Sunday to many is merely a "no work day"; to others a golf day; to some the same as others days for work; and so forth, etc. To me it is the day of the "Son" of God—how sad!—to so few of us a day when we can bring our thinking to the conviction that we, too, are His sons.

The Birmingham Eccentric

16 PAGES, PART 1

SIXTIETH YEAR—NO. 1 — BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1937 — $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Stalin plans another "blood purge" of his political enemies in Russia. Which is further proof that Stalin's national flag is red by no accident.

Most people really want to do better—would, if they could, attain perfection. But life is so adjusted to such a rapid tempo that they haven't time to embark upon the life-long task of self-improvement. After all, God didn't help a fellow if he won't help himself, can He?

You never can tell how and when a thing you do will reflect upon others. Everything you do is like an acorn—and may become eventually a forest. That is why society suggests that each of us strive to do and think only good things and thoughts. The acorn of evil results in a barren forest while an acorn of good offers shade and shelter for the traveller.

Few people would sneak up behind another and strike him in the back with a sharp knife. Shouldn't this remind us that harmful gossip about others, given behind their backs, is like sneaking up on them behind their backs and plunging a knife into them?

The best way to make a mistake pay you dividends is to refuse to make it again.

The Au Sable Speaks

I was born among the ice lobes,
I was nourished by a glacier;
And my youthful occupation
Was to dig and carry sand,
Then the melting ice retreated
And the Huron sea shrank eastward,
And my task it was to sculpture
And to drain the new-made land.

Came the green upon the sand slopes,
Grass and sedges in the marshes,
And at last the pine and maple
Spread to clothe the wide moraine.
Here came porcupine and otter,
Skulking deer, and nesting mallard;
Here the hunter and the hunted
Ranged the wood and coursed the plain.

I supplied the turtle Red Man
Trout and beaver, and a highway
From the shore of stormy Huron
To his upland Copper Trail.
I was partner to Paul Bunyan,
Chuted logs down to his saw mills;

(Continued on Page Two)

Legion "Smelt Fry" On Friday Evening

In what they hope will become a custom in Birmingham, members of the local American Legion Post will sponsor a "smelt fry" at the Post Hall, Friday, April 9. The dinner, which will be open to the public, is a souvenir of the third annual Escanaba Smelt Jamboree, and the little silver fish are being sent here from the American Legion Post of Escanaba.

John Gill, Post commander, and a native of Escanaba, is in charge of all arrangements for the affair and announces that preparation for the dinner will be in the hands of members of the organization.

Dinner will be served from five until nine p.m.

Discuss Youth At College Open Forum

The question, "Has the Younger Generation a Moral Code?", and other problems related to youth will be discussed in open forum under the auspices of the Sociology Class of the Birmingham Community College next Tuesday at 7 p. m. in the Baldwin high school, according to H. F. Boer, director of the college.

Mr. Boer asserts that all interested persons, particularly young people, are cordially invited to attend and express their views on the questions. He said all opinions will be considered in an open-minded and sympathetic manner.

LIONS PLAN CHARTER NIGHT DANCE APR. 14

State Governor Arthur M. Mann will be guest of honor Wednesday evening, April 14, at the annual Lions Club Charter Night dinner dance to be held at the Community House.

Milton Bers is acting as general chairman of the affair and will be assisted in handling arrangements by Richard Fleming, Donald Bell and Russell McBride. Entertainment for the evening will be under the direction of Dean Yocom.

The event marks the ninth anniversary of the granting of the charter to the local Lions organization.

CLERICAL HELP, JANITORS GET SALARY RAISE

School Board Provides For Increase At Special Session Monday

Salary increases for seven members of the clerical staff, the business manager, and school janitors were authorized by the Board of Education at a special meeting held in the Hill School Monday evening. Earl G. Potter was in charge of the session.

The school board instructed Supt. Howard D. Crull to raise the wages of four clerks, one school nurse, one librarian and the individual in charge of child accounting. The total increase for the school term of 1937-38 aggregates $725. The board further authorized a $200 hike in the annual salary of Business Manager Louis M. Randall.

No definite increase in wages for janitors was stipulated. Mr. Randall will submit recommendations to that effect at the board's next session and action on the matter will be taken at that time.

