

The vacation days, when men and women cease working in order to play, so that they again may cease playing to work, are upon us. Work and play is the demand of a fuller life.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 13

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1930

\$1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

## The New Dollar Size AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELERS CHEQUE

On your journeys this year, encumbered as you may be with tickets, passports, money, licenses and other travel accessories, you will welcome the new dollar size American Express Travelers Cheque.

Enough for almost any trip will fit into a woman's handbag like a compact, or into a man's pocket like a card-case.

The motorist or vacationist can now take plenty of "reserves" for emergencies—the business traveler sufficient for his expense money—the visitor to foreign lands ample funds for the entire tour.

Safe as a vault, spendable as cash—these Cheques are issued in denominations of tens, twenties, fifties, hundreds.

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"Savings Interest 4% - Personal Interest 100%"

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## Lighting Fixtures

We carry the largest stock of Lighting Fixtures in Oakland County. Special attention given to Period designs. Full line of hand wrought fixtures.

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## Leonard Electrical Co.

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IT IS ADVANTAGEOUS TO HAVE A SURPLUS.

BUSINESS SUCCESS IS DETERMINED BY THE GROWTH OF ITS SURPLUS.

PERSONAL SUCCESS IS JUDGED BY THE SAME RULE.

YOUR SURPLUS MONEY DEPOSITED WITH US ON INTEREST WILL INCREASE YOUR SURPLUS.

4% On Savings

## First National Bank

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$400,000.00  
BIRMINGHAM - MICHIGAN

## NEW "W" CAMP NOW OPENED

First Group Of Local Boys Gathered At Loon Lake Sunday

Birmingham and other Oakland County boys are today in the midst of the first week of camping at the new Oakland County "W. M. C. A. camp at Loon Lake, near Hale. The camp opened Monday, and during the summer it is expected that more than 400 boys will attend camp, in varying sections of two weeks each.

The big feature of this year's camping season is the new rustic lodge, which was designed by Frederick D. Madison, of Royal Oak, designer of the new Barnum School and many other public buildings in this part of the state. Mr. Madison also supervised the construction of the building without cost to the trustees of the camp, because of his great interest in boyhood.

The lodge is of very simple but strong construction, 30 feet wide by 60 feet long, overlooking Loon Lake from a beautiful wooded bluff 60 feet high. Along one end and a part of two sides is a porch 10 feet wide and 81 feet long. This porch, adding a great deal to the appearance of the building, was a gift from one of the trustees, E. W. Seaborn, of Kennesaw avenue, who is chairman of the building committee.

The front part of the lodge is a mess hall which will accommodate 150. The rear is divided into a bank, store, office, storage room, and kitchen.

The staff, consisting of Orlo Crissey, director, Jack Lunn and Mrs. Lunn as associate director and business assistant, respectively, and Mrs. Estelle Ferris and husband as cooks, business managers, and 16 tent counselors, gathered June 30 at the camp for a one-week training course.

## NO PLANS FOR OLD CAR BARN LANDS

Booth Investment Co. Reports Property Is Being Cleared Only

No definite plans have been made for the property formerly occupied by the Eastern Michigan System car barns at the corner of Woodward and Harmon avenues, according to Fred S. Strong, Jr., vice-president of the Booth Investment Company, of Detroit, controller of the property.

Rumors have been reported on the disposal of the property, that a group of English type buildings will be constructed on it, but the only plans the Booth company has are to completely clear the property, Mr. Strong says.

## COUNTY NONAGENARIAN RECALLS OLD SCENES IN AND NEAR B'HAM

By W. STODDARD WHITE

"I'll be the last person to say that the changes today are for the worse, and that the younger generation are 'going to the dogs,' as some people say."

This is the statement of Mortimer Leggett, 93-year old resident of Oakland County, a man who voted twice for Abraham Lincoln, who settled in the county over 70 years ago, and who was a close friend of all Birmingham's early settlers, including Almeron (Mr. Leggett calls him "Ally") Whitehead, George Mitchell, and the other early residents.

There are, of course, changes for the worse, but they will always be changes for the worse, and I believe that in general things are much better than they used to be. The good old days aren't all they are cracked up to be," says Mr. Leggett.

Mr. Leggett, who is probably the only living charter member of the Oakland County Pioneers' Society, lives on a large farm north and east of Drayton Plains.

He has been interviewed many times, and so the visit of The Eccentric reporter was nothing exciting in his life. But he greeted the reporter cordially, on the wide shady front lawn of his home.

Things are cool and pleasant "up on the Leggett place" all the time, and a little brook running near, and a pretty entrance to the farm is effected by a long drive completely arched by tall trees. Several little bull terrier pups were frolicking about the dog fanciers.

93 Years Old  
"How do you do, sir," he greeted the reporter. "You want a story for your paper? Well, come in the house and we'll see what we can do for you."

