

Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Oct. 5.—If Marjorie Mobley of Boxville, Ky., is still among the living, she may be interested in reading the following item. Today I walked into the office of the Evansville Press and Mail and handed to my old friend, the Mail Forwarding Department.



But the Mail Forwarding Department was in a state of vast confusion and embarrassment. For it had just a few minutes previously, upon looking under its typewriter for the first time in God knows how long, found an envelope addressed to this column. So the Mail Forwarding Department handed the envelope to me and then fled in chagrin. The envelope, Miss Mobley, bore the Christmas card that you sent me more than nine months ago—the date on the postmark was Dec. 22, 1939.

So thanks for your good intentions, Miss Mobley, and here's wishing you a Merry Christmas for 1940, just to get it started in plenty of time. And please don't feel too hard at the Mail Forwarding Department. I don't, myself, for in truth the Mail Forwarding Department of the Evansville Press is such a cute number that I'm just about to ask her out to lunch right now. She may be dumb about sending on letters, but letters aren't everything in life, I always say.

Saves His Reputation

I know another very nice girl who at the moment is working as a chambermaid in a country hotel. She is a girl who tries to learn things and better herself. She told me the other day that she has been making it a practice of late to learn two new words a day. She not only learns them, but she contrives somehow during the day to use them.

I asked her what two words she had learned that day, and she said "gullible" and "potential." And then she asked me what "portentous" means.

Now I really do know what "portentous" means, but for the life of me I couldn't think how to define it. So, in order not to defile my reputation for infallibility in this girl's eyes, I just told her there

wasn't any such word, never had been any such word and probably never would be any such word.

The Lamplight Inn here has a new form of bingo that is sort of fascinating. They hand out cards to the guests, and on each card is printed the names of 25 songs, in five rows across. The songs are in different order on each card.

Then the guest the organ plays a few bars of one of the songs. If you recognize it, you push down the tab in that space. Then she goes on to another one. The first person that fills a row across the card yells "Bingo!" and gets a free drink.

I had "Sweet Adeline," "Shine on Harvest Moon," "Goodnight Sweetheart" and "Old Spinning Wheel," and needed only "The Isle of Capri" in order to yell "Bingo!"

But somebody "binged" ahead of me, which probably was just as well, since I wouldn't know "The Isle of Capri" if I heard it.

A Delightful Meal

Those who read this column regularly know how little regard I have for the ancient and honored custom of eating.

Food to me is just the same as air to a tire—we take it so we'll run better. But the other day we had a meal that sort of threw me off my base. It was in a place called the Wonderland Inn, out in the country just a little west of the hilly little town of St. Meinrad.

It was luncheon, and we had soup and fried chicken and potatoes and two kinds of fresh tomatoes and fine string beans and corn-pickle relish and cinnamon-baked apples and home-made bread and dessert (which we were too full to eat).

It came right off the stove, and every little thing was immaculate and thoughtful, and the whole meal cost—50 cents!

This is a German community. There is an old-worldly monastery on the hill overlooking the town. The Wonderland Inn, on its road signs, advertises "German Cooking."

And we thought to ourselves—this is one of the few absolutely honest meals we've had in a con's age, but we suppose pretty soon some people will refuse to stop there because it's "German" cooking. It's a queer world; indeed it is.

He's tickled or angry all over. He appears quite calm, but he's actually a nervous, high-strung individual.

What Makes It Tick?

AS A BOY he made models of an entire U. S. fleet in wood and maneuvered them on Pogue's Run. He's still wild about the sea and he's made about 15 trips across the Atlantic. He loves railroads and he's fascinated by airplanes, although he has never taken a ride. He likes to go out to the Airport to watch the airplanes come and go. He's inordinately curious and always wants to know the whys and wherefores of things and what makes em tick. If some dish strikes his fancy, it's quite likely that he'll march back to the kitchen to find out how it was made.

He smokes cigarettes and lately has come to the conclusion he smokes too many and has taken to carrying a tin of them in his pocket. He loves horses and dogs. He's interested in movies from the artistic and scientific viewpoint and when technical arrived, he saw all of them for a while. He reads a lot—sonnets, short stories, histories and plays. He gets a run on an author, like Dickens or Tolstol and proceeds to read everything the man ever wrote.

