When you are in need of GOOD PRINTING, do not worry, do not get worried as to how and when you can get it done—just rest assured if the knowledge that the BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC is equipped to handle the job, and bring in the "copy" for an estimate.

Birmingham Eccentric

It is an established fact that the merchant who really wants to reach his patrons a service ADVERTISES his merchandise consistently.

A glance through the advertising columns of THE ECCENTRIC each week will bear out this fact.

"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

FORTY-SIXTH YEAR—NO. 48. BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1924. $1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS OF BIRMINGHAM ELECT

Annual Meetings Of Local Organization Choose Officers

FOUR SCHOOLS VOTE

Officers Of Council To Be Nominated Last Tuesday Of March

An article in last week's Eccentric, stating that officers for the local Parent-Teacher Association Council had been elected, was an error; it should have mentioned that the officers listed were elected to represent the Adams grade school unit. The Council itself is composed of the officers from each school, which nominates from its own personnel those whom it wishes to officiate. An election for this purpose will be held the last Tuesday of this month, the successful candidates to formally take office in the fall.

Following is the list of the new officers recently elected by the four public schools in Birmingham:

Baldwin High School—Mrs. R. Mann, president; Mr. Gafill 1st vice-president; Mrs. W. B. Brown, 2nd vice-president; Miss, Ackerly, 3rd vice-president; Mrs. James White, secretary; Miss Fuller, treasurer; Mr. Hart, principal; Mr. Willett, superintendent.

Adams Grade School—Mrs. Williamson, president; Miss McCoy, 1st vice-president; Mr. Cushing, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. R. Carson, secretary; Mrs. C. Jackson, treasurer. Miss Frederick, principal.

Hill Grade School—Mrs. Welch, president; Mrs. Baker, 1st vice-president; J. W. Wentz, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. Beyette, 3rd vice-president; Mrs. W. W. Dean, secretary; Mrs. B. Winborn, treasurer. Mrs. Eastaday, principal.

Barnum Grade School—Mrs. Huston, president; Miss Parmenter, 1st vice-president; William Ross, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. Haack, secretary; Mrs. Streb, treasurer. Miss Foreman, principal.

LOCAL BUSINESS MEN FORM ROTARY CLUB

Officers And Board of Directors Elected; To Meet Monday Noons

EXPECT CHARTER SOON

Final steps in a movement started last December for the organization of a Rotary club in Birmingham were completed Wednesday noon of last week when 15 local business and professional men met at the Birwood Inn and formally signed as charter members. With the completion of this new club Birmingham now has within its midst two noonday organizations that are built around the slogan: "He profits most who serves best." The other is the Exchange club, formed several weeks ago.

Officers for the ensuing year elected by the Rotary club are; president, George R. Averill, publisher of the Birmingham Eccentric; vice-president, Joseph E. Stroup, owner of Stroup's market; secretary, Charles B. Randall, vice-president and assistant cashier of the First National Bank; treasurer, Thomas H. Cobb, vice-president and cashier of the First State Savings Bank. A board of seven directors is composed of Averill, Stroup, Cobb, John B. Howarth, of the Whitehead-Standart co., Walter Connolly, of the John B. Williams Bldg. Co., Glenn M. Begole of Palmer-Begole Co., and Clarence Vliet, superintendent of Birmingham schools. Meetings will be held each week on Mondays.

Rotary represents simply the idea of service—the chief pledge of its members being to see that they serve, consider "service before self", and that by their example and their work for the community, in their business or profession and towards others, they shall give practical demonstration of the fact that "he profits most who serves best."

The final organization of Rotary in Birmingham is the result of a number of conferences that have been held by local business and professional men who, with the assistance of officers of the Rotary club of Wayne, Michigan, and of the International organization, conducted a survey of the resources and possibilities of this community with a special view as to whether or not a Rotary club would be of service to it.

TO INSTALL LIGHTS ON RIVENOAK AVENUE

In response to a request from Smith & Poppleton, owners of property in the nonbusiness section of Birmingham, the village commission Monday night agreed to install street lights on Rivenoak avenue at Oxford, Poppleton and Worth streets. The lights will be placed by the Edison Co. this spring.

