Member:
Oakland County Weekly Press Association
National Editorial Association
Michigan Press Association
University Press Club

The Birmingham Eccentric

16 PAGES, PART 1

FIFTIETH YEAR—NO. 42 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1928 | $1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

HOUSE ELECTS DIRECTORS AT ANNUAL MEET

Reports Show Progress Of Community Center Is Made During Year

LAY PLANS FOR DRIVE

Election of three new members to the board of directors of the Community House and the reading of reports which showed that more than 21,350 persons have used the house during the year marked the annual meeting held Tuesday night.

The new board members are Mrs. C. R. Wilson, Mrs. Norman Lyle and Mrs. W. D. Thompson. They succeed Mrs. J. H. Marlotte, Mrs. Seymour D. Adams and Mrs. Joseph Donnelly. Mrs. Marlotte has been a member of the board since the Community House was organized in 1923. The other retiring members have served on the board since 1925. Officers are to be elected Monday afternoon.

Pictures Shown

Pictures of the plans for the new building, the drive for which is to start April 15 were shown by the architects, Muehlman and Verner, to the 125 persons who attended the meeting.

Mrs. Adams, chairman of the finance committee, reported the house had spent $4,300 during the year. Mrs. Howard Simpson, chairman of the membership committee, reported the membership today is larger than ever with 1,080 persons in the organization.

In the report of Miss Mary Clark Griffith, resident hostess, it was shown that organizations varying from luncheon clubs to street railway employes used the house for meetings. There were 555 set meetings held during the year and even two family reunions. So crowded has the house been that seven organizations were denied its use as a meeting place.

Welfare work done during Thanksgiving and Christmas season included the distribution of 114 baskets, the report showed.

Tells of Aim

In discussing the aim of the organization, Miss Griffith said, "It provides assistance and employment through its welfare work and gives social and recreational opportunities to young people."

The thrift shop run in conjunction with the house was reported active during the year and proved to be self-sustaining.

There were 14,328 persons sent out through the employment files.

Plans for the new building to be located on Bates street call for a two-story structure of semi-colonial design. The basement floor will be used for the thrift shop and the boy and girl scouts. The first floor is to have an auditorium, a womans club room, offices, a reception room and rooms for games and reading. The hostess quarters will be in the second floor. There also will be the general offices and a woman's dining room.

No set amount has been announced as the goal of the drive.

Prior to the meeting Tuesday a luck supper was served.

'Y' SECRETARY AND NEW ASSOCIATE

GEORGE CARHART

Announcement is made today of the appointment of George Carhart as associate secretary of the Lower Oakland County Y. M. C. A. to work with Robert V. Lynd, secretary. Mr. Carhart assumes his duties immediately.

Mr. Carhart was born in Pontiac, graduated from the Pontiac high school, received an A. B. degree from Ohio Wesleyan University, took graduate work in Boston University, and was boys' work secretary in New Castle, Pennsylvania for five years. He came from there to the Michigan State Y. M. C. A. committee as state boys' work secretary for three years. He has not been active in Y. M. C. A. service for the last few years on account of his health.

Mr. Carhart has had a wide experience in religious education training and it is expected he will give impetus to this phase of Y. M. C. A. work. He has also had experience in camp work as he was director of the state camp at Hayvent-ha for two years. He was the organizers and promoter of three sections, Michigan State Older Boys' conferences and during his leave of absence from Y. M. C. A. work he has been active in teaching a Bible class in his church and in stimulating leadership training and religious education programs in a number of churches.

At the beginning of his work in this area, Mr. Carhart has been chosen by the committee of religious education training in Royal Oak and surrounding communities to instruct in a course for the intermediate and senior teachers in the church schools. This course will also be available for Y. M. C. A. leaders.

The father and son observance, in so far as the Y. M. C. A. will be able to serve the churches, will be supervised by Mr. Carhart.

Photo by Arnold

ROBERT V. LYND

Mr. Lynd came to Oakland County Sept. 1, 1920, as associate with George H. Kindall, Jr., who is just completing 10 years of service.

Mr. Lynd was born on a farm in Sanilac County near Croswell and attended high school one year. He spent six months in Detroit in night school and three years in the business office of Lowrie and Robinson Lumber company.

He attended Albion College five years receiving B. A. and B. C. S. degrees.

He was associate membership secretary in Detroit Y. M. C. A. central branch for two years and county secretary in Clinton County two years.

