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# Birmingham Eccentric

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## GROUP DELEGATES DECLARE APPROVAL OF BONDING ISSUE

**Representatives Unanimous In Decision That $415,000 Expenditure Is Necessity**

**CAMPAIGN PLANNED**

Representatives from ten active organizations of Birmingham met Tuesday night together with committees in charge of publicity for the coming $415,000 bond election and gave their unanimous approval of each of the three propositions that will appear on the bonding question ballots.

Of the twenty organizations previously informed by letter of the meeting, the following sent representatives to learn details of the expenditures proposed by the village providing Birmingham's biggest election called for two weeks from today carries: Library board, Rotary Club, Real Estate Board, Present Day Club, Eco City Improvement Association, Community House, University Women, Board of Education and the City Planning Commission.

Mrs J. H. Marlotte was made secretary of the Tuesday night meeting. An explanation of registration requirements following the annexation of the large amount of new territory to Birmingham, was given by members of the publicity committees, headed by Clarence Vliet.

Arthur Hartwell was placed in charge of the canvass planned to cover the entire village, in an effort to get every eligible voter to the polls on July 29.

A second meeting of the group representatives and the Publicity Committee will be held at the Community House July 20, a date agreed upon before the adjournment of the meeting Tuesday evening.

Portraying the acute necessity for

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## TOWNSHIP CREATES FOURTH PRECINCT

**Crowded Conditions Necessitate New Division For Bloomfield Balloting**

Feeling that three precincts in Bloomfield township are not sufficient to handle election crowds at future polling, the township board, at their regular meeting Tuesday night, officially created a fourth precinct, which it is expected, will alleviate a great portion of the heretofore prevalent inconvenience to electors at the crowded polls.

As a result of the boards action, precinct which was formerly known as precinct No. 1 has been divided into two sections, precinct Numbers 1 and 4. The first precinct will be bounded on the north by West Maple avenue, on the east by Woodward avenue on the south by Lincoln avenue and on the west by the Bloomfield Township line. Precinct Number 4 will be bounded on the north by Woodward avenue on the south by West Maple avenue and on the west by the township line.

This change in the precinct boundaries will necessitate the making of a new map, it is said.

## TRAFFIC VIOLATORS MAKE RECORD MARK

**Local Officers Have Busy Holiday; Many Offenders Face Fines**

Arrests for violations of traffic and signals reached a high number over the holiday period of the last week. One officer alone, C. J. Green, made 11 speeding arrests and 13 signal violation arrests.

The two days, Sunday and Monday, broke all past records for Birmingham, over 3000 machines passing the Maple and Woodward intersection each hour. No accidents were reported with loss of property or life in spite of the swollen streams of north and south bound traffic.

## PIERCE SCHOOL MAY GET PROPER DRAINING

Answering queries directed by Fred Quarton, member of the school board of this district, village commissioners Tuesday night advocated that the matter of the draining of the Pierce school grounds be referred to the school board and the county drain commission.

Quarton told Birmingham legislators that, following heavy rains, the school property in question remained in a flooded condition for days because of inefficient drainage there.

## IS CANDIDATE FOR COURT COMMISSION

George B. Hartrick.

Oakland County Circuit Court Commissioner and popular Royal Oak attorney who will run for re-election to the county legal office in the September primary.

## EDUCATION BOARD IS GOAL OF RAY PALMER

**Former High School Principal, College Graduate, Educator Announces Candidacy**

Ray A. Palmer, resident of Birmingham for the past three years, has announced his intention of running for a place on the school board in this district where vacancies will be created by the expiration of the terms of two of the present board members. These members, Roy Taylor and H. B. Clement have declined to run for another term.

Palmer's qualifications for the office are diverse and come from many years of experience in the study of educational systems, actual teaching and instruction work in public schools and business administration in educational institutions.

Palmer came to Birmingham three years ago from the city of Highland Park where, for a period of five years the entire business pertaining to the public school system of that city passed through his hands. His official capacity while in Detroit's biggest suburb was that of business manager of public schools.

Prior to his work in Highland Park, Palmer served as principal of an Iowa high school, and for thirteen years was a session room teacher in Grand Rapids Central High School. During his last two years in that city he headed the agricultural department. While in "Michigan's Furniture City" he was also president of a teacher's club with some 700 members.