STORY HOUR

There will be a story hour at the Baldwin Public Library Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock. Boys and girls are invited.

A Radio Set to suit any purse. Jos. J. Vincent, 551 Walnut Avenue. Telephone 335. Also Repairing. adv4t

"For mother's Easter gift—Your Photograph! She will appreciate it. Call the Arnold Studio, No. 945, for an appointment. adv4t

Field's Furniture Shop is agent for Hallman Mattress, Pontiac, for Hemstitching and Phashing. adv40tf

Death Reveals A Romance That Lived Within An Honest Heart

"Two lives that once part are as ships that divide
When, moment or moment, there rushes between
The one and the other a sea;
Ah, better can fall from the days that have been
A gleam on the years that shall be!"
—(A Lament)

The death of William Stevenson in the Pontiac City Hospital Friday, March 7, brought to a close a life that would have furnished material for an interesting story. It marked the end of a 35 year period spent on a little rented farm four mile west of Birmingham on Maple Road, where Mr. Stevenson lived entirely alone.

In the year 1889 Mr. Stevenson with his bride of a few months left their home in the County of Durham, England, and endured many hardships on the trip to Canada, where they expected to make their home. After a few weeks in Aufferia, Mrs. Stevenson unable to endure the homesickness, returned to England, alone, where a short time later a daughter was born. Mr. Stevenson came to Birmingham and rented the Grinnell farm where he has lived since. There were few who knew of his wife, and the daughter he had never seen. He became a familiar figure on the streets of Birmingham and all who came in contact with him had a profound respect for his honesty, according to all who knew him, almost a mania. He was loved by all who knew him, many tears being shed at his funeral and at the auction of his household goods on Tuesday of last week.

The auction was held by Robert Y. Moore and Luther D. Allen who had known him for many years and who were the two men, he had the greatest confidence in. The proceeds from the sale will be used for the funeral expenses and to purchase a marker for his grave.

Among some excellent old furniture which appeared at the sale was a hand carved walnut picture frame dated 1821 and a bible with the date of printing given as 1679. A package of letters was also found among the belongings of Mr. Stevenson from brothers and sisters in England and husband and from his wife, dated between the years 1890 and 1901, which had never been opened. Mr. Stevenson was unable to read or write and had never made any attempt to have the letters read. They were in a very pitiful strain, pleading with him to make his condition and whereabouts known, but the contents were never known to him.

A copy of an old English Baptism Certificate was found, dated 1852, which American Citizenship papers made out at Pontiac the year of his arrival here. The only request made by Mr. Stevenson before his death was in regard to a little watch about one half inch thick that ran with a key. This belonged to his mother and he requested that every effort be made to put this into the hands of his daughter, if she was still living.

A funeral was held from the old home Monday afternoon of last week with nearly a hundred neighbors and friends for miles around. There were no relatives who knew of his decease but those who attended him gave the appearance of having lost one of their own.

CONDITIONS IN FAR MEXICO DESCRIBED

Caleb Jackson of Merrill Street Tells Of Recent Trip To Southwest

LITTLE AGRICULTURE

Caleb S. Jackson of Merrill street, together with his wife, returned last Sunday from Doma Cecilia, Mexico, a suburb of Tampico. Since the 11th of January, he has been out of the country visiting his daughter, the wife of a Baptist minister whose parish consists of 38 Mexicans.

"In all the five hundred miles that I traveled through Mexico, there was nothing to compare with the farms that I saw coming through Michigan," said Mr. Jackson upon his arrival home. "The land around Tampico is arid and barren. They only have rain for about two months in the fall, making it difficult to carry on farming, and the Mexicans don't have much energy; they are sluggish people, and prefer the easier work with the oil companies.

"Then, too, the government is so unstable that the people are discouraged from setting up independent businesses. Suppose a man starts a farm out in the country, he may expect at any time to have the bandits swoop down from the mountains and destroy his property, carrying off all his goods.

"The Mexicans that Mr. Jackson saw were all very pleasant and kindly, thankful for anything that was done for them. The children were merry and joyful like any American boys and girls, but are hindered very much by their poor environment and lack of opportunity in education. The schools are poor throughout all of Mexico, Mr. Jackson said.

