

# RECORD VOTE DEFEATS ZONING ORDINANCE

## \$20,000 Bond Issue For New Well Rejected

### Surprise of Election Is Loss of New Well Project

Birmingham opposed a \$20,000 bond issue at the special election yesterday by a vote of 1063 to 978. The money would have gone for the installing of a well in the southern part of the village.

The outcome of this question was the surprise of the election, most citizens having expressed the opinion that it would carry.

The first two precincts to have their votes tallied showed the percentage in favor of the issue. It was favored by a vote of 654 to 380 when it went into the second precinct. The vote there was 598 against the bond issue and 409 for it. Forty-one votes were spoiled.

In precinct No. 1 there were 490 who voted in favor of it and 260 votes against it. In Precinct No. 3, in which the well would have been located, the vote was 164 for the issue and 120 against.

For the question to be passed upon it was necessary to have a vote of 1225 in favor of it, figuring on percentage of total votes cast.

The well was to have been an addition to the waterworks system in the village and was in accord with the program for enlargement.

Effect of the previous bond issue and interest taken in the vote on the zoning ordinance were given by one village official as the reasons for the failure of this to pass.

It will not be voted upon again this year, it has been learned, because of a village ordinance under which Birmingham has filled her quota for special elections for this year.

## ELECTION SPECIAL

FIRST WITH THE NEWS

The Birmingham Eccentric issued this special election extra complimentary for the sole purpose of giving its many readers the people's decision on the zoning ordinance as soon as the question was decided. Since the question has gained an unusually prominent place in the minds of Birmingham citizens, this office feels confident that the news of its outcome will be welcomed at the earliest possible moment. The Eccentric is merely following its policy of informing its readers as to what happens in the village.

### Zoning Opposed By Vote of 1483 to 587 In Largest Poll In History of Birmingham

In the heaviest vote of its history Birmingham yesterday defeated the proposed zoning ordinance by the overwhelming margin of almost three to one. There were 1483 votes against the measure and 587 for it.

The total number of votes cast was 2,082, almost double the number at any previous election. There were 12 ballots spoiled.

All three precincts in the village voted against the ordinance. It was completely swamped in Precinct No. 2 by a vote of 807 to 214. Voting here was the heaviest of any precinct in the village. There were 1029 ballots cast.

Precinct No. 1 voted against the ordinance 428 to 331 while citizens in the third precinct opposed it by a vote of 248 to 12.

The election which cost the village between \$700 and \$800 not only made history, but settled a question which has concerned every citizen in Birmingham.

Enthusiasm which manifested itself early in the fall when suggestion of a special election for the proposed ordinance was raised again kept high throughout the day and Birmingham was astonished at the great vote cast.

### Election Specialties

In marked contrast to the last elections held here there was not a green ribbon to be seen near any of the polls yesterday. One of the voters remarked, in noticing this, upon how quickly one issue takes the place of another.

Some idea of how busy members of the election board at Precinct No. 2 were during yesterday's heavy voting may be gained from the fact that Miss Margaret Bell, working there, did not recognize her mother, Mrs. S. O. Wiley Bell, when she came to vote.

Color was added to the election at some of the polls when several D. U. R. employes voted dressed in their blue uniforms with shining buttons. So important was the election that very few persons in the village who are eligible voters failed to find time from their work to cast their ballot.

One of the most interesting things of any election, perhaps is the working of a voter's mind as he enters the booth. How many persons go to the polls resolved to cast a vote one way and as they pick up the pencil, without deliberation, vote the other. It is intentional, but not deliberate, if you know what we mean.

Despite the popularity of yesterday's election, if you think everyone voted early—well, you are mistaken. There were a number of voters who were breathless just before the "deadline" at 9:30 p. m.

And there was not an election night celebration in all Birmingham—if a lack of invitations is a criterion.

### DEMOCRATS FAIL TO CONVINCE CITIZENS OF PARTY SINCERITY

Present Plea For Votes Is Not That Of Constructive Statesmanship, It Is Claimed

WOULD ABOLISH 2 FORCES

(Special To The Eccentric)

Unless the Democratic party can write into their appeal for support at the November election something besides criticism, they never hope to become a potential factor in the political affairs of Michigan. This statement is based upon the combined belief of hundreds of high-minded men and women of Michigan who are voicing their opposition to the Democratic nominee in letters received daily at the Republican State Central Committee headquarters, which are located in this city.

