

Round About

Alexandria Town

By Will F. Baum

I believe that as a general thing people are religious. By that I do not mean that they are necessarily church-going folk. Religion is somewhat of an instinct that is implanted in every human breast. Like other instincts peculiar to men and women, religion can be cultivated and made to assume real and tangible proportions, and by tangible I mean just what I say, employing the word in the sense of capable of being possessed and self-evident and real.

I am not a preacher or minister of the gospel, not even a revivalist, which form of preaching I look upon as the lowest form of religious propaganda. But if I were a preacher or occupied the responsible position of minister in any church, my efforts would be devoted toward bringing religion into the hearts, souls and minds of the people. Not creeds or denominational theories or principles, but RELIGION, which is simply LOVE for and OBEDIENCE toward God. And I wouldn't make my God a Presbyterian, or a Methodist, or a Baptist, or a Lutheran, or a Catholic God, or any other of the three hundred or more denominational Gods. My efforts would be directed against the belief that seems to be gaining ground that there is no Supreme Being who governs and rules all things. I am going to quote from an editorial that recently came under my observation:

"Is there a Supreme Being? We take it that there is. We fail to understand why anyone should hesitate to accept the fact of His existence.

"The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His Handiwork. A Divine Wisdom is manifest everywhere and a moral order underlies the universe." How could it be otherwise? A man-made machine cannot operate without guidance and orderly supervision. Why should we expect so gigantic a machine as the Universe to function and perform its daily work without some GREAT GUIDING HAND?

The editorial continues: "Taking for granted the existence of God, there must lie back of this Universe a Divine purpose. Surely that Divine purpose is not simply a physical world. At best the physical universe is but a mechanism. Like a factory it is designed to produce something. If we stop to consider what this world is capable of

FOUNDED DEC. 10, 1885. NO. 178.

Alexandria, Best Little City in Indiana

ALEXANDRIA, IND.

MRS. BRANCH IS LAID TO REST BENEATH TREE

Impressive Rites Held Friday Afternoon for Well Known Woman

Under a great spreading walnut tree in the Odd Fellows cemetery, the body of Mrs. Emma Branch, wife of John J. Branch, and a resident of Alexandria for twenty years, was laid to rest by loving hands Friday afternoon, while beautiful floral tributes, the remembrances of sympathizing friends, lay all about.

The funeral service was conducted at the family home at 902 Columbia avenue. Rev. Curtis Wilson, pastor of the Christian church, of which Mrs. Branch was a member, conducted the preliminary service, and the oration was given by Rev. G. W. Winfrey, long a friend of the family. He spoke from the last chapter of the Book of Proverbs.

Mrs. Gertha Auler and Mrs. O. O. Clock, with Miss Ruby Thomas as accompanist, sang "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me." The flowers were carried by Leona Heffner, Bessie Gray, Jennie Goodwin, Crystal Thomas and Eileen Schnitz. The pallbearers were Chester Harris, Harry Harris, Rudolph Wells, Harold Haas, James Thompson and Ted Branch.

Among the many out of town relatives and friends who came to attend the rites were Mrs. Belle Harris, Chas. Bymaster, Chester Harris, Freida Parks, Harry Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Haas, Mrs. Charles Partlow and Mrs. Leona Hartzler, of Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. James Thompson, Ted Branch, Mrs. Harvey Coy, Mrs. Michael Hollchan, Mrs. Marie Edgell and Mr. and Mrs. William Miller, of New Albany; Mr. and Mrs. James Tharp and daughter Cecil, and Mrs. C. V. Latchaw and son Edison, of Elwood.

GETS AROUND ON CRUTCHES.

Latest Aerial



Through the courtesy of the Chicago Herald and Examiner the Times-Tribune is able today to present to its readers the first airplane view of business section of Alexandria ever appeared in a local newspaper.

INSPECT PARK FOR FOUR-H FAIR

SOCIETY MEM

Charles Drake was an And

Cribune

Home of Rock Wool.