Palmer is a graduate of the Kalamazoo college. After the completion of the course in that institution he received a Ph. B. at the University of Chicago and was later a post graduate student at Harvard University.

His experience as a public official was well rounded with seven years as a member of the common council of East Grand Rapids while he was a resident in that city.

Palmer is, at the present time residing at 318 East Maple avenue and is secretary and treasurer of the Robert R. Allen Company, a Birmingham realty and insurance organization. He has two children in the Birmingham Public Schools.

Palmer decided to list his name as a school board candidate only after his many friends who have known of his qualifications for the position, were persistent in their urging.

Two other candidates, James Parry and Lou Hascall have also announced their intention of running for the board. The election has been called for July 12.

## FIRE HALL INTERIOR PLANS MEET APPROVAL

**Proposed Municipal Building To Be Modern Example Of Fire Station**

Through the cooperation proffered by the publicity committees formed the $415,000 bond election set for July 29, the Eccentric is this week enabled to present cuts depicting the interior of the $40,000 proposed fire hall. This building is to share a portion of the municipal site which the village plans to purchase, either through general taxation or through bonding Birmingham for the sum of $200,000.

As explained in the story appearing in the last issue of the Eccentric, the proposed structure to house Birmingham's firemen and fire apparatus of the future is to be a two story edifice of attractive exterior appearance and having interior details that have met with the enthusiasm

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## "White Mule" Kick Powerful; Lands Man In Circuit Court

John Saverer, a negro living on Jackson street, Detroit, was placed on $1500 bail and his case was transferred to the Circuit Court after his arrest and plea of guilty to the charge of transporting liquor was made Saturday morning of last week.

His arrest was brought about when the machine driven by him was stalled at Maple and Woodward avenues. Nervous and perplexed actions noticed by Officer Lawler gave rise to suspicion. Lawler approached the car, investigated the contents of the machine while the driver was busying himself trying to crank the vehicle by hand, and then suggested to the driver to back the machine to the curb. His arrest was announced and the 15 gallons of white mule were confiscated, whereupon the victim remarked: "I gota take a chance once in a while."

Lawler has made a number of this kind of arrests before and states that "you can always tell if a driver has anything on him—they invariably act nervous and consequently arouse suspicion."

A phone call at local police quarters from Pontiac fifteen minutes after the arrest proved to be from the wife of the arrested man. She made inquiries as to whether her husband had been apprehended and indicated that his arrival into Pontiac had been timely. His failure to appear in fifteen minutes proved the schedule he was working on to be carefully planned.

## BIRMINGHAM ZONED BY ACCEPTED CODE

**Commission Passes Ordinance Last Thursday, Following Arbitration Hearing**

**APPEAL BOARD NAMED**

To all intents and purposes the village of Birmingham is now being conducted under a zoning ordinance officially adopted by the commission last Thursday evening following a final hearing on certain portions concerning which objections had previously been made. The ordinance will go into legal effect thirty days after its publication.

A board of appeals to be of service to the public in the adjustment of zoning restrictions was appointed by the village commission shortly after the passage of the code. They named Clyde Wood, secretary of the zoning committee that drew up the ordinance for Birmingham; Scott Hersey, local builder; Lee White, prominent journalist; Farrington Holt and Melvin Kates. Wood is to serve on the board for a period of one year, Hersey and White and Holt for two years and Kates for a three year period. Thus the board will always have a majority of experienced men in active session while new members will be appointed to fill the vacancies created by the retiring board each year. Acceptances of the appointments made Thursday have not yet been filed with the village, according to the clerk.

Residents of the Southfield section who had appeared before the commission at previous hearings on the proposed zoning ordinance were again summoned to the final hearing Thursday night. These days before this hearing the commission revised the zoning of certain properties on the corners of Brown street and Southfield avenues. The ordinance was passed as revised following the initial move made by Commissioner Ladd, despite objections raised by William F. Robinson of the Adams Square section, and a petition from the residents in the Southfield district which they presented for reference when the matter was brought up before the board of appeal in the future in accordance with their plans.