Just what they are concentrating their attacks on the administrative board and the state police, both of which will be abolished if they have their way. Abolition of these two important divisions of state government is not constructive statesmanship, they deem the board should be retained, reserving such checks and balances as will preserve a majority from the domination of a one-man dictatorship that was so thoroughly repudiated at the September election.

Then there is the identification division, located in the main offices in Lansing, which maintains a finger print and photograph service of all criminals, and keeps files of such means of identification. Oil inspection division, fire marshal's division, parole service and plain clothes detachment are some of the other activities of the force.

Mayor Green does not believe the state police should supersede local government. He believes the people in community are the best judges of law enforcement in that community; they can change their local officers at regular elections every two years, or they can recall them at any time they want to. He believes there are many instances where the use of the state police has been abused. He believes there could be few of them, but not think as a matter of policy, good politics, or right that their abolition should be advocated.

#### How They Voted on BOND ISSUE (First Precinct)

YES	490
NO	260
Totals	
YES	409
NO	598
Totals	
YES	164
NO	120
Totals	
YES	978
NO	1063
Total votes cast, 2,082	
Spoiled votes, 41	

#### ROAD COMMISSIONERS BEGIN OCCUPANCY OF NEW COUNTY BUILDING

Vacate Pontiac Court House Annex For Telegraph Road Site; New Structure Is Fireproof

IS THOROUGHLY MODERN

Offices of the Oakland County road commission moved yesterday to the new quarters at Telegraph road near Orchard Lake avenue, Pontiac. The building is practically completed and the old offices at the annex of the Court House which have been occupied by the commissioners for a number of years today are mostly vacated.

The new building includes an office building 60 by 34 feet and to the rear of this a garage 150 feet by 75 feet.

Construction is of brick and concrete, and is fireproof throughout. The garage will provide room for all trucks and cars used by the road commission in this section of the county, as well as special equipment used throughout the county generally. The three accessory garages located in different corners of the county will still be maintained. An up-to-the-minute repair department has been built in the new garage with facilities for handling repairs on all county road trucks and automotive equipment.

The heating plants for the garage and office building are located in the basement of the garage.

The office building will present a very beautiful appearance both exterior and interior. Inside, plastered walls are decorated in buff with gray concrete floors covered with carpets in the private offices and matting in the halls and drafting room.

On the lower floor is located the information desk and waiting room, Commissioners' private office and Commissioners' meeting room; a general clerk's office and private offices for L. V. Balkman, chief engineer, and E. F. Glasgow, assistant engineer.

There are two large fireproof vaults, one on the first floor and another in the basement.

Several of the private offices entirely occupy the space on the second floor.

#### How They Voted on ZONING ORDINANCE (First Precinct)

YES	331
NO	428
Totals	
YES	214
NO	807
Totals	
YES	42
NO	248
Totals	
YES	587
NO	1483
Total number of votes cast, 2,082	
Spoiled votes, 12	

#### SCOUT TROOP B1 TO REORGANIZE

Troop B1 of the Birmingham Boy Scouts will meet at 7:30 tonight in the First Presbyterian Church to reorganize and install new leaders. This action was necessitated by the resignation several weeks ago of Joseph F. McGregor, who is scoutmaster of the troop.

A meeting for all scout leaders is planned for the next Friday to discuss and install new leaders. The exact date for the leaders' meeting has not yet been decided upon.

#### Reports from Baldwin High School declare the ordinance passed

Several who voted declared they were surprised to see the bond issue on the ballot. They say they were so interested about the zoning ordinance that they forgot the other issue.

If 2100 persons voted, and, then how many starts of oil and gallons of gasoline were consumed in transporting local voters to the polls yesterday?

Not to mention how many yards of brake-lining were worn out in the process. Consider the mud, and all the automobiles did a fine bit of work.

