The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

FIFTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 51 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1933 | $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

Personal experience has taught me that from a factual point would sell more than words. If you are in need of heat in a new order, you must ultimately appeal to YOUTH. For young people are not so crystallized in basic ideas, nor have they prejudices to protect that prevents their using new ideas.

Candidates For City Commission In Monday's Election List Qualifications

—Photo by Arnold

PELEY A. GIBBONS

Mr. Gibbons has been proprietor of the Birmingham Lawn and Golf Supply Company at 1155 South Woodward avenue for 6 years previous to that time was engaged in the battery, tire and accessory business.

A resident of Birmingham for the past 20 years, he attended the public schools and Business Institute. He has never held public office, although he is president of the Birmingham Fellowship Club.

"Birmingham is entering a new era of government," Mr. Gibbons points out. "It is getting ready to take a new start—just at the time when new codes of governmental procedure and new starts are imperative.

"If elected to be one of your commissioners, I will endeavor to give a new start, to bring about economy for a long time, and set keenly alert at this present moment by all of our citizens—except those interested in retaining government of themselves, relatives or friends. I sincerely promise to serve conscientiously to bring about such a new administration as will take care of our most urgent needs."

LUTHER HEACOCK

Mr. Heacock, 652 Ann street, pledges strict economy in all branches of our government, with the object in view of a balanced budget; and better co-operation between the persons who are administering our welfare work and those who are receiving it.

Mr. Heacock has been a home builder in Birmingham for the past 13 years. He has served as treasurer of School District No. 4, Southfield, a member of the Bloomfield Township Board of Review for two years, a member of the executive board of the Greenwood Cemetery Association, treasurer of the Property Owners' Association of the Birmingham area, and two years ago was appointed by Supervisor Jerry A. Vaughan as a special welfare investigator for Bloomfield Township, serving without pay until Birmingham's separation from the township.

"If elected a member of the City Commission I can give all the time that is required to carry out the duties of this office," Mr. Heacock says.

—Photo by Arnold

MILTON F. MALLENDER

Mr. Mallender was born in Bloomfield Township on Nov. 6, 1905, and has lived here since birth, with the exception of 19 months in 1929. He attended the Birmingham public schools, Albion College, the University of Michigan and the College of the City of Detroit, and holds degrees as Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws.

He was admitted to the bar in 1929, and is now associated in the practice of law with Trowbridge, Lewis and Watkins, Detroit legal firm. He lives at 1229 Villa road.

"The only campaign promise I am making," he says, "is that, if the people of the City of Birmingham see fit to elect me to the Commission, I will do everything within my power to solve the problems which confront me, as a member of the Commission, with fairness, justice, and for the best interests of the community of which I have been a lifelong member."

HARRY ALLEN

Mr. Allen, 546 West Brown avenue, was born in Birmingham and has lived here nearly all his life. He has served on the Village Commission for 2 years, and has served as village assessor for the past three years.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan law school, and a member of the Detroit law firm of Conklin, Bates and Allen. He was chairman of the charter commission which drafted the new charter that will be submitted for adoption at Monday's election.

CLARENCE VLIET

Over the 17 years ending last July, Mr. Vliet was superintendent of the Birmingham public schools. He has been a member of the Baldwin Public Library Board since 1918, is existing president of the Birmingham Y. M. C. A., and president of the Community House Board of Directors.

He was born at Clarkston, Mich., and was educated at Michigan Normal College, Ypsilanti, and the University of Michigan. He came to Birmingham in 1914 from Leslie, Mich., where he was superintendent of schools, and lives at 416 Oakland street.

"Birmingham city," Mr. Vliet says, "faces a crisis in its financial and civic problems somewhat different from most other cities by reason of being a city developed strictly residential community depended in a large part upon the commercial and industrial life of surrounding cities. Now, with these cities the depths of the most intense depression ever known in modern times, Birmingham finds itself with an empty treasury, banks closed, bonds in default, unable to borrow even trivial sums, empty stores, in increasing debt, full, bankrupt citizens and a downcast people.

"Americans are naturally a sanguine people. Bewildered by events which have reduced the wealthy to penury, the middle class to poverty and the poor to the dole (list), we yet say, 'Times will be better and all this economic and social misery will pass.' Be that as it may, we demand that Birmingham should remain to carry on its civic life for the coming years with:

"1. The charter officials and a minimum police force at the city hall.

