The power of thought exceeds by far the imagination of human beings. You never can determine how much good or evil your good or bad thinking does in this world. Doesn't it then behoove each of us to seek to occupy our minds with good thoughts, instead of sordid, morose thoughts about our world?

The Birmingham Eccentric

14 PAGES, PART 1

FIFTY-EIGHT YEAR—NO. 16 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1935 | $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Realization of a desire of many year's standing was accomplished last week when, in company with Dudley M. Carson, of the Campbell-Ewald advertising agency, I completed a trout fishing trip down the Batchewana River, 80 miles north of the Canadian Soo. Mr. Carson, who lives in Royal Oak, and I worked together on Detroit newspapers nearly a score of years ago. He is an exceptionally well-versed woodsman, fisherman, and canoeist—a fact, however, that didn't save us from being nearly consumed by millions and millions and billions of black flies, mosquitoes, and the incomparable "no-see-ums". Here's a brief review of that trip—the toughest I ever adventured:

The Batchewana River, a roaring, boiling, and otherwise disturbed brownish accumulation of otherwise harmless raindrops, crosses the old Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railroad just 80 miles north of the Soo. This railroad operates a train every other day between the Soo and Hearst, nearly 300 miles away. It stops whenever and wherever you want it to stop—its train crews are very accommodating. So, Monday, July 8, we packed our 16-foot canoe and provisions and gear aboard the train at 7:30 A. M., and four hours later we arrived at the Batchewana River. With the help of the section foreman there, we pushed our stuff down the tracks on a hand car, and "put in" below a 20-foot water-fall at about noon.

"At last," I said to Dud, "I am on a primeval trout stream—I hope that the dandy speckled beauties don't capsize our canoe trying to jump in." Carson, about 10 years before, had made the trip with "Olmy" Ohlmstead, another Detroit newspaperman, now connected with Packard Motor. (Carson said then the river had only a quarter as much water in it as this year.) For the first five miles the water was wide and deep—not much current. I rigged up a nice dry fly on my trout rod, cast for nearly an hour, but had no rises. They wouldn't even take a wet fly. So we decided that the time was not right—it was blazing hot and the old sun shone brightly. Then we came to the first set of rapids, stopped to fish them and look about for a method of either going through them in the canoe, or lining the craft along the less turbulent edges by use of a rope and the abutting trees, shrubs, bushes, and rocks.

The amount of river we knew we had to traverse was 40 miles, at the end of which we would reach the Sunset Inn, where the river empties into Lake Superior and Batchewana Bay. We had planned on a week or 10 days in which to make it, leisurely. Good and sufficient reasons compelled us to make it in four days and eight and a half hours. . . . but more of this later.

Perhaps the average current of that river is six miles per hour; in many places, however, it speeds up to eight, 10, and even more as the land structure varies from wide rocky-pebbly bottom to narrow canyon formations. We caught no fish—had nary a strike—in those first rapids. We ventured down a half mile for better fishing water—and were equally disappointed. We thereupon jumped into our canoe to go through what seemed like a fairly easy rapids run when something happened. . . .

Dud Carson sat in the stern seat of the canoe, and I sat forward, each of us armed with a paddle. (Incidentally, one should never venture out without three paddles. We had only two, because at the last minute our outfitter couldn't locate a third paddle.) We were slipping along at about 10 miles per hour, going rather nicely through some white water, when the shifting currents caught the stern half of our canoe and shoved it almost at right angles with the right-hand stream bank—a 15-foot cedar windfall leaned its length over that right-hand bank and, before Carson could rise in the canoe either to try jumping over it, or else out of the canoe, his right side came into contact with that unmovable cedar, and Dud was bumped right out of the canoe into 15 feet of swirling, fast-moving water. Three hundred feet downstream the river met some scattered rocks, causing the swirling water to rise up several feet in a series of mad white-caps. Carson came up right in the middle of the swirling stream, and yelled to me to paddle into the overhanging tag alders—for both of us knew that you can't guide a canoe from its bow in fast water, and in a few seconds I could have been tossed overboard myself, our canoe and contents left to the caprices of Old Man River. So I paddled, "like hell," as Dud suggested. There he was, with all his clothes on, hightop boots, and a paddle in his hands.

