

Vacation days are about over for 1922. Which provokes us to the declaration that it does not seem in the length of the year you caught that happy vacation days are recalled—but in vain lying about the fish.

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 23

ACE NOTES ON AMENDMENT

Commissioners Hit Proposed Change Of Charter

Fate of the proposed amendment to the charter of the village which would bring about a radical change in the method of assessing for street improvements will be decided by the voters of Birmingham when they go to the polls at the regular election next March.

The commission last Monday night placed the issue on the ballot following the receipt of a petition which made their act mandatory.

Action of the board was taken despite the fact that five members strongly opposed but could do nothing to prevent it being placed on the ballot.

The change would bankrupt the village in short order and would place an unfair tax burden upon persons who would not benefit by the improvements, according to members of the commission. While five members of the board openly expressed themselves as being opposed to the change, two commissioners did not make their views known. They are J. H. McBride and W. W. Henry.

President H. T. Ellerby was in favor of ignoring the petition and allowing the advocates of the amendment to take their case to the voters. He questioned that all the signs were thoroughly informed as to the nature of the proposed change before they attached their names. "I have a definite suspicion that many of the signers never read the petition nor the amendment," he said.

The plan was characterized by Commissioner Lee A. White as "the nearest little scheme for neutering the village I have seen."

"We would be swamped with petitions for this kind of change would have to grant them," he said. "Birmingham would be bankrupt in no time."

Manager James W. Parry pointed out that in most communities the street improvements cost 100 percent of the improvement cost. The custom in Birmingham was to pay one-third and for the affected territory to be assessed the remaining two-thirds.

Commissioner Laurence Hubler characterized the proposed amendment as a "very dangerous thing." He said he felt the people of Birmingham would vote it down, however.

Classes are being held today at the new Holy Name School on Harmon avenue with a reported enrollment of 135.

Rev. Father William Ryan, pastor of the Chapel of the Holy Name in the city, said the school opened Tuesday morning.

The school building and the convent which will house the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart, who are in charge of the school, were opened and furnished Monday morning.

Instruction through the first eight grades will be given at the school. Father Ryan said that the present 20 convicts, the school and the convent, are but the first units of what will soon be a larger system, with buildings covering the area now owned by the parish on the lots on the corner of Harmon and Greenwood with structures extending present site.

The buildings themselves are being very simple examples of modern Gothic architecture. The predominant interior color is of brown. The flooring of battlement is in the interior and the woodwork and other interior trim carries out this shade.

Our Society Editor—Hears Soft-Music Coming From A Church—And Enters

By DOROTHY E. WILLIAMS

Emotions in the Negro race are perhaps never so obvious as when they have gathered in one of their churches to worship God.

Attracted by the soft music coming from a church downtown in Detroit, I went in and found myself in the midst of hundreds of Negro worshippers.

And they were clothed people of high calibre, of the type who seem to have some of the fluctuating moodiness of their race, masking themselves beneath the same passive exterior employed by the Caucasians, but when music broke forth or a particularly appealing note came into the sermon, the old fervor loosed itself. Then there was a suggestion of the ancient background with its tabors and weird with dancers.

A Young Man Speaks. The speaker was a young man dressed as the usher of a morning wedding would dress, with his frock coat, light grey trousers and bow tie. He was speaking intelligently of the love of God. And as he talked he became carried away by his subject, his voice became hoarse and he cried out to his audience. But there was an answering murmur and the soft corners of the church were thrifty cries of praise to the Lord. More voices took up and he called forth, in a crescendo drowned out the speaker's words.

Then the speaker announced a hymn. When these people sang a beauty surpassing most of the songs was emanating from their throats. They put all the beauty of a softened fervor into "Nearer My God To Thee." And when they came to the last verse they swayed and their voices filled the church with mellow tones. They brought back the color of the soft lights on plantations with velvety music and the language of their moods. Then came that inspired fervor that soared through the church, and men stood up and called forth, in a crescendo drowned out the speaker's words.

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STREET WORK PROGRESSING

Delay On Woodward Ave. Paving Overcome Today

Pouring of the concrete on wider Woodward avenue, through Birmingham, was set for today by the construction foreman. Late yesterday afternoon it was reported that final preparations had been made for the actual laying of the pavement. Work is expected to progress rapidly.

Work on gas main reached a delay on the cement pouring. The work was expected to start Monday but the contractor says they were forced to wait for some work to be done on gas pipes under the street.

