Another Memorial Day has wended its saddened way down the stricken corridors of time, and we who live on are made mindful of the terrors of human hatred when they inflame into a war.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART THREE

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR—NO. 9 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1931 | $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

SEEKS SCHOOL COMPARISONS

Board Of Education Opens Survey Of Conditions In Other Communities

A questionnaire designed to furnish a body of comparative figures and data on the equipment, methods, policies, teachers' salaries, per capita costs and other aspects of the school systems in several communities of the Detroit area as well as in many suburbs of large cities in other states has been sent out by Clarence Vliet, superintendent of the Birmingham schools, at the suggestion of the Board of Education.

The information was requested of board members by a group of Birmingham women who drew up some of the actual questions used in the survey. Answers to the questionnaire are expected to be returned within the next two weeks, after which the full results of the survey will be published in The Eccentric.

Ten questions are on the list as follows:

1. Name basic texts in reading, history, spelling, arithmetic and geography.

2. What was your per capita pupil cost based on enrollment for 1929-30, excluding new building costs?
   A. Grades K, 1 to 6
   B. Grades 7, 8 and 9
   C. Grades 10, 11 and 12

3. What was your average enrollment per teacher in 1929-30 for each of the various grades?

4. Do you employ a business manager? What is his salary? If not, who does the buying? Who attends to bills and payrolls? Who supervises janitors and buildings?

5. What was the average salary of your teachers, excluding principals and superintendent, for 1929-30 in each of the various grades?

6. What system of salary increase do you use?

7. Is it your policy to obtain teachers from any normal school or several?

8. Give your city population for each year for the past five years.

9. What percentage of your budget has been used for financing building programs for each year for the past five years?

10. What percentage of your budget was used each year for instruction and supplies for the past five years?

Schools in the Detroit area to which the questionnaire was sent include Highland Park, Hamtramck, Grosse Pointe, Ann Arbor, Dearborn, River Rouge, Mt. Clemens, Ferndale, Fordson, Royal Oak.

The questionnaire was also submitted to several communities in other sections of the country which like Birmingham, are situated within short distances of large cities, are residential rather than commercial in character, and therefore are apt to be confronted with school problems which are in many respects more comparable to those in Birmingham than are those of other communities in this area.

These suburbs, which were questioned at the suggestion of the same group of women who instigated the survey, include the following:

Shaker Heights, O.; Cleveland Heights, O.; Mt. Clair, N. J.; East Orange, N. J.; Winetka, Ill., and Scarsdale, N. Y.

FRED LINCOLN NAMED TOWNSHIP CONSTABLE

The Bloomfield Township Board at its meeting Monday night appointed Fred Lincoln as township constable to serve as watchman and patrolman of the district bounded by West Maple avenue, Franklin, Quarton and Cranbrook roads.

Mr. Lincoln had been serving privately as watchman of estates in the district for the past three years. His new appointment, according to James V. Bayley, township clerk, invests him with authority to make arrests, but does not place him on the township payroll. His remuneration will still come privately from the estates in the district, Mr. Bayley said.

A Picturesque Setting

In Bloomfield Village, this Farmhouse type Colonial of brick and frame painted white, surrounded by old gnarled apple and pear trees makes a beautiful picture. One enters a center hall from which there leads a winding stair to the second floor hall—3 bedrooms, a dressing room, a servants' sitting room and 3 baths. From a bright living room with Colonial fireplace one walks thru French doors onto a covered porch. There is a secluded library finished in knotty pine, a breakfast room, a kitchen sink with drain boards 12 feet long, a Silent Automatic Oil Burner, Everhot water heater, gas incinerator, clothes chute, cedar closet, numerous radio plugs, a spacious recreation room, with large fireplace. You will enjoy visiting this home.

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Europaragraphs

By W. Stoddard White

(Another installment of notes from an Eccentric reporter now on a 12,000-mile motor tour of the principal countries of Europe)

—o—

One of the most novel locations for a hotel was ours in Genoa, birthplace of the gentleman given so much credit in connection with the discovery of America. This hotel was on the highest hill in the city, overlooking the harbor. After climbing three flights of wide marble steps we reached the building wherein the hotel was located and then took an elevator five floors up to rooms which were the highest in the city (highest from point of altitude, not price). The interesting part of the room was that it was one of three in the same building. It occupied the upper three floors. Another occupied two and the smallest one had the ground floor.