(Turn to Page 2, No. 3)

CITY WILL SET UP DELINQUENT TAX RECORDS

Commission Takes New Step In Drive To Collect Past Due Levies

$800 IS APPROPRIATED

Continuing its efforts to encourage local property owners to pay up their back taxes, the City Commission Monday night authorized the expenditure of not to exceed $800 for setting up delinquent tax records which are expected to result in a noticeable increase in collections.

The records will consist of detailed information, to be secured from the county treasurer's office, as to the amount of delinquent taxes of 1932 and prior years owed on every parcel of property in the city. Records of 1934 and 1933 delinquencies are already in the city's possession.

The purpose of the new records will be to enable the city treasurer's office to answer, promptly and accurately, inquiries from taxpayers as to exactly how much they owe in back levies.

Payments Discouraged

"At present," City Manager James W. Parry explained, "this information is available at the county treasurer's office only. When a man comes into the city offices to find out what his delinquent tax bill is, we tell him he'll either have to go to Pontiac for the information or that we'll have to call the county treasurer's office and try to get it for him. Generally, his reaction is, 'Oh, never mind', and he falls out of the mood for paying and forgets about it.

"If we can have the information ready for him when he asks for it, he'll be much more likely to pay than he would be if he had to wait for it or if he had to go to Pontiac to get it."

Eventually, Mr. Parry said, the city hopes not only to be able to make this information available to taxpayers, but to collect the actual taxes as well. At present, delinquent taxes are payable only at the county treasurer's office, but after the information records are prepared, arrangements will be made, the manager indicated, whereby they may be paid directly to the city treasurer, who will issue a receipt for the money and later relay the formal tax receipt from the county treasurer to the taxpayer.

Resolution Quoted

The Commission's resolution authorizing preparation of the records follows:

"Whereas, the experience of the city in its tax collection effort during the past season has indicated the wisdom and desirability of a continued tax collection pressure to induce people who have not paid their taxes to stand their share of governmental cost, and

"Whereas such experience clearly indicates the continuance of this effort in some modified form, adapted to circumstance, and

"Whereas provision for this effort was made in the general contingent fund of the budget, with full recognition that the tax collection effort would cost some money, and would require some increase in clerical help,

Cost Specified

"Therefore, be it resolved, that as a first step in the undertaking of such continued tax collection effort, the manager be authorized to proceed with the setting up of a record of all tax delinquencies on properties within the City of Birmingham for 1932 and prior years, as taken from the books of the county treasurer, at a cost not to exceed $800, such expenditure to be authorized from the contingent fund, and that suitable explanation of the effort and its bearing on the tax collection effort be prepared for publicity."

The $800, Mr. Parry explained, will cover only the cost of copying the delinquent tax figures from the county treasurer's books. Addition-

(Turn to Page 2, No. 2)

Heat Sways Balance In Barnyard Combat

Farmer Tells How Providence Appeared In A Drop Of Sweat To Save A Rooster

By ALLEN TENNY

A thrilling and mortal barnyard combat between a Plymouth Rock rooster and a four-foot bull snake, in which the effects of the heat played an important part, was related to The Eccentric yesterday by John Warren Elrod, Troy Township farmer.

"Early on the afternoon of one of the hottest days we had last week," Mr. Elrod said, "I was attracted by a noisy commotion at the rear of my house, and went out to see what was going on. In the hub-bub, the excited, nervous crowing of a rooster was plainly audible, so I went directly to the chicken yard.

"There, almost in the center of the fenced-in area, stood one of my prize roosters, fluttering and cackling as he confronted a writhing, dangerous-looking bull snake, fully four feet in length. The bull snake (sometimes called the pine snake or white gopher snake), as you probably knew, has a turtle-shaped head and its tail ends in a spine. It is whitish on top, with large black splotches, and marble-white below.

Hissing Recalled

"The bull snake possesses a peculiar filament of cartilage in its mouth which enables it to emit a violently loud, hissing sound. It was this hissing, combined with the rooster's crowing—if you could call it crowing, so excited and unnatural was the rooster—that had attracted my attention.

