

"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

FIFTIETH YEAR—ELECTION EXTRA

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, MONDAY, JULY 11, 1927

ELECTION EXTRA

This Week State and County News Briefly Told

DETROIT—Aaron Sapiro is completely satisfied with the published apology of Henry Ford for what Ford's publication, the Dearborn Independent, has said about the Jews. Mr. Sapiro announced this Sunday night on his return from Canada and further said that in all likelihood he would withdraw his million-dollar libel suit and a settlement would be made out of court. Mr. Sapiro, a Chicago lawyer whose activity in agricultural economics and co-operatives drew the editorial fires which kindled the libel suit, said that negotiations for an out-of-court settlement have been conducted "over the heads" of Mr. Ford's counsel. He said he believed the public retraction was a bigger surprise to Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, and Stewart Hanley, of Detroit (members of Ford counsel in the suit), than to any others concerned.

PONTIAC — Two men were killed instantly and a third is near death in Pontiac City Hospital as a result of an automobile accident on the Dixie Highway north of Clarkston, at 9 a. m. yesterday, in which the machine occupied by the victims was rammed head-on, overturned and caught fire. The Dead: Raymond C. Smith, age 30, farmer of Springfield township, Lee Platta, age 35, farmer, Springfield township.

The injured: Lester Smith, age 45, brother of Raymond. In City Hospital suffering from burns about the head, arms and shoulders and possible internal injuries. He may die. James W. Orange, age 23, of 3365 Jefferson avenue east, Detroit, driver of the other machine, is held in the County Jail and faces a charge of involuntary manslaughter. The other companions in Orange's car fled after the accident and are being sought by deputy sheriffs.

DETROIT—Bankers from all parts of the United States began registering at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, yesterday, for the annual convention of the American Institute of Banking which will be in session until July noon. It is expected that between 2,500 and 3,000 delegates will attend. The convention business session yesterday. After registration, the delegates were taken on a sight-seeing trip, which included a ride around Belle Isle. In the evening there was a theater party for women and a stag party for men. At 11 p. m. all delegates joined a dancing party at the Hotel Statler.

HIGHLAND—The first of a half dozen camp buildings to be erected in State parks this year has been completed at Dodge Park No. 10, west of Highland. Under one roof is located a very comfortable camp site. Main feature of the building is its combined messhall and recreation room, about 30 by 50 feet in size. The hall is equipped with 15 long deal tables and twice that many benches, all of which can be folded up and stacked against the walls when not in use.

MILFORD—After a three weeks illness with heart disease Mrs. Jacob E. Baker, 74 years old, died Sunday night at the home of her son, Dr. N. I. Baker of this village. She was brought here recently from Mt. Pleasant, her home for many years. Surviving are two sons, Dr. and O. J. Baker, a daughter, the Creek druggist, and a son, the late Fred A. Baker of Farmington. Funeral (Continued on Page 2)

BOND ISSUE PASSES IN LIGHT VOTE

Jensen, Coryell Elected to Serve on Village Board of Education

FREE TEXT BOOKS ADOPTED FOR SCHOOLS

Books Bought In Schools Favored

Free text books will be used in Birmingham schools when the fall semester resumes, following a vote of the people at the school election here today. The issue was favored by voters to the tune of 313 to 158.

The original cost of the installation of free text books is estimated at \$12,000 for the schools of Birmingham. This would make approximately a 60 cents additional per thousand dollars in taxation. The books would last probably two years before they would have to be repaired, information from schools employing the system shows.

As to the sanitation of free text books, the Detroit Board of Health reports it has never been able to trace contagious diseases to free text books. The books are fumigated after every semester, before another group of children use them.

Among the arguments advanced in favor of free text books were that free text books are in line with free schools, free fuel and free school supplies, that the delay in starting the new term often occasioned by failure to obtain books promptly would be avoided; that the school can now supply such texts as it deems best for its instructional needs.