—o—

The Corniche drives along the Mediterranean near Nice are justly famous in our estimation, but they are difficult to drive for one unused to the road. Though the pavement is excellent, there are innumerable curves and tunnels of which a driver must be wary. We were rewarded, however, by a view (a few miles west of the Italian frontier) of the entire principality of Monaco and the casinos of Monte Carlo, seen from a height that made it look like an airplane view. The principality comprises eight square miles; there are no taxes on the inhabitants, as the casino supports the government; and the inhabitants may not play in the casinos.

—o—

Slightly less true in Italy than in France, but still holding nevertheless is the sharp division in hours of the classes of people. Life is on two planes—one for the class that goes to work at 6 A. M. and one for that that lives in more generous surroundings and leaves for work at 9. It is impossible in a hotel, or virtually impossible to get a valet before 9. In addition the business-man leads a comparatively easy life. His day starts at 9 or 10 A. M. and he works until noon. From 12 until 1:30 or 2 he puts up the shutters for lunch and a nap and then returns to the shop or office for the afternoon until 4 or sometimes as late as 5.

—o—

Every package bought in a French or Italian store is tied in such a manner that a small string handle is left conveniently for the purchaser.

—o—

We received several Italian 10-centesimi pieces in France and were told that they were no good, but had no trouble in keeping them in circulation. What was our surprise then on reaching Italy to find that one store refused to accept them! Money of many countries circulates in France. While there I received in change money of Italy, Tunisia, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

—o—

Uniforms are seen everywhere on the Italian streets, particularly in Rome. In addition to the common soldiers in their olive-green coats and knickers, with small feathered caps set jauntily on their heads, one sees everywhere the carabineri, or national police, who look like admirals with their huge Napoleonic hats, much gold braid, scarlet or violet stripes down their trousers and long polished dress-swords; Fascisti officers with black shirts decorated with red emblems and silver braid; police with white helmets and breeches tucked American-fashion into cavalry boots; and military bands everywhere. One of the most spectacular of these was one which rode motorcycles (believe it or not!) in one of the numerous motor and bicycle squads. Another was playing when we arrived in the center of Rome for the changing of guards at the royal palace.

—o—

A rather touching scene was enacted for us in the striking black-and-white striped cathedral of Siena, north of Rome. A woman came in, leading by the hand a little boy of perhaps six years. Evidently the woman was not his mother; he held in his hand a tall candle which he carried reverently to the candelabra in front of an altar. Here at her whispered command he knelt and, crossing himself, spoke a small prayer for the one who had died. Then a kindly spectator took the candle from the lad and, lighting it, placed it high on the candelabra.

—o—

One of the most kindly persons we have met so far on this trip was the old German monk who conducted us through the vaulted church of St. Chiara at Assisi, home of the famous St. Francis. The monk, who spoke not only his native tongue and Italian, but English and French as well with fluency, was evidently pleased to find someone in the party who could speak German and left us with repeated assertions that "the Fatherland was the only country to visit."

—o—

At the more famous church of the little city we were conducted through the crypt, the sacristy, and the curious double church proper by an American monk, who, though speaking Italian sufficiently well, had not forgotten the Boston "shanty-Irish" dialect that led him to point out "that there purty statue" or "that there elegant painting."

—o—

From Assisi we headed for Perugia, second only to Siena in size and importance among the hill-towns. Here we were fortunate enough to be quartered in a hotel high on a hill which overlooked the valley back 12 miles to St. Francis' home. We are still unaware of our residence there. Two hotels and a pension under the same management were quartered side-by-side; the pension was not apparent, and probably existed only in name for those who stayed there on that plan. Closet hangers bore the name of one hotel; silverware of both; towels of the pension. In the morning the bill bore the name of the pension, but the rare stickers attached to our suitcases were of the largest of the three establishments.

—o—

At Florence, the beautiful city on the Arno which is the mecca of shoppers in Italy, I had a most interesting and enlightening experience. In a large garage I had ordered the tightening of a nut on the car's name-plate to prevent its moving about. At the finish of the brief work I gave the proprietor, who spoke English a two-lira coin and asked for change that I might give the workman a small tip, which is customary and expected. What was my surprise to have him call the workman and present him with the coin, ten times the amount of the tip expected, and thank me profusely.

Here let me say that a two-lira piece is equivalent to an American dime in actual money value but to much more to an Italian. The customary tip for the work I had ordered is only one or two cents. The workman undoubtedly went home that night and told his family of the millionaire American who lavished silver on poor natives for such minor services.

