Each little blade of grass seems scarcely worth noticing—but many of them make a beautiful green pasture, and life multiplies from the plan behind the single blade of grass. Let's think well of grass.

The Birmingham Eccentric

16 PAGES, PART 1

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR—NO. 14 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1931 $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Give the girls of today an inch of bathing suit material and, as they say in the comics, they'll trim it down to a smile.

* * *

Some day an honest golf club will install adding machines on the 18th hole and the world will stagger under the deluge of higher mathematics.

* * *

Our latest information is that 286 half-barrels of good beer were consumed during the recent three-day Legion meeting in Pontiac. That is a barrel and a half more than our first informant advised us, and certainly is worth mentioning in behalf of those who paid for it. With beer so scarce these days, a fellow doesn't want to under-estimate it in the public prints.

* * *

He or she who dedicates his life to the exemplification of fine ideals, writes for the world as great a work as does the author of a great song or poem; for nothing can exceed life except a life well lived.

* * *

Governor Wilber Marion Brucker is probably enduring one of the most nerve-racking summers he ever went through—in a political sense. From practical obscurity of three years ago to the position of chief executive of this state is a long stride—especially when you are only 36 years old. The way must be paved with human contacts, some of them friendly, some of them merely political. Brucker has made both kinds, with perhaps more of the latter. This was necessitated because of his break with former Gov. Fred W. Green, who took with him most of the supporters of his recent administration. All of which left Brucker with the necessity of building up his own political machinery.

* * *

You do not have to be a very close observer to learn how furiously the ambitious young man from Saginaw is working to perpetuate himself in office. On many sides it is quite apparent that numerous of his moves are based almost entirely upon their political effects on his future. In his recent appointments you observe that he pays some of his campaign obligations; this is especially true, I think, in the cases of Kit Clardy and Harold Waples being appointed to the State Utilities Commission, and Charles Rubiner as a Detroit judge.

* * *

Here is my conception of Governor Brucker's political background: after his return from World War activities, with a desire to earn an honest living, he does the orthodox thing of becoming an assistant prosecutor in Saginaw County, then climbs to the prosecutorship during an election. His American Legion background helps at the polls. Again the Legion helps him, this time to reach Lansing as an assistant attorney-general; from there he ascends to attorney-general when W. W. Potter is appointed by Governor Green to the State Supreme Court bench. All this time Mr. Brucker is gaining experience in the tactics necessary to win him votes and strength through the Legion. Then comes the frenzied, though sincere, attempt for the governorship last fall—in spite of mild opposition from the Green camp. Wilbur M. Brucker knows his Legion! So he pushed off from the Green wharf and entered the raging currents of a political campaign. He would have been swamped, hopelessly, had not Fred W. Green, at the last minute of the campaign, been forced to defend himself against the accusations of Alex Groesbeck, as you will recall. Green's last minute support, plus Judge Jeffries' work in Detroit, gave Brucker the governorship by the scant margin of 5,000 votes. But a miss is as good as a mile—and the Saginaw youth won.

* * *

But what did he lose? Well, that's probably what is giving him a nerve-racking summer right now. He lost entirely too much Republican support during that campaign, to bring him a feeling of political comfort and safety. And he continueth to lose Republican support—plus the former whole-hearted enthusiastic backing of his war-time buddies. For the Legion boys—at least a great, great many of them, are wondering where they fit into the Brucker camp since Jan. 1, 1931. Many of them who were Mr. Brucker's warmest supporters last fall are either openly opposed to him now, or are only luke-warm towards him. They have come to believe, you see, that they were used only as a step-ladder for the political ambitions of a war-time buddy—a buddy who during the peaceful days of gubernatorial rewards seems to have forgotten the necessity of handing out merit badges to those who feel their shirt-fronts were made for something other than just ironing.

* * *

Governor Brucker ought to have more friends—friends of the honest, non-political type. That he has not more of them is not the

(Turn to Page 2, No. 7)

STATE SEEKS PAVING BIDS ON WOODWARD

Completion Of Highway To Lincoln Avenue Seen By Oct. 15

SEWER PLAN SUBMITTED

The State Highway Commission begins today its advertising for bids on the construction of that portion of Wider Woodward avenue between Eleven Mile road and Lincoln avenue along the old Grand Trunk right-of-way. A copy of the advertisement appears in today's issue of The Eccentric.