He Says What He Thinks

HE ENJOYS THE radio and listens to almost everything. He fooms around trying to get foreign programs by short wave. He is delighted when he gets to hear a pair of hams talking.

He was with Belasco for more than eight years and, naturally, is deeply interested in the theater. He's seldom found in an audience, though. He is usually backstage visiting old friends. He has a lot of little superstitions like knocking on wood.

He always says what he thinks, always will. He's proud of Indiana and Indiana art and when the State chose Thomas Benton to do the murals for the Chicago World's Fair, "Ta!" just up and publicly threatened to have his birthplace legally changed.

No Fishing Expedition

Perhaps this time we can profit by that mistake. Few know much about the true progress of defense. We know everyone is working hard. We also know that there are difficulties. We know that defense industries are not being decentralized as much as had been hoped for and that the tendency under traditional procedure is to concentrate overmuch in certain centers, thus creating highly vulnerable areas and further unbalancing the economy of some sections as against others.

There is some question whether we are taking full advantage of the cheap power facilities of TVA in manufacture of materials for explosives. Such questions need a check-over by a joint committee of inquiry.

It is of the utmost importance that such a committee be elected with great care, with equal Republican representation. We want neither a white-wash committee nor a smelling committee but one composed of Senators and Representatives already familiar with Army and Navy affairs, who in long service have demonstrated their fair-mindedness and ability. Such men are to be found, men whose report would have a single eye to the progress of defense, and whose suggestions undoubtedly would carry the greatest weight with the Administration.

What Progress in Defense?

This inquiry should not be carried on during the political campaign. But Congress will be in session immediately after election. The creation of a joint House and Senate inquiry should take place at once after election and the Administration should be the first to ask for it. Prolonged secrecy on this fateful matter of defense is bad for the country and bad for the defense organization itself.

Long before France fell, long before we faced the danger of being left isolated in the world, there was agitation for creation of a joint committee to study the whole defense question, to arrive at some idea of what we wanted to defend and of what we needed for such defense.

Nothing happened—or rather the idea was scuttled by the petty jealousies of regular House and Senate

committee chairmen, jealous of their prerogatives. The result was months of lost time. During the months after that Congress knocked out numerous vital recommendations of the Army and Navy. For instance the Alaskan air base was killed, and then after Hitler invaded the low countries Congress in its panic had to reverse itself and plunge into hasty defense authorizations that only a few months before it had rejected. We might have saved much previous time had there been a real inquiry as to our needs.

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Willkie is raising questions about the speed of defense, and very properly. That is one subject upon which it is helpful and stimulating to prod the Administration. The more pressure on Washington the better. A congressional inquiry, conducted by the

right group of men, would be healthy.

My Day

By Eleanor Roosevelt

HYDE PARK, Friday.—I am still reveling in the beauty which we enjoyed yesterday. I think this year the coloring is particularly vivid. Nothing could have been lovelier than the whole drive over the Mohawk Trail and then down through Pittsfield, Lenox and Stockbridge, Mass., to reach home about 6 o'clock.

We found two friends waiting to greet us and had a very pleasant evening, though Miss Thompson attacked the mountain of mail which is always the result of a few days' holiday. She brought me enough work to do until 3 a. m.

I did not get started so early this morning. After various telephone messages and the inevitable arrangements for the week-end, I finally mounted my horse and rode through the woods for an hour and a half. The sun is still deliciously warm, but all the flies are finally gone. There is something very invigorating in the air so that one feels one can do twice as much as is ordinarily possible.

My mother-in-law, her sister, Mrs. Price Collier and my sister-in-law, Mrs. J. R. Roosevelt, all came to lunch with me. Now they have gone and we are about to start out to do some errands in Poughkeepsie,

This is really a wonderful shopping center. I don't often have the time to remember how much I could do here in the way of Christmas shopping, if I were only to put my mind on it early enough.