—o—

Though passing out of custom, tips still everywhere abound for many services that we would consider worth nothing. A minor coin is expected by a gas station attendant for honoring the motorist by selling him "benzina," at a bar or the nearest equivalent to our soda-fountain 10 percent is customarily given the clerk even if the drink is taken at the counter. I have mentioned that theatez ushers receive a few coppers, and of course so do the small unofficial guides who attach themselves to your car on a tour about an Italian city.

—o—

The American car and its occupants are everywhere in Italy a curiosity to the small boys, who appear to spring out of the ground like the warriors of the Greek myth. No sooner do we halt at a gas station or near some corner than a crowd gathers around, intent on observing with unabashed stare our entire party and outfit.

Such a group of young Italians of about 12 or 13 years gathered around us as we stopped for gas on the outskirts of Padua. It developed that they were studying languages in school. Several knew English, two French, and almost all a few German words picked up from tourists. We enjoyed their conversation and good-bys in several languages.

—o—

At Florence we saw and shopped on the Ponte Vecchio, which, along with several other bridges in the world, has become famous for the shops which line its sides. Later in Venice we stayed at a hotel within stone's throw of the Ponte Rialto, which is even more remarkable for its high arched construction that gives the shops the appearance of clinging to it in fear of sliding off. It was the Rialto Bridge at Venice where the notorious Shylock held forth in "The Merchant of Venice."

—o—

What seems almost like preparations for war are observed in the huge airdrome and army field near Padua. Along the back motor-road that we took we saw three big aviation hangars completely camouflaged with war-time colors intended to deceive enemy observes. Here too were large ammunition dumps and an artillery and infantry base. As is the case with all such government projects, it is forbidden to make photographs, and entry is refused to foreigners, we learned.

Rain Brings Postponement Of Boy Scout "Jamboree"

The Boy Scout field day and "jamboree" for Birmingham district troops which was to have been held at Barnum field Saturday was called off on account of rain. At a meeting of district officials Monday night it was decided to hold the "jamboree" at the same place Saturday, June 20, when the same schedule of events will be held.

Classified Ads should be in The Eccentric office not later than four o'clock Wednesday afternoon of each week. —Adv. 5tf

STAFF SIGNS DESPITE CUT

Pay Reduced, Birmingham Teachers Nevertheless Agree To Return

Even though teachers in the Birmingham schools next year will receive approximately 5 percent less pay than they did in 1930-31, due to the action of the School Board in reducing the school year from 10 to 9½ months as an economy measure by which $10,000 will be saved, the entire staff has agreed to return next fall.

Teachers who wished to remain for the 1931-32 term had been asked by Superintendent Clarence Vliet to return their contracts signed by Monday. The deadline saw 129 signed contracts returned, representing the entire present teaching and administration staff with the exception of 14 teachers whose positions were abolished as a result of the board's action about six weeks ago by which an additional $20,000 in salaries will be saved.

"We expect there will be the usual number of withdrawals during the summer," Mr. Vliet said, "but at present the list is intact." It has always been the policy of the board, he explained, to allow teachers to break their contracts on 30-day notice before the school term begins.

The entire list of 1931-32 appointments follows:

ADMINISTRATION
Hill Building

Clarence Vliet, Superintendent.
Louis M. Randall, Business Manager.
Rachael Peterson, Clerk.
Emma Christensen, Nurse.
Nellie Williams, Child Accounting.
Gertrude Cronin, Supply.

Baldwin Building

Senior High School—Junior High School
Marvin C. Hartl, Principal.
W. S. Teotharker, Science.
Arnold Berndt, Band and Orchestra.
Miles Robinson, Manual Training.
Ethel Waterman, Junior Session Room.
Ernest Engle, Mechanical Drawing.
Mabie Stickle, French.
Mae Brumsted, Music.
Ariz Horwath, English.
Merle Taylor, Mathematics.
Lois Hicks, English, Spanish.
Golda Holecheck, History.
Vida McGiffin, English.
Hazel Schaible, Commercial.
Frieda Huggett, Science.
Ruth Hull, Latin.
Carol Darling, Latin.
Dorothy Allen, English.
Ethel Hughes, Commercial.
Eleanor Miller, Sewing.
Grace Carruthers, Cooking.
Eugene Hubbard, Science.
Frances Stephenson, Physical Education.
Charlotte Wood, Librarian.

