

STUDENT LOAN FUND presents

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with a stupendous fashion show

BIRMINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Admission 25c
35c

Friday, May 7

Erity & Nixon's Store Only Survivor Of Village's "Country Town" Days

By Rosalind Knox

Between 40 and 50 years ago William Erity, a prominent Southfield man, owned a cider, flour and saw mill on the hills at that place. His son-in-law, Chauncey Nixon, who worked in the mills for several years, went into partnership with him in 1888. The business prospered and they decided to open a store in Birmingham. On the site of the present brick building between Mulholland and Young's roads and the land of the late Erity and Nixon was a frame building owned by a man named Rogers who rented it to Edgar Lamb to use for a harness shop. Finally, the original Rogers family in the village moved out and the store was sold at auction to settle the Rogers estate. It was knocked down to Austin Parks for \$700 but as he had no use for it he sold the property to Erity & Nixon for \$900. They occupied it for four years and in 1898 tore it down and built the present store. Their first clerk was Will Raynolds.

H. F. Logan began to work for them in 1899 and has been in the store ever since. Today his duties come in mostly for grocery supplies, garden seeds, dog biscuit, and grass seed, but the store also carries flour, eggs, and various other things. The time has passed when farmers used to drop in with their wheat to be ground at the mill at Southfield and call for the sack of flour the next day or so.

His "Town Drunkards" make the store a place where the town's worthies sit around and swap stories," he said, "and when the corner saloon was running many a time I've seen the store open till midnight and after on Saturday nights. The wives and children of the men who were in the store while they went on their Saturday night spree. You can say what you want about prohibition, but I've watched this town grow for 27 years and you don't see any drunkards on the street today. When the saloon was open I saw men with families come out so drunk that they don't see how they ever got home safely. No more do the elderly farmers, having made enough money on which to retire, after a long life of work and frugality, buy a snug little place in Birmingham and pass the rest of their lives in comfort and leisure, for the farms surrounding the village are practical-

ly gone. They have entered the hands of the real estate agent and taking the place of the farmer and the business and professional men with occupations in Detroit who are constantly moving to the village, to retire, but to enjoy suburban life while they work.

Old Landmarks Gone
With the disappearance of the farms and the farmers, the old town habits and likings of the former inhabitants are not those of the present. There are very few landmarks in Birmingham today to remind a newcomer that the town had a different character a quarter of a century ago, and one of them stands on Woodward avenue. Hundreds of people pass the store of Erity & Nixon every day without thinking of it as a concrete example of an anachronism. The age of the feed store and the age of the real estate office represent different conditions of life and belong to different periods of time but both are found in Birmingham.

Remembers "Country Store"
The store, since Mr. Erity's death, owned solely by Chauncey Nixon, is the only one in the village which resembles a country store. The first thing that one notices upon entering is the large room used for heating up to it are two old fashioned chairs with spindle backs curving around the make the arms, such as used to be seen in front of country hotels. The bookkeeping end of the establishment makes the arms, such as used to be seen in front of country hotels. The bookkeeping end of the establishment makes the arms, such as used to be seen in front of country hotels.

Business at the mill, which once supplied all this section of the state gradually declined and in 1915 Mr. Nixon sold them to Elmer Smith who bought the property for speculation as a farm accompanied it. In 1916 they were torn down to make way for building a store. The store that was brought into existence by the mill still continues to do business by holding its stock. But when one steps inside one feels that it belongs miles away from either Woodward avenue and all it implies and two or three decades prior to 1926.

SEEKS CLOSER BONDS FOR ECO AND VILLAGE

Rex Humphrey Believes Local Merchants Should Put On Smoker

CREATE UNDERSTANDING

A community smoker, at which the business men of Birmingham would act as hosts to the men of Eco City to the end that a closer understanding and a portion of good business treated, is the suggestion of Rex Humphrey, president of the Leininger-Humphrey Co. subdividers of this newly annexed section of the village. According to Mr. Humphrey, such an affair would not only tend to bring about a solidarity of feeling between Ecoites and Birmingham, but would be a good business move on the part of the local merchants.

Strengthen Faith
"I believe that something should be done to interest the people of Eco City in Birmingham and to strengthen their faith in the location they now occupy," said Mr. Humphrey this week. Pointing out projects that should be carried out to stimulate civic pride, he continued, "we have recently graded and gravelled all the streets in Eco City and Woodward avenue. We have also appointed May 15 as a 'clean up day' and have hired trucks to haul away rubbish, ashes, etc., entirely at our own expense."

"Another feature that we have decided upon is to give away free a package of grass seed to all families east of Woodward avenue who grade and prepare their front yards for seeding, and we will also give them an elm tree for their front yards."

Believes in Future
"Our company believes so much in the future of the Eco City district that several houses which we own, instead of selling them, we have decided to rent them, knowing that within ten years they will pay for themselves and the rent will still own the property. If it is a good thing for a family to buy a home and pay for it monthly, it is good business for this company to own several houses, allowing the renters to pay for them monthly."