Committee Appointed

Charles J. Shain, representing the Community House move to establish a city-wide recreational program the year around, appeared before the board and urged that it appoint a committee to cooperate with other representatives of civic groups in working out plans for the program. Chairman Potter named Supt. Crull, Charles S. Kinnison and John S. Black as members of the committee.

To Hire Engineer

Following discussion of the condition of the ceiling in the Baldwin High School auditorium, the board authorized the employment of a structural engineer for the purpose of making a thorough investigation of the overhead construction in the auditorium. The board allotted a sum of money to cover cost of hiring an engineer for the work.

Supt. Crull was instructed to work with Chief of Police John P. Hackett in an effort to evolve some plan that will make accessible that part of East Frank Street near the Barnum School where cars have been parking. It was pointed out that the parking of vehicles on both sides of the street at that point obstructs traffic and endangers the safety of children leaving the school building.

Building Valuation For March Is $75,725

Thirteen building permits were issued by City Building Inspector Elmer C. Haack during the month of March. The assessed valuation placed on the new structures totalled $75,725.

Seven permits were given out for single family residences with a valuation of $70,850. Alterations amounted to $3,275. Two temporary building permits were issued with an estimated valuation of $1600.

Although the past month's total of $75,725 is approximately $30,000 lower than the March, 1936 figure, the estimated valuation for the first quarter of the current year is $310,746, as compared with $243,440 for 1936.

Supt. H. D. Crull Outlines Need For Longer School Day At Baldwin PTA Meet Tuesday

Howard D. Crull, superintendent of schools, and Melvin C. Hart, principal of Baldwin High School, spoke Tuesday evening at the second meeting of the Baldwin High School Parent Teacher Association. Mrs. H. H. Corson, president of the organization, presided over the meeting attended by approximately 200 persons.

In speaking of the program for the school year of 1937-38 Mr. Crull explained to the parents present, with the aid of charts and diagrams, the present scheme of the Birmingham educational system in comparison with previous years, stating that at the present time the work of the schools is with the child as an individual rather than as a member of a group.

For the coming year, he went on to say, it is hoped that there can be additions to the teaching staff. However, because of heavy bonded indebtedness and the fact that the assessed valuation of the school district has been cut approximately in half, the additions will be necessarily limited.

In order to give the student benefit of secondary school education, Mr. Crull pointed out that it is virtually a necessity to lengthen the school day in Birmingham. At the present time, he said, students here spend 15 percent less time in school than those of the average surrounding community. Mr. Crull proposed a plan whereby the students would start morning classes at 8:30 rather than at 9, have but one hour for lunch rather than the present hour and fifteen minutes, with school being dismissed at 3:45. In this way 45 minutes would be added to the school day.

With this additional time Mr. Crull maintained that there could be greater efficiency and flexibility in the inter-building teacher schedule; the students would be given far more opportunity to participate in the extra-curricular activities of the school, and finally, they could be given a more rounded program of school work. Not the least of the proposed plan is the fact that the teachers would be given an opportunity to become better adquainted with the students for they would not be forced to teach every class room hour of the school week.

In keeping with the latter point Mr. Crull stated that the number of students going on to institutions of higher learning was noticeably falling off. For this reason, he said that students must be aided in vocational guidance and adjustment in order to make for better citizenship upon graduation. With the longer day they would be able to work with their council-

(Continued on Page Two)

Mrs. Earl Bisso—Receives Cooking School Grand Prize—As 500 Watch

A. S. A. MEETING IN PONTIAC TONIGHT

Indiana Congressman To Talk At Rally On "Packing Supreme Court

Congressman S. B. Pettengill (D) from Indiana has accepted an invitation to speak in Pontiac tonight under the auspices of the American System Advocates, an organization formed in Birmingham recently to oppose President Roosevelt's court plan. The Hoosier Representative will deliver an address on, "Packing The Supreme Court," in the Congregational Church, beginning at 8 p. m.

Congressman George A. Dondero of Royal Oak was instrumental in obtaining the services of the guest speaker. Walter Reynolds, chairman of the Michigan Committee of the American Legion on subversive activities, also will speak at the open assembly.