"2. Skeletonized city departments such as the police, fire, and public works requiring key men and depending on volunteer labor for needed emergency work.

"3. Salary payments reduced to a minimum for the coming critical six months.

"4. Immediate reduction in all street lighting expense, especially on Woodward avenue.

"5. A wage labor dole plan followed in every possible case and developed into a working community garden vegetable producing plan such as was so helpful during the great war. Clean streets, clean parks, a clean Rouge River valley and finally, of all, a clean river through a R. F. C. owned municipal plant of sufficient capacity would be a great aid and a final material benefit to show for our stern and strenuous period.

"6. No more debt service till a comprehensive adjustment plan both as to principal and interest has been accepted by the bondholders. A suggested plan is as follows:

"A. 40 bond principal shall be reduced 40 percent.

"B. No principal maturities till 1938.

"C. All bonds to be refunded at par to exceed 3 percent till 1938 and 4 percent with serial maturities from that time on to final payment.

"D. Non-interest bearing corporate assets in small multiple dollar denominations to be issued for 40 percent of the present bonded debt. Said stock to be received by the city for all delinquent, unpledged taxes levied prior to the present fiscal year and to become interest bearing at a progressive rate of from 1 percent to 4 percent after July 1, 1938."

—Photo by Arnold

E. W. OSBORNE

"Answers must be found this next year for numerous difficult questions," says E. W. Osborne, 885 Pierce street, "and I sincerely hope you pick a Commission that will find the best and most sensible answers. I still believe in living within our income and will work toward that end."

Mr. Osborne was elected to the Commission for the first time last year, and also helped draft the proposed new city charter. He has been the Ford dealer in Birmingham for nine of the past 11 years, the two-year interruption occurring when he was transferred temporarily to take over the Ford agency in Auburn, Ind. He is a past president of the Birmingham Exchange Club.

"I belong to no faction nor will I belong to any," Mr. Osborne declares. "Look your 17 candidates over carefully and vote as you see fit. But vote."

—Photo by Arnold

C. THERON VAN DUSEN

Mr. Van Dusen, 782 Puritan road, is an engineer who has been in the employ of the Detroit Edison Company for the past seven years. He was educated in the Detroit public schools, the University of Michigan and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and has been a resident of Birmingham for six years.

"At the urgent request of a number of representative citizens from all sections of Birmingham," he explains, "I placed my name on the ballot as a candidate for the City Commission. I have no political aspirations, but rather, a strong conviction that it is the duty of citizens to be intelligently informed concerning the problems of their local government and to contribute what they can of their talents and ability to the proper administration thereof. It is entirely in this spirit that I am seeking election.

"In these strenuous times we should, if possible, all live within our incomes. This is just as true of local units of government as it is of individuals. Rigid economy should be practiced. It is of utmost importance that we maintain and conserve those agencies which have to do with the protection of the health, educational facilities, homes and general welfare of the citizens.

"Non-essentials, however, must be eliminated and wherever functions of departments or employes of the government can be combined to effect a saving this should be done at once.

"I believe also that the proceedings of the Commission and of the management should be an open book at all times to the citizens and that their interest in these affairs should be earnestly encouraged.

"The problems which will confront us in the coming months will be of great significance and must be met with serious deliberation and experienced decision.

"If it should be my privilege to serve Birmingham as a commissioner I will endeavor to meet the issues on their merits to the best of my ability."

HAROLD T. ELLERBY

Mr. Ellerby has served three years as village president, and was a member of the charter commission. During his 6 years of residence in Birmingham he has been engaged in the insurance business.

He was born in New York State and holds a law degree from Syracuse University. He is a member of the Birmingham Exchange Club and the First Methodist Church, and is now serving as general chairman of the committee in charge of the sale of Birmingham school scrip. He lives at 218 South Adams road.

ELECTION INSPECTORS TO ATTEND "SCHOOL"

In an attempt to carry out a uniform system at all five precincts in the conduct of next Monday's election and the counting of the ballots, a "school" for the city's 35 election inspectors has been called for 9 A. M. Saturday in the Municipal Building by Miss Irma E. Hanley, city clerk. Any persons interested in the details of conducting an election are welcome to attend, Miss Hanley said.