Bids will be received up to 9 A. M. Wednesday July 22. The work will consist of grading and shaping the road constructing the necessary drainage structures and surfacing the road to a width of 40 feet with concrete pavement.

That the actual work of construction will be begun in time to be completed by Oct. 15 was indicated at a conference in Lansing last week between state highway officials and representatives of the village, including Village Manager James W. Parry and Village Engineer Harold H. Corson.

Plan New Sewer

Meanwhile plans for making the laying of the sewer along the portion of the new highway which lies in the village limits a co-operative project between state and village are expected to be completed within the next two weeks.

At the Village Commission meeting Monday night a resolution was adopted calling a hearing on July 27 for the establishment of a special assessment district in that area from Maple avenue along the Grand Trunk right-of-way to Clawson road which will be affected by the proposed new sewer.

The cost of the project as estimated in a report from Mr. Parry presented to the Commission will be about $64,765.67, of which the state has tentatively agreed to pay 40 percent, or about $25,924.64. As recommended in Mr. Parry's report, the remainder would be raised from the three following sources:

$13,756 From Village

1. A village contribution of $13,756.37 representing one-sixth of the net cost of the east branch of the sewer after the state's contribution has been deducted and that part of the trunk line excess, made necessary by street area draining into the system, has been added.

2. An assessment of $1.92 per foot against abutting frontage, amounting to a total assessment of $7387.30.

3. An assessment of $17,697.36 against the drainage area served

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TOWNSHIP ASKS REALTORS' AID

Property Owners' Division Invited To Help Ward Off High Valuation

A direct invitation to the Property Owners' Division of the Birmingham Real Estate Board to resume its interest in the affairs of Bloomfield Township, now in apparent apathy since the incidents of last April when the Property Owners' Division made formal demands for reform and sweeping changes in township government, was addressed to the organization following a meeting of the Township Board Monday night.

The invitation, in the form of a letter drawn up by R. J. Coryell, one of the members of the board, and formally adopted by the rest of the group, asks the Property Owners' Division to appoint a committee to review the township assessment rolls in order to be prepared to give aid in defending them against possible attempts of the state to increase the valuation excessively.

"It is rumored," the letter states, "that the state contemplates to assess the township at $100,000,000." The 1931 valuation as established by the township Board of Review is approximately $32,000,000.

Made Suggestion Before

The letter further claims that the board, in its answer to the Property Owners' Division in April, suggested that such a committee be appointed to study the valuation figures to "be prepared to give aid when needed." The Property Owners' Division did not comply with the suggestion.

The full text of the letter follows:

"On April 7, 1931, the Township Board received a communication from a committee of the Property Owners' Division of the Birmingham Real Estate Board, signed by David Levinson, Charles E. James, F J. Watkins and A. L. Moses.

"This committee made several recommendations on the method of conducting the business of the township.

High Valuation Rumored

"This communication was answered by the board on April 10,

(Turn to Page 2, No. 6)

START QUEST FOR QUEEN OF PAGEANT

Grand Trunk Celebration Committee Seeks Village's Prettiest

The committee in charge of the celebration to be held here on Aug. 1 to commemorate the opening of the new Grand Trunk commuter service is on the look-out for Birmingham's most beautiful girl.

She must be a queen the committee says—a queen in both beauty and bearing, a queen worthy to preside over the brilliant "Pageant of Progress" which will be one of the highlights of the celebration.

In the task of combing the village and its surroundings for the regal personage, the committee will enlist the assistance of the entire community. Nomination ballots will be distributed today in Birmingham business houses, to be filled in with the names of candidates for the honor.

Nominations will be received in the lobby of the Birmingham Theater every afternoon and evening up to July 25. The 10 girls receiving the highest number of nominations will be selected as candidates to be voted on during the week from July 25 to July 31 the voting to be done by the same method as the nominating.

The contest will be open only to unmarried girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24. The person chosen queen will be seated with the other nine girls as maids of honor in one of the floats of the parade which will wind through the village streets on the afternoon of the celebration, ending at the new passenger station where impressive dedication ceremonies will be held.

