

S and THAT.

By G. R. A.

What is wrong in Lansing? This and That give you this week and next to some pertinent comments in answer to that burning question, as written by E. L. Marshall, publisher of the Clinton County Republican at St. Johns, a veteran newspaper man who has done some careful knowing around the state capital and has uncovered some highly interesting facts.

What is wrong in Lansing? The new state administration has been on the job for more than two weeks. The national administration in Washington, D. C. took office a bit over TEN DAYS ago, having everything in a chaotic and leaderless confusion. The President Roosevelt's administration, came into being at the very heart of the trouble.

What is wrong in Lansing? Another candidate whose interest in politics was revealed until Saturday was Wesley A. Gibbons, proprietor of the Birmingham Fellowship Club.

What is wrong in Lansing? Candidates for all municipal offices in the April 3 election have been invited to attend a public hearing at the Michigan State House at 8 P. M. Tuesday, sponsored by the Birmingham League of Women Voters.

What is wrong in Lansing? Anderson, oldest man in office, will act as chairman of the meeting. The committee on the hearing includes Mrs. W. L. Penfield, Mrs. J. Williams, Mrs. Angus D. Hill, Mrs. E. J. Rowley, Mrs. C. R. Patton.

Anderson To Resign From Police Department April 1

Oldest Officer in Point of Service Will Take Up Farming. James Anderson, oldest man in office, will act as chairman of the meeting. The committee on the hearing includes Mrs. W. L. Penfield, Mrs. J. Williams, Mrs. Angus D. Hill, Mrs. E. J. Rowley, Mrs. C. R. Patton.

ECCENTRIC INVITES CANDIDATES TO COFFEE BREAK

To all candidates for the City Commission: The Eccentric hereby offers to publish a brief statement of the qualifications of each of the 17 candidates for the Commission in next Thursday's issue.

We suggest that the statement include the candidate's name and address; the length of time of his residence in Birmingham; an outline of his business experience and present position; a list of public offices held previously and a brief comment on what he believes to be the chief need of the city at the present time.

TIME-CLOCK OUSTER FAILS

'Politics' Charged in Attempt To Fire Assessor. For Tardiness. A resolution calling for the immediate dismissal of Albert W. Noonan as city assessor because he has been in the habit of punching the Municipal Building time-clock from 15 minutes to an hour and a quarter late every morning, was voted down by the Commission Monday night, 5 to 2.

The resolution was introduced by Commissioner Matrice Lowman and supported by Commissioner T. B. Smith. None of the other members sympathized with Lowman's tardiness in coming to work after the regular morning hour of 8 o'clock for city employees, but opposed his dismissal on the grounds that appointment of a new assessor at the time in the middle of the year in the 1933 assessment plan, would constitute a serious handicap to the city.

Charges "Palitish". The resolution which was introduced by Commissioner Frank S. Packard directly to political motives, called for the termination of services to be "discontinued at once, wholly on the grounds of the fact that the assessor, Albert W. Noonan, who has been in charge of the city's assessment since 1927, has been introduced the week before last, which he, with Mr. Packard and Commissioner Walter Mr. Smith, who sat in on the conference with the assessor, argued with the committee and other members of the Commission that no fault could be found with Mr. Noonan's work, but held out with Mr. Lowman for his dismissal purely because of his tardiness, which has continued, they pointed out, even in the face of warnings from the Commission.

Length of Job Cited. "First," he said, "because he has only a short time left to work (the office was recently reduced to a five-month job), dating from Feb. 1 to July 1; second, because he has a time clock which would fall up the wax as far as tax assessing is concerned; and third, because the whole thing to speak plainly about it, is a bunch of politics, and politics should be kept out of the city."

Another proposed delay in the appointment of a postmaster at Birmingham was forestalled today when the committee on the hearing, at 511 Hanna street, 5 to 2, voted to postpone the hearing until next week.

Mr. Wenzel was nominated for the job by former President E. J. Hill, but the committee on the hearing, at 511 Hanna street, 5 to 2, voted to postpone the hearing until next week.

Demolish Conclave Is Shifted To Royal Oak. Because of a temporary closing of the Birmingham Annual Temple, the second annual Oakland County Fair, which was held here March 28, will be held in the Royal Oak Masonic Temple, beginning with banquet at 8:30 P. M. Members of chapters in Farmington, Farmington Hills, and Royal Oak will attend.

Committee To Study Peddler Problems. A committee to study the possibility of placing further restrictions on peddlers in the city, was organized by the city's Police President Harry Allen.

Have You MET? Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Flynn, 922 Ridgeway avenue, moved here from Detroit on March 19. They have five children: Frank, 11; George, 10; Verne, 12; Donald, 9; Gerald, 6; and Gwendolyn, 3. Mrs. Flynn is a member of the "Ontario" Day Camp.