"As I came upon the two combatants, the snake was vibrating his tail rapidly, and evidently attempting to writhe himself into position to coil himself around the rooster and exert his deadly constricting powers.

"The rooster, for his part, was defending himself admirably by flapping his wings, dancing about from side to side, and pecking erratically at the snake's head. I was so enthralled by the battle that I simply stood by motionless, making no effort to rescue the rooster or drive off the snake.

Rooster's Doom Feared

"It seems to me now that this queer duel must have continued for fully 20 minutes. On at least three different occasions it appeared that the rooster's end had come, but always he managed to flutter and squirm out of the muscular coils of the snake just as they seemed about to start their deadly work.

"The rooster was doing no apparent damage to the snake, but the latter was nevertheless deeply baffled by this pecking, cackling, dancing mass of feathers, the like of which the snake had probably never encountered before. All the time, the hissing of the snake and the loud cries of the rooster continued to mingle in a hideous cacophony.

"The fight was taking place in the full rays of the blazing sun, and after 10 or 15 minutes, the effects of the heat were clearly noticeable on both combatants. Neither lost any of his original ferocity or determined savagery, but the movements of both seemed to be growing slower, as though the heat had brought sluggishness of muscles. Perspiration began to stand out all over the snake's skin.

Coils For Kill

"Suddenly the snake, with a violent swish of his tail, brushed the rooster aside and momentarily put him off his guard. The snake drew back for a tremendous lunge that would certainly have caught and strangled the rooster in one turn of his writhing body.

"Just at that instant, however, Providence interfered in behalf of the rooster. As the snake was coiled for his spring, a large drop of sweat which had collected on the top of his head, divided and rolled down either side, filling his eyes.

"With the snake thus momentarily blinded, the rooster sprang quickly to his advantage. Flying directly at the reptile's head, he jabbed his beak far down into the hissing mouth, and left it there until the snake choked to death!"

PURELY PERSONAL

The combination of a cultivator handle and the heat knocked **Don Bell** completely out last Thursday. . . . **Bill Oldershaw** is the newest member of the Rotary Club. . . . **William Pearson** of Birmingham recently applied for a license to marry **Genevieve Hayes** of Detroit.

Williams C. Harris was 69 years old Tuesday. . . . **Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Dayton**, who used to live in Birmingham but now reside in Mountain Lakes, N. J., are planning to tour Vermont on bicycles next month. They consider it quite a venture for people of their age.

Raymond Bower has secured a patent on a paper feeding mechanism. And **Lionel Woolson** has patented an internal combustion engine. . . . **Mrs. Dorothy Roosevelt** attended the Mackinac race fleet festivities on the St. Clair River the other day. . . . **Warren Booth** was one of the skippers.

Bob Harrington claims one of his ancestors founded Harrington, Del. . . . **Ken Bingham** acquired, last week-end, the most complete case of sunburn this department has ever seen. . . . **Mrs. Charles L. Winningham** is unquestionably one of this community's best-looking women.

Although he stayed in the game, **Johnny Owen** remembers nothing of what happened for two innings after a base runner collided with him in a softball game Monday evening. . . . **Addis Bunyan** is our favorite soda-bar tender. . . . **Curly Norton** attended the convention of the American Osteopathic Association in Cleveland this week.

Playing cribbage the other night, **Pete King** double-skunked **Clyde Babcock** and skunked **Ed Parks** in the same game. . . . **Mrs. Laurence Clark** practices vocalizing whenever she has a spare moment. . . . **Mr. and Mrs. Allen Drury** and their three pretty daughters, **Laura, Barbara and Mildred**, who left Birmingham about seven years ago, are still living in Medford, Ore.

DEPOSITORS SLOW TO CALL FOR DIVIDENDS

Less Than Half Of Names Listed For Payoff Have Appeared

SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Disappointment at the failure of hundreds of depositors to call for their dividend checks on the days scheduled was expressed yesterday by Harry R. Cooley, receiver of the First National Bank, which today begins its fourth day in the distribution of a 20 per cent dividend. The payoff started Monday.

