Most of us are born into this world, go through its various earthly stages, and finally retire by the process we call death without ever having truly lived. We may at times be amused and entertained by some earthly pleasure, but we never become attuned to larger joys that are our heritage.

The Birmingham Eccentric

12 PAGES PART 1

FIFTY1SIXTH YEAR—NO. 27 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1933 | $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Not severely rabidly, but rather Peter Rabid-ly, I am rebuked for not taking an active part in the state-wide campaign to Bring Back the Old-Fashioned Buckwheat Pancake. The matter is brought to my attention in "A corner of the Hubbub," an excellent seri-humorous column conducted by Peter Rabid in the Grand Rapids Chronicle. Mr. Rabid, who undoubtedly owns a controlling interest in some maple syrup company, is pushing the campaign so that he will have plenty of cash to aid the Democrats in 1934. In spite of my silence on the subject, however, I am not cold to the thought of becoming heated over the possibilities of sizzling hot buckwheats, as winter approaches. I love them with a love born of hunger that dates back to the fall of Adam and the spring of Eve, when cave-men and cliff-men yearned for some manner of food upon which they could pour the oil of the maple tree. I can go back farther than that, too—way back to the time when, in the dim and antique past known as the Congregation of the Seeds, when the seed of the maple and the seed of the buckwheat first got together and, after centuries of research and invention, finally brought forth the red hot grid, upon which and from which goeth forth the culinary chemistry that turns whitish-gray pancake batter into golden shimmering discs of mellowed sunshine, rain, the mystery of soil, and the mysticism of Nature. Yea,—back further than that could I go! But why should I, when the whole world, each morning, would agree that buckwheat cakes can be surpassed only by more buckwheat cakes? But let me present Mr. Rabid's plaintive plan to restore respect and decency to the breakfast table. Heretic:

Progress of a Great Crusade to Date

The Bring Back the Old-Fashioned Buckwheat Cake Crusade has swept the state like an avalanche. All over Michigan patriots have rallied to the banner. A far-flung organization has been perfected, with our leading citizens vying for the honor of being elected Supreme Grand Chef de Stacker of their local Griddles. Down at Springport where resides Brother Sibley, who started the whole thing, the postoffice is swamped with mail from 1143 per cent Americans who are determined to join the great forward looking movement.

The Chesaning division, under Clem Howell, is waging a spirited battle to force the inclusion of Farmer Peet's country sausage into the issue on equal terms with the buckwheat cakes themselves; up at Crystal Falls no less a personage than Tom Conlin is backing the movement, with the stipulation that the cakes must be produced in a black iron spider. Only a few dissenters mar the pleasant scene; down at Birmingham old Grumble, a veritable sulk in his tent, munching a dyspepsia tablet and refusing to join in the battle; while over at Charlotte, Doc DePew, lifting up his copies of the Christian Herald, muses on the hereafter instead of taking steps to insure a buckwheat-blessed present.

* * *

The next step to be taken is the presentation of a petition signed by 6,987,453 voters, urging the State Legislature to change the seal of Michigan to the following chaste design: A buckwheat cake rampant on a field of side pork; below, crossed syrup pitchers, surrounding a garland of country sausage, bearing the motto "E Pluribus Yum Yum."

* * *

The petition once presented, the course of events will undoubtedly be as follows: Attorney General O'Brien, without waiting to be asked, will announce that the petition is irrelevant, immaterial and subject to fits, citing 18 good reasons, none of them worth a whoop. The next day one of his numerous assistants, probably Tom Ward, will issue another ruling contradicting everything contained in the previous one. This necessary formality being disposed of, the governor can call the Legislature into special session to consider this momentous proposal.

* * *

As soon as the matter reaches the House, that eminent statesman, Abe Dykstra, will rise and deliver an oration in what he fondly imagines to be the English language, pointing out that the whole thing is a vile plot fomented by George Welsh, and is probably aimed at the Kulp bill. The Detroit Free Press will trace the origin of the buckwheat cake movement right back to Father Coughlin and demand that martial law be proclaimed in the state.