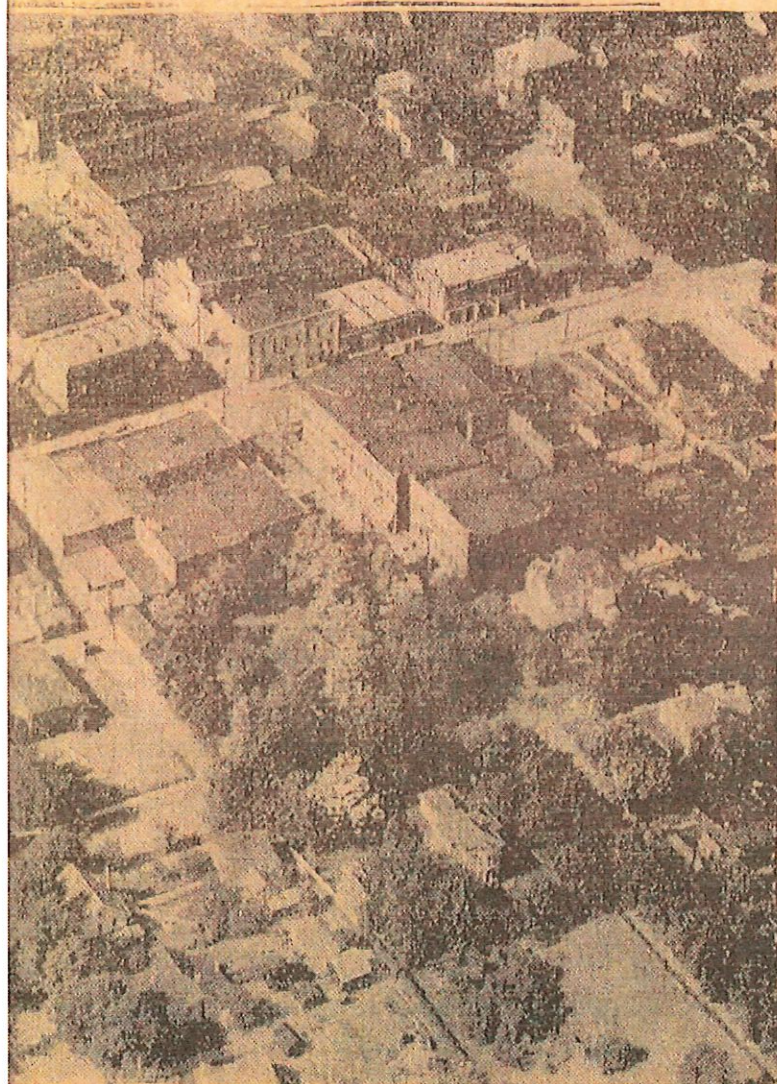
A. SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1930

COMPARATIVE TEMPERATURES

At 7 o'clock this morning the temperature was 73. Highest yesterday 88, lowest 70. Highest year ago yesterday 83, lowest 71.

PRICE TWO CENTS

View of Alexandria



The picture, which appeared in the Herald and Examiner Tuesday, is an exceptionally good one, and shows practically all of the business district of the city, looking in a northeasterly direction from a point over the Nickel Plate depot.

NOW ABLE TO SIT UP.

Lafe Moreland continues to improve from his recent automobile injuries, and is able to sit up part of the time. He still suffers a great deal of pain and discomfort.

COUNTY SURVEY IS BEING MADE

BROWN CHOSEN 1931 DIRECTOR FOR CLUB CAMP

Plans Already Under Way for
Next Year's Outing of 4-H
Club Members

E. G. Brown, of Alexandria, was elected as director of the 1931 tri-county Four-H club camp at a meeting of the directors of club work and the county agricultural agents of Delaware, Madison and Tipton counties which was held at the Y. M. C. A. in Anderson Friday night. Mr. Brown was actively connected with the 1930 camp, which was held at Idlewild Park near Pendleton this month, and is well qualified for the duties to which his associates have called him.

Plans are already under way for the 1931 outing, and it is expected to be fully as large and possibly larger than the one held this year. These camps, which have been an annual event for a number of years, are looked forward to each year as a fine outing by great numbers of the club boys and girls in all three of the counties co-operating. In addition to Mr. Brown, the following other officers for next year were named at the Friday night meeting:

Chairman of program committee, Hazel Arbuckle, home demonstration agent, Muncie.

Camp manager, P. J. Davis, vocational agriculture teacher, Elwood.

Chairman of vesper services, M. E. Cromer, Delaware county agent, Muncie.

Chairman of campfire program, J. E. Oyler, vocational agriculture teacher, Kempton.

The week of July 13 probably will be selected as the camping date. Selection of a place was continued.

Teach Patriotism in Public Schools

A letter just received by every American Legion post commander in Indiana from O. L. Bodenhamer, national

Alexandria-Monroe
AMPL
Archive
Public Library

production of a spiritual order of things."

I am still quoting from the editorial above referred to:

"A wise old sage many centuries ago asked the question: 'How shall two walk together unless they agree?' It must be very manifest that if God has a purpose, it is only when we are in agreement with God that he can walk with Him, or have part with Him in the accomplishment of that purpose."

The apostle tells us that "it is God who worketh in us to will and to do of His good pleasure." The most marvelous thing in this universe is the fact that the Spirit of God strives with men in an endeavor to bring them into accord with His will. In the very nature of the case, God cannot impose His will on us arbitrarily. If He were to do so, He would destroy the very element in us which constitutes us being in His likeness.

The best God can do with anyone (and please understand that I am not trying to make light of so sacred a subject, but am serious), is to "stand at the door and knock." It is only as we open unto Him that He will come in and dwell with us.

"If men could only act on the principle that they are co-workers with God in working out their salvation, yielding themselves to His guidance, and availing themselves of His power, they would find heaven here on earth, for the Kingdom of God is within us."

My patience was sorely tried a short time ago to hear a lady say: "I don't believe there is a bit of religion in me. I go to church once-in-a-while, but I do not go because of any spiritual longing or because I am moved thereto by any feeling that it increases my solace or comfort inwardly. I go to church because I feel it is a duty I owe the community, because I think it helps to set a good example, and also because my friends go. I have never yet found that attending divine services helps me in arriving at a conclusion that my mind has been benefitted. Rather it is quite a bore for me to go to church. It seems so much like wasting my time which I could spend to better advantage, as, for instance, an auto trip into the country where Nature is seen at her best and where I can enjoy the beauties of outdoors to my heart's content."

