

Villagers and Village

Damage to the village by last Friday's storm was relatively slight. This Wanderer observed. Two trees were blown down—one on Brown street and the other on Merrill—porch swings were loosened and dead branches cluttered the lawns, but there were no injuries and actual destruction was negligible.

The darkness was more terrifying than the storm itself. Old residents of the village said they had never seen it so dark in the daytime before, and two rubbish fires in different sections of the community showed off so plainly that whole houses were reported burning down and the village fire department was kept frantically busy all during the storm answering false alarms.

One other minor disturbance occurred on Woodward avenue near Maple when the high wind carried one of the village's big metal waste baskets from one side of the street to the other.

The heat wave means nothing to kids in the vicinity of the Municipal Building except a good chance to get soaking wet. The village fire department furnishes the water through its very biggest hose, wearing apparel consists of anything from trunks up to full bathing suits, the hours are any time the firemen think there is no limit. Hop in!

There is at least one taxicab driver in Birmingham who deserves a place in the hall of fame for chivalry. This Wanderer observes. He was hailed one evening recently by a belated commuter who had missed her bus with the request that he catch up to it at the waiting room. He complied nobly and won by a neck; then astonished his passenger by refusing to take the preferred fare.

"No mam," he told her, "I'm just glad when I can help a lady!"

The possessor of a lovely Birmingham garden was overjoyed in morning recently to find an unusually large and beautiful Magnolia in bloom. All more-

SOCIAL BRIEFS

is danger of an over-supply in one industry, it simply shifts a number to another.

See Rival For U. S. "But what about the freedom of the worker?" Mr. Hadjisky was asked.

"The first place," he replied, "the Russians have a different notion of freedom than we have here in America. When you ask them about freedom they say: 'Who is the freer man, the one who is allowed to follow his adopted trade as long as there is work, but who is apt to find himself out of a job any time, or the man who is provided with steady work all the time, even though at different trades?'"

A country like Russia, with vast natural resources exploited and a great deal of industrial achievement, Mr. Hadjisky believes, the United States," he pointed out, "many articles have to be produced at 20 percent of the retail price. The additional 80 percent is consumed by advertising, destructive competition, financial speculation, and such economic leakages are unknown in Russia where materials, labor and transportation charges constitute the only costs."

Discusses Convict Labor. Mr. Hadjisky declined to make any concluding statements on the question of convict labor for which Russia has been most severely condemned. He said that his conclusions on the matter are impossibly without the aid of authentic statistics.

"The impression one gets," he said, "is that there are fewer prisoners in Russia than in the United States. In Russia, nearly one half of the population leads a life of poverty and such a policeman has no part in the average man's affairs. The people in the interior generally settle their differences in their own way, much as we did in the United States in our pioneer days."

"The prisons have been almost completely emptied. The Soviet government has realized that there is an immense waste in sending law-breakers to jail where they are kept and can produce nothing either for the support of their families or to cover the cost of the institution in which they are confined, so now the offender is disciplined by being made to work over time without pay."

No High Wages. "A murderer, for instance, is forced to produce enough to support not only his own family but the family of the man he has killed as well. As a matter of fact, this method of punishment in jails and prisons, and has considerably lessened crime in Russia. Such are the cases of dangerous criminals needing psychopathic care, they are treated like sick men who should be, and not, as in the United States, thrown indiscriminately into jail with occasional offenders."

Wage scales in Russia, Mr. Hadjisky explained, are determined much as they are in the United States, except that high salaries for workers in executive positions are almost unknown.

"The average worker is paid 100 rubles a month, which is \$10. The ruble has no value in the international exchange. Its worth in Russia can be estimated only by a comparison of the prices paid for the simple commodities of life. Breading in mind that one ruble is divided into 100 kopecks, bread sells for 3 1/2 kopecks a pound, meat for 4 kopecks a pound, sugar for 29 kopecks and butter for 1 1/2."

Professors' Wages Highest. "Signed workers are paid more than 100 rubles in proportion to the importance of the work they do at the highest salaries do not go much above 500 or 500 rubles a month. There are perhaps a dozen professors who are paid as high as 600 or 700 rubles, but their cases are so rare and are taken so seriously that a special government dispensation is necessary to approve their wage."

"The average Russian worker is so wrapped up in the progress of the five-year plan, and is so much concerned about his share in it, that he has no time for Communist and Socialism no longer has any part in his thoughts, Mr. Hadjisky declared.

"Several times I have approached Russian workmen and attempted to engage them in conversation about Communism," he said, "but each time the worker would only wave me aside with the statement that he was too busy to talk about that now."