Next week, from the 6th to the 12th of October, will be National Businesswomen's week. They have taken as their theme: "Businesswomen in a democracy." During the current club year they are building their program around the idea of "making democracy work."

I feel so strongly that this is a very important program and one in which all women should co-operate in forwarding. Businesswomen are accustomed to organization. They know the value of planning a program and carrying it out systematically. They know how to obtain publicity and what kind of publicity will help to spread interest in democracy. The businesswomen in this country could really organize many of the unorganized women and carry out a program of working in and for a democracy.

They would first have to make sure that every woman knew what democracy meant to her and saw in terms of the way she lives her daily life. That takes into account how she treats her friends and the people who work for her in her home or in other capacities where her life touches theirs and, above all, what she does to co-operate with her Government to preserve democracy, not for herself alone, but for all the people in the country. If businesswomen make their program a clarion call for the women of the nation, this year will be well spent.

G. O. P. FACING

TOUGH FIGHT IN SIXTH DISTRICT

Recent Polls Indicate Fifth Is Leaning Toward Republicans.

(This is the fifth of a series of articles on the present political trends in each of the State's 12 Congressional districts.)

By NOBLE REED

One of the toughest fights the Republicans now face to maintain their majority in Congress in the Nov. 5 election, is in the Sixth Congressional District—comprising 10 counties north and west of Indianapolis.

They put Rep. Noble J. Johnson, Terre Haute lawyer, in Congress two years ago with a bare 1700 majority out of 150,000 votes cast in a contest against Virginia E. Jenckes.

Democrats claim they lost the district then because Mrs. Jenckes was the center of a factional upset in that area and that this year the party is solidly behind Lenhardt Bauer, Terre Haute attorney, who is making one of the most aggressive campaigns of any candidate in the State.

The Sixth District for many years was a Democratic stronghold.

Fifth Leans to G. O. P.

In the Fifth District—including nine counties north and west of Indianapolis—recent polls show that, although the area formerly was heavily Democratic, it is leaning Republican again this year.

All through the first seven years of the Twentieth century, the Fifth District was Democratic consistently, but a large mass of independent voters swung the other way two years ago and elected Rep. Forest Harness, Kokomo Republican, by a 12,000 majority.

Neutral analysis have found, however, that Rep. Harness will hold his advantage in the district only so long as the Wilkie strength maintains its present status.

Auctioneer Is Foe

Running against Rep. Harness is George W. Wolf, Peru auctioneer, who is a prominent member of the State Legislature. Democrats are sure Mr. Wolf will make a strong campaign, but are not counting very strongly upon a victory in the Fifth this year.

Mr. Harness is a high tariff Republican and has led many attacks against the New Deal in the last two years.

Mr. Wolf was the only Democrat elected to the lower house of the Legislature from the Fifth District in 1938, and Democrats are predicting he will make a better showing than Glenn Griswold, former Democratic Congressman, did two years ago.

Bauer Means New Deal Votes

Surveying the voting trends in the Sixth District, analysts contend that Rep. Johnson has lost many votes through his record in Congress. They claim that he has not made an outstanding record in the House and that many voters in the district have turned to Mr. Bauer, especially in the heavily populated areas.

The election results in the Sixth also are hanging upon the Presidential contest.

It will take New Deal votes to elect Mr. Bauer and if President Roosevelt slips very far below his 1936 strength in that area, Mr. Bauer is expected to slip with him.

MILK PRICE PLAN

DISCUSSION SET

The State Milk Control Board Tuesday will discuss the proposal to substitute a flexible price system for the present system of fixed prices to dairymen for milk in the Indianapolis area.

The proposal, made recently by a University of Illinois professor, at a public hearing here, would base the price which the dairymen get for their milk upon the Chicago butter market.

The Chicago butter market goes up and down with world economic conditions, he said, and basing local milk prices upon this butter market would create a price system more fair than the present for both the producer and distributor. It is said that the price system change would not affect the consumer.

Opponents of the plan say that it would put local dairymen on a gambling basis, with their incomes going up and down with the butter market.

