

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR—NO. 20

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1931

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### GRAND JURY MEETS, ADJOURNS FOR MONTH

The Oakland County grand jury met in Pontiac Monday morning, only to adjourn after a three-hour session until Sept. 21. No witnesses were called and the subjects discussed were not made public.

(Adjournment was taken in enable members of the grand jury staff who have been busy with other investigations during the summer to take vacations.)

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## Europaragraphs

By W. Stoddard White

(Notes from Merric England on the last lap of an Eccentric reporter's 12,000-mile motor tour of Europe)

I have neglected to mention an evidence of international goodwill which I found interesting in The Hague, Holland, Boy Scouts of Holland, Mich., had through the

late Mr. Diekema, America minister to The Netherlands, presented the Padinders, Boy Scouts of Holland, Europe, a small plaque engraved with goodwill wishes from the Americans to their Dutch fellow-scouts. The plaque hangs on a wall of the national headquarters in The Hague.

At Steep, near Petersfield, in Hampshire, we were fortunate in being afforded the opportunity to visit a unique preparatory school, the first and largest in England where co-educational prep school instruction is given. The entire idea and its realization are the work of the present headmaster, known to the students as "The Chief."

Here I acquired a more respectful attitude toward the English national sport, cricket, after watching nearly an hour of it as played by the senior students of the school, and later when we were dinner guests of the headmaster in the large dining hall, I had an opportunity to talk with several of the students.

One in particular, next to whom I was seated at the headmaster's table, was a student from Columbia, S. A., who had been in England for several years and who spoke perfect English (so perfect that he asked if it was ever true that people came to America to learn English, and inquired that what they would learn there was far from the King's English). He planned, when completing studies at this school, to go to London or some American university of college to study economics in order to inherit a large financial business in his native country.

He, and two or three others with whom I talked, practically refused to believe that we have free public instruction in America, and that it is by far the minority who attend schools of any sort which are not co-educational in nature. He asked if the boy and girl students were on an absolutely equal basis, and was further surprised to learn that not only the poor went to the public schools, but the wealthy as well. And further introduced an interesting slant on the question by asking if I didn't think that the wealthy students were taking advantage of the situation by getting something for nothing. When he was told that the schools are supported by a general tax, he exclaimed, "Then it isn't free!" Which it isn't.

Also they insisted on pumping me on the Wild West in America, the gangs and the rackets in Chicago, and Al Capone, about all of which they were either singularly misinformed, or singularly well-informed. Also they asked if I would set them right on the ques-

## LEGION SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

### Birmingham Post Launches Drive As Pre-Convention Move

A drive to increase the membership of the Birmingham Post of the American Legion has been launched in anticipation of the national Legion convention to be held in Detroit next month, according to E. A. Burtraw, commander of the local post.

"In order to participate in all of the activities of the convention, an ex-service man must have his dues card from the American Legion," Mr. Burtraw said.

"For this reason and because of the fact that there are many ex-service men living in or near the village who do not belong to the Legion, or who have no obtained their 1932 cards, it was thought advisable to launch a membership drive at this time in order that all new members might attend the various functions of the convention."

For the purposes of the drive, the post has been divided into two teams in competition with one another for securing the most new members. The teams are captained by Gordon Bailey and Joseph F. MacGregor.

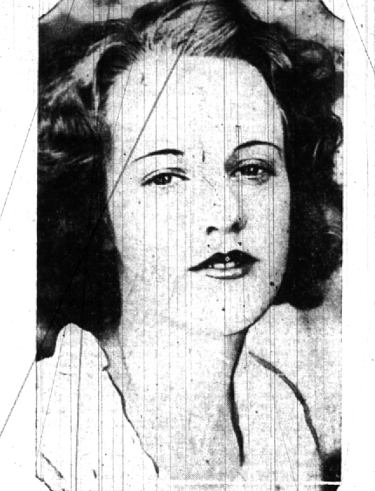
All men who are eligible to become a member of the Legion were urged by Mr. Burtraw to give their names to either one of the two captains, who will be prepared to supply application blanks and all required information.

Several of American football. American boys attend the school, and apparently have spent considerable time in learning the English with the dangers of American football, wherein, they asserted, corpses are carried off the field after every game, and so forth. For the benefit of that glorious sport, I did my best to set them right.

But the odd part of this was that, when I was talking about the dangers of an American game, the English, and especially the girls, indulge in frequent outbursts of laughter, the Canadian-Indian sport which we consider one of the roughest in existence. However, even this had been restricted somewhat, one girl told us, for in previous times "lots of the girls had their teeth knocked out."