* * *

By this time there will have been a number of rumors circulated to the effect that undue influence is being used and that Teen Daniels has left for the

(Turn to Page 2, No. 1)

SIX OVERCOME BY GAS FROM LEAKING MAIN

Fumes Drive Score To Streets After Seeping Into Two Stores

TWO STILL IN HOSPITAL

Two persons were still confined in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital yesterday from the effects of gas which Monday morning overcame five persons, partially overcame a sixth, and routed nearly a score of employes and customers from two stores at the corner of Maple and Woodward avenues.

Those overcome were Mrs. F. W. Gurtz, Mrs. John Willis and Miss Marion Onenke, employes of the Birmingham Department Store; Mrs. Emily Love, a cook at Cunningham's Drug Store, and Robert Reynolds, colored janitor at the drug store. Mrs. L. E. Davidson, wife of the proprietor of the department store, was partially overcome.

Reynolds and Mrs. Gurtz were still in the hospital last night, where their condition was improved and they were believed out of serious danger.

Leak In Main

The gas entered the basements of the two stores after escaping from a leak in a main under the sidewalk in front of the department store. Earth settling under the walk, forcing the pipe downward, was blamed for cracking the main.

Craig Carpenter, 812 Maplegrove avenue, Royal Oak, a sales promoter at the department store, said he first noticed gas at about 8:15 A. M., shortly after opening the store. It was not detected in the drug store until about 9 o'clock.

Mrs. Gurtz, 2189 Franklin road, Berkley, was the first to be overcome. Affected by the gas while working in the basement of the department store, she collapsed after coming upstairs. Mrs. Willis who lives at 831 Ann street, Birmingham collapsed a few minutes later. Both were carried out by Carpenter and Sidney Miller, 2257 West Euclid avenue, another sales promoter.

Firemen Revive Victims

Both Reynolds, who lives at 383 Bloomfield road, Pontiac, and Mrs. Love, 1447 Marshall avenue, Ferndale, were working in the basement of the drug store, but both were able to walk to the street before collapsing.

Miss Onenke, 727 Purdy street, another employee in the department store, was overcome several minutes later. The last to be affected was Mrs. Davidson.

Firemen were called after Mrs. Gurtz had collapsed. With an inhalator they revived the six victims before they were taken to the hospital or to their homes. Mrs. Willis was taken first to her home, but later suffered a relapse and was transferred to the hospital. Reynolds, Mrs. Love and Mrs. Gurtz were taken to the hospital immediately.

Mrs. Willis was discharged yesterday, and Mrs. Love was discharged Tuesday.

Only a miracle prevented an explosion, firemen said. No fires were burning in the basement of the department store, and no electrical appliances which might have ignited the gas were in operation. A gas range was burning in the basement of the drug store and some electrical appliances were in operation, but all were turned off as soon as the gas was discovered.

Birmingham Schools To Be Closed Friday

Students Will Enjoy Holiday While Teachers Attend M. E. A. Institute

Friday will be a holiday for all Birmingham public school students. The schools will be closed to allow teachers to attend the Sixth District Michigan Education Association Institute, which opens Friday for a two-day session in Detroit.

The junior high school division of the Institute will hold its meeting Saturday morning in the Crystal Ballroom of the Book-Cadillac Hotel, with Ira Chapman, Howard D. Crull; principal of Barnum Junior High School. As a feature on this program, Arnold Brandt and his Baldwin High School band will play.

F. Morse Cook, principal of Adams Junior High School, will take part in a panel discussion at one of the section meetings of the Institute Friday afternoon. The discussion will be on "The Place of Latin in the Reorganized Secondary School."

The sixth district of the M. E. A. includes Washtenaw, Oaklan l, Huron and Macomb Counties.

