National Youth Director, the Communists have begun instituting a special publication, 'New Horizons for Youth', aimed directly at America's young people."

"In addition," the FBI chief

stated, "the Communists hope to repeat the success which they achieved on the West Coast. May in spearheading mob demonstrations by college students and other young people against a Committee of Congress."

Arthur J. Brandt, Jr. 812 Kenesaw Birmingham

She's Curious About Her Convictions

To the Editor:

After taking Margaret F. Chalk's advice and finding the facts of the May 15 San Francisco student riots, I am a little curious about Margaret F. Chalk's convictions.

JUDGE ALBERT A. Axelrod, presiding judge of the San Francisco Municipal Court, stated Dec. 24, 1960: "I very definitely agree with the view of Federal Bureau of Investigation Director J. Edgar Hoover that the city hall riot May 13 was instigated by Communist subversives."

J. Edgar Hoover has also stated: "The Communists hope to repeat the success which they achieved on the west coast last May in spearheading mob demonstrations by college students and other young people against a Committee of Congress."

I, TOO, SAW the film "Operation Abolition" and no student will be judged because of this film. Individual conduct will be the only basis for judgment among people who inform themselves.

Sandra Callon Watts 592 Bird Street Birmingham

Broomfield Explains Why He Opposed 'Packing' Plan

To the Editor:

As you probably know, the plan to pack the House Rules Committee passed by the narrow margin of five to four. I opposed this packing plan because I am convinced that it will lead to abrogation of the initiative and leadership issues and no chance for amendment on the floor of the House.

The Rules Committee disagreement could have been resolved without a floor fight if the majority members had simply taken steps to appoint these members to the committee who were in agreement with the administration's program, or they could have elected the committee or curbed its functions.

BUT INSTEAD, it was decided to "punish" the minority, even though this minority comprises 40 percent of the House of Representatives.

May I assure you that I will do all I can to see that fair play and equity again become the rules of the House of Representatives, and that I will fight all efforts to impede gag rule on members of Congress, simply because they do not agree with the majority.

William B. Broomfield

STRICTLY FRESH

To succeed with men always put it in writing. To succeed with women never put it in writing.



It sometimes seems that the guys who think that the world's ills can be cured with more atomic bomb buttons have lost theirs.

Next time you consider doing something for you, cold, ask yourself what it has ever done for you.

Judging from some school reports, the dictionary is the world's forgotten book.

The Rules Committee packing plan which has now been adopted is very widely misunderstood. First, it will increase the committee from 12 to 15 members.

Two of the new members will be Democrats. One will be a Republican and the other other Communist. The new members are gained 22 new seats in the House and are entitled to two new members while the Democrats are only entitled to one.

SECOND, This packing plan will be used as a gag on the minority to limit debate and prevent the passage of legislation, and establishes the length of debate and whether or not amendments will be brought to the floor under what is called a "closed rule", then members of Congress will either have to take them as they are or reject them with no opportunity to make changes or to correct errors.

Compromise and amendment are the heart and soul of our legislative process. It may well be that the heart and soul have been abolished.

THIRD, If the Rules Committee be packed out of proportion to its representation, then other Committees of Congress can be packed as well, that means that your voice will be proportionally less than it should be in important committee votes.

May I assure you that I will do all I can to see that fair play and equity again become the rules of the House of Representatives, and that I will fight all efforts to impede gag rule on members of Congress, simply because they do not agree with the majority.

William B. Broomfield

Veterinarian Group Elects Dr. R. Huff

Southeastern Michigan Veterinarian Medical Association has announced the election of Dr. Richard Huff of Grosse Pointe Hospital, 1521 N. Woodward, Birmingham, to the executive board for the coming year.

New executive board members were installed by the SVMMA president, Dr. Leonard Schreiber.

One Thing or Another

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

The saga of the Santa Maria is one you wouldn't have believed if it had been fiction. But it is another instance which bears out the saying, "Truth is stranger than . . ."

Nearly six hundred passengers sailing around the Atlantic Ocean on an extended cruise (?) because 70 Portuguese are rebelling against their home government.

How are these 70 insurgents able to sail a \$16.5 million liner? If they succeed in keeping control of her, where are they getting the money to refuel and restock the ship? What do they intend to do with it? Outfit it as a gunboat, sell it, or keep on a continual world cruise as a "floating country"?

Maybe some enterprising newspaper or news service soon will get a story on these angles of the Saga of the Santa Maria.

Anyone who permits success to spoil him becomes known as a stinking success.

Today we live a life by proxy. We turn the running of our government, our schools, churches, businesses over to the so-called professional ex-

ports. We sit on the sidelines and watch—and how! when so much good is going wrong.

"When we tire of 'the other guy' running our lives for us and ourselves get back into the game of life, so many of our community problems will disappear we'll be ashamed of our previous stupid inactivity.

Most things should be forgotten—and some things remembered.

Many times this column has stood at attention while our Star Spangled Banner was raised at public functions. Many of these flag-raising are done by honor guards from one of our military services.

And so often is this flag-raising performed in violation of the proper technique.

How many times have you stood watching the American flag start to the top of the flagpole at the first note of our National Anthem, only to reach the top at the moment the last note of the Anthem is played?

This is improper, according to all rules of display of our Flag. It should be "hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously." The idea is that we are proud to display it as fast as we can, and are reluctant to lower it.

City Beat

By KEN WEAVER

The food was tasty, the discussion thought-provoking.

And out of it all came a feeling that the Community House is thriving, it's a success. Its facilities are being used extensively, it is paying its bills without difficulty.