He described the way the Mexicans make the "tortilla", their principal food. Corn is soaked in lye to cut the husk off. Then it is ground up and mixed into a mush. The Mexicans take this into their hands and mold it into thick, flat cakes which they eat as they are. Besides the "tortilla", they eat a great deal of rice and black beans, Mr. Jackson noticed, a very satisfactory diet for them.

"It is a fine sight to see the oil tankers loading and unloading at the wharves. They come from all parts of the world, bringing food for the Mexicans, and taking oil back to Norway, England and places farther away. An average of 400,000 barrels is shipped from Tampico each day."

The Eccentric has asked Mr. Jackson to write an article about his trip, which may be published in a few weeks.

LOCAL LEGION TO OPEN CLUB ROOMS

"The American Legion is due for its best year. Interest in the soldiers' compensation and better treatment for wounded veterans is the force behind our increased membership," said Jos. F. MacGregor, commander of Charles Edwards Post, this week. "Already there are 100 posts in the State with a larger enrollment than in all of 1923, and within a few days our own post will be well over the top.

"There is no doubt that the recent disclosures of alleged graft, thievery and immorality in the U. S. Veterans' Bureau convinced the service men that their only hope for a square deal is through a widespread and aggressive organization," continued Mr. MacGregor. "On Wednesday, March 26, at 8 p.m., the Charles Edwards Post will open their new club rooms at 121 North Woodward avenue. They would like to see every service man there. It may have been quite a time since you met together with your old buddies."

"This is going to be a real session and throughout the year we plan to have a lot of sessions that you will enjoy. Now, please, regardless of all past pet peeves of misunderstanding or neglect, be with us at our next meeting. Look around and see how it feels to be with the old army and navy crew again. If you're a regular, red-blooded veteran, of course you'll want to be in the Legion and to be able to tell everyone that you're a real Legionnaire!!!

"If the people of Birmingham have an old chair, table, smoking stand, or anything that would be of use to us in furnishing our club rooms that they wish to dispose of, they may call 820, and I am sure it will be appreciated by the American Legion," he concluded.

Will persons witnessing auto accident between a Jewett sedan and Ford sedan on South Woodward Ave., Birmingham, Thursday, Feb. 28, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, kindly communicate with Mrs. Walter E. Barton, 115 Radford Ave., Royal Oak, Phone 818, or leave name and address with Conant & Osborne, Ford Sales & Service, South Woodward Avenue. adv4t

ALWAYS try to phone the Eccentric your Classified Ad before Wednesday noon of each week. Our number is 13 or 12. adv40tf

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For that Easter gift. Your photograph! Call the Arnold Studio, no. 945. adv4t

CONSUMERS POWER CO. WILL INCREASE GAS SERVICE HERE

Plan Of Manager Campbell To Spend $500,000 In County Approved

INSTALL LARGER LINE

Growth Of Local Territory So Rapid That Big Extensions Necessary

Birum G. Campbell, district manager for the Consumers Power Company, this week announced the approval of his estimates for construction work by the company this year in Pontiac, Birmingham and Royal Oak districts, which involves a total expenditure of nearly $500,000. Of this figure, $278,000 will be used for improvements of gas service and $157,300 in improvements and betterments designed to put the electrical service in Pontiac on a higher plane of efficiency.

"One item in the appropriations for the gas department may be said to deal in futures," said Mr. Campbell, in discussing the proposed expenditures for the year in Pontiac. "I refer to the $15,000 set aside for the construction of the foundations for a new 2,000,000 cubic feet gas holder which will be finished next year according to present plans. In all, $67,000 is to be used on gas plant betterments and improvements. One item of $25,000 is for a new boiler. For gas main extensions, $140,000 has been set aside with $36,000 for new services and $35,000 for new meters."

"One item of construction particularly of interest to the people of Birmingham, Royal Oak and adjoining territory is that for a new 10" and 8" high pressure gas transmission pipe line from Pontiac through to the Royal Oak holder and compression station at Royal Oak. This pipe line will be laid with electrically welded joints and will represent the most modern practice. The line is necessitated by the widening of Woodward avenue, which will disturb the present 4" line. It will also provide capacity for a growth of over four times that of the territory now served."