FURNITURE STORAGE
159 Brownell Phone 7024-F4
—Adv. 22tf

TAXPAYERS
DELINQUENT TAXES
11% will be added by the city for penalties and interest to your delinquent 1932 taxes on November 1. Bond prices are advancing. You should pay your delinquent taxes at once and save money.
CUTLER, MOREER AND HUBBLE, Inc.
First National Bank Building
Phone 84
Representatives
George B. Bystrell Clarence Vliet
—Adv. 26tf

O, P, Q, R, S Names Get Checks Today

Payment Of 5 Per Cent Dividend To 4,000 Depositors Continues At First State

Payment of the 5 per cent dividend to depositors in the First State Savings Bank, which began Monday, continued today with the distribution of checks to depositors whose last names begin with O, P, Q, R, and S.

T, U, V, and W names will be paid Friday, and X, Y, and Z names Saturday. Depositors who are unable to call for their checks on the days designated for them, may secure them at the bank any time next week, Charles W. Lee, receiver, said yesterday.

Approximately $83,000 is being paid out to the bank's 4,000 depositors in the dividend.

$9,500 HOUSE DRIVE OPENS

Workers Report Encouraging Response To Maintenance Fund Solicitations

Although no tabulation of actual amounts collected or pledged in the Community House maintenance fund campaign had been made late yesterday, encouraging responses were reported by numerous team workers, both men and women, in their canvass for contributions with which to support the House program for the coming year. The goal in the drive is $9,500.

The campaign opened officially Monday, but that day was given over entirely to team organization, and actually solicitations did not begin until Tuesday. The residential districts are being canvassed by 15 women's teams under the general chairmanship of Mrs. Norman Lyle, assisted by Mrs. R. H. Mann.

Robert D. Lynd has been named chairman of the men's division, which is in charge of the canvass of the business district. He is being assisted by teams representing each of the three Birmingham service clubs.

The Rotary Club team is composed of Dr. Herbert E. Moore, Charles J. Shain, George B. Boutwell, and Chad M. Ritchie. The Exchange Club has appointed Ralph C. Moulthrop, Rice A. Howell, Oliver H. Kirk, and David Levinson, while the Lions Club is represented by Ray S. Avery, C. J. Braamse, Russell McBride, Howard Tuggey and Floyd Swayze.

Women's teams in the house-to-house canvass are concentrating on the securing of $2 yearly memberships in the Community House Association. A "special gifts" committee, of which Mrs. F. B. Etter is chairman, is soliciting larger contributions.

The campaign will continue until the entire city has been canvassed, according to Mrs. L. N. Pyle, president of the Community House Association.

Former Birmingham Resident Succumbs

James Chappell, a resident of Birmingham from 1885 to 1914, and a lifelong resident of Oakland County, died Wednesday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. J. Clark, 35 Liberty street, Pontiac. He was 79 years old, and had been in poor health for about three years.

Funeral services will be held from Mrs. Clark's home at 2 P. M. Saturday. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery here.

Surviving, besides Mrs. Clark, are the widow, Mrs. Delia Simpson Chappell, formerly of Birmingham; a daughter, Mrs. B. W. Christie of Farmington; a son, Lloyd Chappell of Pontiac; three sisters, Mrs. Frank Jackson, Pontiac, Mrs. Louis Vowels and Mrs. Lou Maxwell of Mt. Pleasant, and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Chappell, a painter by trade, was born in Milford, where he lived until coming to Birmingham in 1885. He had lived in Pontiac since leaving here in 1914.

HILLS RECEIVES $425 FROM BEER LICENSES

Although the City of Bloomfield Hills has received $425.50 from the state as its share of the revenue from the sale of beer licenses in the city, Birmingham had failed to receive its rebate up to late yesterday, according to Harold H. Corson, city treasurer.

The state refunds 95 per cent of the license fees to the cities. Six licenses were sold in Bloomfield Hills, two to restaurants, two to grocery stores, and two to clubs.

HAVE YOU MET?—

Mr. and Mrs. Howard D. Wixson, formerly of Detroit, who moved to Birmingham last month and are living at 444 Arlington drive. They have three children, Howard, 10 years old; Dorothy, six, and Billy, four.