She and her companion beauties will also be presented from the stage of the Birmingham Theatre both Friday and Saturday nights.

Meanwhile, other plans for bringing from between 50,000 to 100,000 people to Birmingham on the day of the celebration are under way through other branches of the committee.

Copies of a letter now being printed will be sent out this week to every Birmingham business man to ask his suggestion and support in drawing up a list of prizes for every conceivable distinction.

Among those which have already been offered are prizes for the three best floats and the best band in the parade, for the persons coming in the oldest and newest means of transportation, for

(Turn to Page 2, No. 2)

BURTRAW ELECTED POST COMMANDER

Succeeds David H. Thompson As Legionnaire Chief; Other Officers Named

Ernest A. Burtraw, 540 Rivenoak road, was elected commander of the Birmingham post of the American Legion at the annual organization meeting of the post held last night in the Community House. He succeeds David H. Thompson. Other officers were chosen as follows:

Gordon Bailey, first vice-commander; E. W. Osborne, second vice-commander; Joseph F. MacGregor, third vice-commander; David Levinson, adjutant; J. B. Minton, welfare officer; C. L. Misener, sergeant-at-arms; Oscar Peterson, finance officer; Ralph Coryell, chaplain, and Lloyd L. Stanley, historian.

Other business included the reading of the officers' annual reports and discussion of plans for the national convention.

Board Rescinds Act To Boost Golf Fees

The Bloomfield Township Board at its meeting Monday night rescinded its action of April 30 when it voted to raise the greens fees on the Township Park golf course to 50 cents for nine holes of play on week days and $1 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays for non-residents and non-property owners of the township.

Although the increase was voted more than two months ago, after residents of the township had complained the park was over-crowded, the new schedule of fees was never put into effect. Fear that the higher rates would cut down the attendance and thus diminish the revenue to a point where it would seriously affect operations at the park was advanced by Township Supervisor Parry A. Vaughan as the reason why the change was not made.

½ fried chicken on toast, 50c. Dancing, boating, swimming. Rip's, Sylvan Lake on Telegraph Road, Pontiac. Open til 2 A. M. 12-17

HAVE YOU MET?—

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Alberts who moved to Birmingham from Detroit on June 24 and now reside at 940 Harmon avenue. They have four children, Emely, 16 years old; Shirley Audrey, 14; William A., 10; and Georgiana, 3. Mr. Alberts is a realtor with offices in Detroit.

Winners in School Board Election

F. F. McKinney

Earl G. Potter

John E. Martz

Future policies of the Birmingham school system will rest heavily with these three men, winners in the annual School Board election Monday. Mr. McKinney and Mr. Potter were chosen to three-year terms from a field of four candidates, while Mr. Martz was elected over a single opponent to fill a one-year vacancy. Exactly 1255 ballots were cast for an all-time School Board election record.

GRAND TRUNK ADDS 3'D TRAIN

Will Leave Pontiac At 9:50 A. M. In New Suburban Service

The new Grand Trunk commuter service between Pontiac and Detroit will open Aug. 1 with three trains a day each way instead of two, it has been announced by officials of the railroad.

Besides the two trains provided in the original schedule announced last week, a third train will leave Detroit daily at 8:45 A. M., arriving in Pontiac at 9:35 A. M. Southbound, it will leave Pontiac at 9:50 A. M., arriving in Detroit at 10:40 A. M.

The other two trains, both running on a 50-minute schedule each way, will leave Pontiac at 7:40 A. M. and 2:30 P. M., and northbound will leave Detroit at 11 A. M. and 5:20 P. M.

The suburban trains will be in addition to the regular trains, which will continue to run on the present schedule of three trains a day each way.

37 MINUTES FROM BIRMINGHAM

The running time of the suburban trains from Birmingham to Detroit will be 37 minutes, it was announced yesterday by Grand Trunk officials. From Bloomfield Hills to Detroit the running time will be 42 minutes, and from Charing Cross road to Detroit 40 minutes. The complete schedule of service will be found on another page of this issue.