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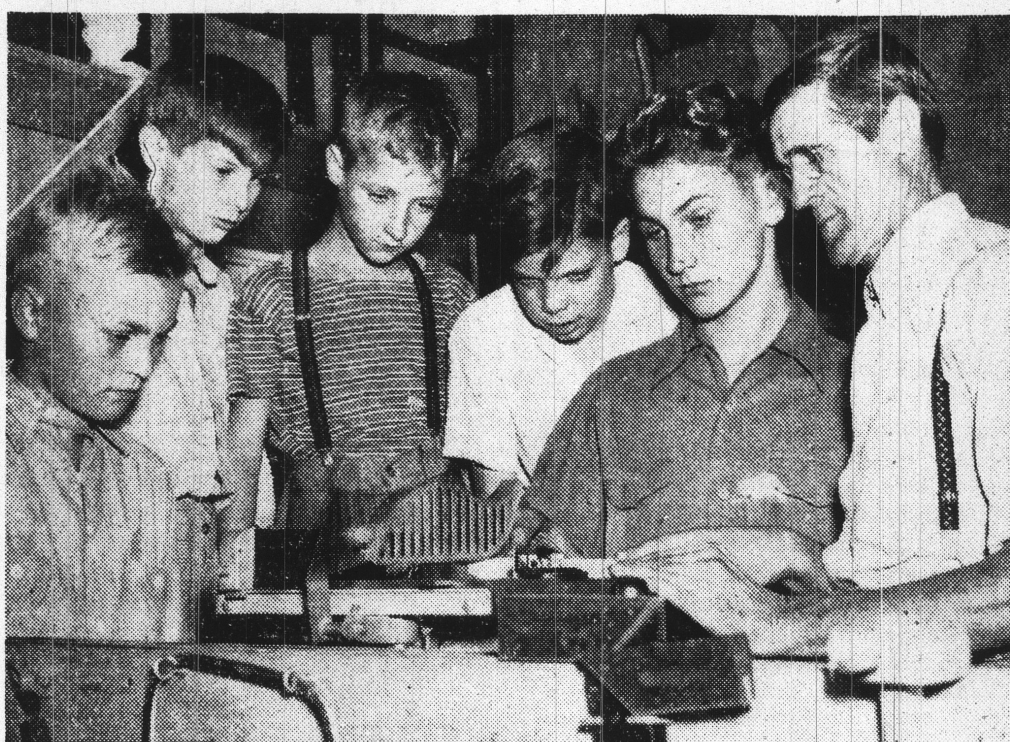
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Boyish Enthusiasm Pays Dividends



Members of the English Avenue Boys' Club. . . The gang has moved inside.

Most boys call their friends "the club," only adults refer to "the club."

The two Indianapolis Boys' Clubs have capitalized on boys' interest in their friends. They've taken over the street-corner gang and moved it into a place where boys' enthusiasm can help instead of hinder.

The first Boys' Club was founded 42 years ago on S. Meridian St., according to Harry G. Gorman, president of the Community Chest, which is the center of a factional upset in that area and that this year the party is solidly behind Lenhardt Bauer, Terre Haute attorney, who is making one of the most aggressive campaigns of any candidate in the State.

The English Avenue Boys' Club was organized in 1925 at 1400 English Ave.

From small neighborhood groups the membership has grown so that 500 boys from poorer sections of the city are participating in everything from debates to boxing matches this year.

Both clubs have a club room, game room, library, gymnasium and wood-working room. More than 150 boys have learned to make useful articles—and keep busy.

The Boys' Clubs offer a planned program with emphasis on four points of development: physical, mental, moral and educational.

Several years ago the Indianapolis organization started a camp three

and a half miles northwest of Noblesville. Running in three periods throughout the summer, the camp offered outdoor recreation to 229 boys, only 151 of whom paid anything.

The organization is one of 37 agencies supported in whole or in part by the Community Fund. Monday, a drive for \$688,500 for the fund starts in Indianapolis.

Our America



We Refuse to Allow Our Props to Be Broken

By KATHARINE BRUSH

AUTHOR OF "YOUNG MAN OF MANHATTAN," "OTHER WOMEN," "THIS IS ON ME," ETC.