Setting was castle-like Fox & Hounds in Bloomfield Hills. The occasion was a luncheon meeting, with participants being Toby Wint, Jim Rast and Wayne Kline of the Community House; Dave Gibb, our advertising manager; and yours truly.

Toby, Jim and Wayne, all local residents, earn their income by performing certain duties for the advertising firm of Young & Rubicam, Inc.

However, there was no selling job needed this day.

We were all concerned with one thing: How to best tell the Community House's success story in a special tabloid section in the March 9 issue of The Eccentric.

"We have a special topic to tell," said Toby. "We're in sound financial condition. Our contributors have been faithful through the years. It's not like some outfits that consistently are in the red and must desperately appeal for donations."

"We set our goals and work toward that end out of a feeling of accomplishment, not desperation."

Toby went on to say that "many people in Bloomfield Hills, the township and the surrounding areas are as aware of what the

House has to offer as are most Birmingham residents. We want them to feel that it is truly a community house."

With this kind of thinking, it was not difficult to work out details of the tabloid section, which will be geared to the Community House Fund Drive March 6-20.

THE COMMUNITY HOUSE prides itself on its many friends—individuals and organizations.

Two area organizations recently contributed funds necessary to publish and distribute a brochure graphically portraying its many facilities and how they are used.

On the back cover is this simple but meaningful sentence, typical of the Community House and its supporters:

"This booklet has been donated by friends."

RECEIVED AN invitation last week that I'm going to accept with gusto.

In my first column a couple weeks ago, I told of two Birmingham women who still bake their own home-made bread.

Comes now this letter from Mrs. George Gilman, 708 E. Lincoln, St. Clair:

"Mother taught me to bake bread when I was 12 years old, and I still bake bread every Saturday. Also all kinds of cookies, pies, fried cakes, etc.

"Just drop in some Saturday afternoon between 4 and 5, and I'll take my bread out of the oven, I'll mix the coffee and serve you a treat."

Mam, you'll be hearing from me.

Talk of the Towns

By DENI SCANLON

I went shopping in town this week to find birthday gifts for my two young nieces. What a period of indecision!

"When I was young," and that really wasn't so very long ago, I can remember having few dolls, roller skates and miscellaneous "new things" that were good for everything.

But today, the toy stores are full of mechanical playthings that need a miniature engineer to run them. My nieces are bright (naturally) but it seems to me that they ought to have the fun of creating their own games with only necessary props provided.

It took a while to decide what to buy. No wind-up bear or talking doll or paint-by-numbers—just an assortment of guides to make believe—"Raggedy Ann & Winnie the Pooh," and "Grimm's Fairy Tales."

These little girls will have plenty of time in the future to become acquainted with our robot society.

It may sound a little ridiculous but one of my favorite pastimes is reading "The World Almanac" and the Yellow Pages of the telephone book.

I'm feeling fine, thank you.

Where was I, oh yes, my hobby of collecting useless information.

For a busy person, who has only minutes here and there to spare during the week days, I find this practice really entertaining.

Just yesterday, I learned from the Yellow Pages that the first treaty the United States signed with a non-belligerent nation was on April

3, 1783. It was with Sweden and was called "Treaty of Friendship and Commerce." This spring will mark its 178th anniversary.

I also found out that that maple, horsechestnut, and elm trees are easier to transplant than birch, dogwood, persimmon, beach, pecan, walnut, yellow poplar, magnolia, cherry and oak.

When did I develop this hobby?

It was in college when the late Prof. William Loutstuter told me, "When you major in Journalism, you won't be writing about writing" and "A good reporter doesn't always know the answers, but he knows where to find them."

Remember the sack dresses?

I overheard a Bloomfield Township woman relating her experience with a model of the past that was fashioned from wool jersey.

"I decided to take my youngsters to the circus," she began, "so I invited our neighbors' child. His father had planned to go anyhow," she said, "so we combined families and set out for the big top."

It was a fine show, as she explained it, but they were all caught in the rain as they left the arena. After dashing to the car, her neighbor turned on the auto heater "just to take the edge off the chill."

"By the time we got home," she laughed, "that inexpensive wool jersey had itched its way above my knees. I zoomed into the house only to be greeted by my husband, who asserted, 'Holy Cow! You forgot the skirt to that blouse!'"

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
Feb. 3, 1911

The question of sanitary sewerage for the village of Birmingham has been the subject of more or less controversy for some time. A very large petition, signed by a majority of the taxpayers, was presented to the village council several months ago, asking the council to investigate the feasibility of putting in such a system in this village.

On Jan. 10, the education meeting of the Birmingham Women's Club was held at the home of Mrs. Hubert with a good number of guests. The talk of Judge Hubert of Detroit on the case of the juvenile court was necessary in our large cities.

30 YEARS AGO
Feb. 5, 1931

A budget of \$82,450 was adopted by the Bloomfield Village commissioners Tuesday night. \$38,000 of the amount to be raised by taxation. Revenue of \$24,850 is anticipated from the various departments. Instead of cutting all village employees' salaries five per cent, as was recently voted, the commission decided not to include members of the fire and police departments in the cut.

By the officers elected to serve the Michigan Press Association during the coming year is George R. Averill, Birmingham Eccentric, who was elected president. More than 200 officers of Michigan's home town newspapers gathered here last week for the 10th annual conference of the association.

15 YEARS AGO
Jan. 31, 1946

Chief Justice George E. Bushnell, of the Michigan Supreme Court, Birmingham property owners are

again confronted with the problem of zoning. Public interest in the question is increasing each week as a result of the public meetings in the Municipal building where the Planning Commission offers its tentative plan for the future permanence of neighborhood building construction and character.

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