Only three changes were made in the original ordinance as it was first presented. These, the commission felt, were expedient. Other objections filed prior to the passage will probably be dropped or carried to the board of appeals.

## SEWER CONTRACTS ARE AWARDED OHIO FIRM

**Birmingham To Get Mile And A Half Of New Sewer By Fall**

Contracts for the laying of 7,475 feet of sewer for Birmingham was let to the G. A. Gessner company of Toledo following a meeting of seven bids at the commission meeting Tuesday night. The Toledo concern gave the contract on the low bid of $14,520, this sum to include tamping of all dirt which will be required rather than the alternate of settling the dirt with water. Gessner will start the work in ten days, and while his contract stipulated that the work would be finished by August 20, the commission stated that the time limit could be extended to October 1.

The seven bids read before the commission included the following:

P. C. Raymond of Rochester, $15,112.

Pontiac Drainage—$14,703 plus 50 cents per foot for tamping.

Mike Harabedian—$16,384.

Joseph Rossi—$17,249 plus $3,750 for tamping.

Rigoletto Rosaria—$15,48.

Heitsh and Johnson, Pontiac—$14,599 plus $1,578 for tamping.

Gessner, Inc., Toledo—$13,600 plus $920 for tamping. A representative of the Gessner company told commissioners that the concern had men and machinery immediately available for the work and could start work following the transportation of machinery.

Almost all of the new sewer to be laid is of 8" pipe and will be placed as follows: 1,125 feet on Lakeview avenue, 1,630 feet on Madison avenue, 1,500 feet on Rivernoak avenue, 1,500 feet on Kenesaw avenue and 1,720 feet of interceptor drain to the trunk sewer. The later is to be 10" pipe.

## VILLAGE TO BUY ECO CITY WELL

The village commission has instructed the City Attorney to arrange a date for the appeal of the Eco City well that the village proposes to purchase from the Leinbach-Humphrey interests providing a satisfactory price can be agreed upon by appraisers recently appointed by both factions interested.

The well is to be connected with Eco City's present water system in an effort to supply the newly annexed Birmingham territory with sufficient water during the summer months.

Official certification of the annexation of Eco City was made in Lansing on June 30, following a long delay, it was revealed this week. Confirmation to village officials here is expected daily.

**VOTERS !**

**Be sure that you are registered on Birmingham Village records on or before July 17. Unless this requirement is met you will not be qualified to vote for the new fire hall, library, and municipal site involved in the bond election set for July 29.**

## CORYELL TAKES TOWNSHIP SEAT FOR TWO YEARS

Following the retirement of F. B. Harper from the Bloomfield township board, Ralph J. Coryell begins his active term as board member, to which office he was elected in the spring of this year. He will serve until July 1, 1928. Harper will resume his four year term on the board following the retirement of Coryell, two years hence.

V. E. Lockrow has one more year to serve when he will yield his place to Justice Floyd Buck. The Bloomfield Township Board is, at the present date, composed of Supervisor Robert Y. Moore, Clerk James V. Bayley, Virgil Lockrow and R. J. Coryell.

## MUNICIPAL PROGRAM FOR 4TH SUCCESSFUL

**Day-Long Program Draws Big Crowds To Barnum Field For Celebration**

Birmingham formally celebrated the Fourth of July last Monday with a regular program beginning in the afternoon with field events and motorcycle polo races at Barnum field and later in the evening with fire works. It is estimated that 1,500 people attended the afternoon program, while 6,000 to 7,000 viewed the spectacular display of fireworks in the evening.

It was the first formal celebration of the National Birthday the village ever staged and was a success beyond expectation of officials and local citizens in charge. Certain of the officials spoke strongly in favor of doing away with promiscuous use of fireworks on the streets and replacing the holiday with municipal programs such as the past Monday witnessed. $200 was given jointly by the American Legion and the village for fireworks.

The athletic events brought out quite a number earlier in the day, purposely arranged to dove-tail with the polo event, which started at 2 o'clock. In the high school group, Doherty won the gold medal, Schwarze the silver medal, Brown third with a bronze medal, and Carter fourth with a bronze medal. In the grammar school, Story captured the gold, Jewell the silver, Brown the bronze, and McKee the bronze.