HUNT COLLECTS $946 IN FINES FOR JUNE

A total of $946 in fines was collected from violators of village ordinances during June by Justice of the Peace Malcolm Hunt, his monthly report shows. Of this amount, $695.60 was turned over to the village. Convictions included seven on drunk driving charges.

Rotary Club Trims Exchangites At Golf

The Birmingham Rotary Club defeated the Exchange Club by 19 strokes in the annual golf match between the two groups held yesterday afternoon at the Birmingham Golf Club. By their victory the Rotarians retain possession of the cup which they won for the first time last year after the Exchangites had held it three years in succession.

The match was figured on the basis of the low eight scores of each team. The Rotary team was managed by Elmer Huston and Louis Hascall, while the losers were headed by Lester Slusser and Harry S. Starr. A banquet at the club house followed the match.

Supervisors Adopt Equalization Report

The equalization report for Oakland County presented by Arthur Lamb, supervisor from Farmington township and chairman of the equalization committee of the County Board of Supervisors, was adopted by the Board yesterday afternoon by a vote of 37 to 7. The opposition votes were cast by the seven Pontiac supervisors.

A compromise report submitted by Charles H. Harmon, Pontiac city assessor, was defeated by the same vote by which the other was adopted. Lamb's report places the valuation of the county at $320,000,000. The Harmon report had put the figure at $420,239,710. Harmon left the valuation for Pontiac unchanged, but claimed his city has paid more than its fair share of the tax for many years and increased the valuations in nearly every township.

PAVING CONTRACT TO BE AWARDED MONDAY

The contract for the paving of Lone Pine road from Cranbrook to Orchard Ridge roads is expected to be let at a special meeting of the Bloomfield Hills Village Commission Monday night. Bids were opened June 16 when the lowest estimates were submitted by the Taylor Construction Company of Birmingham on the paving work, and the Fenkell Construction Company of Detroit on the installation of sewers.

BARNUM POOL REMAINS OPEN

Income Only Half Meets Expense, However, Randall Says

Even though the revenue derived from admissions charged to swimmers at Barnum pool during the past two weeks has been only half enough to pay expenses, the pool will remain open indefinitely during the hot weather, it has been announced by Louis Randall, business manager of the Birmingham schools.

Periods for adult swimmers, however, may be abandoned unless the attendance picks up within the next few days, he indicated. The schedule for the remainder of this week however, will remain as before.

"Even though the income has met only approximately half the expense, we plan to keep the pool open a little while yet, at least, as long as the hot weather continues," Mr. Randall said. "We may find it necessary to re-arrange the schedule of periods, perhaps closing the pool entirely in the evenings."

The average attendance at the periods for both boys and girls has been about 40 every afternoon since the pool was opened two weeks ago for a trial of the admission fee method of meeting expenditures.

Attendance at the adult sessions, however, has been consistently low, he said, despite attempts to increase patronage, especially at the men's periods, through service clubs and other organizations.

The schedule on which the pool has been running during the past week and which will be continued for at least the remainder of this week is as follows:

Boys—2 to 3:30 P. M. every afternoon except Sunday.

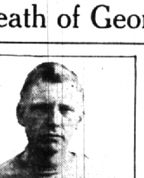
Girls—3:30 to 5 P. M. every afternoon except Sunday.

Men—5 to 6:30 P. M. Monday and Friday.

Women—8 to 9:30 P. M. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Trunks sent to and from Detroit Railway station. Special Rates.
SHAW BROS. GARAGE 136 Brownell
Adv. 26tf

Village Mourns Death of George F. Johnson



George F. Johnson

Youth and age joined yesterday in paying a last glowing tribute to the memory of one of Birmingham's most characterful men and for more than a decade one of the most powerful influences for good among the community's younger generations.

George F. Johnson director of athletics at Baldwin High School from 1926 to 1930 was laid to his final resting place in Greenwood Cemetery while there mourned alike for his passing the men who knew and loved him and the youth he served.

Known and respected as both coach and leader, and best noted for his development of winning football teams at Baldwin, Johnson died at 2:40 A. M. Monday from an illness which first seized him in January, 1930, and which finally forced his retirement from active duties at the school last fall in the midst of the football season.