That Ecoites show a community spirit is evidenced in the fact that a board walk has been constructed along Woodward avenue, on the east side, one half of which was paid for by this company, while all the work was contributed by men living in the district. A contract has been let for the installation of water mains in Beverly Manor and Beverly Manor No. 1 which will complete the water system for the entire district, said Mr. Humphrey. "More than \$7,000.00 worth of gravel has been purchased by us for graveling the streets, including road repair work."

Thrifty Americans
"All in all, if you men living in Eco City are an excellent type of thrifty Americans. The community would be no worse today than it was in 1921, which is an average saving or accumulation of wealth amounting to \$100,000.00 per year," concluded Mr. Humphrey.

TAXPAYERS APPROVE ROAD PROJECTS FOR BIRMINGHAM

(Continued From Page 1)
The project is estimated to cost \$12,225.00, and the latter \$8,324.00, each of which will be paid for on the three-fourths and one-fourth basis. According to manager Starr, about six weeks must elapse before the various public hearings are completed, and it is expected that work will be started before August 1 on all local streets that are to be improved.

More Public Hearings
Next Monday evening, at 8 o'clock, a public hearing will be held at the clerk's office to hear objections and suggestions as to the installation of a concrete sidewalk on the Oakland avenue between Adams avenue and Woodward avenue. Monday, May 17, three more public hearings will be held on proposed streets to be improved. At 8 o'clock the people of Townsend street from Pierce to Southfield avenue, will be given a chance to express their views on the plan to install curb, gutter and gravel on their street; a similar hearing takes place at 8 o'clock for residents on George street, between Pierce and Woodward; at 9:30 o'clock residents of Bates street, from Lincoln to Brown street are to be heard.

Petition For Elm Street
A petition asking that an 8 inch concrete pavement, curb and gutter be installed on Elm street, between East Maple avenue and Forest avenue, was received by the commission Monday. It was referred to the manager with directions that he prepare plans and estimated costs on the project.

16-YEAR-OLD BOY IS CHAMPION SPELLER OF SCHOOL DISTRICT
(Continued From Page 1)
Pierce school, and Ruth Kregar, Adams school. Assisting Supl. Vilel at the spelling contest were M. C. Hart, principal of the Baldwin high school; Magdalene Frederick, principal of the Adams school; and Mrs. Katharine Hathaway, of the D. Whitefield school.

OAKLAND COUNTY FARM BEQUEATHED IN WILL

The will of Elmer L. Smith, former local man, who died April 21, was filed in probate today naming the Detroit Trust Company and a son, Harold R. Smith, as executors.

According to the will, all personal effects are given to the widow, and the income from real estate situated at John R. and Hancock streets, Detroit, were bequeathed to his wife, May E. Smith, for life. After her death the property will pass to his son Harold R. Smith and daughter, Mrs. Margaret Roseover.

The Smith farm in Southfield Township, Oakland County is to be distributed among his children—one third each to Margaret Roseover and Harold R. Smith, and the remaining third to his grandchildren, Robert, Ruth and Richard Hitchcock.

P. T. A. MEETINGS

Mrs. James Downey, director of Public Safety in Detroit, spoke at the Hill School Parent-Teacher meeting Tuesday afternoon. A play on the subject of Safety first, was given by 12 pupils in the fifth grade.

As the week of May 24 is exhibit week in the local schools, the Adams Parent-Teacher Association has postponed its meeting till May 25 to enable the parents to view the exhibits. It will send a delegate, which will be elected later, to the state convention at Holland, May 26-28.

This afternoon the Barnum Parent-Teacher Association will elect its delegate, and Mrs. George Dweley will entertain with a group of children's songs.

Mrs. Fred Johnson is the delegate from the Parent-Teacher Council.

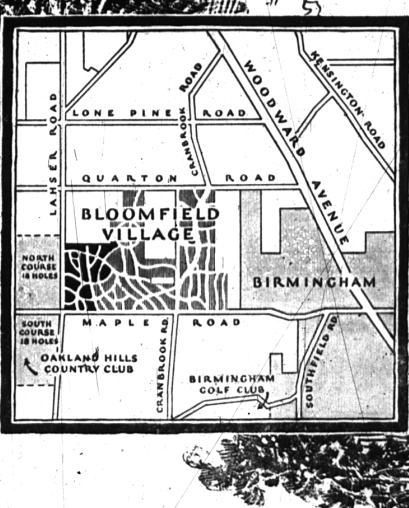
Remember Mother's Day

SUNDAY, MAY 9TH
She'll appreciate a box of specially prepared and wrapped candy from our Kitchens.

HAMMELEF'S

125 N. WOODWARD Phone 725

Bloomfield Village



A New Addition to Bloomfield Village—

Adjoining the Oakland Hills Country Club—Just Opened!

SINCE Judson Bradway first announced the careful residential community that under his expert guidance has rapidly developed "just west and north of Birmingham, where Bloomfield Hills begin"—there have been, no doubt, those who have looked forward to the time when the section immediately adjoining the property of the Oakland Hills Country Club should be made available!