The concrete was poured in a southerly direction, the old machines will start at Lincoln avenue and work north along the west side of Woodward which has been graded as far north as the bridge at the River Rouge near Harpers Cross.

Work on the new bridge will be completed in time to prevent delay at this point, the foreman said. The steam shovel and trucks hauling away the broken cement had reached this point last night and will continue clearing the way for the fine grading and ultimate surfacing.

The ultimate width will be 70 feet with sidewalks 15 feet wide. Southbound traffic only is allowed on Woodward avenue during the paving operations. Northbound traffic is turned onto the Adams and cleared by the city.

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New Comic Features

This issue of The Eclectic contains several of the most popular comic strips which have been added for the enjoyment of the people of Birmingham.

You may laugh every week at the doings of the characters in this comic-believe world whose creators are distinguished for their clever comedy and their exceptional skill in drawing.

VILLAGE MAN BY TRAIN

George Ewing Recovering From Injuries Incurred In Collision

George Ewing, 60 years old, of Chester and Pine streets, is recovering today at the City Hospital in Pontiac from injuries received when his automobile was struck by a southbound Grand Trunk passenger train Monday at the Square Lake road crossing.

Ewing sustained a broken leg and minor cuts and bruises. He was taken to the hospital by ambulance and is now recovering from his injuries.

He was driving his son-in-law to work at a Pontiac factory when the collision occurred. The train was traveling southbound and the car was traveling northbound.

The car was traveling at a speed of about 20 miles per hour when it was struck by the train. The car was thrown into the air and landed on its side.

Ewing was not seriously injured, but he sustained a broken leg and minor cuts and bruises. He is now recovering from his injuries at the City Hospital in Pontiac.

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NEW LINE STARTS TODAY

New Birmingham-Detroit Transportation To Get Under Way

Start of a jitney service between Detroit and Birmingham was scheduled for today following the granting of temporary permits to the Suburban Rapid Transit company of Oakland County Monday night by the village commission.

The cars will be seven passenger models and will maintain a 10-minute schedule during the day. At night the cars will run less often but are planned to be kept in operation all night.

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AMELIA LOOKS OVER PIONEER PLANE

Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly across the Atlantic ocean, sits in the pilot seat of Al Wilson's ancient 1910 Curtiss "pusher" biplane, on exhibition at Los Angeles, Cal., just to see how it feels to be in one of the grand planes of two decades ago.



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SLAUGHTER OF TREES PROTESTED BY VILLAGERS, INTERVIEWS REVEAL

Countless protests are made by villagers to the destruction of trees in the cutting down of trees on the streets here for widening. There are real estate sales. Now, no matter what the width of the pavement, the loss of the old trees that have been on Woodward avenue, more than half a century.

Rev. Warner L. Forsyth "Woodward avenue tree cutting has caused a greater loss than any other city found in Pontiac to Detroit on Woodward avenue. There are real estate sales. Now, no matter what the width of the pavement, the loss of the old trees that have been on Woodward avenue, more than half a century.

What harm would have come from the cutting down of trees on Woodward avenue? Of course it would take persons longer to get to work, but the trees should be advantageous to the merchants. With a wide pavement and a greater speed of travel, the loss of the old trees that have been on Woodward avenue, more than half a century.

The new Grand Trunk highway would be adequate for the traffic. The beauty which was furnished by the trees was an invaluable asset and Birmingham's chief claim.

Villagers and the Village

Really, credit for this paragraph belongs to Michigan Automobile License No. 877-874; but just mentioning a number is hardly fair to the people who lament the growth of Birmingham and its corresponding decline in nature.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

INVESTIGATION BRINGS PRAISE TO CHIEF OLSEN

Committee Finds Charges Against Department Head Unfounded

VERDICT IS APPLAUDED

Charges made against Fire Chief William Olsen by two members of the volunteer department, the findings resulted in a vote of commendation being given the chief after the public hearing in the village offices.

Two men whose names were attached to the complaint brought before the volunteer department their meeting Monday night denied under oath they had signed the complaint or ever seen it before. They are Glenn Allen and Roland Reynolds. The two signers are George Schaefer and Neil Black.

Admitting having attached Black admitted having attached Reynolds' name but said he did it before he was a member of the department. The volunteer department is a special investigation committee last night and the findings resulted in a vote of commendation being given the chief after the public hearing in the village offices.

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