Olivet Graduate

He was 35 years old and for 31 years had made Birmingham his home. Graduating in 1915 from the high school whose athletic destinies he was later to direct, he entered Olivet College where he received his degree in physical education after winning outstanding success as an athlete.

Later he did post graduate work at Illinois and Ohio State Universities, and served in the World War as a member of the 163rd Depot Brigade, Camp Dodge. He was married on Oct. 22, 1919, to Francine Brown, at Armada.

Receiving his appointment as director of athletics and senior session room teacher at Baldwin in 1926, he began immediately the upbuilding of a football team which for three years was one of the most powerful elevens in the Southeastern Athletic Association.

Coached Other Sports

His best record was established in 1928 when his team scored nine victories as against three defeats. During his four years of coaching he won 23 games, lost 12 and tied seven. His teams scored 448 points to their opponents' 321.

He also served at various times as coach of basketball, baseball and track teams, and his success at developing winning squads in each of these sports was almost as great as it was in football.

His teams were noted for clean sportsmanship just as his own character stood for clean living. Profanity, often one of the accepted accompaniments of the gridiron, was seldom used by any of his players, not, as one of his most intimate friends expressed it yesterday, "because he made any campaign against it but simply because his players felt that it would be out of place in his presence."

Studied the Individual

As a coach his habit was to take into consideration the individual boy as a psychological problem and not as a cog in a machine. He studied continuously each player's own individual problems, abilities and shortcomings, and from his study made deductions which were generally faultless in their accuracy.

Free expressions of genuine sorrow at the passing of an upright and forceful character were forthcoming from his faculty as-

(Turn to Page 2, No. 4)

BOARD NAMES CLARK TOWNSHIP JUSTICE

Albert A. Clark, Adams and East Long Lake roads, was appointed justice of the peace for Bloomfield Township at the meeting of the Township Board Monday night. His appointment, which becomes effective at once, is to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Parry A. Vaughan when he was elected township supervisor last spring. The appointment will terminate next spring when the post will be filled permanently by election.

PLAN AID TO RE-OPEN BANK

Stockholders, Depositors Of First State Institution Call Meetings

Stockholders and depositors of the recently closed First State Savings Bank here will hold meetings next week in Baldwin High School auditorium to select committees of three each to work with the directors and receiver in formulating a plan to re-open the bank at the earliest possible date. This announcement was given out yesterday by Thomas H. Cobb, president of the bank.

The stockholders' meeting will be held next Monday night, and the depositors' meeting the following night. According to Mr. Cobb, final details of the proposed plan for re-opening should be ready by Aug. 15.

In the meantime Charles W. Lee temporary receiver, is continuing in charge of the bank's affairs. A hearing for the appointment of a permanent receiver will be held next Monday morning before Judge Frank L. Doty in Pontiac.

Eugene Parmenter, former teller in the bank who pleaded guilty to embezzling $25,500 of the bank's funds, and was to have been sentenced last Thursday, is still held in the county jail. Parmenter was brought to Birmingham yesterday for the first time since his arrest to aid in checking up his losses, it is reported.

An informal meeting of depositors was held last Friday night, when A. L. Moses, a director, explained the bank's position. Among those present were F. F. McKinney, Fred J. Douglass, Frank E. Sternal, Stanley Peabody, John Maynard and E. J. O'Sullivan.

Mr. Lee, present temporary receiver, would issue no statement this week other than to nod assent to interrogations that he was doing all he could to conserve the bank's assets.

ADMITS HOLDUP OF STOREKEEPER

Garland Rae Pleads Guilty To Robbery Here In 1929

Arrest in Pontiac Tuesday of Garland Rae, 29 years old, formerly of Birmingham, brought to an end a 20-month search for the gunman who held up and robbed Vern Ward, manager of the C. F. Smith grocery store at 576 East Lincoln avenue on Nov. 9, 1929.

Rae pleaded guilty to robbery armed when arraigned yesterday before Circuit Judge F. L. Covert. He will be sentenced Monday.

He confessed to members of the Pontiac and Birmingham police forces that he was the man who hid in Ward's car and waited for the latter to emerge from the store with the day's receipts. At the point of a gun he forced Ward to hand over a money bag containing about $9 in cash.