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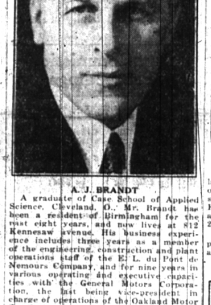
ARTHUR J. TUGGEY

Mr. Tuggey came to Birmingham 20 years ago and has been engaged in the real estate business for the past 12 years. Prior to that time he was engaged in the manufacturing business in Detroit.

He was born Sept. 20, 1876, in Alpena, Mich., where he attended the public schools. He was elected Bloomfield Township justice of the peace in 1931, serving until Feb. 14, 1933, and is a former member of the Board of Education.

"I have always been an advocate of strict economy and efficiency in the administration of public affairs," Mr. Tuggey says. "If elected commissioner I will endeavor to effect complete re-organization of all municipal offices, giving the taxpayers a competent, efficient and economical government."



A. J. BRANDT

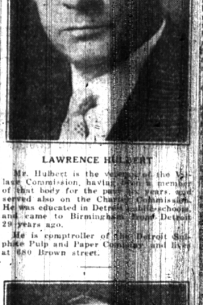
A graduate of Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Brandt has been a resident of Birmingham for the past eight years, and now lives at 812 Kennesaw avenue. His business experience includes three years as a member of the engineering, construction and plant operations staff of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours Company, and for nine years in various operating and executive capacities with the General Motors Corporation, he last being vice-president in charge of operations of the Oakland Motor Car Company.

Since 1918, he has been president of A. J. Brandt, Inc., consulting engineers, serving the Russian Government and such organizations as the United States Rubber Company, the International Harvester Company, the Austin Motor Car Company of England, the Autocar Company, the Parker Pen Company, and others. He has never held political office.

If elected, Mr. Brandt promises to enter office with the following viewpoint:

"We have adopted a new form of municipal government, and its future effectiveness will, to a great extent, be determined by the way the new charter is interpreted and administered in the next year or two. The commissioners you elect have one—and only one—responsibility; and that is to provide a management of civic affairs in keeping with the strictest and most modern principles of business efficiency.

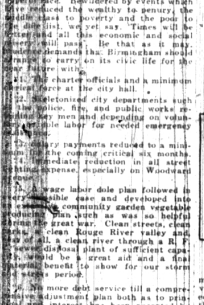
"This should—and can be—achieved by applying methods that have proved successful for many large concerns beset by—the same difficulties now confronting Birmingham and practically every other city in the country. The result will be either a reduction in taxes without impairing essential services, or definite proof that the city is operating on an efficient and economical basis."



LAWRENCE HILBERT

Mr. Hilbert is the attorney of the Village Commission, having been a member of that body for the past 4 years, and served also on the Charter Commission. He was educated in Detroit public schools and came to Birmingham from Detroit 23 years ago.

He is comptroller of the Detroit Sulphite Pulp and Paper Company, and lives at 680 Brown street.



T. B. SMITH

Mr. Smith is another incumbent commissioner seeking re-election, and previous to his election last spring had served on several Birmingham Commissions in the past.

He has been a resident of Birmingham for 46 years. His business experience includes 22 years with lumber and coal companies and 20 years in the real estate business. He is a partner in the real estate firm of Smith and Pobleton, and lives at 383 Maheegan drive.

"As a member of your Commission during the past year," Mr. Smith says, "I have endeavored to reduce your public expenses without seriously impairing the service which the village has given you in the past.

"I am a candidate for re-election, and if elected will continue to give you my best efforts. Your interests are mine. Your motto as well as mine must be economy in the management of city affairs."

FRANK S. PACKARD

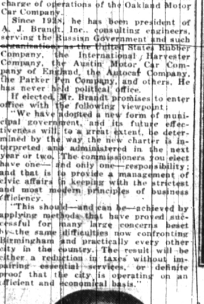
Mr. Packard is also a member of the present Commission, having been elected in 1931, and served on the charter commission of Birmingham for 1 years, he is a civil engineer and builder and is president of the Packard-Clarkson Building Company, 295 Pierce street.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan and lives at 884 Harmon avenue.