What about the House? We hear, they say, "but not functioning as it should." In years past Mr. House was more unwelcome. One of the members of the House, who is not yet a member of the House, today is a member of the House.

Charles James Named Conservator For First National Bank Here

Comptroller Of Currency Appoints Birmingham Man, One Of Institution's Directors, To Take Charge Of Affairs As First Step Towards Re-Opening

EXAMINER'S AGENT BEGINS CHECKUP OF FIGURES. The following statement was issued at noon today by the directors of the First National Bank of Birmingham:

Our Regulators. Selection of Mr. Charles E. James as Conservator of this bank in line with and a part of the plan proposed by the Federal Reserve Commission while in Chicago this week, and tentatively approved by the Department of the Comptroller of the Currency, it is definite proof of the cooperation of the United States Government to aid in restoring banking service to this community.

Mr. James was proposed by our committee to act in this capacity, and this selection was concurred in by the Chicago representatives of the Comptroller and forwarded to Washington for approval, which came this morning.

His appointment as conservator was the first step in an orderly plan for reopening the institution on a basis that will be to the best interests of the depositors and the community in general.

Bank Recommended Appointment. His appointment had been proposed to Federal Reserve officials and the Chief Bank Examiner by a committee of officers and directors of the bank who returned Wednesday from a personal visit to Chicago. The proposal was relayed directly to Washington, where it was confirmed early this morning.

A statement from the Board of Directors of the Birmingham bank today disclosed that Mr. James' appointment as conservator was the first step in an orderly plan for reopening the institution on a basis that will be to the best interests of the depositors and the community in general.

The second step is the checking of the figures, which the committee laid before Federal Reserve officials in Chicago, by Paul T. Betz, a member of the Chief Examiner's staff. This checkup was begun this morning within an hour after the appointment of the conservator, and is expected to be completed by the end of this week.

Will Test Each Step. Officials of the bank declined to reveal what future steps in the plan would be. The plan has been worked out in thorough detail, and has been tentatively approved by the Comptroller of the Currency, but each step will be thoroughly tested before it is put into operation and revealed to the public, they said.

In a statement issued at noon today, James announced that he has recommended to the Comptroller immediate release of trust fund deposits, and expects approval of the recommendation at any moment. About \$60,000 is on deposit in the bank in trust funds.

Mr. James' statement follows: "Work of checking up the figures of this bank is now going on, and by the end of this week the Comptroller of the Currency will be furnished with every detail of the bank's financial condition. To aid the men from the Chief Examiner's office, and to carry on the other necessary work of the bank, I am recommending that all persons who have funds on deposit here in the special trust fund department be given full access to them, and also be allowed to continue to make their deposits under the terms of this special trust fund, as we wish to maintain every possible banking service locally while the bank is under conservatorship. I expect the approval of this recommendation by the Comptroller at any moment. Access may be had to the safety deposit boxes, as in the past."

"I want the depositors to know that my position here as the direct representative of the U. S. Government is solely in the interests of the depositors themselves. I stand ready, in behalf of the Comptroller, to receive and answer all questions which may be asked of me, and to assure the community that their assets are being conserved with all the security of the United States Government itself."

CHAS. E. JAMES, Conservator.

Fred W. Johnson, At A Receiver. Fred W. Johnson, one of the directors of the bank, pointed out this afternoon that a Conservator is not, in any sense of the word, a receiver.

"A receiver is generally thought of as a liquidator," Mr. Johnson said. "A Conservator, as his title implies, is a person appointed by the Federal Government to conserve the bank's assets. His job is to take and hold those assets until a transition can be worked out. He is a government representative through whom the re-opening plan is submitted and put into operation."

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HOUSE CLOSING FEARED NEAR

Immediate Financial Aid Imperative, Directors Declare. The first of a series of seasonal features which will mark the 1933 year and Garden Contest in Birmingham has been outlined today in the form of a spring bulb garden contest, for which special prizes will be offered, and for which entries will be received up to and including Monday, April 3.

The competition among bulb gardeners is planned as one of the many divisions of the main yard and Garden Contest, which is being sponsored by the Birmingham Branch of the Women's Farm and Garden Association and co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Another early seasonal feature contemplated by the committee is a June garden "Turn to Page 3, No. 3."

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Immediate financial aid is imperative to keep the Community House from closing, it was announced yesterday in a statement from the Board of Directors of the Community House Association and signed by Mrs. L. N. Pyle, president, and James Lee Oliver, treasurer.

In view of our obligations at the bank, only \$500 at most may be released for operating at this time. We have made drastic reductions in our operating expenses and our salary account now amounts to only \$130 monthly in salary.

Monthly salaries are as follows: hostess, \$45; janitor, \$40; employment, \$30; welfare, \$30. In view of our obligations at the bank, only \$500 at most may be released for operating at this time.

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