"Additional compressors and auxiliary equipment is also provided in the construction program for 1924 that will cost around $150,000 and which will be used in the distribution of gas to the community."

Mr. Campbell reminded Birmingham and Royal Oak people that they live in a community that is growing by leaps and bounds and expanding so rapidly in an industrial and residential way as to defy any statistician's effort to keep abreast of the figures. He added that it is no small problem for a company supplying such a community with gas service to keep ahead of the demand and it is only through a liberal investment in the territory each year, that the Consumers Power Company can have gas waiting for the factory, the store and the home always subject to their needs.

It should be borne in mind that the Consumers Power Company, who serves you with gas, is today covering a broad field of both gas and electric public utility service. The company operates in 154 cities and towns in Michigan. Gas plants are operated at Jackson, Kalamazoo, Hastings, Manistee, Flint, Bay City, Saginaw, Pontiac, Birmingham and Royal Oak. Our engineering services are offered our customers free for the asking.

"Gas service is the one underlying reason for the expenditure of $15,000,000 in Michigan this year by the Consumers Power Company," said District Manager Campbell. "This great sum of money will be invested in added power resources, both steam and water, necessary extensions and betterments in transmission and distribution systems. It includes new transformers, voltage regulators, sub-stations, safety appliances and modern switching apparatus designed to eliminate interruptions.

"The growth of a public utility is a very accurate measure of the growth of a community as a whole. The Consumers Power Company has been and will continue expanding its facilities to provide good and adequate service to its customers. We want to grow with the community and are glad to co-operate in the promotion of growth and all betterments. We have great faith in the future of the community. There has been great growth in the past, which will be far eclipsed by the progress of the future," concluded Mr. Campbell.

FLASHING LIGHTS ON WOODWARD AV.

THREE NEW SAFETY DEVICES TO BE INSTALLED IN EARLY SPRING

In conformity with a desire to make Woodward avenue a safe and sane highway for both motor and pedestrian traffic, village officials have agreed to the installation of three flashing lights-type of lights to be erected by the American Gas Accumulator Co., represented in Michigan by George Earle, son of Horatio Earle of Detroit.

Two of the lights will be placed at the intersection of Maple and Woodward avenues for a 60-day trial; if they prove satisfactory the village will buy them at about $240 each. The other light will be installed at North Woodward avenue and Oak street; this light will be maintained without cost to Birmingham, this being possible because of an advertising feature on the sides of the light. These lights will probably be installed within the next month.

MARY MARTIN TALKS TO THE EXCHANGEITES

Community House Director Submits Need For Welfare Program

PLACE MEN ON BOARD

Miss Mary Martin, resident director of the Community House, was the guest speaker at the Tuesday noon meeting of the new Exchange Club, when this enthusiastic group of local men had finished their luncheon at the Masonic Temple. Miss Martin's talk related to the various problems of the House, for which she asked the co-operation of the people of the town in finding solutions.

She emphasized the great value already performed by the Community House for Birmingham, explaining in some detail the groups of boys and girls who look to the institution for recreation and education. Miss Martin struck a responsive chord in the Exchange Club when she asked that some of its members assist in dealing with the problem of the younger boys of Birmingham. H. George Field, when Miss Martin concluded her talk, immediately offered a resolution signifying that the Exchange Club was solidly behind anything that the Community House may propose for the betterment of local boys and girls. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mrs. Alice Hartwell, on the administration board of the House, supplemented Miss Martin's talk with several statements, among which was the proposed creation of an advisory board for the boys to assist in handling the House's problems.

Albert G. Wasey of Walsh, James & Wasey, realtors, spoke for a few minutes on the work being done by the Greater Woodward Avenue Association, and agreed to have a man speak authoritatively on the subject next Tuesday.

Although it was started but a month ago, the Exchange Club has obtained 22 enthusiastic members to date, and as soon as 25 are enrolled a charter will be granted, according to President C. A. Bingham.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE MEETING IN PONTIAC

The regular meeting of the Oakland County Teachers' Institute is being held this afternoon at Pontiac. School will be closed for the day in Birmingham. The opening remarks will be made by E. J. Lederle, county commissioner of schools.