Some twenty-five members of the Pontiac Motorcycle Club thrilled the 1,500 assembled when C. J. Green, local police officer set the polo pill into play and the chugging motor propelled two wheelers charged after the target. The game finally was marked off by quarterly five minute rests. Frank Diener and a companion in the side-car suffered broken shoulder blades when a spill ended the game, while spectators were hushed to silence in the fear that greater harm might come to the prone men from fellow drivers passing by.

The evening's program starting at 9 o'clock brought out practically the entire town. For the first time, Birmingham's horizon was lighted by municipal sponsorship, ending the stay-at-homes an occasional idea of what was going on.

Along with the program of the day, Birmingham police report that precedence was established with the record of no drunkenness or accidents. Law and order were unbroken in every way excepting the several arrests resulting from violation of traffic ordinances, traffic being greatly augmented by the holiday tourists along Wider Woodward.

## HANNA RESIDENTS WOULD PAVE STREET

A petition from residents of Hanna street between Bates and Southfield avenues was read to the village commission at their regular weekly meeting Tuesday night. The document, asking that their street be paved in that section was referred to the village manager who will draw up estimates for the work prior to an assessment hearing.

## REQUEST MILK INSPECTOR HERE

Representatives of a local creamery appeared before the village commission Tuesday night to request that the village appoint an official milk inspector to oversee the entire import of every creamery peddling milk in the village, and to make certain that nothing but tubercular tested milk was being distributed in accordance with an existing village ordinance.

The delegates from the local concern contended that it was an injustice to their concern to have to buy of farmers whose cows were necessarily tubercular tested whilestother companies brought milk to Birmingham which had never been submitted to any such tests.

The commission took the matter under advisement but said that they were not in a place to take any definite action because of the absence of evidence regarding alleged illegal milk peddling.

## CREDIT BUREAU PLAN PICNIC FOR JULY 21

The date for the celebration of the Credit Bureau's first birthday has been announced as July 21. This information comes from E. W. Lackie, manager of the bureau, who also announces the acceptance on the part of Mr. Hatt, well known Detroit banker, to speak to the business men gathered for the occasion. The place for the celebration has not been announced as yet. More definite information will be furnished readers next week.

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## BLOOMFIELD VALUE SET AT $29,886,100

**Board of Review Places Figure At Three Millions Over 1925 Assessment Roll**

**HIGHEST IN HISTORY**

During a period of one year the assessed valuation of Bloomfield township has increased from $23,187,000 to $29,886,100, the figure accepted and approved by the Board of Review composed of W. W. Henry and Robert R. Allen. The 1926 assessment roll is the highest in the history of the township.

The original figures for this year's roll as estimated by Supervisor Robert Moore were $30,477,000, but as this figure was somewhat higher than that set by the state he recommended that the review board make an effort to cut it, an action which was accordingly taken. The state assessment roll made every three years sets the total at $29,270,129. A new figure will be set this year following the work of state authorities who will arrive in the Township within a few weeks.

Of the 1926 total assessment roll, $1,066,700 was designated as "personal" and $28,818,400 as real estate. Fractional school district number one carried the highest assessment roll figure for any single district with a total of $15,733,500.

In 1924 the total assessment roll amounted to $18,895,600, with an increase of nearly five millions in 1925.

The tax rate has not yet been computed in full. However, according to Supervisor Moore, the school tax rate should be lower this year as are the highway tax and road repair tax.

## BOND ELECTION BOARD NAMED BY VILLAGE

The village commission Tuesday night appointed all of the members to serve on the election board for the special bond election July 29.

Those in charge at the first precinct will be Mrs. J. Cobb, Mrs. J. L. White, Mrs. S. W. Burnham, Mrs. Mabel Anderson, T. P. Foote, and W. Harbison.

Mrs. W. Blumberg, George Mitchell, Mr. Clare Steward, W. Brown, John Hanna, and A. D. Jardine were appointed to serve in the second precinct.

The election board for the third district will be composed of Mrs. Guy Laughlin, C. Stewart, E. D. Bates, Mrs. Agnes Wilson, Mrs. L. M. Townsend and William Barbour.