The small town of Bognor, on the south coast of Hampshire, which is one of the most popular small watering-places of the south coast, has changed its name officially to Bognor Regis. We didn't know this, and thought we had got into another town, until we read in a booklet that it had been permitted to add the "Regis" after the King had recovered his health in the resort in 1822. (Turn to Page 5, this Section.)

## Her Crown Not Hard To Wear, Says Pretty Queen For A Day



Miss Pollock

By MARJORIE ELAINE PORTER

"Just like living a fairy story," that's how it feels to be queen for a day, according to Miss Elizabeth Pollock, 1583 E. Ruffner street, Birmingham's queen of the pageant of progress, held recently to celebrate the advent of

"It was so wonderful, it was the biggest thrill I ever had!" Miss Pollock declared, "but even when I was riding in the big automobile, dressed as the queen, and everybody was looking at me, the thought was in the back of my head, that just like a fairy story, it was going to end soon, and would never happen again."

"So I tried to forget that part of it, and made up my mind to have as much fun 'queening' as I could. And I did. Everything was a thrill. From the time I was told I had won, until it was over, when all my friends came to wish how it felt to be queen, I had the nicest most exciting time I ever had in my life."

"It certainly gives you a thrill to have something like that happen, she confided, "when you have always lived quietly, and have gone to work every day. And then suddenly to be a queen and dress like a queen, and ride in a parade, with everybody cheering you! It makes you wonder if there isn't something in the fairy godmother story after all!"

Miss Pollock, who is employed as clerk and bookkeeper in a local drug store, returned to her work the following Monday.

"When I awoke up the next morning, I felt like a little Cinderella. I was sorry it was all over. I liked it better than anything that ever happened to me. I just as soon be queen every day, if I could, and so I wanted to wake up and think that I wasn't queen anymore! The Monday morning after that wonderful Saturday, I knew I had to get up and go to work."

"But that day was exciting too, people left me going to see me. There was so much to tell about. Then I had mail. I received 20 letters in two days. Some of the letters asked for my autograph, others were from men who wanted to meet me. I showed them to my friends, and we laughed about them. After I sent my autograph, I threw the rest of the letters away."

"How would you like to be a movie queen?" Miss Pollock was asked, "then it would not be all over in a day."

"No, I don't care about the movie, she replied, "and I'm satisfied to go on doing what I did before. The excitement's all over."

### Requests Sidewalk For Pierce Students

Verbal petition for the construction of a sidewalk along Southlawn boulevard from Birmingham boulevard to Pierce School was made to the Village Commission Monday night by Theodore Sirene, 1586 Birmingham boulevard.

Mr. Sirene said the sidewalk was needed for the convenience of children going to and from the school. He made his petition on behalf of residents of the neighborhood, which includes approximately 15 houses, he said. The request was referred to Village Manager Parr for investigation and a report on the project next Monday night. The sidewalk under question would be about a half mile long.

## THIEVES RANSACK HOME, TAKE \$80

Jewelry, Silverware Unearthed In Loot of J. H. DeVisser Residence

About \$80 in cash was stolen last Thursday afternoon or evening by thieves who ransacked the home of J. H. DeVisser, 207 North Woodward avenue in Bloomfield Hills.

Drawers were pulled out, furniture overturned and all rooms searched from top to bottom, but only cash was taken, police said, the thieves leaving untouched much valuable jewelry and silverware.

Entrance was gained through a rear door where the glass had

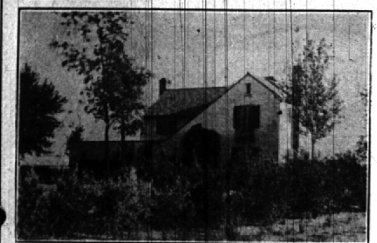
## FIREMEN FREE CHILD LOCKED IN BATHROOM

Firemen were called last Thursday to the home of R. E. Clayton, 768 Oakland avenue, where a small girl had locked herself in the bathroom. The firemen freed the frightened child by crawling through the window and unlocking the door.

The door had been broken and the door unlocked from within, according to the police. Occupants of the family were away at the time.

The loot included money which had been contained in a pocket book and two small savings banks. A few faint fingerprints were the only clues left by the burglars, police said.

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### ACTUAL COST OVER 50 PER CENT ABOVE PRICE ASKED FOR THIS 1 1/4 ACRE BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE ESTATE

Owner leaving city and is sacrificing this fireproof home. Beautifully landscaped grounds with 125 feet of frontage on Tottenham Road. There is a tile roof, hollow tile walls, a tiled floor, sunroom, paneled dining room, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, brass water pipes throughout house. Red oak floors, Oilomatic oil burner, 1000 gallon outside oil storage tank, Kefvator. Price includes curtains, draperies, and copper screens. Shown only by appointment. A marvelous bargain at \$22,500.

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Next week's Eccentric will contain additional information.

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