The above are not fanciful words or an imaginary conversation brought forward to illustrate my theme. You have heard people utter almost identically the same sentiment. Perhaps the people who talk like that are sincere. I doubt it sometimes. But if they are sincere, I feel sorry for them. Religion to me is something VITAL, something REAL. I am glad that I am religious. Not long ago I had an opportunity to prove to myself the reality and vitality of my religion. It gave me great comfort. And this comfort will be denied those who say they have no religion when the critical time

The number of marksmen attending the weekly gun club shoot Friday afternoon was smaller than usual, but some interesting scores were made, the statistics being as follows: Everett Cunningham, 13, 17; John Redenbaugh, 11, 13; A. Walker, 18; John Dillon, 16, 18; Theo Cartwright, 23; Alba Perdue, 21; K. Stoughton, 14; D. Fuller, 10.

Certificate for Grade Schools Received

Supt. F. O. Medsker, of the city schools, today received from the Indiana Department of Public Instruction certificates setting out the continuous commission of the Central, Clarke and Tomlinson grade schools here. The first four grades are taught at Central and the first six grades at each of the other buildings.

SPECIAL CARS USED.

Several special cars passed through the city on the traction line this morning carrying passengers to the annual Delco-Remy picnic at Broad Ripple park.

MRS. HENNINGS TO CONTEST SUIT OF ILLINOIS MAN

Attorneys for Mrs. Josephine Hennings, heiress to the \$400,000 estate of Joseph E. Hennings, wealthy banker of Anderson, are preparing to make a legal fight against the claim of Courtney H. Hennings of Antioch, Ill., to a share of the property on his allegation that he is an illegitimate son of Mr. Hennings. Mrs. Hennings states that an attorney from Waukegan, Ill., appeared soon after the death of her husband and demanded \$3,000 in behalf of Lillia Hathorn, former Kokomo woman, on a purported agreement of Mr. Hennings in 1889 to leave her that amount on his death in consideration of a son said to have been born to her.

Pirates Will Try For a Victory on Sunday

The St. Mary's Pirates baseball team will make another effort to break into the winning column on the home ground Sunday when they will play the Muncie Merchants at the city park at 2:30. The Merchants are reputed to be the second best team in Muncie, and will have a strong lineup. The Pirates lineup will be slightly changed for the game Sunday, and will be as follows: Bradford, 2b; Flecker, rf.; Corey, cf.; Crist, lf.; Young, 2b; Sturm, 3b.; Baker, 1b.; Mack, c.; Dunn, p.; Walker, Hocker, and Allen, utility. Ladies will be admitted free to the game, and the management is expecting that there will be a large crowd on hand.

tion of the Reulah Park buildings and grounds, where the Madison county Four-H club fair will be held the latter part of August. Tentative locations for the various exhibits were chosen, and plans were made for locating the large tents which will be used for the live stock and poultry exhibits. The home economics display will be made in one of the large buildings on the grounds. The fair this year is to be without any of the carnival features which frequently cause more or less criticism, but some special entertainment is being arranged. Included in this will be addresses by Purdue instructors and experts. The live stock show at the fair promises to be one of the best ever made in the county, and in all there will be more than 800 individual entries to be judged.

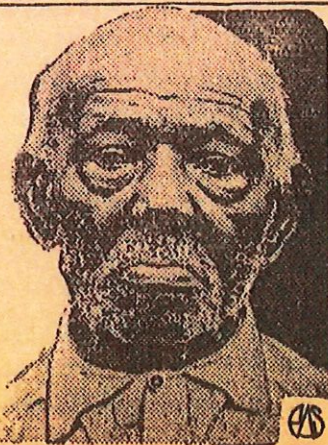
76 Newcastle Auto Owners Are Arrested

Highway policemen who visited Newcastle Thursday night were not so lenient as the ones who visited Alexandria earlier in the week. They arrested 76 persons, including the judge of the circuit court, for violating motor traffic rules. Most of the accused entered pleas of guilty in the mayor's court where it cost them \$11. The mayor also clipped one coupon from each driver's license. It was the busiest day the Newcastle city court has had in many years.

Indiana Firemen to Meet in Lafayette

Hundreds of Hoosier firemen, state fire officials and representatives of fire-fighting equipment manufacturers will gather in Lafayette, July 29, 30 and 31, for the thirteenth annual convention of the Indiana Firemen's Association. There are 3,300 members of the organization and 400 fire departments and nearly every city in the state that has membership in the association will have representatives at the convention.

Oldest American?



Major Bond, a colored man of Stamford, Conn., claiming to be 115 years old, is the oldest person discovered by

The Royal Neighbors will hold a social meeting Monday evening at Woodman Hall. All members to be present.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Balser and of Elwood, will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. William Allen Jack and Mrs. Jennie Teeple are visiting relatives in Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Hines and daughter Thelma, were Anderson visitors last evening.

Miss Garnet Sheppard of Indianapolis and Miss Dorothy Hannon, of Elwood, are guests of Miss Tuerffs.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tiner and Amanda Trick of Elwood, were visitors last evening with Mr. and Mrs. Brant.

Mrs. Jack Farquar and son have returned to Wabash, arriving here with Mr. and Mrs. Hines.