(Last of a series of articles by 24 authors)

Not so very long ago, a few people in this country of ours decided to have a revolution. For one thing, they were fed up with some things that a demented old man at the head of some lazy and self-important ministers wanted to do to their pocketbooks, and they were also sore at the way he was going about it.

The policy followed was that the 13 colonies in the New World were just that—colonies; and should be delighted to take orders from the Mother Country.

They didn't take the king and his ministers out, even at this early stage of American history, that Americans don't like to take orders. And the king's successors realized that the Americans were right, and so they had a social revolution of their own and made their country every bit as democratic as their late colonies were.

But most of the other countries in the Old World weren't as clever. Feudalism was still the order, so those who were being oppressed turned to the west. They crossed the ocean by sail and by steam and they came to America—where opportunity and the right to work existed, and were recognized. And America grew—founded on a belief in freedom.

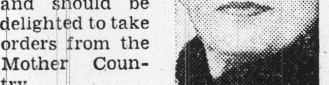
Now Americans are, without doubt, the most generous and idealistic people in the world. We hear of an earthquake, a famine, a flood somewhere, and immediately we jump to the rescue. It isn't because we're so darn

wealthy; it's because we pride ourselves on being humanitarian.

So that's why our backs get up when we see what is happening abroad. We firmly believe that such suffering is needless. We firmly believe that we have basically the right form of government. We firmly believe, and we'll just as firmly defend our belief.

There's a revolution going on in Europe—a negative one—and the outcome will mean either a reversal to feudalism or a continuance of our way of life. America is for the status quo of democratic principles.

That is the American case. These are the tenets by which we live. These are the props that we refuse to have pulled out from under us.



Katharine Brush

JACKSON WARNS OF SABOTAGE ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5 (U. P.).

Attorney General Robert H. Jackson warned today that foreign agents are attempting to sabotage American institutions as well as factories and military defenses.

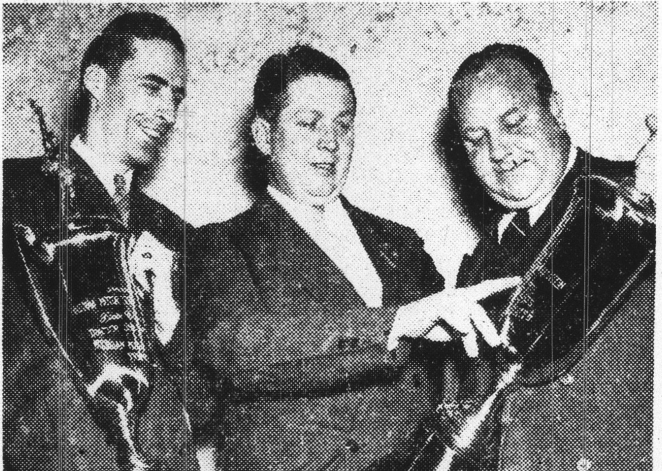
In a message read to more than 300 graduates of the National Police Academy, Mr. Jackson described such agents as enemies of democracy and said they "seek to sabotage law and respect for law."

"The best defense against such attack is the efficient exercise of your duties, with the vigor to perform them fully and the vigilance not to exceed them," he said.

CHOIR AT HOSPITAL

St. Roch's Choir, directed by George B. Rolfsen, will sing at the Catholic Vesper service at 4 p. m. Sunday at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital. Miss Roseann Davey is accompanist.

For the Best Drivers



Inspecting the trophies to be presented tonight to the champion truck drivers. . . (left to right) Ryan Hall, Jimmy Scherr and Fay Langdon, all in charge of the convention.

Homer L. Challaux of the American Legion will speak this evening at the annual banquet of the Indiana Motor Traffic Association at the Hotel Antlers.

Glen R. Hillis, Republican nominee for Governor of Indiana, was to address the 350 persons attending the convention at a luncheon. Lieut. Gov. Henry F. Schrieker, Democratic nominee for the post, spoke to the group yesterday. Contests have featured the convention.

Included are a straight truck driving and a rodeo which consisted of parking and maneuvering huge tractor-trailer units.

