

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

This column will be devoted to the residents of Birmingham and such to make use of the time for the discussion of all matters pertaining to the welfare of the community.

To the Editor—Why all this hurry to annex large areas to the village of Birmingham? It is for the purpose of helping the present village obtain all the municipal improvements that are desirable or is its fundamental reason to add to the incomes of real estate speculators?

Let us, please, get all the light we can on the subject in order that we may be fairly sure that we make no mistake in haste that we must repeat in leisure.

Who is advocating and taking in more acres? and why? I well recognize that it is a common cry among municipalities that they must grow or some other municipality will grow.

We are, instead, a village of homes. That is all we ought to want to be. It is because it is a village of homes free from the grime and dirt of business—

uncontaminated and practically all of us have moved here and bought or rented our homes. Here we are proud of it. For this reason Birmingham has no competition with other municipalities with a nervous-wrecking program to force our growth.

It is often said that in taking additional acres within a municipality's limits it helps to spread the necessary burden of taxation. That is a fallacious statement. It never has been true and it cannot be true.

All vacant property or nearly vacant property annexed to a municipality becomes a burden instead of an asset upon the older community. Its immediate demands in the way of public improvements and taxes which exceeds greatly in costs than the additional amount that comes into the municipal treasury in the way of taxes.

As Birmingham stands today we have not an adequate water supply. Our fire protection is any too extensive. The same thing applies to our police and other municipal departments. If my fellow citizens will get off the main highway for a few hours day and walk the streets of Birmingham they will discover hundreds upon hundreds of lots unimproved and unutilized—land that is being held at exorbitant prices for new buyers and at a fair percentage of those lots have been adorned with homes it follows that our municipal undertakings now hardly adequate, would come entirely so, imagine, then the condition we would be in if we attempted to use the same undertakings in serving the frightful amount of new acreage that it is proposed to annex.

In all earnestly let us straighten out and equalize some of the problems we are now facing before we add to our burdens by any scheme of annexation. This done and it will be time enough to consider the advisability of enlarging our corporate limits and take on additional burdens.

CITIZENS' LEAGUE'S FIRST MEETING

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WILL TALK TRANSPORTATION, MAIL DELIVERY AND OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST

Notices sent out calling Resident-Attention to Meeting and Inviting Them to Attend.

As noted in the Executive of last week a meeting of the newly organized Citizens League will be held in the study of the First building on Maple avenue at 7 o'clock Tuesday evening Feb. 2, at which officers will be elected and questions of improved mail delivery service, express service and transportation matters taken up.

The Citizens League is an outgrowth of the Birmingham Improvement Association and is organized for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the community.

WOMAN'S GUILD TO MEET WITH MRS. C. J. SHAW

The Women's Guild of St. James church will meet with Mrs. Charles Shaw of 1000 Persimmon street, at 7 o'clock Wednesday, Feb. 3.

Y. M. C. A. CAMPAIGN GOING ALONG MERRILY

The campaign to put the Young Men's Christian Association building in Birmingham and Oakland counties on an adequate financial basis started about a week ago, and is going along well.

The building committee has been successful in securing the support of the amount which is needed for the building.

ENGINEER E. M. LAY LEAVES COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Will Be Made Future Time to Private Work—Construction Takes Charge

P. M. Lay, who has been active in county road commission work for practically three years, will devote his full time to private work, including engineering and road building work.

Contract for the construction of a concrete dam in the village of New Hope, Michigan, has been awarded to the firm of J. H. ...

A MAN'S RELIGION Sunday Night Sermon METHODIST CHURCH Birmingham JOSEPH DUTTON, Pastor. ORCHESTRA

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL NOTES

Edward Bone, the marfanite, who comes here on the Lycoming course Sunday evening, Feb. 2, has a well reputation of many years standing as a player of entertainers.

An evening of fun and something which appeals to young and old alike is one of the most important forms of entertainment and it is for this reason that the Birmingham school notes are always thoroughly enjoyed.

The public school system of Birmingham is making a steady advance in the way of improvement and it is for this reason that the Birmingham school notes are always thoroughly enjoyed.

NOTES

The girls' basketball team won at 17-10 Friday night. The boys' basketball team won at 17-10 Friday night.

The boys' basketball team played at Royal Oak on Friday night. Admission to the game, 25 cents.

The homecoming exercises for girls will be held at the Lycoming course on Monday, Feb. 22.

FARM BUREAU NOTICE

Notice for the directors in each county in the county has been received. The directors should be notified of the meeting of the board.

PLANS COMPLETED FOR BIG FARM CONVENTION

Agricultural Men of State to Mix Business and Pleasure at M. A. C. Feb. 2-6.

With programs, music and exhibits ready to be placed, plans for the big annual convention of the Michigan Agricultural College, which will be held at the Michigan Agricultural College during Farmers' Week, Feb. 2-6, are in final completion.

The program of prominent speakers for the general meetings is as follows: Monday, Feb. 2, evening, Dean Alfred Vian, Ohio State University; Dr. H. G. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. C. C. Cook, President of Ontario Agricultural College; Dr. W. H. ...

The following local postmen are in charge of the mail delivery in Birmingham: ...

WOMAN'S LITERARY CLUB WILL HOLD FIRST BIRMINGHAM MEETING

Next week on Tuesday, the Woman's Literary club will hold its first Birmingham meeting under the auspices of the Parish and Town Improvement Department.

The meeting will be held at the M. E. church Tuesday afternoon at 7 o'clock.

Mrs. Wachtman will introduce the speakers and give a talk on "The History of the Department."

Mrs. V. M. ... will give a talk on "The History of the Department."

CHILDREN OF THE SCHOOL ORGANIZE GIRLS CLUB

A number of children of the Hill school have organized a delightful little club called the "Girls Club," which meets every Wednesday afternoon.

The club members are: ...

LIFE PROBLEMS BEFORE PROTECTIVE OFFICER

Though she has been in the only one in the county, Mrs. ...

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THEATERS.

"Shaker Detroit" of 1919 will be at the Grand Theatre on Monday, Feb. 2.

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MANY DEATHS REPORTED FOR WEEK

MRS. MURPHY, STAMPEE PASSES AWAY AT THE CENTRAL CITY HOSPITAL

Caroline Acid Canned Food Mrs. Margaret Burchard, of Royal Oak.

Mrs. Martin Stumpf, who was operated upon at the Central City hospital, died at 10 o'clock Monday.

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MINOR GROCERY COMPANY

Homo of Good Things to Eat.

The Ford Runabout is a Runabout in reality—a regular business messenger, solving the question of economical and quick transportation.

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SPECIAL FOR ONE WEEK

To introduce Bersford's Celon Tea we will give you 1-2 pound free with each purchase of 1-2 pound.

This is a very rich flavored Tea and well worth the price, \$1.00 per lb.

Do not miss this chance to get your first pound at 50c.

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Ford THE UNIVERSAL CAR

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Boughner Bros. Birmingham

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