Mrs. Van Rudd and daughter Elizabeth and Frances, of Elwood, are visiting Mrs. Rudd's daughter Jesse Davis on East Berry street.

Dr. and Mrs. G. R. Lindley and Mrs. J. A. Schmitt left for Curtis, Mich., for a two week visit there and in Canada.

Mrs. Matt Tuerffs returned from South Bend, after spending week there with her daughter Osmond Helping, who is recovering from her recent illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshal Broome are on an extended motor trip to the western states, writes that they are enjoying a wonderful out that they will be starting for home shortly.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Stotser and daughter, of Lawrenceburg, were guests Friday of Mr. Ted Cunningham, and left this morning for their home. They had been visiting with relatives at Cedar Rapids and other points in Iowa, and here on the homeward journey Stotser was formerly connected with the Swift creamery and cheese company here, and is now managing one of the company's factories at Lawler.

Mrs. Glen Thurston was hostess last evening to the members of the Aid of the Epworth church. A large business meeting was held by a social time and refreshments. Members and guests present were Mrs. Glen Thurston, Mr. John Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Edgerton, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Palmer, and Mrs. Charles Coover, Mr. Claude Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Martha Quinn, Ruth and Thurston, Virginia Painter, Donald, Elleen and Kathleen Morra, and Helen Thurston, W. Robert Painter, Willis, Roberson, and George Montgomery. Mrs. Wayne and Mrs. Al

CAMPMEETING OPENS.

Only a fair sized crowd was on hand for the opening of the annual Holliness campmeeting at Beulah Park Friday night, but the opening plans were carried out, and the regular schedule commenced this morning. Larger audiences were expected for the Sunday meetings.

New Buick Eight Is Now Being Shown

Exciting the interest of the motoring world and arousing a widespread comment of approval, the new 1931 Buick line powered with straight-eight, valve-in-head motors was presented to the public today. Offered in four new series the 1931 Buick Eight holds many surprises for showroom visitors.

In addition to its advanced straight-eight valve-in-head power plant, the new car also has a synchro-mesh transmission, new insulated body by Fisher, and many other important advances which, according to E. T. Strong, president of the Buick Motor Company, make the new eight the outstanding car of the company's history.

Many refinements have been incorporated in the beautiful new Fisher body, and changes in construction have been employed to strengthen it structurally and eliminate any possibility of noise or fumes from the engine. The driving compartment in all models has been completely insulated. No radical changes have been made in the general appearance of the new bodies, but a wealth of fine details and new appointments are embodied in the new car. The new car has a new bath. Curry Clothing Co.

FOR RENT—5-room house at 815 W. Washington. Available after July 26. An Armstrong, phone 30-W or 30-R.

FOR RENT—6 room semi-modern house. Centrally located. Call at 111 E. 1st or phone 308. Mrs. Swindell.

MISCELLANEOUS

NOTICE—Ice cream social at Christian church lawn Saturday night. Orchestra and vocal music. Everybody invited. Given by Junior Department.

SAND and Gravel; also cleaned cks. Ralph Richardson, phone 303. Ankton.

PAUL POLING, general plumbing and pump repairing at reasonable price. Phone 86 or 10.

NOTICE—Used tires \$1.50 and up. kinds of vulcanizing. Sell me your carded tires. At J. R. McKean's Tire Shop.

LAW FILING—I have installed an automatic power saw filer. All kinds of id saws, circular saws, band saws, at saws, etc., sharpened evenly and accurately. Prompt service and reasonable prices. J. W. Manning, 216 East shington street.

LADIES' Cotton Hosiery, 25c pair. Lisle Hosiery, 50c pair. Gray, and Black, at Mahony's New Store.

archeological survey of Madison county to be completed in connection with data that is being prepared on the entire state for the Indiana Historical Society and Smithsonian Institute at Washington.

Mr. Setzler, who is regarded one of the best known authorities in the Middle-West in his work, stated that he expected to make many "rich" finds in Madison county in his archeological examination because of the interesting history connected with the county's early days.

The anthropologist has just completed a survey of Delaware county. He is making a complete survey of the entire state of Indiana and expects to require several years for the work.

Rural Leadership School Next Week

Considerable interest is being manifested in the two-day rural leadership training school to be conducted in Assembly Hall of Ball State Teachers College at Muncie by the Indiana Farm Bureau for the fourth, fifth, sixth and eighth farm bureau districts, Thursday and Friday, July 31 and August 1. A feature of the session will be a dinner on the college campus at 6:45 p. m. July 31.

NEW PERIOD OPENS SUNDAY. A new period will be opened Sunday at Camp Nawakwa, the summer home

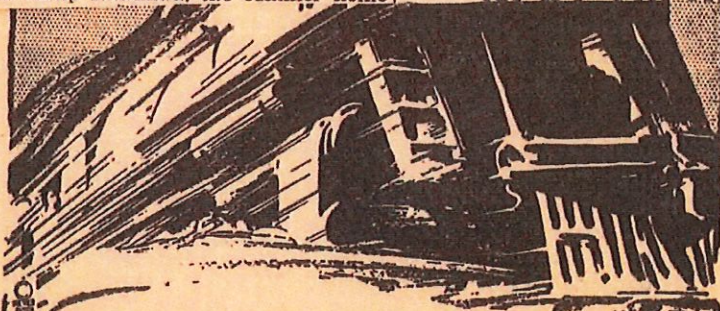
MERGER IS COMPLETED.