The revolver used in the robbery he confessed he had stolen from Harry Reynolds, Birmingham taxi driver, a few days before. The gun was in his possession at the time of his arrest. Police said he also admitted breaking into the Birmingham Lumber Company several times and stealing small amounts of cash.

Rae lived in Birmingham until about a year ago when he moved to Pontiac. Police say he has served two jail terms for assault and battery.

Women Golfers In State Semi-Finals

Mrs. Stewart Hanley of Oakland Hills will meet Mrs. William Chesbrough of Detroit Country Club, and Mrs. Harley J. Higbie will meet Mrs. William McGivern, both of Detroit, in the semi-finals of the Women's state golf tournament at Oakland Hills today.

In the quarter finals yesterday Mrs. Hanley, the defending title holder, defeated Mrs. Sidney R. Small of Detroit Country Club, 2 and 1; Mrs. Chesbrough defeated Mrs. John Arends, also of Detroit, 3 and 1; Mrs. Higbie defeated Mrs. T. G. Harris of Grosse Ile, 4 and 3; and Mrs. McGivern defeated Mrs. G. J. Sprague of Lochaven, 2 and 1.

IS YOUR SAFE INSURED AGAINST BURGLARY?
Household and Store Burglaries are becoming common. Insurance against it is not as yet expensive. Ask us about this and any other form of Casualty Insurance, also Fire, Tornado and Auto.
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POTTER, MARTZ, M'KINNEY WIN SCHOOL POSTS

1255 Votes Cast In Largest Poll; Majorities Are Big

PALMER NAMED HEAD

F. F. McKinney, Earl G. Potter and John E. Martz were swept into office on the Birmingham Board of Education Monday on the crest of the largest vote ever polled in a School Board election. A total of 1255 votes were cast. Mr. McKinney and Mr. Potter were elected for three-year terms, while Mr. Martz was chosen to fill a one-year vacancy.

Although all three victorious candidates won by healthy majorities, the election climaxed one of the most heated campaigns in School Board history.

Mr. McKinney and Mr. Martz, runing on the same ticket supported by an independent group of parents of school children, polled the highest number of votes.

Large Vote Split

For the three-year term, Mr. McKinney received 678 ballots and Mr. Potter, his nearest rival, 642. Mr. Potter, already a member of the board, having been appointed to fill an unexpired vacancy last May, was supported unofficially by the Pierce Parent-Teacher Association.

VOTING DOUBLES

The 1255 votes cast in Monday's election was the largest number ever polled in a similar campaign, and more than twice as many as usual in a School Board election. A record of the voting during the past six years shows that only 536 votes were cast in 1925, 318 in 1926, 573 in 1927, 26 in 1928, 441 in 1929 and 410 in 1930. For several hours Monday evening the long downstairs corridor in Baldwin High School was lined on both sides with voters waiting to cast their ballots.

The large vote controlled by the Barnum Parent-Teacher Association split between two candidates, failed to elect either. Joseph C. Huston, the official candidate of the association, ran third in the race for the three-year terms with 473 votes, while Joseph R. Dalley, vice-president of the association who entered the election after the organization had already announced its sponsorship of Mr. Huston's candidacy, was fourth with 330.

Mr. Martz received 737 votes for the one-year term. His only opponent was Charles S. Kinnison, an independent candidate, who polled 447 votes.

Palmer Named President

At the annual meeting of the board following the election, Ray

(Turn to Page 2, No. 1)

PAVING COST PUT AT $9150

Village's Share In Eton Road Job Would Be $2534, Parry Reports

Improvement of Eton road from Yosemite to Webster streets with an 18-foot concrete road, as requested by the State Highway Department in a petition presented to the Village Commission July 6, will cost approximately $9,150, it was estimated in a report of the project made to the Commission Monday night by Village Manager James W. Parry.

The report was accepted and the Commission called a hearing on declaring a special assessment district in the area of the proposed improvement to be held Monday, July 27.

If the plans are adopted and the assessment district established, the cost to the village, according to the report, will be about $2534.73 or one-sixth of the total

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Look In The WANT ADS Each Week

SAVE time and money by finding things you need . . . rooms, apartments, homes, household furnishings . . . conveniently listed in the Want Ad columns.

The Birmingham Eccentric