The opposing arguments, that pupils are deprived of their books during summer vacation, that the pupils do not take care of public property as carefully as they would of their own, were not considered by the voters of Birmingham sufficient to outweigh the advantages of the system.

"After trying for four years to get free text books in the schools of Birmingham, we are certainly gratified to have had the issue pass so favorably," Mrs. Roland H. Mann, of Greenwood avenue, who has also been active in urging free text books, said. "We feel that it will be a great benefit to Birmingham, both to the parents of the school children and to the school children themselves."

The free text book issue has been agitated for several years. Last year there was a good deal of feeling aroused on the subject, but it was not until about a month ago that the school board announced it would be made an issue in the school elections. Members of the various Parent-Teacher organizations in the village have been generally very much in favor of free text books.

Mrs. Harvey Whalen, of Greenwood avenue, a member of the Hill School P. T. A., said, when informed by The Eccentric of the outcome of the vote, "I am very glad that we have settled the free text book question. It will be a help to people who have large families to educate. Buying books for six or eight children is a large expense. Now there need be no embarrassment for those children whose parents cannot afford to buy their books. I felt sure that when the people of Birmingham as a whole had a chance to express their opinion on the proposition, the result would be favorable."

SEES HIGHER LAND SALE TUITION RUMORED

Indications that tuition fees in Birmingham schools will be raised for outside were made tonight by R. J. Coryell, president of the board of education, at the annual meeting of the board in the Baldwin High School.

Mr. Coryell pointed out that at the present tuition rate, communities in the vicinity found it cheaper to send their children to the Birmingham schools rather than build their own, while the tuition rates charged these children were far below the actual cost of the education. The difference is made up by the Birmingham taxpayers, he asserted.

The report of the secretary showed that the total receipts for the year, including balance on hand, totaled \$640,586.13. The general summary of the report showed that the expenses for the school year amounted to \$422,507.01. Fred A. Quorton, treasurer, reported a deficit of \$7,787.15. Clarence Vliet, superintendent of schools, reported 300 more students this year than last in the village schools. Mrs. Louis Haswell was re-elected to the Birmingham Scholarship Fund association by a unanimous vote.

Table with 3 columns: Issue, Yes, No. Includes School Board Trustees, Rolla J. Coryell, L. Virginia Hewitt, Guy W. Jensen, and various bond issues.

NAMED AS TRUSTEES



GUY W. JENSEN. Mr. Jensen defeated Mrs. L. Virginia Hewitt for the two-year term on the Birmingham school board at the election today.



ROLLA J. CORYELL. Mr. Coryell was re-elected without opposition to serve for the next three years on the school board at today's school election.

Trustees Take Office At Once

Guy W. Jensen defeated Mrs. L. Virginia Hewitt for a position on the school board of Birmingham at today's school election by a vote of 357 to 205. Mr. Jensen will serve for two years.

Rolla J. Coryell was re-elected to the board for the three-year term without opposition. He received 522 votes.

"I am grateful for my re-election," Mr. Coryell said, when informed of the vote. "I am also proud of the people of Birmingham for coming out so strongly in support of the school board. In my experience with the school board, one of the finest things I have seen is the supporting spirit of the people behind us. The new bond issue is the most extensive project we have ever undertaken, but it is necessary to keep up with the amazing growth of Birmingham. The splendid support the people have given is most encouraging and gratifying."

When informed of his election late tonight, Mr. Jensen said, "I shall do my best to fill the office of school board trustee as the district would want me to. I am deeply (Continued on Page 2)

ELECTION EXTRA

The Eccentric is first with the news again. It is published to inform you, at the earliest possible moment, of the results of the school election. The Eccentric is following its usual policy of being first with the important news, and it is continuing to strive for the setting of a record for speed and accuracy established March 14 after the Blue Law and Village President election, when it astonished the weekly newspaper world by issuing its edition in less than nine minutes after the last vote was counted.