"We made arrangements to pass out over 500 checks a day, but so far less than half that number have called daily since the payoff began," Mr. Cooley said. "We were ready Monday morning to pay out at four different windows, but we haven't needed more than two.

"I know that a large number of depositors are away on vacations now and therefore can't follow the schedule in calling for their checks, but nevertheless I expected a much better response than we received, especially the first two days.

"We worked hard to prepare for this payoff, the money is here, and we're anxious for the depositors to come and get it. Failure to observe the schedule prolongs the payoff, and we don't want to string it out indefinitely. The principal thing is to get these checks out so that we can start on other work."

Despite the failure of depositors to observe it the first few days, the original schedule will continue to be carried out, Mr. Cooley said. The schedule for the remainder of this week calls for depositors whose last names begin with I, J, K, L and Mc to receive their checks today; M, N, O and P names Friday, and Q and R names Saturday.

Depositors whose names begin with S, T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z are called for Monday. The paying hours are 9 A. M. to noon on Saturday, and 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. all other days.

Depositors who failed to file proofs of claim before the payoff started must wait until the others have received their checks before their claims will be accepted, Mr. Cooley has announced.

CITY REFUNDING AGREEMENT SEEN

Commission May Take Formal Action This Week On Details Of Program

Possibility that an agreement between the city and its bondholders on a proposed refunding program will be reached in the near future was seen yesterday in the announcement from Mayor Harry Allen that a special meeting of the City Commission will probably be called some evening this week for action on a resolution covering details of the program.

Action on the resolution will follow a conference last Friday between city officials and a group representing approximately 62 per cent of the bondholders, at which the final points of disagreement were reported to have been ironed out.

The resolution will give complete details under which it is proposed the bonds will be refunded, including interest rates and other provisions, Mayor Allen said. If the resolution is formally approved by the Commission, summaries of the plan will be mailed to each bondholder, asking his acceptance of the agreement. Approval of bondholders owning at least 75 per cent of the bonds is required.

The first draft of the proposed program was submitted to the Commission and approved several months ago. A series of conferences with bondholders since then has resulted in some changes, however.

The city's agent in working out the program is Louis H. Schimmel, representative of the Michigan Municipal League.

JUNE FIRE DAMAGE HERE EXACTLY $100

Fire caused exactly $100 damage in Birmingham in June, all of the loss being on buildings and none on contents, according to the monthly report of Fire Chief Vernon W. Griffith. Property endangered by the five fires to which firemen were summoned was valued at $80,000. All of the loss was recovered through insurance. Firemen spent 5 hours and 36 minutes in actual fire fighting.

HAVE YOU MET?—

Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Smith, who moved to Birmingham recently from Detroit. They are living at 760 Fairfax road.

Mr. Smith is in charge of the Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild. They have two children, Albert William, 2nd, five years old, and Dolores Bader, three years old.

New President

—Photo by Arnold Studios

J. Mark Hardin

HARDIN HEADS LOAN BOARD

Mary Latham Resigns As Member Of Scholarship Association

J. Mark Hardin, 1291 Yosemite road, was elected president of the Birmingham Scholarship Fund Association at the annual organization meeting Tuesday evening. He succeeds Miss Mary Latham, 1128 Southfield road, whose resignation as a member of the Association was presented and accepted.

Miss Latham, who served as president of the group last year, gave a contemplated change in residence as her reason for resigning, saying that she intends to be in Detroit the coming year.

Mrs. F. H. Mellinger, 820 Suffield road, was named to the vacancy caused by Miss Latham's resignation. She will represent the Birmingham Branch of the American Association of University Women on the board.

Mrs. Harry Allen, recently elected a member-at-large of the Association, was chosen vice-president, and Miss Loretta Porritt, also a new member, was chosen secretary. Miss Porritt was appointed to succeed A. Shanley Rosso as a representative of the Baldwin High School Alumni Association.

Frank Higby, who also represents the Baldwin alumni on the Scholarship Board, was re-elected treasurer. The other members of the Association are Superintendent Charles W. Crandell, ex-officio, and Dr. Fred G. Crawford, honorary member-at-large. Mr. Hardin, the new president, represents the Board of Education in the Association, the function of which is to make loans to deserving high school graduates desiring to attend college.