CORPORATION FORMED HERE

Development Is Listed At $100,000; Plans For Expansion Announced

A new $100,000 Michigan corporation with C. C. Winningham, C. A. Newcomb, Jr., L. E. Colgrove, James L. O. Sexias, E. H. Tillotson, Dr. Henry N. Torrey, Charles E. Buck, Lynn McNaughton and F. R. Robinson as stockholders has been organized to buy and develop Michigan investment properties, according to announcement here today.

It is known as the Community Improvement Company with headquarters in the First State Bank building. It is already building a series of neighborhood markets in and around Pontiac under the supervision of the Birmingham realtor firm, Colgrove, Buck & Tillotson.

The officers and directors of the company are: Charles E. Buck, president; C. A. Newcomb, Jr., vice-president; L. E. Colgrove, secretary and treasurer; C. C. Winningham and E. H. Tillotson.

In discussing this project, Mr. Colgrove said, "The increased population which is automatically following the General Motor Corporation's industrial growth in

(Continued on Page 2)

VILLAGE GETS MORE POLICE

Parry Announces Addition To Present Force; Need Is Cited

Addition of two men to the police force here is expected within two weeks, it was indicated yesterday by Manager James W. Parry who is expected to include a provision for the addition in the 1928 budget soon to be presented to the commission.

More patrolmen will be stationed at the Birmingham schools during the days and an addition to the night force also is necessary, officials say.

That Birmingham is offered insufficient police protection is the contention of village officials who discussed the situation at a recent commission meeting.

School children are not protected nor is there sufficient protection against burglaries at night in the village, they feel.

COURT PAVING SOON TO START

No objections having been registered against the paving and installation of a six inch sewer and watermain in Bloomfield court, the village assessor today has instructions to lay the assessments for the work.

The cost of the improvements is to be divided between the village at large and the property owners on the court. The latter are to pay five sixths of the cost, as sewer and watermain will cost $1,169 and the pavement, which will be 18 feet wide and of concrete, $3,581, it is estimated.

Work is expected to start in the spring.

THREE PLAN BOARD APPOINTMENTS SEEN

Appointment of three members of the village planning commission is expected to be made by the village commission Feb. 6, it was agreed at the meeting last week. L. Manson has tendered his resignation and the terms of office of two other members expire at that time.

FATHER AND SON BANQUET PLANNED

Brotherhood To Sponsor Community Dinner At Annual Observance

As a part of the annual community-wide celebration of "Fathers and Sons Week" it is announced today that a big father and son banquet will be sponsored by the Baptist Community Brotherhood, Feb. 16.

Details of the arrangements are not complete but is is known that George Dawkins will act as toastmaster and preside at the banquet, while the address of the evening will be delivered by the Rev. Fred McAllister, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Royal Oak. There will also be music and one or two special surprise stunts of special interest to boys.

Reservations will be accepted in the order received and all fathers and sons of the community will be welcome to the limit of the capacity of the dining room of the Birmingham Baptist Church, according to the Rev. D. L. Woodward pastor of the church. Tickets for the banquet may be had from Leland Bufyan or Percy Burnett.

The annual father and son banquet of the Southfield Methodist Church will be held Feb. 17 at 6:30 p. m. in the Southfield town hall according to announcement today.

The Rev. Howard A. Field is to give the main address and other speakers are planned for the program. The Rev. Field is district superintendent of Detroit.

Invitations have been extended to the public by the Rev. Calvin M. Thompson, pastor.

JUNIOR FIVE TAKES PONTIAC INTO CAMP

The quintet of the Adams Junior High School was victorious yesterday afternoon in a fast game with the Pontiac junior high on the latter's court. The final score was 8 to-5. Most of the play was in the middle of the floor because of the high grade defense displayed by both teams.

CITY-VILLAGE GROUP MEETS TOMORROW

Meeting of the city-village committee is scheduled for Friday at 8 p. m. in the village offices. The meeting will not be open to the public, it is announced. The village commission is holding an adjourned meeting at 7:30 p. m. to discuss legal action necessary on the new municipal building.

NEW BUILDING WORK STARTS

Razing Of Quarton Home Is First Step Toward Couzens Structure Completion

Razing of the former residence of Fred Quarton on west Maple avenue is under way today as the first step in the construction of the new two story office building, to be built by the Walbeck corporation under the direction of Frank Couzens.

Bids are soon to be received from the contractors on the construction of the office and commercial building which will face west Maple avenue east of Bates street and have a frontage of 120 feet. The building is to be constructed in such a manner that additional stories may be added at a later date when the growth of Birmingham makes this advisable.

Ten stores are to occupy the first floor of the building. No date for the start of actual construction has been set.