## HUMANE SOCIETY MAY ADOPT CONSTITUTION

**Crippled Children Aid To Tighten Organization Bonds To-Night**

Officers and members of the Oakland County Society for Crippled Children, a humane organization sponsored by Rotary clubs of the county, will hold a meeting tonight at the Community house for the purpose of discussing and adopting a constitution which has been prepared to meet the needs of the association and which is now ready for official sanction.

Providing the by laws are adopted as they now stand, the name of the organization will be changed to the Oakland County chapter of the Michigan Society for Crippled Children.

The Oakland County branch has been doing commendable relief work for several months past, and the fruits of their labors are evident in many homes where crippled children are having everything possible done for them in an effort to find permanent relief.

The clause in the proposed constitution states that the object of the association is "the finding of cases of crippled children in Oakland County, the securing of her and to arrange the proper sort of treatment which is deemed advisable.

Al members of Oakland County Rotary Clubs are members of the society. After the adoption of the constitution, directors will decide where branch offices may be located and at what office the main business of the society will be transacted.

## TOWNSHIP ROADS UNDERGO REPAIRS

Roadwork in Bloomfield township has been progressing rapidly during the past few weeks according to Supervisor Robert Y. Moore. One of the major jobs of this type is the rebuilding of Lasher Road from Maple avenue to Lone Pine road.

Extensive repair work is also being done on Cranbrook road between Maple avenue and Quarton Road. Roads in the Birmingham Estates subdivision are undergoing improvement work.

Grading on Telegraph road is to start in the fall, according to present plans.

Through the columns of the Eccentric, the village commission wishes to express its hearty thanks for the cooperation in response to the tags distributed to every house yesterday morning, relative to the existing water shortage and the curbing of all sprinkling. Pressure in the mains last night was sufficient to force water to every home in Birmingham.

## WOULD SERVE ON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ray A. Palmer.

Three years a resident of this village, he will run for a place on the board of education, with many years of valuable experience in the educational field as his recommendation.

## HARTRICK WILL SEEK COMMISSIONER BERTH

**Popular Attorney To Be Candidate For Re-election To Circuit Court Office**

George T. Hartrick of Royal Oak has officially announced his candidacy for reelection as Oakland County Circuit Court Commisioner. His name will appear on the Republican ballot at the primary in September.

Hartrick has been a resident of Oakland County all of his life, and for the past thirteen years has been a practicing attorney.

The office of Commissioner in Oakland County Circuit Court has become an extremely important one during the past few years because of the great amount of real estate activity that county has experienced in that period. The bulk of the work in the commissioners' various duties comes with the necessity to preside over the trial of land contract foreclosure cases, a legal procedure having direct bearing upon and almost in proportion with all types of real estate activity. Southern Oakland County has formed the nucleus of some of the most rapid development in subdividing experienced in any part of Michigan, according to real estate authorities, and this has done much to make the work of circuit court commissioner Hartrick more pressing, during this period of abnormal development.

In commenting upon the work of his office and upon his qualifications for reelection, Commissioner Hartrick said, "Since the first of the year I have heard approximately twelve hundred of these cases and I expect that before the year is over there will be tried in my court about three thousand cases and most all of these cases come from the southern part of the county where I reside and hold my office, and I think it proper that one of the two Circuit Court Commissioners elected from the county should be elected from this part of the county where most of the work comes from, as a matter of convenience and service to those requiring actions of this kind.

"I feel that on account of past experience I am qualified for the office which I seek and that on account of the fact that most of the cases heard in my court come from the southern part of the county, that I am justified in seeking re-election."

## TAX BILL MAILING NEARLY COMPLETED

Tax bills for the village of Birmingham are being sent out daily from the village offices, according to Treasurer Charles Plumstead. The major part of the taxpayers already have their bills and it is only those living in territory recently annexed, or owners of vacant property in the outlying subdivisions that have not yet been sent their bills. It is expected that the mailing will be completed by the middle of the month. Taxes were due July 1.

## BLOOMFIELD CENTER INCORPORATION TO BE REVIEWED BY BOARD

The petition for the incorporation of the entire Bloomfield Center district will be up before the County Board of Supervisors sometime this morning, it is expected.

Officials anticipate that the petition carrying 200 names will pass the approval of the township heads with little or no objection. The matter will come up to the vote of Bloomfield Township sometime in September.

