

# RENEW JUSTICE COURT DEBATE

### Charter Commission Expected To Discuss Question Again Tonight

Further discussion of the question as to whether the judge of the Municipal Court be established here when Birmingham adopts a charter as a city should be a lawyer is expected to occur tonight at a meeting of the charter commission, postponed from last week on account of the holiday.

At the last meeting of the group, a petition was filed,

**WE HEARD IT SAID BY—** Russell A. Williams, assistant, Charles Edwards, part of the American Legion; "It certainly is a fine thing to know that some people appreciate the good work that is being done and that can be done by the Charles Edwards Post along the lines of welfare, and we would like to thank The Centric for the co-operation it has given us in our outstanding success, due in great measure to the assistance from the paper."

By 16 attorneys, all residents in the village and some practicing here, asking that the field for election to the office be limited strictly to members of the bar.

Since that time, the question has raised considerable controversy among residents of the village.

Further expressions of opinion gathered by The Centric during the past week follow:

**C. J. Brames, manager, Birmingham City Bureau:** "I believe the justice of the Municipal Court absolutely should be a lawyer. The question is not for decision in a justice court cannot be handled in all cases by a layman for it is extremely difficult to interpret such of the law and many decisions handed down from higher courts."

**Mrs. C. A. Bowles, president, Woman's Literary Club:** "I'm afraid that if an attorney is to attract a good lawyer, and that if the field is restricted, the way will be opened to considerable grafting on the part of inefficient, inexperienced or unscrupulous attorneys who will seek the office. On the other hand, I believe the pay will be sufficient to attract good, sensible, honest laymen, who, though not trained in law, will perform the duties of the office satisfactorily."

**Harry E. Starn, former village manager:** "I believe the office should be filled by a lawyer if possible, but in favor of not restricting the field to lawyers alone, I would open the field to attorneys and laymen. If an attorney wanted the office and could be selected, so much the better. As a matter of fact, I don't think the office of justice of the peace requires a man with any great amount of legal training. There is a question that an attorney would be preferable to a layman, yet I feel that someone with simply a fair understanding of the law would do the job."

**John E. Marts, attorney, former member of the Board of Education:** "Although I was one of the signers of the petition favoring an attorney for the office, I don't feel that I am prejudiced in the matter. I am swayed simply by the principle that a member of the bar, many laymen, of course, can interpret laws and the decisions of the higher courts, but most of them, lacking the proper background, fail to understand them in many ways. In fact, a justice court is even more important than a higher court, but primarily because it affects more people. At the same time, I realize that the selection of a judge for a justice court depends in great measure on conditions in the individual community, and especially on the availability of good men to accept the position. If the office here with an attorney, that's another thing."

**Six Actors And Six U. S. Citizens Put On A Drama**

By a Member of the Village Players

"The play started off as a comedy, the first act being a description of the Village Players for the hospital fund. The opening curtain presented a lovely picture which cheered and drew a hearty round of applause. Waldo Fellows as the doctor, the six American citizens as the bunch of amateur huns, got the usual laughs in the usual places, and the six American citizens which goes with all amateur performances, we had seen Gilray, an unamused-eyed assistant coach, deftly put in most of the high spots.

At the curtain, the intelligent in the audience, settled back singly, nodding pleasantly to one another. The show fell to the understudies. A farce comedy—all the laughs indexed—nothing to worry about—how is the baby's cough?"

The curtains parted and Rath Middleton made the comedy hit of the evening. So far, the feather curtain speech. She did it beautifully, adroitly, better still than the original. The audience really was Score one!

**Surprise**

Then we got a shock. The second act curtain came, and we found we, the audience, were back of the backstop, seeing through a spot of foggy drama, and found our complacent eyes staring amazedly at stark tragedy carried to a high spot at the curtain through a time bit by Helen Rickerson. Score three!

And here we were, again, swayed in the middle of the third act of a detective mystery play. By the way—in the second act, someone right before our eyes had shot Jack Lander, at the apices of the plot, the play was directed.

**Find The Villain**

Clifford Ranney had took the helm. He named the crime on that good old hawback, Leslie Morgan, who unproved it with earnest zeal. Ah, the thing had done it. No, it didn't, can't go round a corner. Brother Cleveland is missing him a bit, isn't he?

In steps Waldo Fellows. Julian Cleveland did it. Richard Lane did it. Alice Montgomery did it. Dr. Gimco did it. So did Helen Maxwell. One by one, most of the cast struck off their matches. Oh! Bet it's Ward Crutchshank! They haven't accused him yet, and he certainly looks a little suspicious enough. Gosh! What a situation! Hey! This guy wasn't shot! He was stabbed! Knife! Dagger! print! No—no finger prints!

Then in steps old eagle-eye herself—Maria, nee Bronnie Gilray. She found the bullet, but didn't stepped it. Our brains whirled. Our mouths gaped. I'm afraid even our eyes bugged a bit. Certainly our breathing became astrophorous.

**Solves**

Then into the breach stepped Ken Bingham, uncovered the villain through two little clues he had made, and the curtain fell on a thoroughly satisfactory evening. Tell you who committed the crime? Not on your feet! You might be going to the charity performance.

Here's the line-up of the some George McAliff, Waldo Fellows, Julian Cleveland, Clifford Ranney, Rath Middleton, Ken Bingham, Hancock Robinson, Jack Z. Lander, John Jessup, Ward Crutchshank, Alice Montgomery, Helen Rickerson, Carlotta Maxwell, Carolyn Kelly, Clark, Forrance, Leslie Morgan, Harry Briggs, Leslie Bishop, Dr. Edward Gray, Harry Madson, Maria Scott, Bronnie Gilray, Helen Maxwell, Helen Rickerson.

**DEFECTS FOUND IN CLINIC CORRECTED**

Report On Child Health Shows 86.2 Per Cent Physical Improvement

Final figures on the summer round-up health campaign for children conducted in Birmingham under auspices of the Barman School Parent-Teacher Association in co-operation with the health department and local physicians and dentists, show that of the 44 defects discovered among 77 children examined last May, 38 had been corrected by September.

The final report, just completed, will be forwarded by Mrs. E. W. Osborne, president of the Association, to the officers of the National P. T. A. Congress in Washington, D. C.

The health examination was made by Dr. William Lloyd Kemp, health officer, with the assistance of other Birmingham doctors and dentists, who volunteered their services last May 2, and closed with the final check-up on Sept. 30.

The 77 children examined were between the ages of pre-school and first-grade and represented the entire village. The percentage of gain as a result of the round-up, based on the number of defects corrected in comparison with the number discovered, is given in the report at page 2. Of the 10 children in need of dental care, eight had received the treatment necessary by September.

Of the 77 children examined, 58 were immunized against small pox and 83 against diphtheria. The

additional number of the latter is accounted for by the fact that families of the children found to be in need of medical care.

The follow-up work which concluded with the final check-up was conducted by Miss Blanche Breaker, village health nurse, and Miss

Now a scientist insists that words make sounds that serve as speech. We've noticed them chewing the wax. —Los Angeles Times.

**NEW BUS TIMETABLE DEC 1**  
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**SATURDAYS**—Leave Oak St. 6:52 a. m., 7:27 a. m. and 7:42 a. m.; Leave Huller 5 p. m., 5:30 p. m.

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