The Warner Corporation at Muncie, manufacturers of automobile gears and parts, has passed into a new merger which will be known as the Syracuse Gear Corporation, with two plants at Syracuse and the one at Muncie. The Warner business has been owned by Durant Motors.

Flyers Play Sunday at Chesterfield Park

The Flyers baseball team, which came back from Anderson last Sunday evening with a 3 to 0 victory over the Boosters, of that city, will take to the road again Sunday afternoon, having no ground here on which to play. They will go to Chesterfield and will meet the Remy Six team there. This is the team which came to Alexandria two weeks ago and defeated the Pirates, here in a rather loosely played contest, especially in the later innings. The Flyers, while not as well equipped as some of the other teams, have been playing good ball all season. They are all local boys.

PEP MEETING AT PORTLAND NEXT THUESDAY



**Profit~Pulling
POWER
in
MEYER BOTH
Illustrations and Copy
Free!**

Alexandria-Monroe
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Liberty Theatre

—TODAY—

"SLIGHTLY SCARLET"
WITH EVELYN BRENT AND OLIVE BROOKE
All Talking

—SUNDAY—

"THE THREE SISTERS"
With June Collier, Louise Dresser and Joyce Jompton
ALL TALKING.

—MONDAY & TUESDAY—
"HAPPY DAYS"

A MUSICAL COMEDY WITH ALL FOX STARS
ALL TALKING.

MATINEE Saturday and Sunday, starting at 1:45.
Evening performance starting at 6:45.

FLAT RATE REPAIR SYSTEM

We have reasonable flat rates for our repair work.
In this way you know just what the job will cost before
we start. Ask us about this system of charging.

MILLER-THURSTON

At the Foot of East Washington Street
Phone 22. Open Evenings and Sundays until Noon

THE HOOSIER CASUALTY CO. AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE

Formerly with Arthur Stephenson

ANNOUNCE

that all of their business, adjusting
of policies now in force, and all
new policies, will be managed by

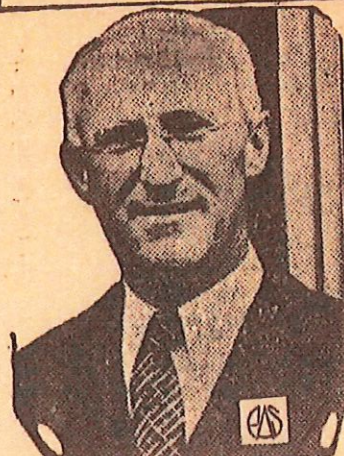
**CHESLEY H.
THOMAS AGCY.**

**MEN—See the \$5
Dress Oxfords now
\$2.89 pair at Mahony's
Big Shoe Sale**

Foundation Started College and Library

Excavation and foundation work has
been started for the erection of a
college and library building by the In-
diana Spiritualist Association at Ches-
terfield on a tract of land near the en-
trance to the campground, where the
annual campmeeting is now in pro-
gress. The proposed building when com-
pleted will represent an expenditure of

Heads the B.P.O.E.



Lawrence H. Rupp, of Allentown,
Pa., new Grand Exalted Ruler of the
Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

Summitville

Mr. and Mrs. Elza Smith of Fair-
mount were Sunday afternoon callers
at the home of Mrs. Rachel Tomlinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb Vernon spent
Sunday at Lake Webster.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lewis and Mr.
and Mrs. Heinie Schneider of Ander-
son, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs.
Bill O'Neill.

E. M. Morris, Mrs. Perry Armstrong,
Paul Armstrong, Misses Elsie Owens
and Vivian Stanley were Anderson vis-
itors Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Leachman and
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Frazier and son
Phillip Max, spent Sunday in Celina
and St. Mary, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Dobson and Arley
Dobson and Mrs. Lily Millsbaugh of
Marion, were Sunday guests of Mr. and
Mrs. William Allman and daughter
Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Brown, who have
been visiting relatives here the past
week, have returned to Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Butterfield and
daughter have returned from a visit
with relatives at their former home at
Eaton.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Iliff and children
of Indianapolis, and Mrs. Roscoe
Thomas of Anderson, are spending the
week here with their parents, Mr. and
Mrs. Carl Iliff.

Mr. and Mrs. Ike Grose, Tom Grose,

The 14th annual reun-
ions and Owens family
Sunday, August 12th, at
Pendleton.

Frank Zimmerman h
Muncie Normal for five

Mr. and Mrs. John
and Mrs. Clifford Perry
of Alexandria and Mr.
tin Carpenter were S
guests of Mr. and Mrs.

Mrs. Goldie Applegat
visited Monday with Mr

The Loyal Women
Christian church will
July 29 at the church
and piece blocks. Pot
be served at noon. All
to be present.

Empress To M

CARAVAN
IN THE
DESERT

the Sim-
e held on
s Park at

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Wright are visit-
ing his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George
Wright.

turned to
s.

E. E. Thomas has returned from An-
derson where he has spent a week at
the home of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Cox,
while undergoing observation and
treatment by Anderson physicians.

man, Mr.
Effie Starr
Mrs. Mar-
y dinner
Owens.