EPISCOPALIANS AT DETROIT CONVENTION

The ninety-fifth Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Michigan which is in session in St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit, continues today. The lay delegates from St. James' Church Birmingham, are George T. Hendrie, Donald T. Stanton and J. B. Howarth. The alternates are, Charles E. Buck, F. W. Blett and Dr. W. G. Hutchinson.

Buy your life insurance from L. W. Porter, P. O. Box 24, phone 1282. adv.26tf

NEW ROADWAY GIVEN APPROVAL

Approval of property owners who will be affected was given to the gravelling and construction of concrete curb and gutter on Shirley drive and Arlington road between Maple and Lincoln avenues being given, the village assessor today is spreading the tax for the work.

No objections were heard to the proposed improvement at the hearing Monday night at the commission meeting.

The village at large is to stand one-sixth of the cost and the affected property owners the remaining five-sixths. Work is expected to start in the spring.

HAMILTON AVE. TO BE WIDENED

Assessments Ordered Spread For Downtown Street Improvements

Hamilton avenue between Woodward avenue and the Grand Trunk railway tracks is to be widened in the spring it was decided at the commission meeting Monday night when no objections were raised at the hearing on assessments. The village assessor was instructed to spread the special assessment. Property owners are to pay three-fourths of the cost and the village at large the remaining one-fourth.

The street is to be widened to 50 feet and work is expected to be started in the spring. Both sides of the street will be affected by the widening but none of the houses will be molested.

A pavement, 32 feet wide and a concrete curb and gutter are included in the estimates of $23,228.

DEBATERS IN STATE FINALS

Baldwinites Are Pointed For State Championship Elimination Meets

Baldwin High School debaters are in line today for the state championship meet as a result of their victory over the Howell trio last Wednesday night here. The decision was unanimous.

The Baldwin High debaters were: Norma Martin, Leland Gunn and Mildred Patterson. They had the affirmative side.

This debate, a fourth of the series of preliminaries on the abolition of the direct primary system of nomination in the United States, qualified Baldwin for the eliminations which start Feb. 17.

A straight victory in the elimination series means a battle between two high schools for the state championship trophy. Baldwin High stands a good chance of

(Continued on Page 2)

LIBRARY STAFF IS ENLARGED

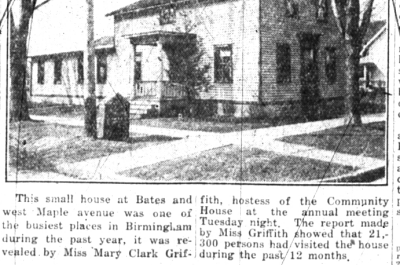
New Assistant To Take Office Here Monday; Comes From Flint

Announcement is made by Mrs. Nancy Thomas, librarian of the Baldwin Library of the addition of Miss Geraldine Melody of Flint to the library staff.

Miss Melody, who comes here Monday directly from the Flint Public Library where she has been engaged for several years, spent two years at Alma College and attended summer sessions of Western Reserve College at Cleveland, O.

Addition to the staff has been deemed necessary, according to Mrs. Thomas, because of the increased circulation in books since the moving of the library into quarters.

BIRMINGHAM'S BUSIEST



This small house at Bates and west Maple avenue was one of the busiest places in Birmingham during the past year, it was revealed by Miss Mary Clark Griffith, hostess of the Community House at the annual meeting Tuesday night. The report made by Miss Griffith showed that 21,300 persons had visited the house during the past 12 months.

ELECTION LAWS ARE EXPLAINED

Coryell Urges Citizens To Register As Time For Primaries Nears

Why names of Birmingham citizens must be entered in the Bloomfield Township books before they are eligible to vote at township, county, state and national elections, is explained today at the request of The Eccentric by Rolla J. Coryell, member of the township board and for many years chairman of the election board in one of the precincts.

"Registration of village residents in the village offices gives them the right to vote only at village elections. It does not suffice for the township elections," Mr. Coryell explained. "In order to vote at any township, county state or national elections, citizens must be registered in the township.

"The laws are definite on this point. A village is a part of a township and its constitution only allows its citizens to vote on village affairs, while a township is a part of a county, state or national organization at elections.

"The right of the citizens to vote is based upon the constitution of the United States, and the legislature of the state is allowed to plan in detail the manner of doing it. Our law plans just how this can be done. If the election board at election time acted in a manner other than that specified by law, members of the board would be liable to a fine or imprisonment or both.

