

What shall I say in this little space this week? I ask only that thoughts may come to me, for you are all that will lighten the burden in your life, I'd like to reflect, to you all, rays of happiness.

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 52

STATE TO PAY VILLAGE \$16,000 FOR SERVICES

Compromise On Claim For \$23,000 Is Reached In Conference at Lansing

PARRY IS SATISFIED
At a meeting of the claims committee of the State Administrative Board with representatives of the Village of Birmingham at Lansing last Thursday, a compromise settlement of \$16,000 claimed by the village for services and work in the widening of Woodward avenue was reached to the satisfaction of both parties. James W. Parry, village manager, reports.

The village's original claim was for approximately \$23,000 and the original offer of the claims committee, which is composed of Paul W. Voorhies, attorney general; Frank S. Haggerty, secretary of state; and Howard C. Lawrence, state treasurer, was \$2,000.

"We believe the arrangement satisfactory," Mr. Parry said. "Until after the State Administrative Board approves the claims committee's award, however, the village is not expected to receive the money the state has agreed to pay. The difference between the

claim and the amount originally asked will come on the general tax roll, Mr. Parry says.

For Sewer Services
The work and services for which the claim was made was the installation of water and sewer services to individual properties at the time of the widening of the thoroughfare and the \$7,000 item which the village will have to pay will be charged either against water or sewer services account and the amount drawn from the bond issues for such expenses.

Those representing Birmingham at the meeting were President Harry Allen, Harold H. Conroy, village engineer, and Mr. Parry. In addition, Frank Rogers, consulting engineer for the State, Leon V. Belknap of the Oakland County Road Commission and J. J. Comb, county representative of the State Highway Commission, attended the meeting.

Artificial silk is now being made from the bark of the giant reed tree.



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The Birmingham Centric

PART ELEVEN

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1931

\$2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

'Y' CAGE LOOP BANQUET APR. 20

Teams In New League To Hold First Annual Feast At Township Park

Members of the Y. M. C. A. basketball league will be guests at a banquet to be given next Wednesday, Apr. 20 at the Bloomfield Township Park Clubhouse, Robert D. Lynn, secretary of the local Y. announced.

The fourth quintet which defeated the Fitch team in the playoff for the title, will be awarded gold basketball watch chains. A silver cup, presented by Jack Burns, will be awarded the league champions at the dinner and will become the permanent possession of the team winning it for three years.

The local Y. basketball circuit is now established and will remain active for the dinner and will be one of the speakers, Mr. Lynn announced. Arrangements for the dinner will be made by E. W. Kurth.

Hunt Collects \$195 In Fines In March

During March, Justice Malcolm Hunt fined two men for driving while under the influence of alcohol, three for speeding, five states in his monthly report. The fines totaled \$195. One driver was arrested on a charge of being drunk, was dismissed.

Funeral Services For Infant Held

Funeral services were held Saturday for Wilfred S. Kennedy, Jr., two-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred S. Kennedy, 205 Lone Pine road, Bloomfield Hills. The services were conducted at the residence by the Rev. W. H. Aulenback, assistant rector of Christ Church Cranbrook. The infant died at the Woman's Hospital, Detroit after a few hours illness. Burial was in the White Chapel Memorial Park.

15,000 ACRES IN PINE TREES TO BE PLANTED

LANSING, Apr. 9.—Plans for the planting of approximately 15,000 acres in pine trees this spring are being made by the Forestry Division of the Department of Conservation.

Whether it will be possible to plant this large acreage in the state forests will depend to some extent on the weather during late April and early part of May. Despite last summer's drought, the spring plantings of 1930 "came through" with a high percentage of success, the superintendent reported, and the acres planted in pine last fall are in excellent condition. It is expected that five to six weeks will be necessary to complete the actual planting.

STATE TAX SALE

In this issue The Centric presents the fifth and last insertion of the State Delinquent Tax Sale for Oakland County.

Merchandising Progress Aids Buyer, Davidson Says

"Modern retail merchandising in keeping with the rapid progress made in mass production, transportation and distribution, today offers the alert merchant more advantages for establishing a consistent patronage than ever before," L. E. Davidson, manager of the Birmingham Department Store, declared.