"My feet aren't all they used to be," he apologized as he reached for a cane and stepped to the house. "But I always say they have done pretty well to carry me for 93 years."

Mr. Leggett is one of the patri-archs of the Oakland County Pioneers' Society. At the time he joined it was open only to the real families, and he has a real claim on its membership. At present he has members about 300.

"Even the Society's annual meetings have changed," he complained. "They are still good enough I guess the hasn't gone to the last two or three but they aren't what they used to be. We used to make a regular event that was looked forward to for the whole year."

Yum, Yum, Yum!  
His most prominent association with these meetings was the amount of chicken pie that was always served. Chicken pie, it seems, was always one of the pieces of resistance there were never less than four or five main dishes, and nobody but the women who served the Society's dinners knew how to cook it properly, he avers. Everything, in fact, was good, and there was always plenty of it.

Mr. Leggett comes of old New York stock, and the community which he settled near Drayton Plains was made up of aristocratic families from the New Holland-ers. His father, Augustus Leggett, came from New York City, where Mortimer was born in 1837. Twenty-two settlers came from New York, and settled Pontiac, Mr. Leggett says. His father (Turn to Page 3, this Section)

was also informally known as Osbornburg, owing to the large number of members of the Osborn family settled near there.

By Canal Boat  
His goods he had sent ahead of him on the Erie Canal boats, but the family preferred to travel the new and rapid railroad. This was the New York Central, and was but a single track. It required two days to get from Buffalo to Detroit on the old strap rail road. "Many's the time I've gotten out of trains to help pick up rail fences for fuel to keep the engine going," Mr. Leggett said with a chuckle.

House Built 72 Years Ago  
The house that he built 72 years ago is still in active use as his home, and is in excellent condition, testifying ably to the workmanship and materials which entered in its construction. He "worked" the farm until a few years ago.

Young Mortimer was quite a violinist, which is the cited name for "fiddler" in his youth, and he liked to play at all sorts of public meetings. He earned most of the expenses of buying the violin from dances in the vicinity of his home.

Voted For Lincoln  
When the Civil War broke he was of legal age for the draft, but the fact that he had a wife and three children kept him home. However he did his bit at home, and although he never saw the martyred President, was a strong supporter of Lincoln. A short time ago he attended a presentation of John Drinkwater's "Abraham Lincoln" in Pontiac. It was announced that there was a member of the audience who had voted twice for Lincoln, and Mr. Leggett was asked to stand. A wild ovation greeted him.

The trip from Pontiac to Detroit was not as uncommon for the Leggett blood, as it was for others, and they often made it in gett had brought an old wagon from New York, one which he planned to use for general farm work, as in New York it was considered much as a dump-wagon would be at present. However, driving into Pontiac one day, he was met by Henry W. Lord, prominent Pontiac citizen, who was taken by the wagon that he bought it for his family car and drove about the city in it with great pride.

It was on one of these earlier trips when his daughter had begged to be permitted to go along, that they stopped at Royal Oak for lunch. Royal Oak in those days offered the greatest kind of difficulty to the builders of early railroads and highways. As they sat eating his daughter, Catherine, asked him, "Father, do you think they will ever be able to do anything with this land?"

"No, it is absolutely no good and never will be of any use to anyone," was the answer. "And gett came from New York City, where Mortimer was born in 1837. Twenty-two settlers came from New York, and settled Pontiac, Mr. Leggett says. His father (Turn to Page 3, this Section)

One good character who was a friend of Mr. Leggett's and who settled in Clintonville, which

## STUDY VILLAGE SEWAGE PLAN

Ann Arbor Expert Meets Local Engineers Here Tuesday Morning

Representatives of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, and Oakland County Tuesday morning met with Walter Drury, of Hoard, Becker, Shoecraft, and Drury, Ann Arbor consulting engineers, to study Mr. Drury's plan for a sewage system for the village and surrounding territory.

For some time it has been felt that the present system is inadequate. The superior type of sewage system required would prove too expensive for the village alone to support, and consequently the township, county, and the neighboring village of Bloomfield Hills were invited to make use of a larger sewage system and help support the expenditure.

Harold E. Corson village engineer, represented Birmingham. Other representatives at the meeting were Harry S. Starr, village engineer of Bloomfield Hills, Clyde H. Reid, Bloomfield township surveyor, and N. W. Strait, member of the county drain commission.

The meeting was held to familiarize the representatives with the report and to make possible modification suggestions.

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**\$50 Suits at \$39.75**

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108 South Woodward Avenue

"It's The Cut of Your Clothes That Counts"

**Forlorn Figures**  
By CLIFFORD MEBRIDE



Policeman, examining hat of man who has been rescued by dog. "Says J.P.Q. in his hat; wonder who he is?"  
Bystander, "I know 'im. He's de guy wot got out a petition to have all de dogs in town chloroformed."