It goes without saying that Tuesday night, Oct. 19, must have been the time when the least number of local citizens ever recorded were at the movies; from the number of

#### Victors in Zone Ordinance Election Arouse Village With Celebration

Birmingham residents who, after casting an early vote Tuesday evening, retired for the night, were disturbed from their peaceful slumbers when approximately 30 automobiles, each containing opponents to the defeated zoning ordinance, drove through the village, tooting their horns in joyous celebration of their victory at the polls.

Never in the history of a local election had there been in evidence the spirited rivalry between the proponents and opponents of a public issue that was shown during the past three weeks here.

Headed by William McCallum, the oppositional parade made its way to the homes of village officials, as well as to others favorable to the passage of the zoning ordinance, giving a horn-tooting parade of several minutes duration at each stop.

As the caravan of victorious automobilists wended its way about town, citizens, some of them in night gowns, stuck their heads out of windows, or rushed out into the streets, manifesting great excitement. Some of them were clearly disgusted with a majority of the election, although the majority of the citizens, through the publicity of the Eccentric, had approved the ordinance at the nocturnal race.

Until nearly 1:00 a. m. dozens of citizens called the office of The Eccentric, their first question almost always being: "How did the zoning ordinance go?"

#### ELECTION BOARD MEMBERS

Members of the election board who served at the special election yesterday were appointed by Mrs. Hazel E. Lawler, village clerk. Their names and the precincts in which they were engaged follow:

First precinct includes all territory within the village limits north of Maple avenue. Voting was at Hartman and Woodman avenues. Mrs. Virginia Burkman, Mrs. Virginia Hewitt, Mrs. Blanche White, Mrs. Stella Edgar, L. P. Fotte, and William Harrison, formed the board.

Second precinct voting was in the commission rooms, in the village offices at Martin and Pierce streets. This district includes the territory south of Maple avenue and north of Lincoln avenue. The board included Mrs. William Blumberg, Miss Margaret Bell, Mrs. A. D. Jarzins, George Mitchell, John Housa and William Brown.

Third precinct includes the territory south of Lincoln avenue with poll at the road state office at 1306 south Woodward. The board consisted of Mrs. Guy Lawshell, Mrs. Jessie Madge, Mrs. Clara Stewart, William Barber, Clare Stewart, and W. E. Barlow.

#### How They Voted on ZONING ORDINANCE (Second Precinct)

YES	214
NO	807
Totals	
YES	42
NO	248
Totals	
YES	587
NO	1483
Total number of votes cast, 2,082	
Spoiled votes, 12	

special election this summer when the bond issue for the civic center was approved was shattered and the largest vote in the history of Birmingham was being increased as the minutes passed.

Members of the two factions working for and against the ordinance had a busy day. The Citizens Protective association called on many persons, urging them to vote, although the measure was found to be less necessary in this election than in any other.

Under the present village ordinance which covers special elections there can be no more held this year so the issue will not appear to be voted on again at least until 1927.

Officials of the Home Owners association, which favored the passing of the ordinance, declared it is doubtful whether it will ever be proposed again in its present form. They said, however, that they continue to believe zoning a good thing for Birmingham and may possibly make plans later to draw up a different ordinance to benefit the village.

A member of the village commission intimated yesterday morning that if the proposed ordinance were defeated by a large margin it would not appear again for a vote while the present commission is in office.

J. H. McBride, president of the Citizens' Protective association, declared he was glad the ordinance was defeated and believes it for the good of the village.

"I hope it is clearly understood that every effort was made, so far as we were concerned, to keep the fight a clean one. We were determined to defeat the ordinance as we believed it would be better for Birmingham if it were defeated. Had it passed we should have appealed it even to the Supreme Court if necessary."

Since the vote decided the question that involves practically every citizen in Birmingham, the interest here was intense from the time the ordinance was proposed. Meetings have been held for discussing the issue almost every night since the village commissioners first set Oct. 19 as the date for the voting. With few exceptions the attendance at the meetings was so large that everyone was confident of the size of yesterday's vote.

The total number of votes cast at Precinct No. 1 was 768. There were 13 votes spoiled on the bonding issue and 4 spoiled on the zoning ordinance. Counting was finished at 10:30.

In Precinct No. 3, there were 463 who registered and 290 votes cast. This was the lightest vote of the three precincts, and the count was ready at 9:50. Six spoiled ballots were recorded on the bond issue, but there were none spoiled on the zoning ordinance.