

'CIVIL PROBLEM' COMMITTEES GET STARTED

Citizens Named By Commission To Study Needs

MONTHS ARE REQUIRED

Emphasizing the present necessity of looking deeply into Birmingham's manifold problems, and declaring that the voluntary enlistment of many of the community's citizens will assist the village commission to a better solution of its civil affairs, Village President H. T. Ellerby made a brief statement Monday evening on the subject of the various committees.

The commission chamber was more than half-filled with men and women who had answered the village commission's call for volunteers to assist in going over Birmingham's problems, including charter revision, water supply, ordinances, sewer and waste disposal, finance, and building code. Additional members to the various committees may be added, it was said.

In the course of your investigations, you may decide that existing methods and systems entirely meet the demands of Birmingham's municipal life in that case your findings will undoubtedly reveal your satisfaction on such scores, said President Ellerby.

Following President Ellerby's brief talk, the regular commission meeting was adjourned for an hour, during which time the various groups went to individual rooms in the building and organized.

Meetings will be held at various times during the next few months, although it is hoped that some of the committees will dispose of their business and go to work for the spring election in March.

Following are those who were present: Charter revision: commissioner Lee A. White, John J. Gaffill, Thomas Parkers, Francis McKinney, and Charles J. Shain. Sewer and waste disposal: Commissioner W. H. Henry, President H. T. Ellerby, E. H. Tillotson, Harry Allen, Lawrence Thomas, and J. Martindale.

Water supply: Commissioner J. H. McBride, David Ladd, Clarence Pitt, and E. C. Stewart. Ordinances: Commissioner Hope Halgren and A. D. B. Van Zandt.

Building code: Commissioner Scott Hersey, Walter L. Connelly, Charles Heiderger, C. C. Wernuth, and William Melroy. Finance: Henry Hart, L. A. Morgan, and Herbert Gardner.

VILLAGE TO HAVE NEW APPRAISER
In order to speed up work on a number of important alley projects in seven pivotal points of Birmingham's business center, the commission Monday night voted to hire an appraiser, who will in turn review property owners with the idea of securing options. The commission has been projecting for the past year.

Villagers and the Village
By the WANDERER
The last vestige of the old Baldwin Library in the vacated church building at Maple and Woodward avenues is to go. It is a sign precluding to the world. However, the village has moved its new quarters more than a year ago. The village commission order of removal of the sign, which members said, has lost its significance as well as most of its point.

GROWTH SEEN AS RESULT OF NEW SERVICE

Birmingham today faces the most stimulating movement in its history since the announcement of wider Woodward avenue, James W. Parry, village manager, stated, in speaking of the installation of the commuter's service on the Grand Trunk railway.

"This service will change the present center of population to the eastward," he said. "Owners of subdivisions in the east section of Birmingham will proceed with improvements and further investments in their property which they have been reluctant to do in the past," he said.

REBATE SEEN IN ROAD WORK

Officials Act To Have \$25,000 Returned To Taxpayers

If plans to have the Oakland County road commission take over parts of Lincoln avenue, Cranbrook road, and west Maple avenue, as a county trunk line, make a county trunk line, the lands in question will be rebated approximately \$25,000 which they were assessed by Birmingham.

This rebate possibility is seen today by James W. Parry, Village Engineer Harold H. Corson, and Township Supervisor Robert Y. Moore, who are working to win approval of the county board of supervisors, now in session in Pontiac, to bring the proposed project under the overt road act.

"Behind the project is a desire to relieve Southfield avenue of much of its through north traffic to Lakeland and summer, and to relieve Birmingham of the congestion on Southfield avenue and congress east and west Maple avenues while continuing north."

It is proposed to pave the Lincoln avenue extension from Southfield to the intersection with Cranbrook road, thence north to west Maple avenue. Under the overt road act, a share of the expense would be born by the county, as well as maintenance costs later.