Voters Approve \$400,000 Additional Buildings Here

Birmingham school voters today thoroughly approved a bond issue of \$400,000 for a new school on Chesterfield road. The vote was 392 in favor and 197 opposed.

Voting was light throughout the warm day. Although there were approximately 3,000 citizens in the village eligible to vote, but 593 cast their ballot.

No preliminary plans have yet been announced by members of the school board as to the first steps toward the erection of the new school. Only a majority vote was necessary to give the board the power. The district which will be affected by the vote is designated as No. 1, Fractional, of Bloomfield, Troy; Royal Oak and Southfield townships.

FIRE SITE IS BLOCKED

Birmingham is still without a tangible solution regarding the definite location of its proposed fire hall building. On a motion made by President H. T. Ellery, at tonight's commission meeting, to the effect that that body resolve "to locate the fire hall on some part of the civic center, other than Pierce Street frontage," Commissioners McBreath, Henry, and Hersey voted "no." President Ellery and Commissioner Halgren and Coryell were absent from the meeting, which resulted in the vote, thus postponing the several-week-old dead-lock that has existed on the settlement of this important question.

Before a packed commission chamber the commission meeting opened at 8 p. m., and after approximately an hour's discussion of various civic matters, President Ellery put his motion. During the time allotted for a general discussion, Commissioner Hope Halgren, Birmingham's only woman member of the official municipal board, took the floor, and spoke for the use of the civic center as the location for the proposed new fire hall.

"In order to clarify my position on this fire hall question, I wish to set forth in more detail my opinion," said Mrs. Halgren. "I believe that this commission was elected to carry out the wishes of the majority of Birmingham citizens. I know, as every other member of this commission ought to know, that the majority of local citizens are in favor of a fire hall on the civic center. Any other plan than that of carrying out the wishes of the majority of Birmingham citizens, the intelligence of a great majority of local voters; as things stand today, we know that the great majority of Birmingham citizens favor locating the fire hall upon land which I do not favor—could serve to provide proof that Birmingham wishes to change its mind regarding this question."

"All evidence to date proves that Birmingham still desires to utilize land on the civic center area, in my opinion, as the best location for the fire hall. The four commissioners of this village who have opposed locating the fire hall on the civic center are, in my opinion, abusing the trust of the people."

Commissioner Halgren's statement also included reference to the utility of holding a special election, inasmuch as she believes that the results of any special election would still prove that a great majority of local citizens continue to favor the use of the civic center plan of development.

"We have but one more special election allowable before the fire hall election next March, and we should not use it up on the fire hall (Continued on Page 2)

Barnum Additions Both Are Realized

Voters at today's school election approved the two proposed additions to the Barnum field, the total cost of which will be \$3,000. One issue was for \$2,500 and the other for \$500. The propositions required a majority of 60 per cent. Of the votes cast, 414 favored the \$2,500 issue, while 171 opposed it. On the \$500 issue, 427 favored and 163 opposed.

Approval was given the purchase of a site for the Maplecrest school by a vote of 429 to 158.

Both additions are on the west side of Barnum Field. They are 50 feet wide and together are 257 feet long. The larger addition is being purchased from Rolla J. Coryell, president of the school board, who bought it last winter and gave the board an option on it until after this election. It is 200 feet long and will provide sufficient area so that the Barnum School may be added to on the west side and still have property to spare, with no question of insufficient ventilation or light.

The other piece of property, 50 by 50 feet, joins the larger one immediately on the south. It was purchased from Percy Lucas, also with the idea of enlarging the building and eventually of having a running track around Barnum Field, Superintendent Clarence Vliet said. The Maplecrest School, in Royal Oak township, is the smallest school in the district, No. 1 district, having had less than 30 students in it in the past year. The board felt that its purchase, however, was in keeping with the dignity of the district. Because of an agreement with the property owner, the school must either move the school or purchase the land. They had been renting it for \$11 a year for the past three years.