Jacob Crouse, president of the Allen
family reunion association, announces
that the reunion will be held in Shady-
side Park at Anderson, July 27th.

Yorktown,
hn Owens.

ss of the
Tuesday,
e comforts
inner will
bers urged

**New Snappy
—FOOTWEAR—
See our windows.
AT POPULAR PRICES
MAHONY'S**

Mrs. Adda Cohen, Julius Cohen and
Miss Myrtle Rea, of Urbana, Ill., and
Nathaniel Cohen, of Hollywood, Calif.,
were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Maur-
ice Warner, while enroute to Crystal
Lake, Mich.

Mrs. Katherine Bonnell and son,
Robert, of Fort Wayne, are guests of
Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Cartwright.

Mr. and Mrs. J M. Kaufman, Mrs.
Harry Kaufman and Miss Iris Kauf-
man have returned from Barbee Lake.

666

Relieves a Headache or Neuralgia in 30
minutes, checks a Cold the first day,
and checks Malaria in three days.

666 also in Tablets.

**J. E.
Carter & Co.
Clothing
Fada Radios
Service and Tubes**

Members of the Christian church
Sunday school picnicked at Callaway
Park at Elwood, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Plummer and
daughter, have returned to Chester-
field after a visit here with Mr. and
Mrs. Hayden Mauck and Mr. and Mrs.
William Mauck.

Ice Cream Served to
A Number of Guests.

Mr. and Mrs. George Graham and
Mr. and Mrs. Ike Groce served ice
cream Sunday evening to the follow-
ing guests: Mr. and Mrs. Bob March
and grandchildren, Edwin and Bobbie,
John W. Thurston, Freda Dunning
and Trussie Persinger.

Mr. William Barrett Will Be
Host for Legion Auxiliary.

The Legion Auxiliary will meet at
the country home of Mr. William Bar-
rett, east of the city Monday evening,
July 28th. Plans will be made to attend
the July eighth district meeting in An-
derson on July 31st.