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SOUTHFIELD EXTENSION IS UNDER STUDY

County, Village Officials Offer Substitute For Wayne Plan

PLANNER IS CONSULTED

Plans proposed last Thursday by the Detroit Rapid Transit commission, through its engineer, Major John P. Hallinan, to make a 204-ft superhighway of Southfield avenue through Birmingham from west Maple avenue to a point on the Adams road at Waterloo road, were opposed by village and county officials.

As an alternative Village President H. T. Ellerby and County Road Commissioners Isaac Bond and Luther D. Allen, as well as County Road Engineer Leon V. Balkman, proposed the continuation of Southfield avenue as a 120-ft road, from a point at Lincoln avenue, along the River Rouge to Lake-side drive along the west side of Quorton lake to Quorton road, thence east on Quorton road to a continuation of Kensington road to the new grade crossing established at Adams and Big Beaver roads.

At present, Southfield avenue is a dedicated 204-ft highway up to Lincoln avenue in Birmingham, and the proposal to make it 204-feet through Birmingham's park system and the Rouge valley east of Woodward avenue at Ravine road would not only ruin Birmingham's park area, but would necessitate the removal of many homes, stated Village President Ellerby.

"For that reason Oakland County road officials, as well as we of Birmingham, opposed the project, and suggested the 120-ft alternative plan."

"This latter plan would branch Southfield avenue off at Lincoln avenue, along the River Rouge to Lakeside avenue, to Quorton road, and east on Quorton road to Adams road at Big Beaver road. This highway would be of the boulevard type, and would prohibit trucks going over it; the trucks can be sent east to Woodward avenue."

Definite plans for determining an outlet for Southfield avenue, and east on Quorton road to Adams road at Big Beaver road. This highway would be of the boulevard type, and would prohibit trucks going over it; the trucks can be sent east to Woodward avenue."

Those named to make a study of records in his office are: Joseph Long, Commerce; William Leice Brandon; Howard C. Hillman; (Concluded on Page 2)

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EXTRA

This copy of The Birmingham Eccentric is brought to you because it contains a "story" that is of particular significance. The newspaper should be placed on your doorstep within a few hours of the announcement at the Oakland Hills Country club last night of the suburban service to be given by the Grand Trunk railway.

Issuing of this "Extra" is in keeping with the policy of The Eccentric to furnish its subscribers All The News as Quickly as The Import of the Story warrants.

SIFT CHARGES, BANKS NAME BREWER ASKS NEW OFFICIALS

Prosecutor Points To Obstacle In Path Of Investigators
Prosperity Reported At Annual Meetings; Few Changes Made

Willis M. Brewer, chairman of the Oakland County board of auditors yesterday filed papers in a \$100,000 suit charging libel against the Pontiac Independent, a semi-weekly newspaper which published the charges made by Fred Demberger, former member of the board against Brewer.

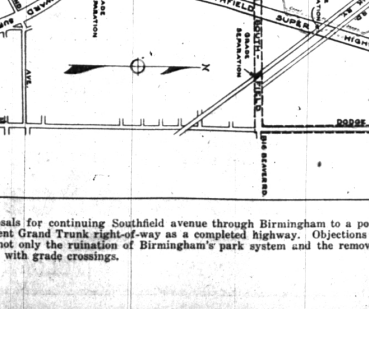
A committee of seven members of the Oakland County board of supervisors today is investigating charges made against Willis M. Brewer, chairman of the board of auditors, following a request made by Brewer Monday before the board that the accusation be probed.

At the annual meeting of the Birmingham branch of the Y. M. C. A. held here Wednesday night the following directors were elected for the ensuing year: Charles J. Shain, C. W. Vliet, M. C. Hart, Joseph Dalley, Dr. W. J. Gibson, C. S. Kimmin, H. T. Ellerby, R. H. Peck, Harry McDonald, T. M. Faddis, A. J. Brandt, Henry Hart, E. W. Sealhorn, Louis Kuthenberg, Walter Moreland, and O. G. Peterson.