Delegations from Flint, Jackson and most of the larger cities in this county are expected to attend the meeting. The Royal Oak group will be led by Fletcher Renton while Birmingham persons planning on attending the rally will make the trip to Pontiac in a body, headed by Harry Allen, president of the A. S. A.

Over 1,000 Women Attend 2-Day Free Cooking School At House

By Marjorie Elaine Porter

Before an audience of more than 500 women, Mrs. Earl Bisso of 671 Emmons avenue, heard her name called Wednesday morning, as the winner of the Norge Gas Range, donated by the Hawthorne Electric Co., and Bob Milks Service, as the grand prize of the cooking school held Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at the Community House. More than 1,000 Birmingham housewives and their guests crowded into the auditorium during the two-day session to take advantage of the cooking class offered free by The Eccentric, land conducted by the Homakers Institute of Detroit.

Prizes Awarded Daily

In addition to culinary hints and advice given by the lecturer, Mrs. Bess Wright, valuable prizes were offered each day, culminating in the big event on the second day, when the name of Mrs. Bisso was announced as the winner of the Norge Range.

$10 Prize Offered

Vegetable soup may sound like an easy and commonplace beverage to brew, but in reality, it is far from it. It's contents may, and often does vary, to such an extent as to alter or improve the flavor considerably.

This is just a little preamble to the offer made by The Eccentric to award $10 in cash to the Birmingham woman who submits the best recipe for vegetable soup. A committee of judges will be appointed to make the selection, of which one will be Mrs. Bess Wright of the Homakers Institute of Detroit. Recipes may be submitted to The Eccentric office. Closing date for the contest will be announced later.

To create suspense, George R. Averill, publisher of The Eccentric, announced that six names would be drawn for the stove, which would be awarded as a gift to the seventh. For a few tense moments, as Mr. Averill read off the names, the auditorium was fairly silent, except for nervous giggles of suspense here and there among the crowd. As Mrs. Bisso's name was pronounced, there was a burst of applause, which seemed to come in a spirit of congratulation and good sportsmanship.

"I was so excited, I couldn't believe it was really my name," Mrs. Bisso told The Eccentric, "I am just recovering from a long illness, and do not go many places as yet. But I didn't want to miss the cooking school, so I came yesterday. I didn't win anything the first day, but I was so interested I came again. And I am certainly glad of it, because I love to cook, and I would rather spend my time baking than doing anything else I can think of."

Mrs. Bisso has been a resident of Birmingham for the past 15 years. She is a member of the Women's Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and wife of the Commander of the V. F. W. local post. She is also the mother of eleven-year-old Malcolm Bisso, an enthusiastic supporter of his mother's hobby for cooking.

Large Crowd Tuesday

Tuesday morning, at 9:30 o'clock, when the school was scheduled to open, the auditorium was already filled. Late-comers hurried down the aisles to look for stray seats, which even at that early hour were hard to find. As Mrs. Wright began her lecture, pencils and paper were hastily drawn from bags, and necks were craned in the desire to pay close attention.

Mrs. Wright's first recipe was Frankfurter Sandwiches de Luxe. This was followed by banana cream pie, and Arabian scallop

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SIX DEMS RETAIN LEAD FOR OFFICE

Van Waggoner Paces Cohorts With 90,000 Lead For Highway Post

Democrats appeared fairly certain of capturing six of the nine state offices contested for in Monday's election with 81 out of 3,480 precincts yet to be reported.

Murray Van Waggoner led the Democratic line-up with a smashing victory over C. M. Zeigler. The highway commissioner was returned to office with a 90,000 vote majority.

T. F. McAllister and W. H. North apparently have been elected to seats on the state supreme court. McAllister, Democrat, had a 5,000 vote lead while North, Republican, maintained a slender advantage over the other two candidates. E. C. Shields and J. D. Lynch, both Democrats, were conceded victory in the race for two vacancies as University of Michigan regents.

Dr. E. B. Elliot, incumbent appears certain of reelection as Supt. of Public Instruction with a 5,000 lead over his Democratic opponent, A. E. Erickson. Frank Cody, Republican, amassed his party's largest individual total, defeating C. M. Novak for a seat on the state Board of Education by a 15,000 majority. Cody was running for reelection.