**Full Fashioned
\$1.50 McCallum Silk
Hosiery now \$1.19 pair
AT MAHONY'S
NEW SHOE STORE**

**TRY A BOTTLE
of our
CREAMED BUTTERMILK**

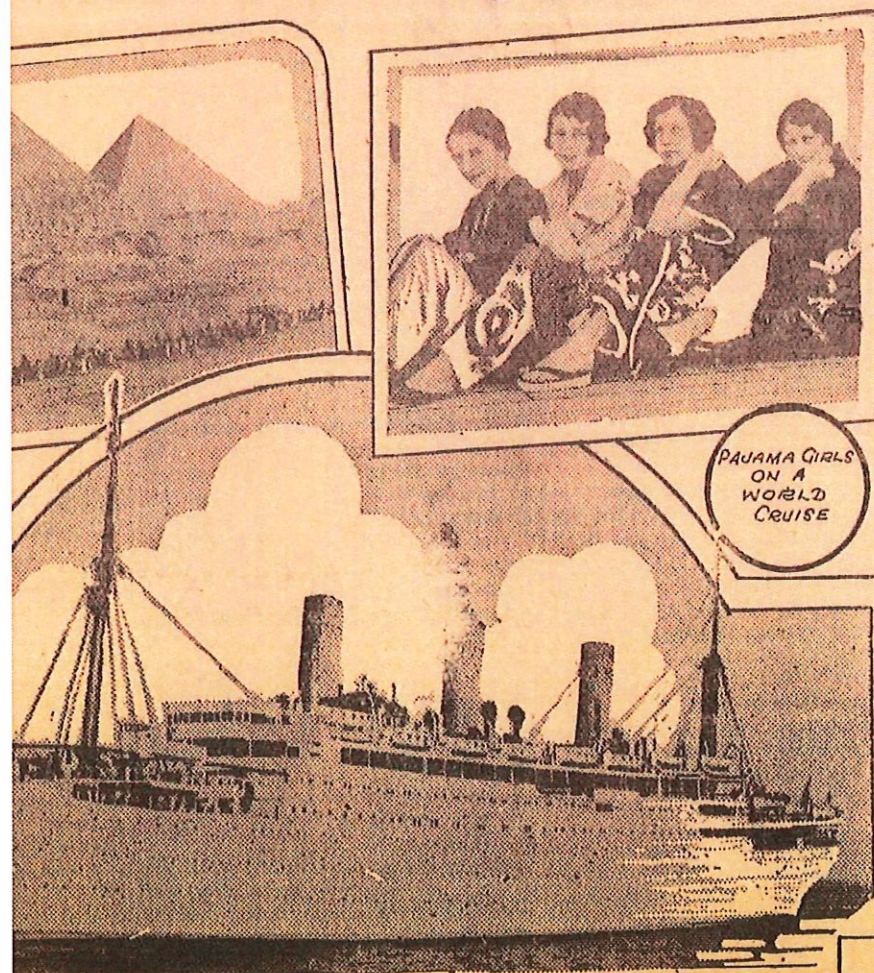
10c per
quart

—at the—

SANITARY MARKET

Whole Wheat Bread, Yellow Cocoa-

**Australia, "Dream Ship" of Cruises,
ce Another Globe-Girdling Voyage in 1930-31**

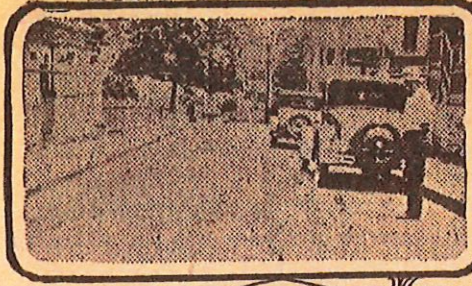


PAUAMA GIRLS
ON A
WORLD
CRUISE

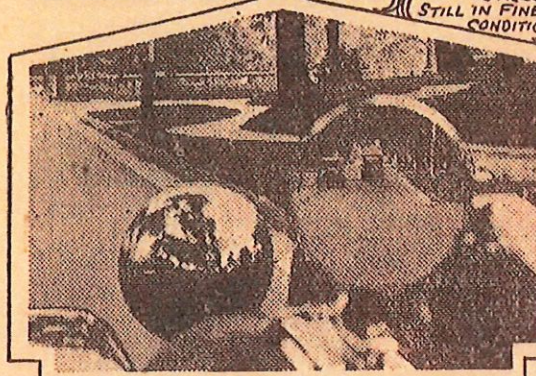
EMPERESS OF AUSTRALIA

Trans-Atlantic, round-the-world cruise. Independent world travel is difficult.

BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS LEADS WORK ON ROADS, AS TASK OF COM HIGHWA



29-YEAR
OLD
STREET
STILL IN FINE
CONDITION



UNIQUE PHOTO SHOWS GOOD STREET IN BOTH DIRECTIONS



CENTRIFUGAL MACHINE
TO EXTRACT ASPHALT



EVEN
THIS
YOUNG MISS
CAN RIDE
300 MILES OVER
SMOOTH ROADS WITHOUT TIRING

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Road construction now reaches the enormous sum of one and one-half billion dollars annually for county, state, and Federal roads, according to the United States Bureau of Public Roads. But even this prodigious sum may be exceeded, for the next great task in road building in this country is the construction of between 500,000 and 1,000,000 miles of local roads or "feeders," according to the same notable authority.

But with this huge advance in road construction, the number of irresponsible bidders on road contracts is also increasing, according to the Bureau of Contract Information, Inc., an organization promoted by the Associated General Contractors of America, and authorized by leading surety companies. This bureau was organized among other purposes, to furnish advance information as to the qualifications, equipment, past performance, and financial standing of bidders on large projects. Thomas H. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Public Roads, said recently of the Bureau of Contract Information in an address before the contractors: "We will make progress by getting the facts through the work that will be done through this bureau, and I am very much pleased with the support that this work is receiving. It seems to me that with the facts which are collected and made available through this bureau to the public officials and others entitled to them, we will eliminate the inefficient contractor to a considerable extent."

POOR ROADS CAUSE LOSS

Irresponsible bidders are causing untold losses to the public in poor roads or forfeited contracts, according to Mr. S. M. Williams, President of the Bureau of Contract Information which is initiating a thorough search and study of the losses thus caused to bring about an improvement.

"A very large proportion of contractors today, if forced to liquidate would be found irresponsible," Mr. Williams said. He cited the case of a contractor who had applied recently for bonds in order to qualify as a bidder on a stretch of road but who on investigation was found to be owing \$120,000. The application for a bond was refused. Countless delays in road construction and improperly built roads, many lawsuits and heavy road repair bills are said to result from the prevailing method of awarding bids.

BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS' PLAN

For the past three years the United States Bureau of Public Roads has led in a movement to eliminate the irresponsible bidder by requiring prospective bidders on road contracts to fill out blanks fully stating forth their past performance, equipment, financial standing and experience. This plan has been meeting with great success, as irresponsible contractors hesitate before attempting to fill out the prequalification blanks. Many state road bureaus have adopted the plan for the prequalification of bidders on public roads which is gaining rapidly; prequalification of bidders has been in use in Wisconsin for six years.

Generally speaking the prevailing

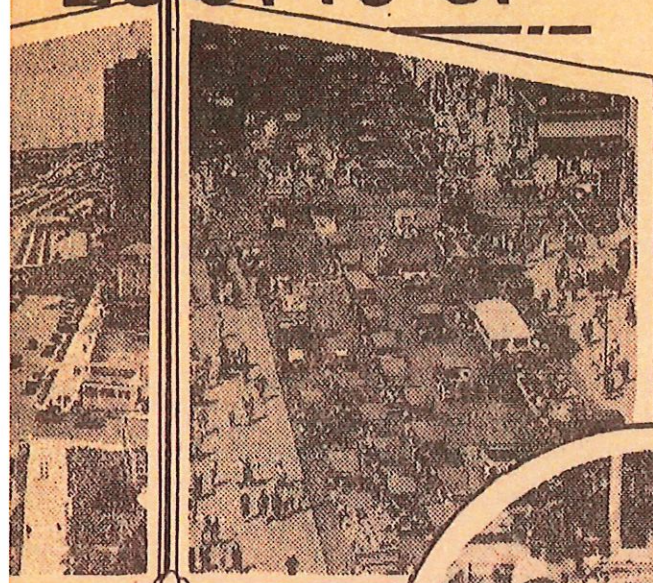
system for the technical qualification of bidders on public roads throughout the United States is the issuance of bond guaranteeing the completion of the road according to specifications. Something further is now required, according to authorities on the subject since experience, equipment, successful past performance, financial ability, and integrity are essential to the complex art of building a modern road that will stand up under traffic. Through fulfillment of the technical bonding qualifications, irresponsible contractors are said to underbid responsible firms and even go below official engineering estimates by a wide margin, with the result that the road is either thrown back upon the public or the "job is robbed" or far less than maximum performance is produced.

PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS

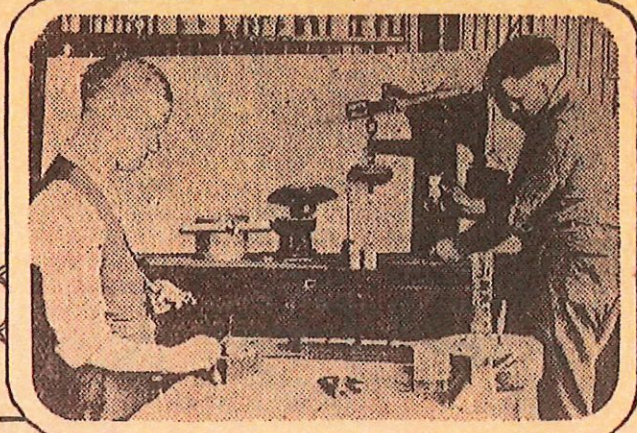
The practice of invariably awarding

the bids to firmly establish him the contractor he cannot do this point, Chief of the Roads, said meeting of Contractors suggested, the works seem public feels citizenship, vote; and the tractor ought to be performed contract, lay way entering competition, petition of in or, between; full to the p

MASSIVE CAMPAIGN TO ASSURE BEST STRUCTURING HALF MILLION MILES OF ROADS LOOMS UP



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TESTING STRENGTH
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MODERN
HIGHWAY
BUILDING A REAL
ENGINEERING
TASK

GOOD
ROADS
BRING
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PLEASURES TO
GIRL NIMRODS

pensive in the end than a road costing more. The average man will take an acute interest in the building of a home and will require satisfaction as to the materials going into it, but he is absolutely at a loss when confronted with the question as to the quality of stone, for example, which is going into a road. But under the prevailing system the lowest bidder is very apt to get the job even if he is an irresponsible bidder provided he is equipped with the technical qualifications of a bond. While this qualification is hold-over from days when dirt roads were the rule it is not sufficient of itself for modern road requirements, and the job goes to the lowest bidder rather than to the lowest responsible bidder. Often a record of successful work in the construction of roads which have stood up in first-class style for many years, is ignored for the lower bid of an irresponsible contractor

CHEAP ROAD COSTLY IN END

It is pointed out that if an irresponsible bidder puts in the lowest bid, underbidding all his competitors by a wide margin, and his bid is accepted according to the customary practice, and is, as has often happened, far below the estimates of the official engineers, an economic pressure is exerted on him to give less than maximum performance in order to come out even on the job. A contractor may give maximum performance on his contract or he may give medium performance and get by, or he even may give minimum performance and get away with it. An irresponsible contractor cannot be expected to give maximum or even medium performance.

The one real criterion of a road is what service has it given, how has it stood up for the cost. This is also, in part, a criterion of the responsible bidder. But he must have experience nowadays in addition to his existing financial ability and equipment, and a reputation for integrity.

And in this way, it is believed, the county will get best value for the billions to be expended on roads.

lowest bidder is so that public officials censure by refusing even when they know work properly. On as H. MacDonald, Bureau of Public tly before a board Associated General one of our engineers at to bid on public a matter that the inherent right of with the right to public official who stand that a consequence reasonably qualified before he bids upon a small, is in some an intrigue to stifle ge can be no competency and efficiency.—ences that is help- The only competi-

tion that can be helpful to the public is the competition of efficiency. And in the forest road work, and in the National Park road work, we have for three years prequalified the contractors. Mr. MacDonald paid tribute to the loyalty and public service of the contracting industry which has made the success of this road work possible. He stressed the success with which the government has applied prequalification and said under it, the man who would bid faces the issue of responsibility before, rather than after he has put in his bid. He explained why, without prequalification, the lowest bidder, though not qualified to do the work, might get the contract, saying. In part: "After a low bid is once recorded in the minutes of the public body and repeated in the press, the public looks at it as a nice juicy plum just within reach. If the public official

takes it away by saying, 'This man can't possibly do the work at these prices,' the public mind is turned questioningly toward his veracity. So the public official, in self protection, hesitates to turn down the low bidder." PUBLIC SHOULD STUDY ROADS While the prequalification clause is aimed to prevent the irresponsible bidder from getting on the record, the real fault, it is said, lies with the public which is so unfamiliar with the relative values of methods, materials, and varying costs of modern types of road construction as to be unable to back up a public official who takes an intelligent stand in awarding the contract to the bidder whose work and source of supplies, equipment, and experience promises the best road for the money. In other words, the cheapest road is not always the best; it may be much more ex-

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