A budget for the year was adopted, amounting to \$8,589, based on an estimated subscription fund of \$7,000. H. T. Ellerby was appointed to head a committee to formulate plans for a father and son banquet Feb. 14. Discussion of a summer camp site was held. M. C. Hart was appointed to head a boys' vocational guidance committee. Another meeting of the directors will be held next Wednesday at 6:30 p. m. at the Chateau Tea Room.

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SUGGESTED SOUTHFIELD EXTENSION SHOWN



VILLAGES MAY ESCAPE PAYING TAX ON ROADS

Moore Seeks To Save Birmingham, Hills, Toll On Township Highway

LEGALITY QUESTIONED

If plans now under consideration by Township Supervisor Robert Y. Moore are found legal, in the future property in Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills village will not be assessed for township highway improvements; this year Birmingham property is paying approximately \$14,000 or \$1 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, to the highway improvement portion of the township's 1929 budget.

This plan of eliminating the two villages in Bloomfield Township is based upon the result of an Act passed by the 1925 State Legislature, wherein incorporated villages must be rebated in the amount of 50 per cent of the money that they assessed valuations pay into township treasuries on highway improvement taxes.

The subject was first brought to the attention of the village commission early last spring, and added the name of H. Lloyd Clawson, of Northwood, as a new director. Others are T. W. Minner, Elmer C. Huston, M. T. Jarvis, A. T. Lovess, T. W. Minner. (Concluded on Page 2)

NEW DIRECTORS NAMED BY 'Y'

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Villager Dies In Crash

Funeral arrangements are being made today in Winchester, Ind., for Charles E. Miller, 117 east Bennaville avenue, killed in an accident early Thursday when the car in which he was riding struck a parked truck at Woodward and Normandy avenue in north Royal Oak.

He was riding in a car driven by James E. Martin, 21 year old, 221 west Bennaville avenue. Martin sustained a broken jaw. The truck driver was Gus Howard, Grinnell Bros. 175 So. Woodward Ave. 39

To Spread \$35,000,000
He declared the company will spend \$35,000,000 in the next five years in the expansion program and that in the last three years \$10,000,000 has been spent.

A new type engine and passenger car will be used so that faster starts can be made, Laird said. There will be double tracks. "While I can say the running time will be considerably cut, I can not now say in how long a time the trip will be made nor can I say anything as to the rate of fare. This latter is controlled but not by the railway company."

That particular attention be paid to the station on Birmingham is signified by the fact

Suburb Service Promised By Railway Heads

Special, rapid commuter's service between Birmingham and Detroit is promised today by the Grand Trunk railway. Company officials predict it will be under way by the fall of this year.

This announcement, made last night at the annual meeting and dinner of the Royal Oak Real Estate board to the chief engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway, is heralded as one of the most important in the history of southern Oakland County.

A station, costing \$100,000, will be built by the railway on the west side of the new right of way and just south of Maple avenue. Work starts in summer.

The service will connect from Detroit to Pontiac with stops in Royal Oak and Birmingham and other places warranted, Laird said. Work is to be started next summer and the service will get under way in the fall, provided everything goes according to schedule, he said.

Officials of the communities along the railway line north of Detroit said the meeting this move on the part of the railway will cause the communities to grow at an even greater rate than in the past.

The announcement came as a surprise to the many persons who crowded the banquet hall. C. G. Bowker, general manager of the railway, who was to have made the announcement was unable to be present because of illness and Laird came in his place. So surprised were those in attendance when the announcement was made that the applause was light and the audience failing to realize the importance of the message.

This suburban service has been under contemplation for a long time. We have been waiting for facilities which we now have in an accident early Thursday when the car in which he was riding struck a parked truck at Woodward and Normandy avenue in north Royal Oak.

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FOR SALE, 100 feet Frontage on Woodward Avenue, 100 feet wide, 100 feet deep. Price \$150 per foot. Call 1124.