President Allen Hoben of Kalamazoo College, is to be the principal speaker at the meeting. He will talk on "Suggestions on the Teaching of Civics," and "The Educational Value of Organized Play." Other speakers will be Dr. Eugene A. Bartlett, pastor of the First Congregational church in Pontiac, and Webster H. Pearce, professor in the Central Michigan Normal School.

McBRIDE SPEAKS ON THE MET. AREA PLAN

Village Ex-President Emphasizes Need For Co-operation Of Towns With District

AT CIVIC LEAGUE CLUB

Village ex-president J. H. McBride spoke to the Woman's Civic Club last Monday night on the problem of metropolitan water and sewerage system.

On opening his informal discussion of the proposed metropolitan area, Mr. McBride announced, "my subject today is going to be 'water'." He went on to describe a recent meeting of representatives from every town within a radius of 50 miles of Detroit including Wayne, part of Macomb and Oakland counties.

Every one at the representative meeting complained that his city was short of water, said Mr. McBride. Many had tried to carry out plans for improving conditions in their districts, but had obtained no satisfactory results working independently.

"They saw the necessity of co-ordinating their activities in order to provide for the needs of the community of the future," declared McBride.

"In ten years we may expect a population of three or four millions in Detroit and its environs. There will probably be a solid community from Detroit to Birmingham, and perhaps even to Pontiac. Proper water and sewerage are necessary to the health, the comfort and the pleasure of the people, especially when they live in thickly settled areas.

"If you will consider the situation around Toledo and Wyandotte, you will know the problems of Detroit, and also of our own community, for our needs are bound up with those of Detroit and the suburbs, and will be more so in the future."

The committee is studying the metropolitan water system of Boston, which has been working successfully for many years. In the fall they expect to go before the state legislature to ask for an act setting aside certain districts to form a metropolitan area, with certain powers and authority to be vested in the directors. These powers will not interfere with local municipal powers.

"We may have to go as far as Port Huron to get our water," said Mr. McBride.

Harry S. Starr, village manager, and H. George Field are representing Birmingham on the committee which is working out the metropolitan plan.

ADDS MAXWELL TO STUDEBAKER LINE

Announcement has been made this week by the Wurster & Stapleton Company, local Studebaker dealers, that beginning this week they will be local agents for the Maxwell motor cars, in addition to their present line. This addition was made in order, according to Mr. Wurster, "to better serve the motor buying public of Birmingham by giving them an excellent car below the thousand dollar class."

The Studebaker service station at Lincoln and Pierce streets has been equipped to service Maxwell cars as well as the Studebaker line.

Don't put it off! Make an appointment with the Arnold Studio today. adv4t

Mother - Daughter Banquet March 27

BALDWIN UNIT OF P.-T. A. WILL GIVE PROGRAM NEXT THURSDAY EVENING

A Mother and Daughter Banquet, the first to be attempted by a unit of the Birmingham Parent-Teacher Association, will be given in the Baldwin auditorium on Thursday evening, March 27, at 6:30 o'clock, by the Baldwin Unit. It is hoped that this may become an annual affair and that each Unit of the Association will endeavor to arrange for a similar affair.

Any mother with a child attending the Baldwin high school is eligible to be present. In case there is no daughter in the family, one may obtain a "daughter" for the evening by calling Mrs. F. S. Ross, who is general chairman.

The menu committee consists of Mrs. M. C. Hart and Mrs. H. E. Whalen, who have obtained Mrs. Kinney, supervisor of the cafeteria, to assume charge of the dinner. The entertainment committee, including Miss Chloe Hardy and Mrs. James White, have arranged for an interesting and unique program. Mrs. David Curry will offer the invocation. Others on the program are Mrs. Maurice Fossenkemper, violinist, Mrs. L. G. Welch, vocalist, Mrs. Fred G. Crawford, reader, and Mrs. Thomas Thurber, cartoonist. Mrs. Roland Mann will pay a tribute to "Our Daughters", which will be responded to by Miss Essie Pettit with "Our Mothers."