Mr. Wixson is a manufacturer's agent for the Bonney Forge and Tool Works, with offices in Detroit.

CITY ASKED TO GIVE LAND FOR POSTAL SITE

Byrne Proposes Offering Civic Center Block To Federal Government

COMMISSION GETS PLEA

Should the City of Birmingham deed to the Federal Government the block in the Civic Center between the Municipal Building and Baldwin Public Library if the Government, in turn, will proceed immediately with the erection of a new postoffice on the site?

This question is being considered by city officials today, following a private session of the Commission preceding its regular open meeting Monday night, at which it is known the proposition was submitted by Postmaster Joseph F. Byrne.

Mr. Byrne, it was learned, offered to exert every influence in his power to obtain the Government's approval of a new postoffice if the Commission will agree to call a special election for the purpose of voting on the question of deeding the land.

Members of the Commission were, on the whole, favorable to the proposition, it was learned, although Mayor Harry Allen voiced some objection on the grounds the city might not be justified in giving up its ownership of the property, which was acquired at a cost of about $170,000.

The block in question, bounded by Martin, Merrill, Henrietta and Bates streets, is now occupied by nine city-owned houses. When purchased, it was intended for park development.

The decision to call a special election was deferred, it was learned, until Mayor Harry Allen has investigated the status of the federal appropriation for a postoffice here. It is understood that an allotment of $150,000 for the structure was made some three years ago, but that the appropriation has never been formally approved by Congress.

That the erection of a new postoffice here this fall would go far to solve Birmingham's unemployment problem is understood to be one of the principal arguments offered to voters of the city and to the Government for approving the proposal.

DELAY CONTINUES ON BANK ACTION

Phone Call To Washington Fails To Bring Information For 1st National Depositors

Notwithstanding a telephone conversation Tuesday night with the supervising conservator in Washington, officials and depositors of the closed First National Bank of Birmingham are still in the dark today as to who is to be appointed receiver for the institution, and when the appointment is to be made.

Irving Allen, chairman of a depositors' committee which is attempting to secure the appointment of Robert S. Porritt for the receivership, said he talked with J. E. Fouts, supervising conservator, but obtained "no real information." Mr. Fouts is the immediate superior of Charles E. James, local conservator.

"I asked Mr. Fouts whether the large national plan for re-opening closed banks was delaying the appointment, and he said no," Mr. Allen said. "Then I asked him whether developments in the Detroit banking situation were delaying it, and he said no to that, also. Apparently it is the pressure of business entirely which is holding the matter up."

Mr. Allen said it was his personal opinion that "something would be done" between Oct. 15 and 20, although he had no definite information on which to base this assumption.

Petitions signed by depositors representing a major portion of the bank's deposit liability, urging the appointment as receiver of Mr. Porritt, a former director of the institution, were sent to the comptroller of the currency several weeks ago.

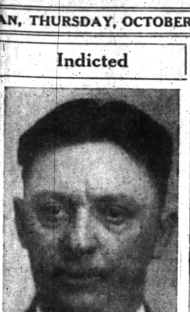
Boy Scouts To Hold Paper Drive Oct. 21

Carrying on a plan begun last spring for raising funds for Troop and District Committee activities, Birmingham Boy Scouts will hold their first canvass of the city for old newspapers and magazines Saturday morning, Oct. 21. The Scouts will call in trucks at all homes in Birmingham and vicinity between the hours of 8 A. M. and noon.

A self-supporting organization, the Boy Scouts here depend on their paper drives, held at regular intervals, as one of their chief sources of revenue.

RENTALS
FURNISHED: 8 room house, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, oil burner, 2 car garage, large lot, fine outlook, $60 month.
UNFURNISHED: Good 6 room house, well heated, $25; Another, $30; Small house, $15.
J. B. HOWARTH & SON, Tel. 321
Real Estate General Insurance
—Adv. 27tf

Indicted



Courtesy of Detroit Free Press

Joseph LeFave

GAMBLING QUIZ CASES DELAYED

Examinations Of Six Under Indictment Postponed One Week

Examinations of Joseph LeFave, Birmingham barber, and of five other men indicted by Judge H. Russel Holland in his one-man grand jury inquiry into Oakland County gambling and rackets were postponed yesterday.