WOMAN GOES FREE IN THEFT OF JEWEL

Mrs. Otto Kern, of East Long Lake road, Bloomfield Township, wife of the vice-president and treasurer of the Ernst Kern Company, Detroit, has refused to prosecute a 44-year-old woman servant who stole a $1,800 diamond brooch belonging to Mrs. Kern, it was revealed yesterday.

The brooch, missing since July 11, was found in a Lansing store, where it had been pawned by the thief's brother, who believed his sister owned it. The woman servant, who lives in Birmingham and formerly worked in the Kern home, confessed the theft after being arrested, but the Kerns refused to prosecute her.

CITY WINS CUT IN EQUALIZED VALUES FOR '35

Moral Victory Seen In Slash Of Percentage Total To 6.72

HILLS RATIO NOT CUT

Birmingham officials appeared to be almost unanimous in the opinion yesterday that the city scored something of a moral victory Tuesday when the Oakland County Board of Supervisors accepted the report of the equalization committee in which Birmingham's proportion of the total county valuation is reduced from 7.44834 per cent to 6.72326 per cent.

It was the first time in three years that the county has shown any disposition to agree with the city's contention that Birmingham property is far over-valued in proportion to valuations in other communities.

City Assessor Donald Egbert, who is also a member of the Board of Supervisors, expressed the opinion of other local officials yesterday when he said, "The reduction granted Birmingham in this year's equalization report is a step in the right direction, but we're still not down as far as we ought to be."

Suit Still Pending

In each of the past two years, both Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills have brought legal action against the Board of Supervisors and State Tax Commission, charging the equalized valuations in those cities were unjustly high and discriminatory. The last suit is still pending in the State Supreme Court. Although the new valuation has not come to the attention of the City Commission, it is not likely that Birmingham will sue on this year's report. The fact that all four of the city's supervisors voted to accept it is evidence that it is considered satisfactory.

The Birmingham supervisors, in addition to Mr. Egbert, are Commissioner Luther Heacock, John S. Black and David Levinson. Mr. Levinson is also a member of the county equalization committee, and as such was undoubtedly largely instrumental in securing the reduction this year.

Although Birmingham's percentage of total valuation was reduced, that of Bloomfield Hills was left the same as last year's—2.84486 per cent—and Mayor George E. Roehm, Bloomfield Hills' representative on the Board of Supervisors, voted against the report. Bloomfield Hills, in addition to joining Birmingham in legal action against the last two equalization reports, refused last year to spread state and county taxes on the 1934 equalization.

Vaughan Opposes Report

Supervisor Perry A. Vaughan of Bloomfield Township also voted against the new equalization, in which his township's share of the total valuation is left at 3.80651, the same as it was last year.

Although the 1935 equalization will require Birmingham property owners to pay a smaller percentage of the total county tax than they paid last year, it boosted the city's equalized valuation to $14,118,846, as compared with the city's own assessed valuation of $12,414,310. Bloomfield Hills' assessed valuation of $3,714,850 was raised to $5,974,206 in the equalization, and Bloomfield Township was increased from $7,370,801 to $7,993,671.

The county as a whole was equalized at $210,000,000, a reduction of $2,000,000 from last year's valuation. The county's assessed valuation this year was $210,647,925.

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

In case you've been wondering, the cost of making a left turn at Maple and Woodward avenues on Saturdays or Sundays, in violation of the city's newest traffic regulation, will be $2. The fee was set by Police Chief John P. Hackett and approved by the City Commission Monday night. Left turns at the Maple-Woodward corner on any days except Saturdays and Sundays are free, of course.

Bound for a six-weeks' vacation in his native Finland, Eliel Saarinen, head of the Cranbrook Foundation, left Tuesday for New York, whence he will sail Friday on the M. S. Grittsholm for Helsingfors. In Finland, the world famous architect will join Mrs. Saarinen, who will return to Cranbrook with him early in the fall. Their son, Eero Saarinen, who has been studying in Finland on a scholarship, will remain there.