Two Democrats, J. J. Jakway and Mrs. L. Masselink were in the lead for positions on the state Board of Agriculture. Jakway held a 5,000 advantage but Mrs. Masselink's lead of 1,700 did not appear too safe.

TAX COLLECTION TOTALS RELEASED

City Treasurer H. H. Corson Cites Figures On City And County Rolls

Deadlines for payment without penalty of Winter and city taxes expired March 1 and City Treasurer Harold H. Corson has compiled the amount of taxes collected during the current periods.

The collection period for the Winter tax roll extended from December 10 until March 1. Mr. Corson reports that his office levied the amount of $59,793.66 for county taxes and collected $39,043.68. This tax, now delinquent, as well as city taxes, will be assessed a charge of four and three-quarters per cent for the initial month in which they are delinquent in addition to three-quarters of one per cent for each additional month in which they are not paid.

For the school district No. 1, Mr. Corson's office levied $164,374.67 and collected $108,016.97.

City taxes are collectable during the period, July 1 to March 1. During this eight month's span the city treasurer levied $242,624.49 and took in $165,917.08. Special assessments levied in Birmingham totalled $4,849.39 of which $2,097.55 was collected.

President Forbes S. Hascall Explains Why House Remains "Heart Of Birmingham"

With the annual Community House drive beginning April 26, this year's steering committee has been busy of late organizing and planning the campaign. Forbes S. Hascall, president of the House Association, recognizing the fact that many persons in Birmingham are not fully aware of the work accomplished by the civic center and the part it plays in fostering and conducting community activities, has written the article below explaining the House's position here and why it is known as the "Heart of Birmingham."

President Hascall's statements are as follows:

"To my mind, the Birmingham Community House is unique. It is the only institution of its type in the Detroit Metropolitan Area. In fact, no other community the size of Birmingham, anywhere in the United States can boast a similar institution.

"Some fifteen years or so past, a group of public spirited women conceived the ideal of a civic center for Birmingham: of a building where the citizens of Birmingham might meet; of a clearing house for community activities, about which a real community life might be constructed. That ideal, rather visionary in 1922, is a reality today. The Community House is a lasting monument to that intrepid group, who had little more than their ideal, and the courage of their convictions.

"Recently I have been going over reports for 1936, filed with the Community House Association by its immediate past-president, Mrs. Gladys Chissis. It is only when we read these records that we realize how fully the Community House is caring for the needs of Birmingham. In them we learn that more than 68,000 persons used the House in 1936; that its employment department found work for nearly 2000 persons; that articles of clothing were provided, either without charge, or through its Thrift Shop at nominal cost; that it served as a meeting place for some 900 meetings; that it prevented duplication of welfare aid, and gave emergency help to persons in that unfortunate class of "border line" cases. There is far, far more in these records, too much, in fact, to do them justice here. Suffice it to say that they are a revelation of the part played in Birmingham by the Community House; it is literally the "Heart of Birmingham.

"The question has been asked

(Continued on Page Two)

Hulbert and Kane Are Reelected To Commission Posts

Annexation Move Defeated By Close Decision In Bloomfield Twp.

1168 VOTES CAST HERE

Preference For Republican Candidates Shown In 4 to 1 Ratio

Lawrence Hulburt and Arthur J. Kane, both incumbents, were re-elected to the city commission, defeating the third candidate for office, William Coit Allee, Monday as 1168 voters, a surprisingly large number for a Spring election, cast their ballot. Local preference for Republican candidates was indicated in the ratio of about four to one.

The race for two council seats was the only contest waged, all other office seekers running without opposition. Hulburt polled the largest total, receiving 622 votes. Kane was returned to office with a 16 vote majority, beating Allee, 522 to 506.

The three elected to the library board were Mrs. Mary A. Lambie, Charles E. Lewis and School Supt. Howard D. Crull. They received 724, 714, and 792 votes respectively. Roy Montgomery, seeking reelection as constable, was returned to office with 730 votes.

Annexation Move Defeated

Despite the fact that Birmingham voted overwhelmingly to annex the 36-acre tract of land lying North of Oak Street in the Quarton Lake district, the move was defeated when Bloomfield Township returned a negative vote on the issue. Local residents balloted 594 to 148 to include the acreage in the city limits while township voters defeated the proposal, 96 to 92.