Walter Cline, of the Michigan-Indiana Transportation Co., of Indianapolis is the defending state champion. The finals will be held today.

The two two-foot high trophies will be presented to the winning drivers by Muriel Meadows, Salem, Ind., association president. The prizes were donated by the Michigan Mutual Liability Co.

Ted B. Rodgers, Washington member of the National Defense Commission, spoke yesterday. Discussing the transportation problem of national defense he contended that intra-state and other regulations were hindering trucking.

School News—

SHOWERS HELP HOWE LIBRARY

Many of Its 37,000 Books Donated by Women's Groups, Pupils.

By EARL HOFF

Howe High School is 37,999 books ahead of where it was on opening day, in September, 1938.

That was when Principal Charles M. Sharp invited open house visitors to "step into our library and see our book"—a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.

Now the walls of what once was a cafeteria are lined with books, most of them put there by pupils, their parents and friends.

Cafeteria Is Moved

The cafeteria was moved into the new addition opened this year and the library was carried over from a class room used until that time.

In March, 1939, the Parent-Teacher Association decided that the solitary dictionary looked lonely and sponsored a "book shower." The idea clicked with residents of the East Side and they brought more than 3000 volumes to the high school. A large number of them were appropriate for school use.

With a flying start from the "shower," nearly every woman's club in Irvington began donating sums of money, some of them specifying the books to be bought.

Choose From Library

Howe also was given the privilege of selecting volumes from the Charles S. Lewis library which had been given to DeWitt S. Morgan, schools superintendent, for use of schools.

But most of the books Howe was receiving were strictly for school use. Essential volumes were purchased with the \$200 appropriated each semester by the School Board. There were few books for recreational reading.

The pupils decided to fix that themselves. At a "book week" held each semester, English classes donated coins to purchase fiction and other lighter reading. Some of the "book week" donations totaled as much as \$60.

Plan for Week in November

National Book Week, Nov. 10 to 16, is to be used for adding to the recreational reading fund this semester.

To dress up the expanded library, Howe also has installed new tables and chairs.

Mrs. Jeff R. Stonex, formerly assistant librarian at Tech High School, is in charge of the Howe library.

Brothers Held As N. Side Bullars

A 19-year-old youth and his brother, 17, stepped softly in the early morning hours in Park Ave., 2500 block, today in their stocking feet.

Five times they entered homes in the block, gathered their loot and left quietly by the front door.

Then a neighbor saw them raise a window at 2525 Park Ave., and called police. Two cruisers responded. The youths attempted to flee and the older one was shot in the right knee.

DISCUSS RESOLUTIONS

Legislative aims and teacher cooperation with the national defense program were discussed yesterday at a meeting of the Indiana State Teachers Association resolutions committee at the Hotel Lincoln.

The resolutions will be presented at the 87th annual convention of the association, to be held here Oct. 24 and 25.

SOCIETY A YEAR OLD

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Lighthouse Church in Ravenswood will observe its first anniversary at 7 p. m. tomorrow. There will be a musical program and a sermon by the pastor, Max Owens, who established the church two years ago.

REGISTRATION OFFICE READY FOR LAST RUSH

Courtroom Open Tomorrow With Added Facilities For Voters.

After the close of voters' registrations at midnight Monday, election clerks will face the task of checking the files against spurious names and addresses, a bugaboo that plagues both parties every election year.

Two years ago charges were hurled back and forth among party leaders that some registrations had been listed from vacant houses or business buildings where no one lived.

Charles R. Ettinger, County Clerk, said every effort will be made to rid the files of any illegal registrations.

Clerks estimated today that at least 600 more voters will register before the Monday night deadline and arrangements have been made to set up tables in the Court House corridor to handle the crowds. The registration office will be open tomorrow from 10 a. m. to 9 p. m. and from 8 a. m. to midnight Monday.

William P. Planary, chief registration clerk, said that new registrations this year included about 3500 persons who moved here from other Indiana counties. Many of them have come from Allen, Madison, Vanderburgh and Vigo counties, apparently taking jobs in industrial plants linked with national defense production.

Since the branch registration offices closed last Wednesday