

Husbands and wives can bring themselves much happiness by remembering the wedding anniversary and birthdays. A bunch of flowers still impresses a woman more than an automobile.

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 46

LEGION MEETS IN BIRMINGHAM

Village To Receive Sixth District For Session Here April 10

Plans are under way today for the meeting April 10 of the sixth district representatives of the American Legion to be held here. Approximately 150 members are expected.

The principal speaker is Ralph A. Adams of Mason, district commander, and other events on the program are being arranged.

The group is to meet at 4:30 p. m. at the Baldwin High School and the session will last through the evening. Dinner is to be furnished by wives of the Birmingham Legion members.

BUCK APPOINTED AS EXECUTOR

The Detroit and Security Trust company, executors for the estate of the late Millard T. Conklin, of Oakhurst, has appointed Charles E. Buck, of Colgrove, Buck & Tillotson, and Philip S. Dickinson of Detroit, as the appraisers for this estate.

Mr. Conklin was one of the pioneers in Bloomfield, residing for years at the Northwest corner of Woodward avenue and the Cranbrook road. Included in his estate are many acres of Bloomfield property.

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School Situation Given

Superintendent Summarizes Present Status

By CLARENCE VLIET (Superintendent of Schools)

Enrollment for the second semester of 1928-1929 shows the following figures: Adams, 712; Baldwin, 620; Barnum, 210; Hill, 182; Pierce, 300; Quanton, 226; and Maplecrest, 20, with a total of 2270 pupils enrolled.

The following buildings have surplus room at the present time: Hill, Pierce, Quanton. The following buildings have every possible room in use: Adams, Baldwin and Barnum. There are 34 new and empty houses in the Barnum area and many children have been transferred to the Hill building. The Quanton building will care for the grade children west of the Rouge for several years, although more than 50 new homes are under construction in that area now. The Pierce building has enough houses within its area to fill the building with grade children when all the houses are occupied.

The Baldwin building can accommodate 700 pupils, provided the class distribution is even. We have that number in prospect on or before Jan. 1930. At present the mechanical drawing department is so cramped for space with 52 students enrolled that we have moved it into the temporary building on the Hill grounds. The Hill building must serve for the overflow of junior high students from the Baldwin building since the senior high school classes are steadily increasing in size and number and must continue to do so until a larger building is provided. The Baldwin building gets the increasingly larger classes in the seventh grade from the Quanton, Hill and Pierce buildings and the larger 10th grade classes from the Adams, plus the general growth of Birmingham.

Adams Capacity

The Adams building is at capacity now. Every room is in use. The music room has been made into a grade room. The cafeteria room is a junior high class room. The sewing room is used for junior high academic classes. The art room is used for commercial work. The band students practice in the small cafeteria room. And there are one hundred empty houses on the east side of Woodward. Just where we will put the children possible and probable next year is a question.

The opening of the Catholic school and the increased attendance at both the elementary and advanced schools at Cranbrook has resulted in but small increases in the public school enrollments for 1928-1929, but next year it should show the regular annual increase of from 200 to 300 pupils. It is safe to say that there are enough new homes in Birmingham to supply children to fill every school room and seat in the Birmingham school buildings.

The Barnum and the Adams buildings must have relief. Relief at the Barnum will enable the Hill building to serve as the Baldwin overflow. Inasmuch as one year must elapse in any event, the situation will be more aggravated by the time the Barnum addition is constructed. A six room unit on the Lincoln it would relieve the Adams grades and permit the Adams junior

Gimpes

at and about BIRMINGHAM
By RAYMOND GIRARDIN

ELLSWORTH PLUMSTEAD, WHOSE BOY CHARLIE TAKES care of the municipal band dropped in the remark on Sir James Tully's Circus Parade, and the recollections flew.

The Hon. Tully's lingo is the first cousin to that of Charlie's pa who did Varieties 30 years plus. He started out as Master Ellsworth, juggling plows on his chin while the sturdy townspeople in the oil lamp belt sat with mouths akimbo. Then he graduated into singing and impersonation, roles.

He recalls vividly O'Neil's Park theater in Detroit, back of the majestic building, which flourished about 1880. The show opened with a minstrel, which was followed by an Olio. As the final curtain fell, the hall echoed with the cry, "Curse, ye, fellow, justice is at last done!" And the justice-loving audience put down the beer glasses to applaud.