At present there is some question as to the proper procedure covering the annexation vote. It was originally announced that annexation could not become valid unless Birmingham, Bloomfield Township and the area affected all voted favorably on the matter. However, it is now maintained by some persons that the issue was carried because the total vote was in favor of the tract being annexed. The area itself has no residents to date. A ruling on the matter will be obtained from the county prosecutor's office in the near future.

Vote on State Officers

Substantial majorities were returned locally for all Republican candidates running for state of-

(Continued on Page Two)

CITY TO ANNEX 66-ACRE TRACT IN TOWNSHIP

Formal Proceedings Will Be Instituted For Sewage Plant Site

Members of Birmingham's city commission voted favorably Monday evening to have the city attorney take such steps as necessary to annex to this city the 66-acre tract of land in Bloomfield Township recently purchased as a suitable site for the location of a $305,000 proposed sewage disposal plant.

Annexation of the land to this city is merely a formality as the property actually became a part of Birmingham following purchase. Bloomfield Township is powerless to tax the acreage or in any other way affect it since it has become municipal property.

An option was taken out on the property several months ago when the city decided to go ahead with plans for a disposal plant. At that time $6,000 was paid to the Detroit Fire and Marine Insurance Co. and the option was taken up March 5 when Birmingham paid the company the balance of $34,000 due under the agreement.

The tract to be annexed lies in the Southeast quarter of Section 34, Bloomfield Township. It is bounded on the East by Cranbrook Road; on the South by the Fourteen Mile Road; and, on the North, by the extension of Lincoln Road.

Prospects of obtaining a federal grant of $137,250 for use in constructing a plant appear bright. The city was recently notified that its application had been placed on the preferred list. Should the P.W.A. grant be extended, the balance of $167,750, necessary to build the plant, will be raised through revenue bonds.

PTA Council Picks Officers Tuesday

The first meeting of the Birmingham Parent Teacher Council will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 p. m. at the Community House and will be open to the public. Representatives of the P. T. A. groups of Baldwin, Pierce and Barnum schools will be present to vote on the election of officers for the group, the by-laws by which they will be governed, and at the same time, discuss future plans for the organization.

Mrs. J. H. Rosso will act as temporary chairman of the afternoon meeting.

Have You Met?

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pokorny who are making their home at 679 Harmon street, having moved to Birmingham from Detroit two weeks ago? Mr. Pokorny, who is a native of Pennsylvania, as is Mrs. Pokorny, is a graduate of Penn State, and is a sales engineer with the American Chain and Cable Company. Mrs. Pokorny is a graduate of Walnut Lane School of Pennsylvania.

HILLS JUSTICE OF PEACE REELECTED

H. A. O'Dell Retains Office; Five Commissioners, Constable Chosen

In the only contest of the Bloomfield Hills election Monday, H. A. O'Dell, incumbent, was returned to office as Justice of the Peace with a total of 166 votes cast in his favor. Opposing him were J. J. Redmond who was given 92 votes, and D. E. Martin who drew 41 ballots in his favor.

Running unopposed, five commissioners were elected to office. For the two year terms, H. J. Klinger with 204 votes, C. E. Otter with 201 votes and G. E. Roehm with 200 votes were elected. L. D. Allen and F. W. Atkinson, with 201 and 186 votes respectfully, were chosen for the one year terms on the commission.

A. J. Richardson was elected constable of the village, garnering 216 votes.

Eighteen ballots were cast in favor of the county zoning project while 39 voted in opposition to it.

A total of 247 Hills voters went to the polls Monday, voting in favor of Republican candidates for state office in the ratio of three to one.

MARCH FIRE LOSS IS $196, CHIEF REPORTS

Vern Griffith, chief of the fire department, reports 31 silent alarms were turned in during the past month in his March statement issued this week. Total loss to buildings and property amounted to $196, of which all but $2 was covered by insurance.

The fire fighters spent ten hours combatting blazes, using 944 gallons of water. In addition, they spent 11 hours inspecting wells, and five hours in drill work and hydrant inspection. Over 270 business places were inspected, four of which were found to be unsafe.

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