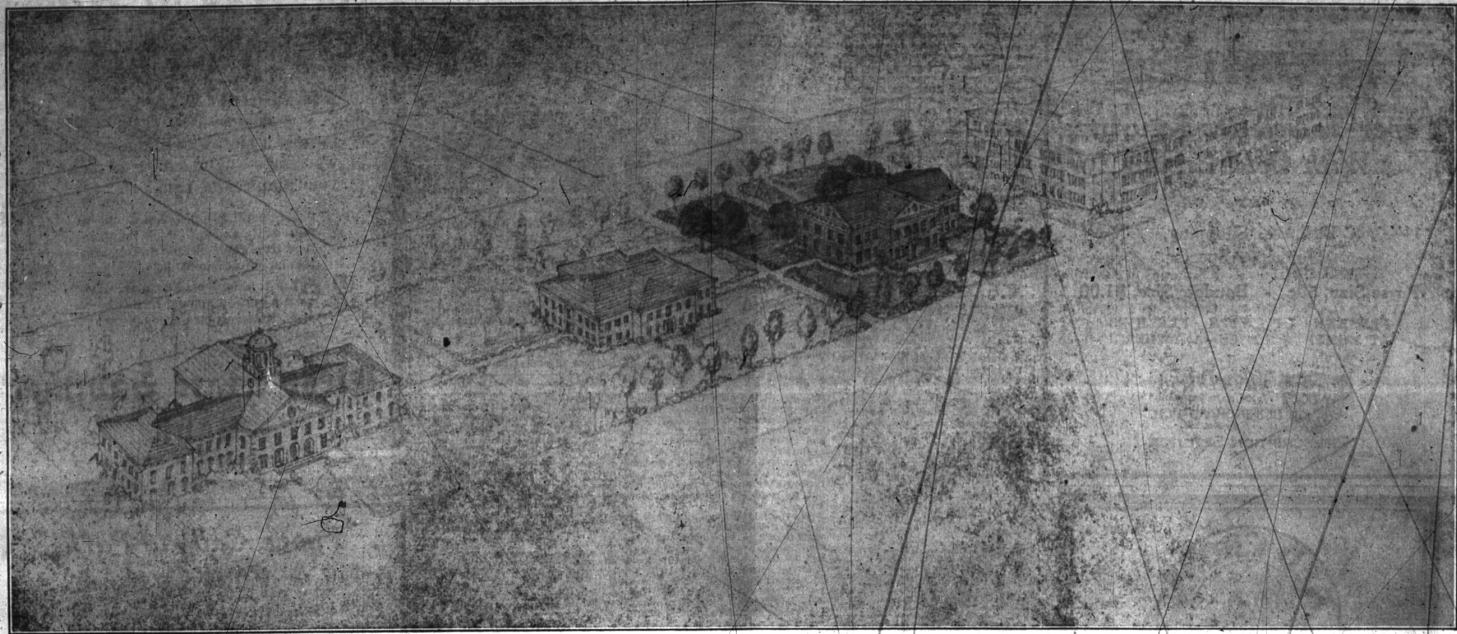


Proposed Birmingham Civic Center Buildings Preliminary Sketch by Architect



EVERY QUALIFIED ELECTOR IN BIRMINGHAM SHOULD VOTE AT THURSDAY'S ELECTION

Birmingham's True Character Will Be Revealed At The Polls Tomorrow

By L. A. W.
Birmingham's true character is to be revealed at the polls Thursday. The fate of three important bond issues, presented to the people for their approval, is uncertain. Presumably, the result will be favorable; for no one denies the virtue and few doubt the necessity of the civic projects which have been referred by earnest and public-spirited officials to the people, and recommended for passage. But the fate of the bond issues is less vital, and less significant, than the number of citizens who shall exercise their suffrage.

There may be some who doubt the expediency of passing the bond issues for the new library, fire house, and public building sites. Such people usually have other large and worthy civic projects in mind and differ with public officials as to priority. There certainly are, in every community and always, others who are actuated by no higher motive than a desire to block all public expenditure of substantial size in the blind expectation that they will profit by low tax rates. Of these two classes, the second is sure to vote; and its members merit praise at least for their recognition of the obligation to vote, however short-sighted or in error they may be when they cast their ballots.

Birmingham has called its citizens to the polls often; too often, some think. But as a rapidly growing community, ambitious to give its inhabitants comfort and conveniences as well as necessities, and a decent measure of loveliness, its officials are compelled to raise issues which the voters prefer to decide for themselves.

Shame Of Village.
The shame of the village is not the results of the elections held of late years, but the imposition upon the scant few who, by the exercise of their rights as citizens, have assumed a burden of responsibility out of proportion to their numbers. It is to their everlasting credit that Birmingham has kept in the line of progress.

Like all high class suburbs of metropolitan centers, this village has a grave problem in citizenship. The quality of its residents is notable in character, intelligence, and means. The quality of their citizenship is only in doubt when they shirk their duties, and give their thoughts on election day not to the needs of the community in which their homes are located and their families harbored, but to the city of their business interests.

A Ruousous Tendency.
The Georgian growth of Detroit threatens havoc with the residential communities outlying, even while it gives them being. Its people, striving for the quiet charms of the countryside and its old villages, crowd the highways till they overflow. Straight way comes the demand for the moving down of the trees, the grading away of the hills, the filling in of the ponds, the covering of the brooks that were the magnet which drew sojourners and the suburban resident. What shall we do to counteract this ruinous tendency?

There is but one solution of the problem. That is to preserve all that may be preserved; and for every lost object of beauty, create at least one new.

MRS. HEWITT SAYS "LET'S VOTE YES"



MRS. VIRGINIA HEWITT

Mrs. Virginia Hewitt, Bloomfield township treasurer, is one who has been engaged in public life for a number of years and has seen and come into direct contact with civic problems pertaining to various developments in Birmingham and other places.