Assisting singing will be led by Miss Myra Grattan, director of music in the schools. Mrs. R. C. Streb will accompany the singers. Tickets will be on sale only one day, March 22, at Shain's drug store, and it has been stated that no tickets will be sold on the evening of the banquet.

QUICK RESPONSE KEEPS FIRE LOSSES TO MINIMUM

Sparks from the chimney were given as the cause of a roof fire at the home of Charles Wilcox, Pierce street, Sunday morning. Despite the fact that the alarm was turned in at 8 o'clock on a morning usually allotted to late sleeping, there was a quick response and damages amounted to but about ten dollars. The fire department alarm several hours later proved to be a grass fire on the common at Bates and Lincoln avenues, and was quickly extinguished. Damage to the amount of $25 was caused by chimney sparks falling to the roof of Mrs. Frank Pearsall's home on High street early Monday night.

WILL BE GUESTS OF DETROIT TRUST CO.

High And Parochial School Seniors To Be Banqueted In Detroit March 29

SCHOLARSHIP IDEA

High and parochial school pupils of this county are interested in the announcement by the Union Trust Company of a dinner to be given Saturday evening, March 29, at General Motors Building in that city.

This dinner is given in honor of the Senior classes of the high and parochial schools of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties, including the city of Detroit.

Those to be invited, it is understood, will be county, city, and school officials, the superintendent and principal of each high school, the president of each Senior class and the editor of each high school paper, where there is one.

The object of the dinner-meeting as announced it to further enlighten the members of the Senior classes of these various schools concerning the Union Trust Company's $5,000 college scholarships.

The dinner will be beautifully appointed but entirely informal as to dress. Splendid music, short educational speeches in snappy interest, and found other features, will constitute the program.

Rt. Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, bishop of Detroit, and Frank Cody, superintendent of Detroit schools, are among the speakers scheduled for the occasion.

There will be some 250 pupils and other guests represented at this function.

Five scholarships $1,000 of each are to be awarded this year to successful writers in the Essay Contest, the subject of which for 1924 is "The Selection of Investments."

Formal invitations to each guest are to be issued this week.

Blasting Boulder At New Well Site

Operations on the new test well being sunk by the village at the foot of Lincoln and Brookside drive were started over a week ago, have been hindered this week by the appearance of a huge boulder found at a depth of 115 feet. Blasting has been resorted to in an effort to penetrate deeper by the Layne & Bowler Co., who are under a contract to furnish a well capable of producing 350 gallons of water per minute.

According to Manager Starr, two layers of sand and gravel, measuring from three to four feet each in depth, have been struck. Although the six-inch test well is flowing, the depth of the water-bearing gravel is not yet sufficient to be encouraging, it is said.

The new well site was made necessary when the operations for a new well at Lincoln and South Woodward avenues were abandoned several weeks ago because of insufficient supply.

Troy Votes School Bond Issue; Elects Township Officers

The members of Troy township school district No. 8, accepted by a vote of 31 to 1, the proposed bond issue of $30,000 for the erection of a new school building, at the meeting which was held Saturday evening, March 15, from 7 to 9 o'clock.

The issue provides for a building of five class rooms to accommodate 200 pupils. The old Poppleton school, which is on Big Beaver road, being used now for a primary grade pupils, was built by Frank Ford in 1871. It is a small country school holding only 50 people. As there are about 80 enrolled at present, the district school records, the overcrowding is obvious.

The annual caucus of Troy Township was held Saturday afternoon, March 15. Seymour Adams was selected supervisor. Adrian Gibbs resigned his office of township clerk, which he has held for the past 30 years. In his place the voters elected Morris Wattles. Other township officers who were elected were John Truesdale, treasurer, and Francis Poole, highway commissioner.

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Distinctive portraiture at the Arnold Studio, 125 W. Maple Ave. adv4t

Village "Speed Cops" Turn Out

Spring certainly must be here. Very closely following the appearance of the first robin, there was a loud and distinct whiz and whir and one of the village "ships of state" was seen swiftly passing with Clark Green at the helm. Any speedometer now registering over 15 miles while passing through the village is more than liable to find itself pursued by this same "ship of state." The younger and more agile and adventurous of our police force have been anxiously awaiting the hour when the weather could be declared suitable for the re-appearance of the motorcycles so regretfully stored away last fall.