"Modern merchandising," he adds, "has advanced to such a state of near-perfection that customers have learned the values offered today exceed those of last year or even yesterday. Changes in the methods of selling, in the presentation of merchandise, in the merchandise itself, reveal the rapid progress of modern merchandising. The advantages of honesty, integrity, courtesy and service to the customer will never change. But the price and the quality of the merchandise will change."

Manufacturer Cuts Costs
"Today the consumer is able to purchase necessities and luxuries at remarkably low prices. It would be entirely natural for me to say in connection with the manufacturer's fourth anniversary, but the point is best illustrated by example. The manufacturer today has the opportunity to cut his costs so that he can sell lower, and therefore more attractively, his wares. Modern machinery has advanced in efficiency and in the quality of work it can turn out beyond the greatest works of the manufacturer of only a few years ago. Distribution, because of improved transportation, and the modern merchant to obtain in just a few hours a selection of merchandise that is of the best quality and has the most attraction for the customer."

"No longer does the big merchant control the buying and selling to the individual. What is introduced to the consumer in department stores, at 9 o'clock Monday morning, can be offered in the residence by a comparatively few amateur salesmen."

Offer Same Advantages
"Styles are no longer confined to the city. Salesmen stores are synchronously with the big city stores they work in celebrating their thirty-fourth anniversary as a Birmingham institution. For the past five years Mr. Davidson has presided over its development and expansion as one of the most vital and progressive institutions in the community."

Parents Must Consider Many Things In Choosing Camp For Their Children

By JACK VAN COVERING
This is the season of the year when many parents are beginning to take seriously the question of their sons and daughters to be sent to camp. For the family where children have attended camps previous years, the question is usually a simple matter, but for parents who have never sent their children to camp, the question is a perplexing situation and raises a number of questions in their minds.

The summer camp grew up in response to a definite demand for life in the cities and suburbs has become more complex, and the lives of children, who have spent two weeks in charge. They are denied those primitive experiences of which the outdoors are full. All children should partake, and instead they are given canned music, standardized amusements, and directed, ready-made, nearly everything at the pressing of a button.

Common To All
This, first of all, the summer camp offers the outdoor, primitive experiences of contact with air, water and earth. These are common to all camps. Next the summer camp offers contact with nature, with individual camps. Various defined, these objectives to teach the boy or girl to do, to be self-reliant, to develop character, to learn to live together, to open the doors to a life more abundant.

There are certain fundamental requirements for any camp which parents should always consider. Perhaps the first and foremost question in the minds of all parents is: "Will my children be safe? Will they come back?" This brings into scrutiny the health requirements for campers, counselors, cooks, etc. What is the physical environment and equipment? What are the provisions to prevent or care for possible illness or accidents?

Next is the question of leadership. A boy or girl will be what he hears are. The "heroes" of the camp are the counselors. Are they what they pretend to be—are they genuine? Do they lead exemplary lives—lives that your boy or girl will do well to follow?

The Spiritual Attitude
This is the most serious attitude of the camp. Does the camp foster the mental and emotional attitude of seeking and knowing and understanding the beautiful? Has the camp a proper spiritual attitude? Is the spirit of reverence for the true and the good—and God? Is there a proper guidance in helping boys and girls think through problems that confront them?

In various camps, certain sports and activities are featured. For example, one camp will have special sporting equipment, another may feature horsemanship, still another dramatics, or music. These activities may be of special interest because your child may have a leaning toward them. For a shy child, a small camp being held soon learns to whom all will

ILLNESS HALTS HEARINGS ON G. T. LITIGATION

Expect to Resume Damage Award Discussions Later Part of This Week

HALLOCK RECOVERING

Because of the illness of Edson Hallock of Pontiac, one of the three members of the commission to determine the amount of damages to property affected by the construction of the Grand Trunk Railroad's new right-of-way through Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham and Royal Oak, the hearings probably will not be resumed until the latter part of this week or the first part of next week.

