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Birmingham

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OAKLAND COUNTY'S GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

FORTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 44

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1927

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Two Departments Called To Fight Night Flames; Spark Is Cause

LOSS ESTIMATE \$75,000

Plans are being made today by J. H. Muzzey to rebuild the beautiful home at Oak Knobs in Bloomfield Hills following the fire and night which broke out last night. Origin of the blaze which reduced the partly completed home to the ground is being investigated by Muzzey who has been in a spark from a chimney. The roof of the house caught on fire and spread to the main floor. Muzzey had gained such headway before the fire departments from Birmingham and Pontiac could arrive, that there was no chance of saving it. Damage is estimated by the owner at \$75,000. It was covered by insurance.

At Work One Year

The building plant had already been installed and was in use to heat the building while workers were finishing the inside of the house and other evening construction for a year, and was within two months of completion. Muzzey family had been in three years living in another house on their estate, and were planning to occupy their new home by summer.

Firemen were able to save \$1,000 worth of file from the garage, but the house itself is nothing but a mass of charred ruins today. The stucco walls stand, but they too are ruined.

Impressing

It was an impressing spectacle. Great columns of flame shot from the top of a high chimney, and flames, illuminating their blackness for miles around. People gathered in front of the house, and the giant tongues lapping at the clouds—and misting them only by inches.

Some came in cars, some on wheels, and all gazed, horrified and fascinated. Delicate pink and yellow clouds, far and near, hurriedly peeled off beneath fur coats hurriedly donned and their wearers hurriedly turned their backs to the involuntary fear, and policemen

(Continued on Page 2)

PHOTOGRAPHS DRIVING INJURING THREE

Pontiac Residents Sent To Hospital Following Woodward Crash

Three Pontiac residents are in the Pontiac City Hospital today as the result of an accident which occurred on Woodward street in south of Birmingham on Woodward avenue at 4:35 a. m. Sunday, when a closed car driven by H. M. Thatcher, of G. W. Taylor, 48 Lorraine court, 34 years old, received scalp and forehead lacerations; and Mrs. Guinan, 33 years old, received lacerations to her forehead and arms. Authorities say that all three will be able to leave the hospital within a few days. Thatcher was discharged from the hospital Monday after being treated for his lacerations and a fractured rib. Both cars were going north when the accident occurred, and Mrs. Guinan said she believed Mr. Thatcher was attempting to stop when he crashed into the rear of a Detroit Creamery truck being driven by Richard Baldwin, 3241 Merrick avenue, Detroit. Damage to the car was estimated at approximately \$100.

Those in the hospital are: Mrs. Thatcher, 30 years old, who sustained a fractured nose and severe lacerations to her forehead; Mrs. Guinan, 34 years old, received scalp and forehead lacerations; and Mrs. Guinan, 33 years old, received lacerations to her forehead and arms. Authorities say that all three will be able to leave the hospital within a few days. Thatcher was discharged from the hospital Monday after being treated for his lacerations and a fractured rib. Both cars were going north when the accident occurred, and Mrs. Guinan said she believed Mr. Thatcher was attempting to stop when he crashed into the rear of a Detroit Creamery truck being driven by Richard Baldwin, 3241 Merrick avenue, Detroit. Damage to the car was estimated at approximately \$100.

LIBRARY CONTRACT AWARDS IS TODAY

Call Two Hearings

Plans for the building of the new Baldwin Public Library will be discussed at a special meeting to be held today.

Commissioners were crowded at the regular meeting Monday night when 15 contractors offered bids for the building of the new Baldwin Public Library. The number of bids could not be accepted at the meeting, which they packed to overflowing.

Architects have been tabulating the bids since they were received Monday and will report on their findings today. It was requested by the commission.

Work on the new library to be on Detroit street, between the spring and is expected to be completed within the year.

Expert architectural drawings for the new Baldwin Public Library were prepared by H. P. Doring, 1124 North St., Detroit.

15,000 VISIT COMMUNITY HOUSE DURING YEAR

More than 15,000 persons visited the Community House during the past year, according to the report made by Miss Mary Griffin, hostess, at the annual Community House board meeting Monday night.

The number, compared with the 14,000 reported for Birmingham, which is only slightly more than 10,000, gives some idea of the importance of the house in Birmingham life.

During the past two years the village has not had to give one cent for relief work in Birmingham. The Community House has taken care of all of it, the report said.

Brightened, destitute families have been relieved and aided, children have been clothed, through the activity of the house.

Probably no house of the size of this building, on the corner at Bates and Maple avenues, houses more unprivileged and more varied activities than the Community House, figures show.

These 19,000 visitors to the house, which is open every day, are of all ages, colors, and conditions, and everyone is welcome at the house.

Many organizations hold their regular meetings there, among them the Boy Scouts, three troops of the city, the Girl Scouts, the Girl League, the Bluebirds, a group of young people, the Girl Scouts, the Business Girls, the school teachers, and the school board.

Issues Call

BANKS, POSTOFFICE TO CLOSE ON TUESDAY

The First National and First State Savings Bank and the post office will observe Washington's birthday Tuesday by remaining closed. Neither bank will open its doors, and there will not even be a mail delivery. Schools, however, will be open as usual in other places of business in town.

Y. M. C. A. DRESSES ANNUAL DRIVE

H. T. Ellerby, Chairman, Maps Out Plans For \$5,000 Attempt

The Birmingham Y. M. C. A. starts the twelfth annual drive for funds next Sunday, according to an announcement made today by Robert Lynd, secretary.