Motorists whose right feet sometimes nervously fondle the gas accelerator of an automobile are warned that pedestrian travel must be safeguarded in Birmingham, according to local police.

ASKS SUPPORT OF ONE MILL TAX FOR COUNTY POOR FARM

Luther Allen Tells Woman's Civic League That Institution Is Needed

VOTE ON PLAN APRIL 7

Letter From State Welfare Board Makes Sweeping Indictment

Insisting that "Something must be done now," Luther Allen, chairman of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, explained at the meeting of the local Woman's Civic League, Monday afternoon, the need for adequate housing and care of the county poor, and urged the acceptance of the proposition, to be voted on April 7, providing for such care.

The County Board of Supervisors has proposed a tax levy of one mill on each dollar upon the assessed valuation of the property in Oakland County for a home and infirmary for the poor, a hospital for contagious diseases, and one for tuberculosis patients, also a detention home. It is expected that the mill tax will raise about $150,000, and this will be used to begin building, on the unit plan. The center building will hold the hospital, heating plant, and administration offices. To this will be added units accomodating from 30 to 40 people. About four units are needed now, and they will permit the separation of different kinds of cases, so that the feeble minded can be kept apart from the aged and poor.

"The conditions in the present building are shameful," said Mr. Allen. "Men are now sleeping in the men's building, so that 30 to 40 men are obliged to live in one room. The women's quarters are little more than dungeons, and neither the buildings are so overloaded that some of the inmates are obliged to sleep in the corridors."

"We must consider, in addition, the temporary quality of the buildings since the fire several years ago, and the constant danger of fire seizing upon the building and destroying it and the inmates."

Mr. Allen explained that the buildings had been condemned by the state for the past three years. Mari T. Murray, director of public welfare, recently paid a visit of inspection to the county infirmary. He wrote the following letter to Mr. Allen:

My dear Mr. Allen:—

I do not hesitate to say that the conditions under which Oakland county is maintaining its unfortunate aged indigents and insane in its county infirmary are positively inhuman and shameful.

The Statutes of this State confer upon the State Welfare Commission authority to condemn and close a county infirmary on the grounds that it is "insanitary," or is dangerous to the health, life or morals of those thereof, or does not permit of proper separation or classification of inmates, or is inadequate.

The courts sit well in the statute apply in every particular to your infirmary. This is a sweeping indictment, but the present conditions fully justify it.

Very sincerely yours,
M. T. Murray.

Mr. Allen pointed out that the present infirmary would in all probability be closed by the state if the present proposition is not accepted. The expense to the county for boarding out the inmates would then be considerable.

ASK DISSOLUTION OF THE TANK LAWSUIT

Village Commission Asks That Injunction In Pontiac Be Withdrawn

ISSUE BONDS LATER

Without a trace of aromatic bouquets of flowers, with no preliminary speeches, and with no citizen present except this reporter, Wiley Bell, newly-elected village commissioner, Monday night drew his chair up alongside that occupied by Commissioner Charles A. Bingham and plunged into his two-year term of office. Village President Charles J. Shain being in California, Bingham was made president pro tem for the ensuing year.

Following the dispatch of various routine business, the matter of acting upon the electors' desire to pay for the 300,000 gallon steel storage tank, for which the sum of $8,275.00 were approved, Commissioner Bingham made the motion that the clerk be instructed to write those who obtained an injunction against payment for the tank to voluntarily dissolve the same. According to Bingham, the four men, James Campbell, W. B. Harris, T. D. Lynch and Tunis Miner, who obtained the injunction, are willing to immediately withdraw their complaint.

After this is done, it is believed the commission will issue the bonds and adjust all claims against the village for payment of the tank.

The strip of land fronting for 15 feet on West Maple avenue, formerly used as a hose tower, the sale of which was approved by local voters March 10, will be auctioned off next Thursday morning, March 27, at 10 o'clock sharp. This was decided by Commissioners Bingham and Bell Monday night. Only cash bids will be received, the village reserving the right to reject any or all bids.