Plan Is Paramount. "The Russian workmen are taking a patriotic interest in the success of the five-year plan—so much so, in fact, that nothing else seems to matter. Conditions there are as much as they were in the United States during the World War when we drove ourselves to the limit for a patriotic cause. Will the Russians stand up under

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Thurber of Oak street returned Tuesday from a sojourn on the Pacific coast. Their son, Thomas L. Thurber, Jr., who accompanied them, returned Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville H. Foster, Jr., of Arlington drive, is planning to leave next week for Cleveland, O., where he will visit friends. Mr. Foster is leaving this weekend for Grand Rapids to be gone a week.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Little of Dunwoody road will be guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Dawson of Palmer Woods on their yacht for a few days. Prescott Little returned last week from the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lefebvre in Oakville, Ont. where he was the guest at a house party.

Mrs. Fred D. Farrar of Brown street returned Tuesday from Chicago, where she attended the funeral of her mother, Mrs. J. E. Hinder. Mrs. Farrar with Mr. Farrar and their daughters, Virginia Crain and Mary Caroline, will leave Friday by motor for Benton Harbor where they will be guests of Mrs. Farrar's father, Dr. J. E. Farrar. Accompanying them as far as Saginaw will be Mr. Farrar's mother, Mrs. Frank L. Farrar, and her daughter in law, Mrs. J. E. Farrar.

Mr. and Mrs. James Vernon, Jr., are closing their home on Lapeer road for the summer. They left Sunday for Lapeer to open their summer home next Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Clayton of Oakland avenue will have as her guest Miss Marguerite, Coe of Toledo, O., over the week-end. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton and their guest will attend the dinner dance at the Orchard Lake Country Club Saturday.

Mr. Robert E. Clayton returned Wednesday from a business trip to New York.

Mr. T. B. Smith of Pine Lake entertained the Maple Ridge Club at a luncheon last Friday.

Division No. 3 of the Presbyterian Women's Union, Mrs. Oscar Miller, chairman, was entertained at a charming luncheon served on the lawn at the home of Mrs. Fred R. Hoop of Willett street last Wednesday. Each table was graced by an individual bouquet of one particular flower, pansies, poppies, bachelor buttons and roses being used for the distinctive arrangements. The luncheon was followed by a brief business meeting and program. This affair marked the close of the group's activities for the summer months.

Mrs. Sarah Campbell of Purdy street attended the commencement exercises at Michigan State College last week, witnessing the graduation of her son-in-law, Verne Stokman, of Grand Lodge, Mich., received his master's degree. Mrs. Campbell returned Saturday accompanied by her daughters, Mrs. Stokman and her grandson, Paul Gaylon, who will spend a few weeks at her guests.

William Melroy of Ann street spent last week in Minneapolis on a business trip.

Howard Miller of Holly arrived Sunday to spend a few days as the guest of his brother, Dalton Miller, of Frank Street, and also of Herbert Hopkins.

Mrs. Perry A. Vaughan of Vaughn Road will be hostess Thursday. She is the Order of Eastern Stars at a pot-luck luncheon and card party which will be held on the lawn of the estate. Members and their friends are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Adams of Adams road had as their guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. William Hutchinson of Detroit.

Miss Loretta Torritt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Porritt of Adams road, will leave next Tuesday for Chicago where she will be the guest of Mrs. Meyer Phillips, formerly Miss Sophie Feltman, and Mrs. Catherine Sliger, a former classmate at National Park Seminary.

Mr. and Mrs. Prentice Mark Smith of Floyd street were dinner guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Carter of Ann street.

Mrs. D. C. Murray of Pilgrim road left last Monday for New York City. She is expected to return the end of the week.

Miss Margaret Kollig of Saginaw returned to her home in Saginaw last Wednesday following a visit with Miss Betty Howell, of Iverson road. Miss O'Dell entertained in honor of her guest at tea in her home last Monday. Miss Kollig was also the honoree at a luncheon given by Miss Frances Murray at the Orchard Lake Country Club last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Lander of the city returned home Friday to be the guests of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. L. Z. Lander of Yorkshire road.

Miss Lilah Johnson of Brown street had her guests over the week-end. Miss Vivienne Fratcher of South Bend, Ind., and Mr. Bart Tamblyn of Houghton, Mich.

Miss Frances Skinner of Town and avenue is spending the summer with her nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Stowers Skinner, on their ranch at Mountain, Colo., near Colorado Springs.

To meet her mother, Mrs. Willard Holman of Chicago, Mrs. Morris M. Halsted of Dorchester road, and her sister, Mrs. Halsted, will leave for their luncheon Wednesday. Mrs. Holman is the house guest of her daughter.

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