LeFave's examination was set for Oct. 25, along with that of John H. Wells, 60 years old, of Walled Lake, alleged slot machine operator. The other four examinations which were postponed yesterday will be held next Wednesday, together with those for two more men also under indictment. A ninth person was indicted in Judge Holland's report, which was returned last Thursday, but has not yet been arrested, and his identity remains a secret.

LeFave, the father of a large family, is accused of being the local operative for a state-wide baseball gambling pool. He is alleged to have been an employe of George A. Clark, 52 years old, of Jackson, who was also indicted. LeFave, 43 years old, lives at 568 Ann street.

Others indicted and arrested are:

Harry Vreeland, 33 years old, of Walled Lake, former University of Detroit football player, who is accused of operating a slot machine at Orchard Lake Country Club.

Clifford C. Whittemore, 32, of Pontiac, alleged partner of Henry L. Knight, king of the slot machine racket in Oakland County, who was slain July 23. Whittemore is charged with operating a slot machine in a drug store in Pontiac.

James Rogers, 36, of Pontiac, said to be a salesman for Whittemore. He is accused of operating a slot machine in a store at the corner of Telegraph and Orchard Lake roads.

Charles Y. Yuille, 37, of Pontiac, charged with operating a gambling device.

Jesse Tiller, Pontiac Negro, also held on gambling charges.

All eight of the men are charged specifically with violating a 1931 gambling law, which is considered a high misdemeanor and must be tried in Circuit Court. Those charged with slot machine offenses, if convicted, face jail terms of two years or fines of $1,000. The baseball pool section of the law provides for imprisonment for one year or a $500 fine.

HEART ATTACK FATAL TO FURNITURE MOVER

Collapsing while moving furniture on the Fowler estate on Quarton road, east of Telegraph road, Monday afternoon, Roland E. Stiles, employe of a Detroit storage company, was dead on admittance to St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital. Coroner G. Dewey Kimball pronounced death due to a heart attack.

City To Hold Hallowe'en Festival For Kids--Maybe

A community Hallowe'en celebration which would probably attract some 200 of the city's youngsters, and keep them out of mischief by offering them cider and doughnuts instead of the opportunity of soaping up windows and breaking porch furniture, will be held in Birmingham this year if—

The catch in the idea—and the idea belongs to Chief of Police John P. Hackett—is that it will take some money, probably $50, to make the celebration possible, and Chief Hackett isn't at all sure as to where, if at all, the money's coming from.

The inspiration for the idea came from Ferndale, where community Hallowe'en gatherings for the youngsters have been held annually for several years, and have been found highly successful in holding property damage and other Hallowe'en casualties to a minimum.

Chief Hackett visions a huge bonfire on a vacant lot, perhaps beside the old Hill School, with plenty of hot dogs, buns and cider. There would probably be a band to furnish music, along with other entertainment features, and perhaps a few remarks from an adult or two, intended especially to amuse the kids.

Chief Hackett is spending some time this week finding out just how the thing is worked in Ferndale, and maybe—

Well, it's a swell idea, anyway.

MERCHANTS TO HEAR PLAN FOR BUYING DRIVE

Next NRA Development Will Be Outlined Early Next Week

COMPLAINTS STUDIED

Plans for Birmingham's "Buy Now" campaign, newest NRA development, are to be outlined at a meeting of merchants early next week, it was announced yesterday by J. Don Jordan, local NRA chairman.

The campaign here will be held in conjunction with similar movements opened in other cities throughout the nation under NRA sanction and encouragement, and will be integrated with the "Buy in Birmingham" drive already in effect, under auspices of the Birmingham Retail Merchants Association.