"I am greatly in favor of the village purchasing the land by issuing bonds for a civic center in Birmingham. Everyone who has lived here for any period of time knows how the land values have increased within the past few years, and I believe the future holds as great, or greater, development and increase as this place."

"Now is the time to buy and by so doing we are saving ourselves, and future residents of Birmingham thousands of dollars. The fire hall is a necessity which the village has needed for some time and the need is increasing with each new home, business block, or civic building that is erected. Once we have acquired the land for our municipal buildings we can erect the various civic buildings as the necessity demands."

Telephone your Classified Ads to The Eccentric before Wednesday evening.

WHERE TO VOTE THURSDAY

Electors of Birmingham will cast their votes in three distinct precincts at Thursday's special election on bond issues totalling \$415,000.00. Following are the election districts and the places where each district will vote:

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| PRECINCT NO. 1
All voters residing north of the center line of East and West Maple avenues on both sides of Woodward avenue, will vote in the election booth at the corner of North Woodward and Harmon avenues. | PRECINCT NO. 2
All voters residing south of the center line of East and West Maple avenues, and north of the center line of Lincoln avenue, on both sides of Woodward avenue, will vote in the village hall, corner of Pierce and Martin streets. | PRECINCT NO. 3
All voters residing south of the center line of Lincoln avenue, on both side of Woodward avenue, will vote at Graham-Guillois & Buce real estate office, 1306 South Woodward avenue, (formerly Lebach-Humphrey, Co. real estate office.) |
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The three election precincts will be opened at eight o'clock in the morning, and will close promptly at 9:30 o'clock in the evening, Birmingham time.

Necessary Qualifications to Vote

The following persons are qualified to vote at the Birmingham Village Bond Election July 29, 1926:

- (1) Any citizen of the United States who is 21 years of age and who has resided in this state six months and in the precinct in which he or she lives twenty days next preceding the election and is duly registered on the registration books of the Village of Birmingham.
- (2) Any citizen, with qualifications as in (1) but not already registered, who makes affidavit at the election booth that he or she was absent from the Village of Birmingham on Registration Day.
- (3) Absent voters who make application to the Village Clerk for an absent voter's ballot under Section (1), Act 351, P. A. 1925.

Voters will cast their ballots at the following places:

- | |
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| Precinct No. 1. Corner Harmon and Woodward Avenues. |
| Precinct No. 2. Commission Rooms in the Village Hall, corner of Pierce and Martin Streets. |
| Precinct No. 3. Humphrey's Real Estate Office, 1306 South Woodward Avenue. |

Thursday, July 29, 1926
From 7:00 o'clock A. M. to 8:30 o'clock P. M.
Central Standard Time

Here Are A Few Local Opinions Regarding The Three Bond Issues

The special election to be held in Birmingham tomorrow has elicited more than the usual amount of interest in the following statements concerning the necessity for a new fire hall, public library, and the acquisition of two blocks of land for future municipal development. In questioning the various people interviewed regarding their ideas for the disposal of the three bonding propositions, practically every person based his favorable arguments upon the belief that Birmingham must now plan for its rapid expansion; and one of these plans is to obtain lands for municipal purposes while it is still reasonable in cost. Here are the comments:

CORYELL FAVORS ALL BOND ISSUES



RALPH I. CORYELL
By Ralph I. Coryell, Member Budget Commission.

The coming Village Bond Election causes the average citizen to ask himself these questions:
Are the improvements necessary or desirable?
Is the cost justified?
Are the buildings and sites located properly?
Will they fill the future need?
Granting that the Village needs a fire hall and a library commensurate with the size and growth of the Village, it behooves the authorities to buy sites and build buildings large enough to house them for several years to come.

The architects have prepared plans for buildings which will amply care for the needs of the immediate future and the cost is not out of proportion to similar buildings in other cities. The location is as central as any site large enough for the purpose can be obtained at anything less than a prohibitive price. If the Village continues to grow at its present rate it may be in the future.

H. J. Hemmelf, prominent business man: "I am strongly in favor of the proposed bond issue which is to be voted upon Thursday. There is really no reason why the people of Birmingham should not get out and support this movement, and support it strong. The expense now is only a 'drop in the bucket' to what it will be even in the next five years, and by means of the bonds the expense is spread over a number of years and no one will realize any burden."

Frank J. Mulholland, local merchant: "Certainly I am in favor of all three of the bond issues. Why not? They are for the very things that Birmingham needs. We are no doubt to soon become a city and these things will only be a few jumps ahead."

James V. Bayley, Clerk of Bloomfield Township: "I am in favor of the proposed bond issue in its entirety. In my opinion now is the time to buy the land for civic purposes before the prices soar beyond our reach. The fire hall is a necessity in order that our homes may receive the best possible protection, and the library is a necessity for the \$25,000 worth of fire equipment that we now have. The three bond issues mean that Birmingham has a splendid opportunity to show its interest Thursday by voting 'YES' on them."

Mrs. W. W. Dean, member of the Budget Committee of the Community House: "As a newcomer to Birmingham three years ago, my first impression recorded the wonderful array of civic buildings, Willamette, Ill., my former home, a village smaller than Birmingham, had a splendid library and a beautiful municipal building of cut stone. I am glad to know that Birmingham has a splendid array of civic pride. Its real worth should be symbolized by worthy buildings."

Mary Ogden, President of the Pres. Day Club: "We are glad to be lending a helping hand in a proposition as worthy as the bond issues that are to come before the voters on the 29th of this month. Surely every thinking citizen will be on hand to vote YES on that date and so do their small but important part in upholding the prestige of Birmingham."

(Continued on Page 16)