Adams Building

Junior High School
E. Morris Cooke, Principal.
Muriel Brusie, Latin.
Ella S. Sergard, Mathematics.
Aitema Reace, Mathematics.
Delia Wilson, Science.
Ann Corrigonni, English.
Gladys Rogers, History.
Donald B. Joy, Physical Education.
Louise Stoner, Domestic Art and Science.
Jeanette Krickard, Physical Education.
Merlynn Smiley, Manual Arts.
Helen Kidder, Art.
Edith Coryell, Music.
Alberta Beer, Clerk and Librarian.

Grades

Ruth Simmons, Grade 6A.
Dorothy Anderson, Grade 6B.
Alice McManus, Grades 5A-6B.
Marion Buckley, Grades 3B-3A.
Hattie Skinner, Grades 1A-5B.
Marion Galbraith, Grade 1B-4A.
Evelyn Ellis, Grade 4B.
Orpha Mochimer, Grades 3B-3A.
Dagmar Newstead, Grade 3B.
Carol Stanton, Grade 3A.
Marion Smith, Grade 2B.
Ruth Shields, Grades 2A-2B.
LeVina Vincent, Grades 1B-1A.
Mable Brown, Grade 1B.
Elfreda Sturm, Kindergarten.
Margaret Hendrick, Art.
Edith Coryell, Music.

Barnum Building

Junior High School
Howard D. Crull, Principal.
Maude MacMichael, Latin and Social Science.
Isabel Foreman, English.
Gertrude Herrick, Mathematics.
Lyla McCormick, English.
Geraldine Foguith, English.
Vivian Boyer, Mathematics and Geography.
Ernest Engle, Boys' Physical Education and Swimming.
Miriam Brown, Girls' Physical Education and Swimming.
Alfred Schalm, Manual Training.
Helen Kidder, Art.
Edith Coryell, Music.

Grades

Edwina Detsler, Grades 6B-6A.
Ella Cross, Grades 5A-6B.
Alfreda Purchase, Grades 5B.
Josephine Bristol, Grades 4B-4A.
Charmian Cornwell, Grades 3A-4B.
Vivian Struble, Grade 3B.
Eleanor Marchant, Grades 2B-2A.
Dorothy Barth, Grades 1A-2B.
Mabel Lownsbury, Grade 1B.
Dena Halbeck, Kindergarten.
Edith Coryell, Music.
Margaret Hendrick, Art.
Helen Lockwood, Clerk and Librarian.

Pierce Building

Grades

Ruth Shomin, Principal.
Ethel Tanis, Grades 6A and 6B.
Marion Robinson, Grades 5A-5B.
Paula Hartman, Grades 4A-4B.
Anna Kilohn, Grades 3A-3B.
Leta McMullen, Grades 3B-2A.
Ione McCoy, Grades 2B-1A.
Annette Boden, Kindergarten.
Margaret Hendrick, Art.
Mae Brumsted, Music.
Jeanette Krickard, Physical Education.

Quarton Building

Grades

Magdalene Frederick, Principal.
LaReida Forest, Grades 6B-6A.
Violet Hansen, Grades 5A-5B.
Helen Gross, Grades 5B-5A.
Irene Reid, Grades 4B-4A.
Mary Cowper, Grades 3A-3B.
Mildred Halstead, Grades 2A-3B.
Mary Binkle, Grades 2B-2A.
Dorothy Lundquist, Grades 1B-1A.
Georgia Duncan, Kindergarten.
Margaret Hendrick, Art.
Mae Brumsted, Music.
Frances Stephenson, Physical Education.

Will Attend Convention

Miss Ruth Phelps, assistant librarian at Baldwin Public Library, is panning to attend the annual convention of the American Library Association to be held in New Haven, Conn., June 22-27.

Quits Golf Play To Succeed Father As Links Builder

How he was forced to give up a pursuit of a possible amateur golf championship to follow in the tracks of his father as a golf course builder of wide reputation is a story which attaches itself quite naturally to a 24-year-old newcomer to Birmingham.

He is William Connellan, Jr., who moved here only recently with his mother and three sisters from Grosse Ile, where his father died last fall, after a life-time served as one of America's recognized pioneers in golf course construction.

Now the business has fallen to the younger Connellan, who finds little time except for laying out for others the game he loves so well himself and at which he might one day have been a champion. Too modest to talk much about it, he mentions only "a few local tournaments," won mostly in Florida two years ago, but the fact that he still plays in the Detroit district with a handicap of one is testimony that his prowess is not yet forgotten.

Built 54 Courses

"But I don't have enough time for it anymore," he says. "To be a really good player you've got to practice every day, and this work keeps me far too busy for that."