"To vote at township, county or state elections, a person must have the following qualifications: first, he must be a citizen of the United State; he must be 21 years of age or more; he must have been a resident of the state six months and of the precinct for 20 days and he must be registered in the township books.

"The law specifies that a person must be registered a certain

(Continued on Page 2)

REGISTRATION DATES IN VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP SET

Registration for township primaries, which are to be held March 7, are going ahead in the township office today, according to James K. Bayley, clerk. Voters may register at any time of the day. Feb. 11 and 18 are named as registration days in the township when the offices will be open from 9 a. m. until 4 p. m. Feb. 25 is the last day citizens are allowed to register for the township primaries.

Citizens also are registering daily in the village offices for the village elections to be held March 12. March 3 is the official registration day for the village and all precincts will be open at that time, according to Blazel E. Lawler, village clerk.

Green Resigns; Myers Promoted

EDWARD MYERS

Photo by Arnold

SERG. CLARK GREEN

Serg. Green, after six years on the police force here, resigns to assume proprietorship of a restaurant on west Maple avenue. He will be succeeded by Myers, a patrolman three years.

SAVING SHOWN BY AUDITORS

Village Has Accumulated Surplus Of $75,000.00, Check-up Reveals

The financial condition of the village of Birmingham was praised by the Price Waterhouse company of Detroit, auditors who have completed this week the annual audit of the village books. A saving of $53,397.44 on the estimated expenditures is shown on the books.

"This is an unusually large saving," said Charles Plumstead, village treasurer, "and it shows an economical administration." The books indicate that the accumulated surplus of the village is now more than $75,000.

"We have conscientiously tried to keep within our budget and I am pleased that the results have been so gratifying," said Village President H. T. Ellerby in commenting on the situation.

The report further praised the work of Hazel E. Lawler, village clerk, and Charles Plumstead, village treasurer in the systems employed in their offices. Commendation was accorded Mrs. Lawler for an indexing system of the minutes of commission meetings which places the meeting report at immediate disposal. The system was inaugurated when she first took office in 1923.

AUTO DEALERS ENLARGE OFFICE

P. R. Cotton, of Tracy & Cotton Chevrolet dealers in Birmingham for two years, revealed plans today whereby their facilities for displaying cars have been increased.

To provide for a display of commercial units they have leased a large store adjoining their present showroom at Ruffner and Woodward avenues. The building has been completely renovated in order to take care of the Chevrolet dealer's plans for 1928.

Increasing facilities is seen as a boon to greater sales this year. During 1927 the Tracy-Cotton sales amounted to 262 cars. With a greater demand for commercial cars and with the new Chevrolet to offer to the public Mr. Cotton predicts a 50 per cent increase in sales this year.

BLOOMFIELD REALTY COMPANY
Modern 6-room bungalow for rent, $65 per month. We always have the best rentals. 430 Ed. Woodward. Phone 229. —Adv. 42.

Civic Building Plan Goes To Circuit Court

Village Prepares To Fight Attempt To Block Completion Of Structure; Attorney General Approves Finance Arrangement

Attorneys for Birmingham are content to pass up the hearing on the injunction suit started by four village men in the attempt to forestall construction of the new municipal building and take it to circuit court on its merits, Clare H. Ogden, attorney for the village, said yesterday. He said it is probable that the case will be brought into court next week.

A bill of complaint was served on the commission this week following the signing by William J. McBride, former restaurant proprietor, Tom Reddick, retired, Hendrick Brusse, an insurance salesman and Thomas L. Thurber, retired. The bill alleges it is illegal for the commission to use the $40,000, approved by a special bond issue for the construction of a fire station, toward the construction of the new building.

Attorney General Agrees

Mr. Ogden said the commission he believes the use of the funds is legal since more than $40,000, it is estimated, would be used in completing that part of the building to be used as a fire station. Attorney General Potter agreed with Mr. Ogden that the commission had the right to use the fund for this purpose and a written opinion to this effect is expected this week.

Those who are bringing the suit, object to spending more than $20,000 for the fire station, saying the $40,000 was voted to be used for the fire station as a separate building.

Mr. Ogden has obtained the assistance of the law firm of Pelton & McGee of Pontiac to assist him in defending the village. Patterson & Patterson, also of Pontiac, represent the plaintiffs. The commission authorized the retaining of assistance for the case when they met Monday night. This was approved unanimously after Commissioners W. W. Henry, Laurence Hulbert and J. H. McBride had first protested against the plan.

Burrowes & Eurich, architects, are preparing estimates today on the cost of the fire station wing of the building and upon their testimony, with the testimony of the contractor largely depends the outcome of the case, according to Mr. Ogden.