Jimmy Spence and Bill Merz two local cat-boat enthusiasts, are still thanking their lucky stars they weren't drowned, or at least given an unwelcome ducking in the St. Clair River during last Friday afternoon's storm. The two young men, members of the Detroit Edison Boat Club, were caught in the 42-mile-an-hour gale as their boat neared the mouth of the river, and were swept rapidly toward Lake St. Clair. A quick lowering of the sail and the dropping of the anchor, however, prevented possible capsizing, and a work boat arrived in the nick of time to tow them back to shore.

Edmond Richardson, Lawrence Martin, Gene Richardson, Chester Whitten, Calvin Weier, and Dean Firth, all Birmingham boys, were among the winner of heats in the Detroit Soap Box Derby last week.

Edmond Richardson, driving the same black speedster in which his brother, Kenneth, rode to victory in the Birmingham Derby the week before, was eliminated in the semi-finals of Class C, being defeated by the boy who eventually won the Derby championship in the final race. Edmond, 13 years old, lives in Beverly Hills.

Calvin Weier, who lives at 1561 Bates street, was the runner-up in Class A, for boys from six to nine years old. Calvin is nine. He was defeated by Kenneth Richardson in the Birmingham race.

A recently published tabulation of life insurance payments by states and cities in 1934 is proof that Birminghamites are nothing if not thrifty and careful to provide for the future. Michigan stands seventh in the list of 48 states in the total of payments made on life insurance policies, and Birmingham stands 14th in the list of all Michigan cities. To-

(Turn to Page 2, No. 1)

Add Child Expert To Library Staff

Western Reserve University Graduate To Begin Duties Here In August

Employment of a children's librarian at Baldwin Public Library was announced yesterday by Miss Adeline Cooke, head librarian.

The new employe is Miss Helen Norman, of Columbus and Cleveland, O., who will begin her new duties here early in August, Miss Cooke said.

Miss Norman is a graduate of St. Mary's of the Springs College, near Columbus, and just recently received the degree of bachelor of library science from Western Reserve University in Cleveland, where she specialized in children's library work.

COUNTY SEEKS NEW BUILDING

Supervisors Would Erect $220,000 Office Structure Behind Courthouse

An appropriation of $1,000 for the preparation of plans and specifications for a $220,000 office building for Oakland County was voted Monday by the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, and work on the plans is to start immediately.

The new building, which would house all county offices that are now scattered in various downtown Pontiac buildings, would be erected at the rear of the courthouse at Saginaw and Huron streets. The supervisors hope to secure an appropriation from the $4,880,000,000 federal work relief program with which to finance the project.

Two years ago, an attempt to have the building erected as a PWA project failed when the application was filed too late.

Tuesday afternoon, the Board of Supervisors adjourned until next Tuesday, when it will act on a plan for refunding the county's $7,350,000 Covert road bond indebtedness. More than $4,000,000 of the bonds are in default.

The plan calls for refunding over 25 years, and has the approval of the bondholders protective committee and the State Public Debt Commission.

PERMITS ISSUED FOR 3 NEW HOMES

Continued Building Activity Evidenced Here; New Structures To Cost $22,050

Permits for the construction of three new residences, issued within the past 10 days by Donald Egbert, building inspector, are evidence that the general revival of building activity is still affecting Birmingham.

The three permits are for structures to be erected at a total estimated cost of $22,050.

One is for a brick veneer single residence to be built for Alva Witt on Lot 22, Hanna street, at a cost of $7,000. A frame residence for Louis J. Schneider on Lot 263, Puritan road, will cost $12,000. Mr. Schneider is now living at 215 Glengary road.

The third permit was issued to E. K. Leavenworth, 930 Chicago boulevard, Detroit, for a $3,500 frame residence on Lot 22, Randall court.

Two permits for new garages have also been issued within the past few days, Mr. Egbert said.

DETROITER INVOLVED IN CRASH ACQUITTED

George Reinhardt, 51 years old, of 7443 Dexter avenue, Detroit, a clerk in the Detroit city treasurer's office, was acquitted in Royal Oak Municipal Court last Thursday of a charge of intoxication growing out of an accident July 10 in which a Beverly Hills man was injured.