H. T. Ellerby, chairman of the drive, says that his organization will consist of two majors, and each major will select six captains and six sergeants to lead the drive.

This year's drive will consist of 75 workers who will get the \$5,000 needed in less than a week.

The local organization believes that if the \$5,000 is raised, the executive committee will be able to spend more in Birmingham and thus get more boys interested in the work.

The money that is raised will be used for the training of leaders, providing supplies for raises, promotion of camp attendance, the purchase of new uniforms, the maintenance of an office, the provision for an executive committee, the purchase of other incidental expenses that are necessary in the securing and training of volunteer leaders, Mr. Howard reports.

General Activities

The general committee activities are to include boys' conferences, H. Y. boys' meetings, thrift work campaigns, father and son activities and valley ball clubs for men and boy life surveys, he said.

This organization has been given the village and is now giving direct service to 211 boys in 10 groups or clubs. Each of these groups has an adult and a young organizer leader, Mr. Lynd said. One hundred twenty men are active in recreation groups or clubs.

"During the summer months many of our boys attend Y. M. C. A. camps, which are held in the summer and winter the older boys are well represented at the state older boys conference and the monthly H. Y. meetings.

Many of the boys are active in the various schools throughout the southern part of the county, and are active in the H. Y. group with Lee Manson as leader; the Adams Jr. High group with Morse Cooke as leader; the High school group with Carter as leader; the Baldwin Senior High group with M. C. Hart and Ralph McLean as leaders; the Pierce School Jr. group with Robert Peck as leader; and the Pierce School Jr. High with Edwin Bissell as leader, and Fulton Westerly as assistant leader.

William Putman, County Deputy, Is Appointed To Post

William Putman, lieutenant of the motorcycle squad of the sheriff's office, and for the past six months acting deputy sheriff in Pontiac, will assume duties as chief of police of the new Bloomfield Hills Village. From April 1, the appointment was made at a special board meeting held in the hills Monday night.

Both the Rev. H. J. Horta, president of the commission, was appointed police commissioner. After discussion by the board, the position was made by George E. Roshin that Mr. Allen should be given the power to appoint a deputy police commissioner and a chief of police. The motion was confirmed by an unanimous vote. Mr. Allen appointing William A. Barbour as the deputy under him.

H. E. Howler, a Pontiac lawyer, is regarded as a possible man to be the position of village attorney. Selection from several candidates will be made at the next meeting.

The police board of the city was agreed by all. Many cases of burglary and holdups were cited by members of the board.

(Continued on Page 2)

WORK PROGRESSES ON BROADWAY

Preliminary plans have already been made for the widening and paving of Broadway avenue to 100 feet between the city and the state is taking steps to obtain the right of way.

County Road Commissioners Await Call To Lansing Conference

Members of the Oakland County road commission are expected to leave for Lansing today to confer with the highway department relative to particulars of the plan, according to Luther D. Allen, member of the commission.

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AGES OF TEN SONS EQUAL THAT OF GRANDFATHER

On Washington's birthday, W. W. McAlpine, of Ridgefield avenue, will celebrate his own seventy-fourth birthday with a family of ten boys, all of whom are the same age as his grandfather.

Strangely enough, Mr. McAlpine's age is the exact combined age of his ten grandsons, as well as of his two sons, W. S. McAlpine and R. A. McAlpine.

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THEATRE OWNER SHOULD RESPECT WISHES OF A COMMUNITY

Rev. R. M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church, and leader of the forces advocating the so-called "Sunday Blue Laws" in Birmingham, today issued to the Evening an interview defending his stand against the proposed ordinance which would allow the operation of picture theatres on Sunday.

The issue will be voted upon by citizens in the general elections here March 14. While no organization is in opposition to the proposed ordinance has as yet asserted itself, citizens leader or action has been taken to prevent the ordinance's passage.

Rev. Atkins said that it is being made in Birmingham to present to the citizens of this community by the ordinance which would prevent the operation of Sunday motion picture shows, and that the ordinance would be commercialized amusements and there is a real sincerity to present a clear cut issue and to allow the voters of the community to decide the question.

Mr. Hubert has qualified for the office of village commissioner and will be voted on at the elections March 14. He is opposing Ralph L. Corry for the unexpired term of Commissioner S. O. Wiley Bell, made vacant by his resignation.

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INQUEST ORDERED HELD SATURDAY IN PONTIAC BY CORONEY FARMER

Lee G. Wilson Victim

An inquest will be held at the Court House in Pontiac at 9 a. m. Saturday in the death Monday afternoon of Lee G. Wilson, 238 Emmons street, when his machine crashed into a truck on Woodward avenue a mile south of Birmingham. Coroney O. C. Farmer will conduct the inquest.

Wilson was removed to the Delco Light corporation made his headquarters with the Hawthorn Electric company here. He was 28 years old and unmarried.

Ben Donaldson, 3389 Fourteenth avenue, Detroit, driver of the truck, was removed to the hospital. Myer's car hit head on when they both turned out to pass other machines. Slippery pavement made it impossible for him to stop the truck, he said, and the truck was removed to the yard of Wilson, totally demolishing it. The truck turned over on the sedan. When Wilson was removed by passersby from under the debris he was dead from a fractured skull.

Donaldson was taken to the sheriff's office where he made a report and will be present at the inquest Saturday.

Witnesses of the accident say moving vehicles were blocking the road and were an indirect cause of the affair. Other witnesses, however, say there were no other machines on the road at the time.

The body of Wilson was taken to the police morgue and will be held there tomorrow. He had been working in Birmingham since July.

Donaldson escaped injuries but was badly shaken. It was the shock of the accident that