Mr. Harry T. Winters is having a new brick home constructed on the corner of Rivernoak and Kenesaw avenue by the Connelly Building Co.

## PROPOSED LIBRARY FLOOR PLANS NEAR IDEAL, SAYS BOARD

**Approval Given Architects' Plans Only After Rigid Requirements Are Met**

**ENTRANCE ON MARTIN**

Since the floor plan of the new proposed public library will play a very important part in the service which it will give to Birmingham in the years to come, sketches of the main and mezzanine floors are shown in this issue of the Eccentric. The architect perfected the plans according to the best ideas in library practice after a thorough study of other libraries and a careful consideration of Birmingham's future needs, according to members of the library board. The final sketch was given the enthusiastic approval of the board.

**Doors Open Into Lobby**

The future patron of the new Baldwin Public Library as he enters the library grounds from Martin street will walk some 65 feet to the short flight of wide stone steps, entering an inviting doorway with a high arched window above which throws a flood of light over the delivery desk inside. A very large window on each side of the central doorway and an artistic bay window jutting from either end of the building will relieve the brick and stone walls outside and provide ample light inside without breaking up the continuity of the exterior lines. The outside doorway will swing at the visitors touch into a lobby with glass walls which can be overlooked in all its corners by the person at the delivery desk. The main room will be entered by doors which open from each side of the lobby instead of in a direct line with the outside door, so that no drafts will be felt by the

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## ROYAL OAK MAN OUT FOR CORONER OFFICE

**John F. Releford, Royal Oak Undertaker, Announces Intention To Run**

John F. Releford of Royal Oak has announced his candidacy for the office of Oakland County Coroner balloting for which will occur at the primaries to be held September 14.

For the past 11 years Mr. Releford has made his home in Oakland County, with an undertaking business in the city of Royal Oak.

In a statement to the Eccentric recently, the candidate from the southern part of the county said, "I believe that the rapid growth of the lower end of the county makes it more appropriate for one of the county coroners to make his office in Royal Oak rather than fill both from Pontiac. If elected, I will serve the people of Oakland County to the best of my ability."

## SPRINKLING BANNED BY NEW ORDINANCE

**Connection Of New Well Will Solve Water Problem, Is Belief**

Until further notice residents of Birmingham will not be allowed to sprinkle their gardens or lawns, in compliance with a resolution passed by the commission at their regular meeting Tuesday night.

This drastic action has been necessitated by the dangerously low level reached by the wells now in use, according to village manager Harry Starr.

A few minutes prior to the opening of the commission meeting, hundreds of residents were unable to get water even on the lower floor of their homes because of the abnormal consumption which is blamed for the action. This condition, the first of this nature that has occurred this summer, was in evidence until nine o'clock when with a cessation of the use of garden hoses, the pumps began to raise the water slowly through the network of pipes under the village streets.

An ordinance in effect before the recent action of the commission prohibited sprinkling save for four hours during the early morning and evening periods when the household demand was not so great.

A three weeks drought, with scarcely a drop of rain during that time, has caused water meters throughout Birmingham to record great increases over the normal consumption figures during the past week. According to the village man-

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## "Hot Box" Will End Stray Dogs' Lives, Commissioners Decide

It is only a matter of a few days now, before stray canines apprehended while at large in Birmingham, and having no apparent home affiliations, will be subjected to a great shock, which, according to Chief of Police Anderson, will bring about a condition of instantaneous death.

At the request of the police head, the commission has voted the expenditure of sufficient funds for the construction of an electrocution device for dogs (or possibly other animals of mediocre proportions). The machination of death is said to be entitled a "Hot Box."

Considerable argument was forwarded by all concerned, relative to the most advantageous position for the Hot Box, but as no definite spot was chosen, it is entirely probable that the matter will be placed at the disposition of the police department.

The commission approved the appropriations of necessary funds without much hesitation after the present methods of annihilation were explained.

Chief Anderson told the commission that the cost would not be greater than $25, but manager Starr hinted that the figure was low and that the final figure would, no doubt, be several dollars higher because of electrical wiring work. One commissioner suggested a combination ambulance-hearse for the condemned animals for use both before and after the execution, but no action was taken.