Posters Ordered

Posters, banners, advertising suggestions and other equipment for stimulating and aiding the drive have been ordered from NRA headquarters, Mr. Jordan said, declaring the movement would be formally opened here as soon as details can be worked out by the merchants.

Birmingham's NRA Compliance Board, charged with enforcing the provisions of the President's re-employment agreement in business places displaying the Blue Eagle, held its second meeting last night to continue its work on the few complaints received to date.

Six written complaints were presented to the Board last Friday night when it held its first meeting, and no new complaints have been filed since that time, according to J. B. Howarth, chairman of the Board.

Describes Procedure

After considering a complaint, Mr. Howarth said, the Board calls it to the attention of the employer involved, and if he is found to be actually violating the re-employment agreement, he is asked to comply voluntarily.

"There has been no trouble at all with any of the few complaints received to date," Mr. Howarth said. "Not a single person has been recalcitrant about complying when asked to do so."

The Compliance Board will begin a survey of Birmingham business houses to determine what effect the Blue Eagle drive has had on payrolls and employment as soon as the proper blanks and other materials are received from Washington, Mr. Howarth said.

MT. CLEMENS NEXT BALDWIN GRID FOE

Schools To Renew Football Relationships Friday After Break Four Years Ago

Grid relationships between Baldwin and Mt. Clemens High Schools will be renewed, after a lapse of four years, Friday afternoon on the Mt. Clemens field.

The game will be the first the two schools have played in football since 1929, when they met only to fulfill a contract after the 1928 game had brought charges from the parents of several Birmingham players that the Bathers had used unnecessarily rough tactics. The 1929 game, which was one of the cleanest and hardest of that season, was won by Mt. Clemens, 27 to 0.

Following the '29 game, school officials called quits between the two. Since the Bathers and the Maroon and White are such deadly rivals, it was felt that neither could financially afford not to play the other. Consequently a two-year contract was signed between them. Basketball relationships, also halted in 1929, were resumed in 1931.

The Maples will undoubtedly be their hands full in trying to beat Mt. Clemens. Last year the Bathers went through an undefeated schedule. This season they have not met with quite so much

(Turn to Page 2, No. 2)

Details of Baldwin's 7 to 2 victory over Grosse Pointe Last Saturday will be found on the School Page.

Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham Plan Valuation Battle

Two Cities Will File Suit Against State Tax Commission If It Has "Fighting Chance" Of Success

CASE GIVEN TO HILLS ATTORNEY

The City Commission, at a special meeting last night, voted to put its case against the State Tax Commission in the hands of Frank W. Atkinson, city attorney of Bloomfield Hills, which has agreed to back Birmingham to the limit in fighting the state's revaluation of Oakland County property.

The Commission acted under the suggestion of Mayor Harry Allen, who declared "it is my idea to submit the case to counsel, and then, if it is decided we have a fighting chance, to file suit with the idea of compelling a proper equalization."

The attack is directed against the revaluation which was reported to the Board of Supervisors last Friday. The State Tax Commission made the revaluation after Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills had taken appeals from the county's equalized valuation. The state failed, however, to change Birmingham's valuation from the original figure of $16,432,000, and reduced Bloomfield Hills' only $200,000, placing it at $6,253,135.

Percentages Increased

On these valuations, both of which are higher than those of last year, although the county as a whole was reduced from $225,000,000 to $217,000,000, Birmingham would be forced to pay 7.56 per cent of the county's total of state and county taxes, as compared with 6.69 per cent last year, and Bloomfield Hills would pay 2.88 per cent as compared with 2.03 last year.

Neither Birmingham nor Bloomfield Hills is confident of being able to upset the revaluation figures, even by court action, but it was pointed out that a fight against them might have a salutary effect in preventing other boosts in future years.

"I'm not at all saguine of success in this thing, but I think the equalization is an outrage and that we should go as far as we can in fighting it," Mayor Allen declared. "I'm satisfied that unless we do fight it, we'll continue to be walked on, year after year."