"Under the present conditions," Mr. Packard states, "economy for the only platform plausible and politic for any candidate for the office of commissioner of Birmingham. True economy consists in obtaining the necessary at minimum cost, and doing it frugally.

"But what things are necessities? Under the pretext of economy actions may be taken which are based on the different motives that appear on the surface. Our problems are too serious to be handled that way.

"As a candidate for re-election I have made no promises to any person. I vote in every division of the work with the intent only of furthering the best interests of Birmingham. I believe that two years of active participation in the affairs of the city have made me much better qualified to serve as a commissioner than when you elected me two years ago. I have done my part of the job fairly well, I think, and would like to see it through."



MAURICE LOWMAN

Mr. Lowman, 567 Fernda avenue, has been a resident of Birmingham for 16 years, is a construction superintendent and has been in the building business all his life. He was Birmingham's first village manager, serving from 1917 to 1919, and has been a member of the Commission for the past three years.

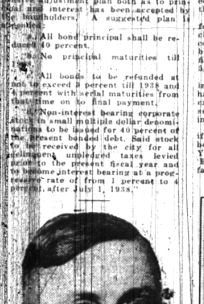
"My views on the economic needs of the village have not been altered in those three years," Mr. Lowman says. "Economy has come to pass in that time, but not in proportion to public demands. In my opinion, the voter and taxpayer is entitled to a drastic relief from expenditures and duplications for which the Commission is directly responsible.

"If elected I will continue to stand squarely for the needs of this home rule community, to maintain constitutional rights, happiness and morale, and to continue the safety of life and property in this crisis."

SCOTT A. HEMPEY

Mr. Hempey, 775 West Brown avenue, a general contractor and builder, lived in Birmingham for 15 years. Born in Crystal, Mich., he is a high school graduate and attended the Rhode Island School of Design.

He was a member of the Village Commission from 1927 to 1931, and later served on Boards of Review for both Birmingham and Bloomfield Township.

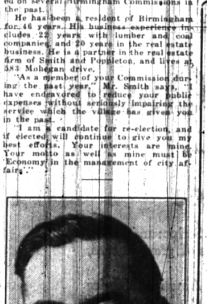


WALTER L. CONNELLY

Mr. Connelly is one of the seven incumbents seeking re-election, having been a member of the Commission for the past 3 years. He has also served on Boards of Review for both Troy Township and the City of Birmingham.

A graduate civil engineer of the University of Michigan, and has been in building and constructional engineering and supervisory work for 30 years, he has lived in Birmingham for 13 years, now residing at 1145 Maple avenue.

"The new City Commission will have many hard problems to solve," Mr. Connelly states. "Constructive thought and action are needed more than ever before. Experience with, and knowledge of Birmingham's problems will be a value to the new Commission. I aim to give the citizens of Birmingham the best I can next Monday in large measure to that the new Commission will have a majority and not an organized minority."



J. HARRY McBRIDE

Mr. McBride, 880 Pierce street, has been engaged in the insurance business since he came to Birmingham in 1919. Born in Ohio, he is a high school graduate and later attended Ohio Wesleyan University at Ada, O.

He has served two terms as Village President, one term as village trustee and 2 years as a member of the Birmingham Board of Education.

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Bloomfield Road, near the Quarter, a small but very attractive home, in really nice condition. Four bedrooms, bath with tub and stall shower, heat and electric refrigeration, $30 per month.

Pierce near the Quarter School. Attractive home in fine condition. Three bedrooms, tiled bath with stall shower. Steam heat and electric refrigeration, $50 per month.

Lincoln near Quarter. A small Colonial home, very attractive. Pleasant living room. Four bedrooms, tile bath. Steam heat. Electric refrigeration. To be redecorated immediately, $40 per month.

Lincoln near Pierce. English home in Country Club district. Unusually attractive home. Five bedrooms and two tile baths. Recreation room. Gas heat, refrigeration, $80 per month.

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DETROIT ARRESTED FOR DRUNK DRIVING

Carl Payor, 38 years old, of 1540 Parkside avenue, Detroit was sentenced to pay a $50 fine or spend 40 days in jail by Justice H. Augustus O'Dell Monday morning on a charge of drunk driving. He was arrested Sunday afternoon on Woodward avenue by Bloomfield Hills police.

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

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