

FIFTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 3

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1932

\$2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

CLEANUP WEEK PLANNED HERE

Village To Spend \$100 On Campaign, Beginning May 9

Preliminary plans for a general village cleanup week to begin Saturday, May 9, were laid by the village commission Monday night when it voted to appropriate \$100 from the contingent fund to defray the cost of the undertaking.

The appropriation was approved on the recommendation of Village Manager James W. Parry, who pointed out that rubbish has accumulated in the village to an abnormal extent since the regular rubbish collections were discontinued when no provision for them was made in the 1932 budget.

Houses For Rent

- 3 Bedrooms, Electrical Refrigeration, near Catholic school. \$50 month.
- Attractive Brick Colonial, West side. Electrical Refrigeration. \$75 month.
- 4 Bedrooms, 2 baths, English Brick, Bloomfield Village. \$90 month.
- 5 Bedrooms, 3 baths, Electrical Refrigeration, Oil Burner. \$100 month.
- Lovely Colonial, near Shrine of the Little Flower, 4 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Electrical Refrigeration. \$80 month.
- Country home in lovely setting, 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, Stables. \$100 month.

Judson Bradway Co.

Realtors 228 S. Woodward Ave. Detroit 10, Michigan

BOY, 8, HURT IN CRASH, RECOVERS

Philip Braun Escapes Serious Injury As Brother's Car Runs Another

Philip Braun, eight-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Braun, of "Linda Vista," Bloomfield Hills, had fully recovered today from the effects of severe injuries he received when an automobile in which he was riding crashed into another on Woodward avenue near Bloomfield court early last Thursday afternoon.

Philip's brother, Julian, 15 years old, was driving the car when it crashed into a second machine while it was parked beside the highway. The second car was owned by S. A. Vockey, Quanton road. Charles Guyney, an employe of Mr. Vockey, had been driving the car, and had stopped to repair a wire.

He had just completed the repair and had re-entered the car preparatory to driving away when Julian's car, travelling south, struck Guyney's in the rear. The car in which the boys were riding crossed the second machine and continued on for 135 feet when it struck a wire fence. Philip was unconscious in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital for three hours after the crash, and it was believed for a time that his skull was fractured, but he recovered rapidly and was able to be removed to his home Saturday.

Guyney, who is 22 years old, made a statement to police and was released. Neither he nor Julian was hurt in the collision.

HOUSE IN FRANKLIN DAMAGED BY FIRE

Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield Township fire departments battled for two hours Friday afternoon a stubborn fire in a vacant stone house on Franklin road in the Village of Franklin. The house was the property of the Beebe estate. Sparks from a grass and rubbish fire in the rear of the house were blamed for the blaze, which destroyed practically the entire roof and part of the interior.

VILLAGE-CITY REPORT

Published below is a copy of the report submitted Monday night to the Village Commission by a special committee of the Property Owners' Division of the Birmingham Real Estate Board, recommending that Birmingham's form of government be changed to that of a city.

Appendix to the report proper are an opinion from Pelton and McCreary, notarial attorneys, relative to the effect of the proposed change on the Birmingham school district, and a group of data designed to show the saving such a change would mean to taxpayers of the village.

Other supplemental reports and opinions collected by the committee in the course of its study of the problem will be published in later issues of The Eccentric.

REPORT OF VILLAGE-CITY COMMITTEE PROPERTY OWNERS' DIVISION BIRMINGHAM, MICH. 1932

Property Owners' Division, Birmingham, Mich. Gentlemen:

The following is the report called for by your body based on data and opinions herewith attached. This report deals with advantages and disadvantages which would result to Birmingham as a village form of government to a city form.

This committee acknowledges with a great deal of pleasure the ready assistance and co-operation extended by all public officials appraised for information. In no case was there any hesitation in obtaining the necessary data. We are indebted to the village of Troy for his clear and concise picture of the situation of this school district and its relation to the proposed change of form of the government of Birmingham.

Following is the general report. Birmingham Share of Township Expenses.

The total taxes paid by Birmingham taxpayers toward the budget of Bloomfield Township include both current expenses and payments on capital liabilities. By a change to a city form only the current expenses would be avoided and the liabilities outstanding against the township would be prorated according to assessed valuations.

On the basis of the 1931 taxes on the basis of the 1931 taxes township taxes would therefore amount to approximately \$53,000. If Birmingham had become a city earlier, additional special assessment payments of about \$31,000 a year would have been avoided, comprising portions of special assessments clearly beyond the scope of Birmingham. Under a city form these assessments would probably have not been spread against Birmingham and this annual payment of \$31,000 would have been eliminated for Birmingham.