County Board Scored

Commissioner Clarence Vliet, a member of the Board of Supervisors, blamed the organization of the seven-man county board of equalization for drafting an assessment which, he said, "is so grossly unfair there is no chance for comparison at all." Four members of the board, representing about 3 per cent of the county's valuation, "control the distribution of the other 97 per cent," he declared.

"Birmingham should have a representative on that board of equalization next year even if we have to go into practical politics and make a 'deal'," he asserted.

The county board of equalization also came in for criticism Tuesday night at a meeting of the Bloomfield Hills Commission, when it voted to join Birmingham in the valuation battle. Mayor Allen and Supervisor David Levinson represented Birmingham at the meeting.

James Recalls Statement

"The statement that the figures in the county's equalization report were arrived at on the basis of the ability of the various units to pay, was put up to me two or three times," declared Mayor Donald D. James of Bloomfield Hills. "I don't mind telling you that the chairman of the county equalization committee made that statement to me." Mayor James characterized equalization as practiced

(Turn to Page 2, No. 4)

TEACHERS GET SCRIP TODAY

Merchants To Decide Whether To Take Paper In 25-75 Ratio

While Birmingham school teachers are preparing to receive their salary payments today for the first two weeks of October on the basis of 25 per cent in scrip and 75 per cent in cash, Birmingham merchants are pondering whether they should agree to take scrip and cash from the teachers in the same 25-75 ratio.

The Board of Education last Thursday night voted to meet 25 per cent of teachers' October payrolls in scrip, in an attempt to conserve some of the cash on hand until the beginning of tax collections in December.

The Board will review its cash position early next month, and increase the scrip ratio in teachers' payrolls if necessary.

A proposal that local merchants accept scrip from teachers in the same proportion it is paid to draw in salaries was presented to the Board at Thursday's meeting by Chad M. Ritchie, local manager of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, who represented the Retail Merchants Association.

The proposal found favor with members of the School Board, and Alfred J. LaBelle, president of the R. M. A., said yesterday that it would probably be presented to the merchants at the next general meeting of the Association, which is likely to be held next Tuesday.

One of the first things to be done before any general scheme of scrip negotiability is decided upon, Mr. LaBelle said, will be to draw up a list of merchants now holding scrip, together with the amounts held by each. Until now, there has been no definite understanding between the merchants as to how much scrip they should accept. Some of them have taken it from teachers in unlimited quantities, while others have refused to take it at all.

According to Louis M. Randall,

(Turn to Page 2, No. 3)

Township Gravel Pit Is Assuming New Importance

Bloomfield Township's most notorious white elephant—the gravel pit—is again assuming an importance far beyond what was expected of it when first acquired.

This time it is playing the role of a would-be disrupter of negotiations between the township and the Cities of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills in the division of joint assets and liabilities of the three units.

In a proposal submitted recently by Harry S. Starr, representing Bloomfield Hills in the settlement, it was suggested the gravel pit be turned over to the township, whose equity in the site is figured at 70 per cent.

But the township doesn't want the gravel pit, and neither do the cities want it, and until it can be disposed of, the negotiations appear in a fair way to remain at a standstill.

At a meeting of the three units last Thursday, Perry A. Vaughan, supervisor of the township, agreed to secure a legal opinion as to the township's authority to purchase the gravel pit in the first place. An opinion from George A. Cram, then Oakland County civil counsel, two years ago declared the purchase was made illegally, and if other opinions coincide with this one it is probable the municipalities will move to annul the contract.

A total of $52,000 is still owed on the pit, for which the township is indebted in the same ratio as its equity—70 per cent.

TOM MAXWELL
Sells Chevrolets for
Tom Collins Chevrolet Co.
22925 Woodward, Ferndale
FOLKS, GIVE ME A CALL
Phone Birmingham 1797
—Adv. 23-33

Want Ad rates are LOW use the WANT ADS
For As Little As
25c
you can place a Want Ad in The Eccentric which will reach thousands of readers, many of whom may want just what you have to offer.
Phone 11
The Birmingham Eccentric