Royal Oak police charged that Reinhardt's car was parked in a Woodward avenue traffic lane near Ridge road, in Royal Oak, when it was struck by a car driven by Charles Mott, 24-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mott of Beverly road, Beverly Hills. Mott was seriously injured, but is recovering now at his home.

A jury acquitted Reinhardt of the drunk charge.

COUNTY TREASURER TO ADDRESS CLUB

Charles A. Sparks, Oakland County treasurer, will address the Birmingham Rotary Club at its meeting in the Community House Monday noon. He will speak on the operation of the Moore-Holbeck delinquent tax moratorium law.

LIGHTNING HITS RADIO

Lightning during the thunder storm Tuesday afternoon struck the inside aerial of a radio in the home of A. E. Phillips, 623 Harmon avenue. Firemen were called to the home, but the blaze had been extinguished when they arrived.

J. B. HOWARTH & SON
General Insurance — Real Estate
National Bank Building — Tel. 321
—Adv. 51 tf

$269,808 BUDGET IS ADOPTED BY SCHOOL BOARD

Tax Rate To Be $12.70; Operating Costs Put At $184,808

DEBT SERVICE, $85,000

The Board of Education Monday night set the Birmingham school district tax rate for 1935-36 at $12.70 per thousand, after adopting a budget of $269,808.92. Last year, the rate was $11.34, and the budget was $231,032.

The new budget places total operating expenditures for the year at $184,808.92, and includes $85,000 for debt service. Of the tax rate, $7 is for operating purposes and $5.70 for debt service.

The new board definitely commits the Board to a school term of nine months, unless an increase in revenues from tax collections or other sources warrants an extension of two weeks. The Board has agreed to review the district's financial condition in February to determine whether the longer term can be financed.

Higher Rate Denied

The $7 tax rate for operating purposes was established after the County Tax Allocation Commission had apparently refused to allow a higher uniform rate to be spread. The Board made a formal request to the Commission for a uniform rate of at least $7.50, but received no reply.

The $7 rate would raise $104,225.06 for operating purposes, providing 100 per cent of the levy were collected. The budget is based theoretically on a 100 per cent collection, but the Board's list of credits makes no mention of delinquent tax payments, which, it is hoped, will be sufficient to offset current delinquencies. Practically, the Board is counting on a current collection of at least 60 per cent.

Anticipated revenues for operating purposes, in addition to the $104,808 tax levy, include $31,198 from the state primary fund, $38,385.86 from the Thatcher-Sias Aid fund, $6,000 in current tuition, $4,200 in deferred tuition, $500 in rentals, and $300 from the state library fund.

For teachers and other employes, the new budget makes provision for the salary increase averaging 5 per cent which was approved by the Board several weeks ago. Extension of the term two weeks would result in another increase of about 5 per cent over last year's payrolls.

$61,000 For Interest

The debt service portion of the budget includes $4,000 for principal payments on refunding bonds, but nothing for principal on bonds of original issue. It also includes $61,083.50 for interest on bonds, and $19,916.50 for principal and interest on notes held by Detroit banks.

In detail, the budget is essentially the same as it was when first presented to the Board by Superintendent Charles W. Crandell, although the total is reduced slightly more than $4,000.

It places expenditures for instructional service at $129,918.92; plant operation, $41,145; general control, $11,985; maintenance, $1,975; auxiliary agencies, $1,425, and insurance, $1,360. It also calls for the levying of $7,500 for the repayment of part of a loan of $20,000 made from the state last spring, enabling the schools to remain open after the spring vacation.

Half of the loan was secured by 1933 delinquent taxes, and this half is not due until the end of four years. The other half, secured by 1934 delinquent taxes, falls due in the coming year, and the State Tax Commission has requested that provision be made in the new tax levy for its repayment. The total $20,000 borrowed has already been reduced to about $16,000, according to Louis M. Randall, business manager of the schools.

WANT a loan of $2500.00 for which I will pay interest of 5% per month. Positively secure. Quick action is imperative. O. F. Beier, 272 Oakland. 426. —Adv. 16

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