Preliminary work is going ahead today on the new building despite the complaint. The contracts have been let but the bonds have not yet been signed.

Mr. Thurber, speaking for the signers of the bill, said that in his opinion the plan of using the money on the combined building would "mix matters up." He said he understood that Birmingham is now in excess of its bonding limit and that to bond it further would be illegal.

Removal Bids Rejected

Charles Plumstead, village treasurer, when asked about this, said the bonding limit on the village is approximately $2,000,000 and the present bonds on the village are approximately $700,000.

While no plan for raising the additional money necessary for the completion of the municipal building has been agreed upon by the commission, it is generally expected that the difference between the money available and the total cost of the building would be obtained either through a special bond issue or by including the item in the budget for 1928.

Bids from two companies for the purchase of houses in the first block of the civic center, the site of the proposed building, were rejected by the commission Monday night as being too low. A plan whereby citizens will form a company to have the work done at a saving to the village is under way.

"Waiving the hearing on the injunction was mutually agreed upon because it is expected to be a time saver," Mr. Ogden explained. "The matter would have to go to trial anyway and we feel the sooner the better for all concerned," he said.

BROOKS BACK WITH RECORD

Airman Returns After Attempted Miami Hop With Long Distance Mark

Harry Brooks, Southfield airman, returned home last night with the official record for America for distance in a light plane.

The award was made by Peter Adams, president of the American Aeronautical association, following the completion of 472 miles by Brooks in his attempted non-stop flight to Miami, Fla.

The world's record is held by Max Knipping, of France, who flew 870 miles. It was in the attempt to better this record that Brooks made the flight in his Ford Flower plane.

Brooks was delayed in Washington for a week because the unfavorable weather which forced him to abandon his flight when he reached Emma, N. C., continued.

Plans for a future hop are in contemplation.

FIRE DAMAGES VILLAGE HOME

Sparks Cause $2,000 Blaze At Burkman Residence; Father, 82, Escapes

Sparks from an overheated furnace is given as the cause of fire Thursday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Winifred Burkman, 213 north Bates street that did damage estimated at $2,000. Both regular and volunteer firemen battled the blaze for nearly two hours before they had it under control.

Flames leaping from the roof attracted the attention of neighbors who turned in the alarm and assisted Mrs. Burkman's father, Andrew Weir, 82 years old, from the house. Mr. Weir was at home alone and was unaware of the blaze.

Damage was confined to the second floor of the two story dwelling which is of frame construction. Furniture and clothing on the second floor was ruined by the smoke, fire and water.

Extreme cold weather hampered the firemen in their work and a north wind fanned the flames which had gained headway before the alarm was turned in. Ice which formed soon after water was applied hindered a further handicap. Efforts of the firemen were directed against the spread of the flames to the lower floor of the home and to adjoining houses. Furniture on the first floor was removed from the house to protect it against water.

Mrs. Burkman had been spending the day out of town and was unaware of the fire until her return home.

Insurance covered the damage.

NEW LIBRARY BUDGET PASSES

Extension Work Figures In Plans; Many New Books To Be Purchased

The village commission approved the 1928 budget of the Baldwin Public Library and passed a resolution which guaranteed the village would make up the difference between the total of the half mill tax, which annually goes to the library, and the total of the budget, which is $11,930.

Expenses of operating the new library will be greater than formerly when the institution is housed in smaller quarters, Mrs. Retta Barr, president of the library board told the commission. A larger scope of activity is planned for the year and board members are making arrangements for the library to serve a greater number of persons than ever before, she said.

More persons will be added to the library staff because of the

(Continued on Page 2)

REMOVAL!
Our offices are now located in First National Bank Building, Suite No. 2, formerly used by Dr. Raynale & Gordon, where we continue our INSURANCE and REAL ESTATE business.
J. B. HOWARTH & SON
Formerly Whitehead & Standard Co.
Telephone 321 Adv. 38tf

SERG. GREEN LEAVES FORCE

Officer To Enter Business In Birmingham; In Department Six Years

Announcement is made today of the resignation from the Birmingham police force of Serg. Green who for six years has been a member of the department. Green has purchased a restaurant at 126 west Maple avenue and it will be opened under his management Saturday. The restaurant was formerly known as Mothers Lunch.

Edward Myers, a patrolman three years, is announced by chief James Anderson as Green's successor.

Ray Thorn, a D. U. R. motorman for three years, living at 511 Knox street was appointed to the department as patrolman to fill the vacancy which will be made

(Continued on Page 2)