As against these present obvious savings must be balanced reductions in other township budgets although these reductions might later be offset by further capital expenditures. On the other hand the probable withdrawal of Bloomfield Hills would result in the withdrawal of approximately 1/6 of the assessed valuation and Birmingham would then pay about 55 percent of the total budget of Bloomfield Township instead of 45 percent as at present.

To a lesser degree the same results would occur with reference to Troy Township.

Portions of Township Costs to Village

POOR RELIEF. Bloomfield Township acts as a disbursing agent of the county in dispensing poor relief. At present it is paying about \$130,000 a year into the county poor relief and is receiving back about \$29,000, a net loss of about \$101,000. Troy Township pays about \$52,000 and receives about \$19,000, a net loss of about \$33,000. The Birmingham share of these amounts totals about \$40,000 loss in Bloomfield and \$7,000 in Troy or a total of about \$47,000. This amount is the excess paid by Birmingham into the county poor fund over the total receipts of its citizens from that fund.

A change to a city form might or might not effect a difference in these proportions, but as the taxes are raised on the basis of assessed valuations and poor relief is paid on the basis of actual need, this committee does not hold out as present any material change in these items.

A change in the administration of the poor relief, which is contemplated, would throw the burden back to the local units which would be the townships of Birmingham remained a village or the city if it changed. Under the present set-up it is quite likely that Birmingham would receive more money under the township plan of poor relief than it would pay into the township, but again it would have no direct responsibility for the administration of this money. At the present time it is conceded that the townships are handling the money entrusted to them for this purpose efficiently but the new city could likely do as well.

A material benefit in changing to city form, however, would result in a more direct tying up of the municipal work to be done with the poor relief expended, whereas at present Birmingham has to work through the township and the county. The poor relief is expected to be a temporary problem, however, and the cause will be eliminated more or less prosperous times or a re-

Pocketbook Rified By House-Breaker

Three \$1 bills and another dollar in change was stolen from a woman's pocketbook in the home of Fred L. Young, 652 Henrietta street, some time Sunday night by a thief or thieves who entered the house through the back door. The door had been left unlocked, police said.

For Attractive Rentals

Phone 1400

\$55 3 bedroom, Colonial house, near Quanton Lake School.

\$55 3 bedrooms, sun porch, East side, near Grand Trunk Station.

\$80 4 bedroom house in Quanton Lake Estates, near School.

\$100 5 bedrooms, electric refrigerator, water softener, in Quanton Lake Estates.

\$125 in Quanton Lake Estates. Large living room, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, oil heat, electrical refrigerator, etc.

\$150 8 bedrooms, 4 baths, splendidly built, modern equipment throughout, tennis court.

Many of these attractive houses—several fully furnished—in both Birmingham and Bloomfield. For particulars call

Ralph Manuel

SNYDER & BUCK Theatre Building Birmingham

FOR RENT

5 Bedrooms, 3 baths, Frigidaire, oil heat, 2-car attached garage. In the Quanton school district.

\$100

2 Bedroom bungalow with oil heat and Frigidaire.

\$50

3 Bedrooms and tile bath, steam heat, electric refrigerator, extra lavatory. 2-car garage.

\$65

And Many Others! Call Birmingham 830

Colgrove Buck & Tillotson REALTORS

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TONIGHT (Thursday) AT EIGHT O'CLOCK

First Church of Christ, Scientist, of Birmingham, Michigan

ANNOUNCES A

FREE LECTURE

ON

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

BY

ARTHUR P. DeCAMP, C. S. B.

OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Member of The Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts

First Church Edifice

CHESTER AND WILLETTS STREETS

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED



Don't Envy the Browns

NEXT AUGUST

This week the Browns started their August vacation.

Mrs. Brown (which, of course, isn't her real name) came into the bank this week. She started a special savings account. This is what she told us:

"This is to be our vacation account. We have already decided where we want to spend our August vacation. We have figured out how much it will cost and have planned for it in our budget. When Frank gets paid each week, I will deposit a regular amount in this special savings account. When August comes, we shall have enough to take our vacation without any money worries."

Don't envy the Browns when August comes. You can start your vacation fund now—on five dollars or less—in our Savings Department.

Strong Enough To Protect All . . .

4% ON SAVINGS

The FIRST NATIONAL BANK

BIRMINGHAM

CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS OVER \$500,000