Just now Connellan is active in caring for three different courses which he previously built—the Mount Vernon Women's course at Rochester, Sunnybrook at Utica and Bald Mountain at Orion. Actual golf course construction is almost negligible this year, he says, but the work of maintenance is always pressing.

Before his death last fall, the senior Connellan, during his more than 35 years of activity in golf course construction and maintenance, either laid out directly or aided in the construction and upkeep of 54 courses in different parts of the country.

28 In Detroit Area

Of these, 10 were in the Massachusetts district, nine in the New York district, nine in the Philadelphia district and 28 in the Detroit district. Among the latter are included Bloomfield Hills, Oakland Hills, Detroit Golf Club, Forest Lake, Indianwood, Orchard Lake, Birmingham Golf Club, Bob-o-Link and Brooklands.

"It takes just about a year to lay out the average 18-hole course," the younger Connellan says, "using about 20 men and from 15 to 20 teams of horses. The cost ranges from $50,000 to $150,000.

"Fun? Well, I guess so; although there's a lot of grief connected with it, just as with anything else."

The Connellans are living at 760 Fairfax road. At home now besides William Jr., and the mother are three sisters, Dorothy and Peggy, both students at Baldwin High School; and Mildred, a graduate of Michigan State Normal School. William Jr., was graduated from Michigan State College.

Another son, Thomas, is now a freshman at the University of Michigan, while the oldest of the six children, Ruth, is married and lives in Cleveland.

Birmingham Rotary Club Entertained By Ventriloquist

A demonstration in ventriloquism, presented by Karel M. Rickerson, local advertsing agent, entertained members of the Birmingham Rotary Club at their regular weekly meeting Monday noon in the Community House.

With the aid of "Sambo," a miniature wax figure which appeared almost animate in its master's hands, Mr. Rickerson passed off several amusing jokes at the expense of various members of the club and kept his audience in continuous good humor.

The Baldwin High School band, playing under the direction of A. W. Berndt, director of instrumental music in the Birmingham schools, played a 45-minute program during the meal which was highly applauded.

Plans were announced for the annual golf tournament between the Birmingham Rotary and Exchange Clubs at the Birmingham Golf Club Wednesday, June 17.

Subscribe to The Eccentric, $2.00 per year. Two years, $3.50.

4 ARRESTED AFTER CHASE

Girl Driver Leads Officers To Ferndale At 60-Mile Clip

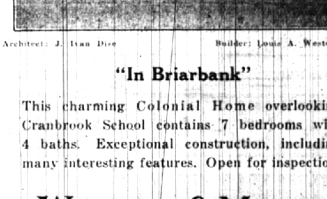
Two youths, a man, and an 18-year-old girl were fined in Justice Malcolm Hunt's court Monday morning following a wild 60-mile-an-hour automobile ride with the girl at the wheel which ended only after two police officers had chased the speeding car from Birmingham to Ferndale.

The girl, Ruth Witmore, 630 Bigham street, Pontiac, was given the alternative of a $20 fine or 15 days in jail. Walter Johnson, 19 years old, of Farmington, Route 1, and Leroy Johnson, 18, of 104 Poplar street, Pontiac, both paid fines of $5 for drunk and disorderly conduct.

Ralph Coyle, 25, of 305 Rockwood avenue Pontiac, was also charged with being drunk and disorderly, but he was fined $25 because of his age. A case of home brew found in the machine belonged to Coyle, police said.

Officers Robert Dunn and Earl Moody arrested the three at 4:30 Monday A. M. following the chase down Woodward avenue. Two other girls in the machine at the time were released because of their age. None of the girls had been drinking, according to the police.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS



Architect: J. Ivan Dise Builder: Louis A. Weston, Inc.

"In Briarbank"

This charming Colonial Home overlooking Cranbrook School contains 7 bedrooms with 4 baths. Exceptional construction, including many interesting features. Open for inspection.

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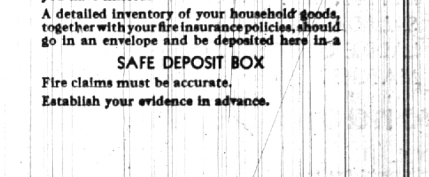

A MEMORY TEST

Sit down now, and without looking, try to itemize ALL the things in all the rooms of your home.

Check up—and you will be surprised how many you have missed.

A detailed inventory of your household goods, together with your fire insurance policies, should go in an envelope and be deposited here in a

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