"It was a great day for parodies," he said. "No sooner would a song be brought out then there was a parody and we used to have to sing both." The songs very easily loaned themselves to parodies and the audience liked one as well as the other. Some of the songs were, Flowers from Angel Mother's grave; Remember you have children of you own and Empty as the Cradle's Baby's gone. This latter gave itself to Empty as the Stable, Davy's gone.

"The old days were far better." The acts amounted to more," he said. And I am inclined to believe.

In connection with Circus Parade, he recalls the "Hey Ruber" yell, that brought men from all parts of the grounds hurrying with staves and hammers. He explained the significance of the "Ruber" by saying the workers were enlisted from the ranks of General. These boys who slaved through the season—seeing the world—to be laughed at in the fall when they made attempts to collect their wages.

Concerning one of New York's most talked of columnists, Walter Winchell, whose writings appear regularly in The Eccentric, one of our contemporaries has this to say:

Walter Winchell, is never home. He spends all week collecting data for his Monday column. Somehow he gets to know the things that even your best friend won't tell you. It takes Winchell three sittings to write that column. He starts on a Friday night. Makes it a little hotter on Saturday night. On Sunday he adds the stuff that he has up "the town of ours" and with a great sigh of relief turns in the complete column at three o'clock that morning. When he leaves the office, does he go home to the wife and kiddies? Don't be silly—he's got to get started on next week's column.

It might be explained that the Monday column contains credible "news." Winchell refers to this as "making scoops." Inidentally, he is accredited with the first use of the now overused expression, "making whoopee."

THERE ARE MANY DISCUSSIONS HERE AND THERE ON what constitutes news. I am not the least bit sure of the answer. However there are some few little items I believe might make the front page of this estimable newspaper; they are pieces I should like to write and in odd moments I am given to dreaming of their possibilities.

Take, for instance, charges that the Rev. H. L. Mencken is secretly starting in the support of the Anti-Saloon League and is given to the more spectacular type of prayer, characterized by loud moan and intensive body jerking.

That James Joyce had never read the Odyssey.

That Sinclair Lewis was rejected as a candidate for the ministry because of a predilection for the idea Noah swallowed the ark.

That Master Calvin Coolidge was being sued for divorce by his wife who charged that in the privacy of their rooms he alternated between delivering speeches before a looking glass and giving imitations of the four Hawaiians.

That Jack Dempsey had great admiration for the Greek dramatists and the poetry of Ezra Pound.

And, of course, the story I believe Jim Tully muffed beautifully when he discovered Upton Sinclair kept police dogs on his estate to protect him against bomb-throwing capitalists.

This all could as easily be made "local," but you know how people are.

high to have more room. A six room building capable of being enlarged is the Lincoln site minimum.

School building plans are always conditioned by finances. The bonded debt of the Birmingham district on past issues will be \$1,117,000 on July 1, 1929 and \$71,000 will be retired in 1929-1930. The limit of the bonded debt of the Birmingham district imposed by statute law is \$3,300,000. Of the \$400,000 of bonds authorized June 15, 1927, \$250,000 have been issued and the proceeds spent on the Quanton school. There remains \$140,000 of this authorized issue which is available for constructing an addition to the Barnum building.

Survey Told

A very careful house, vacant lot, and child survey has been made of the Barnum-Hill area and it is estimated that the Barnum building should be enlarged to care for from 600 to 700 pupils. This is an increase over the original estimate made in 1927 which was for grade use only while in the present estimate provision is made for junior high school use as well.

What it will cost to enlarge the present building to 700 capacity cannot be determined until an architect has made a sketch and preliminary plans. Frederick D. Madison, who designed the Quanton school, made some sketches of the proposed enlargement of the Barnum building in 1927, but these sketches were not acceptable because of limited space. Since then the district has purchased additional frontage on Frank street which will permit of a much better design for the enlarged building.

It is my belief that an enlargement of the Barnum building for grade and junior high school use at a possible cost of \$250,000, \$140,000 of which is already authorized is the best solution for the school problem west of Woodward at the present time.

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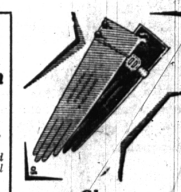
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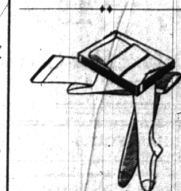
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We like the phrase particularly well in its application to the Symbol of Service which appears to the right, for it is truly a symbol that solves many problems.



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