The recent opening of Bloomfield Village Number Four presents the long anticipated opportunity! The new addition adjoining the original Bloomfield Village on the west and overlooks the north 18 holes of the Oakland Hills Country Club, with frontage on both West Maple Road and Lahser Road.

It is characterized by the same painstakingly planned restrictions, the same amply proportioned sites (80 to 100 feet wide by 135 to 210 feet deep), the same artistic landscaping, which have influenced the majority of purchasers to buy to build—and which have made of Bloomfield Village the outstanding development of the entire Bloomfield Hills district. Every city improvement is provided—including sewer, water, gas, cement sidewalks, shade trees and curvilinear gravelled roads bordered by concrete curb and gutter.

The price advantage will be immediately apparent to those who know Bloomfield Hills values!

Plans, prices and illustrated folders are now available. A phone call, today, or use of the coupon, assures priority in selection.

Judson Bradway Co.

MAJESTIC BUILDING REALTORS

ESTABLISHED 1902

PHONE MAIN 0045

Branch offices at Woodwarddale, Woodward-Monist, Bloomfield Village and Eastover are open Saturday and Sunday afternoons at two o'clock.

Chick! Chick! Proves That All Postal Eggs Are Not Bad Ones

Around noon each day, anybody going into the Birmingham post-office will usually hear a time the chick noise peculiar to baby chicks, coming from the rear of the room. While opening the box to get his or her mail, the person will probably resolve, then and there, never to buy eggs through the mail again.

But such a hasty judgment has proved to be erroneous; this after a careful investigation. The rear of the chicks in the post-office is not "accidental," to the contrary, they have been sent and are "on their way" via the mails.

Jim Cobb, the postmaster, stated yesterday that "almost ten boxes of chicks, a hundred or more, are sent through this station each day. Most of them come from the Dean Egg Hatchery five miles northeast of Birmingham. Their destination frequently requires three or four days of travel, and it is not until they receive no food. You know, a baby chick does not eat until seventy-two hours after being hatched. This makes it possible to ship them the same day that they are taken from the incubators. Few company food they're always cheeping and letting you know that they are alive and well like to get to the post-office."

"Sometimes, however, they aren't such fine company," added Jim, "mean—well here I can show you now—come back here. Without saying a word he explained: even a person with a cold in the head could have discovered his meaning. "But most of them manage to keep alive on the first, and probably the last, journey of their lives," he concluded.

Seek Summer Nursery At Community House
Application from a group of women for a summer pre-school nursery in the Community House was received by the members of the board holding their monthly meeting last Monday morning. Mrs. W. E. Espery and Mrs. G. P. A. Adams were present and interested in the project. No decision was reached by the board.

Mrs. G. A. Moore reported that the Girl Reserves in conjunction with the H. I. are planning to raise money for a tennis court in back of the Community House. They have been given permission by the vestry of St. James Church, as the House stands on church property. There are 25 members in the club and there is talk of starting another unit for younger girls.

The Blue Birds, under the direction of Mrs. Raymond Reilly, are making preparations for the presentation of an "out-door drama," "Robin Hood," some time before the close of school. The committee for counting the pledges of the Roll Call was appointed and consists of Mrs. W. W. Raymond and Mrs. Hugh Purdy; Mrs. L. Simpson and Miss Ethel Bass comprise the committee for the counting of the money. Mrs. Seymour Adams, treasurer, will tabulate the final results.

Rotary Club Backs Adams School Playground Plan

(Continued From Page 1)
port when it went after the site for the Adams school six years ago, two blocks, instead of one, had been acquired, thus providing sufficient space for a fairly decent athletic field. He emphasized the fact that this district would soon double and even triple in population, creating proportionate increases demanded upon all of its public institutions and utilities.

Most Vision Future
"This history of the Adams school proves that Birmingham and vicinity must project its vision into the future in the matter of public enterprises, plans, even when necessity demands expansion, the cost will be terrific in comparison with today's prices," declared Mr. Averill. "A man would not build a house without allowing room for a yard; a public school cannot function wisely and well without a playground or athletic field. We must not expect that schoolbooks and textbooks are the only things necessary to round out the education of a boy or girl; physical and mental activities today play their proportionate parts in making men and women of our youth."

Rev. Atkins declared that, although he was a comparative newcomer to Birmingham, he had observed that real citizens are progressive and that they would undoubtedly stand behind the school board in a plan to acquire an athletic field for the Adams school. Mr. Bell spoke briefly on the desirability of the project, although he was unable to get any figures on the cost of the land under consideration.

It is probable that the school board will give serious consideration to the proposed athletic field and the school board is unable to get any figures on the cost of the land under consideration.

On account of the sudden death of his brother, James Bell, Nelson Bell, 3211 1/2th Street, left Sunday morning for Weidman.

The next regular meeting of the Mechanics Club will be held on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock in the Maccabee Hall in the Parks Building.

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