Of the five subdivisions in Bloomfield Hills being considered by the commission, hearings on two, the Trowbridge Farms and Bloomfield Estates, have been completed by the petitioners. The property owners claim damages of approximately \$170,000 in the former subdivision and \$33,000 in the latter. Hearings are now being held on damages allegedly suffered by the East Maple Gardens subdivision. The other subdivisions to be heard are the Birmingham-Ernest Hills and the Southside Estates subdivisions.

Differences In Values
The hearings were adjourned May 11 because of Mr. Hallock's illness. According to an opinion of the Supreme Court in 1928 in the case of Johnson and Polhemus vs. State Highway Commission, the damages to be determined in the state's interference in the market value of the property allegedly affected before and after the construction of the railroad.

No damages have yet been determined and since the commission has been meeting regularly from 9 a. m. until 1 p. m. each week day, hearing the testimony of expert appraisers. No damages will be paid until after the passage of the state's measures have been heard and accepted by the state and council for the petitioners' compensation. The hearings have nothing to do with the delay or progress of the construction of the railroad, which will be devoted exclusively to the amounts of damages claimed by individual property owners who allege their property has been depreciated by the construction of the railroad.

Seek Early Adjustment
A counsel for the petitioners in the first petition for the adjournment of the hearings is expected to obtain decisions on the awards before there is a hearing on other property. It is expected, attorneys and experts say, that at the rate of the hearings, while progressing steadily now, the damages will not be awarded for five years. Mortgages now falling due on property in the affected area

Example Is Best
If your boy or girl is of the "know all" type, who knows where he belongs, in a big camp, where there are enough minds to take the counsel of his boy, an exceptionally bright or capable child may well be placed in a large camp.

These are some of the considerations revolving a camp. In all cases the parent should be brought in the "Atting. If the child's health has been to a camp and then, and will allow with an unbroken abundance of a certain number of children, a thoughtful parent should consider the history and progress in detail, especially with simplicity and respect to service, and the sureness of the camp's experience. The gradual and increasing growth of summer camps, both for boys and girls, is ready proof, however, that this experience has been a gratifying one for an increasing number of parents and their boys and girls.

Mrs. Whitlatch, 60 Expires In Detroit

Funeral services were held at 4 p. m. Saturday for Mrs. Harriet Whitlatch, 60 years old, from the First Baptist Church, with the Rev. David Leon Woodward officiating at the ceremonies. Mrs. Whitlatch, who lived at the home of her son, Robert H. Whitlatch, 425 Greenwood avenue, died at the Woman's Hospital in Detroit. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery.

THUMB COUNTIES ASSN. BALL IN DETROIT APR. 10

The Detroit Thumb Counties Association will hold its second annual ball on Friday evening, April 10, in the Mountain Room of the Masonic Temple. The annual ball is the most important social event of the association and is certain to draw a capacity crowd. It is the one feature of the year which unites the 60 individual counties until to cement the friendship that exists among the members. Last year the dance was a success both socially and financially, and insurance records clearly indicate that even a greater number will be on hand for the ball this year than were present last year.

1931 OPEN GOLF TRYOUTS HERE

Qualifying Rounds For National Tournament To Be Held At Oakland Hills

Michigan aspirants for the National Open Golf championship this year will hold their tryouts at the Oakland Hills Country Club on both the north and south courses on June 9, officials of the U. S. G. A. announce. The National Open will be held at Toledo, July 2, 3 and 4.

The qualifying rounds for this district will bring together some of the most outstanding players, both professional and amateur, in the country. Among Michigan golfers like who placed among the first 34 in the tournament last year are therefore exempted from qualifying this year. The list of entries will close May 19 and how many other places will be awarded the Michigan district depends upon the size of the entry lists.

The five Michigan players who are spared the qualifying competition are Tommy Armour, Charles Guest, Walter Hagen, Charles Hildendorf and Al Watrous. Guest led the qualifiers at the Detroit Country Club with 148. Among the other qualifiers were Orm Beaupre, with 151; Art Ham 154, and Clarence Gamble. Ham is playing from the Michigan district.



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