

There is no better ballast for keeping the mind steady on its track and saving it from all risk of crankiness, than business.

SIXTIETH YEAR—No. 16

# HIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

PARIS, FRANCE; June 23, 1937. — Since my last letter, dated from Venice, Italy, much distance has been clicked and clocked behind me, and now that I am again in the care of Mrs. Averill and the three children, whom I met in Cherebourg the evening of my departure, my experiences will be tamed down a bit. By this I mean I will have to be in earlier nights, and give an account of myself each day; of course, folks, to keep the record straight, I must include in this account all of which have been quite pertinent—or at least, as they say over here, "continually pertinent."

For instance, I had a pleasant experience the afternoon I boarded, at Venice, the Bagdad-Athena, all of which have been quite pertinent—or at least, as they say over here, "continually pertinent."

I had noticed, when the train started for Venice, that a youngish woman came aboard who was a dead-ringer for the actress, Harlow. She had wavy platinum hair, and other feminine traces of beauty, imagine my surprise when I saw her sitting in the diner next to me. I had not yet ordered my meal from the Italian menu, so, eventually musingly, I turned to her and said, "You speak English?" She returned to me in a pleasant, friendly English, though plainly tinged with a foreign dialect, she replied, "Yes, fairly well. And, to interpret the menu, we engaged in mutually interesting repartee.

I found out that she was born in Budapest, Hungary, and had been in Milano, doing a massive piece of marble sculpture for the city, to commemorate some historical figure beloved by Milan citizens. She had spent about three, or about four years in Italy, had studied in many European cities, and had been in London, England, to complete some work there. She told me, during the several hours she spent together during the evening, much about Europe and Europeans, and also stated that she was coming to America.

Well, desiring to be a goodwill ambassador from the United States, I painted a fine picture of our country, and, knowing that Mrs. Averill would agree with me, offered her the hospitality (Continued on Page Two)

### Liquor Store Nets \$800 in First Week

Manager LeVerne Stanton, in charge of the newly opened state liquor store here, announced that sales for the period Tuesday, July 13, through Saturday, July 17, amounted to over \$800. The store carries a stock of 200 cases of assorted liquors valued at nearly \$200,000.

### Police Fines Total \$274.40 During June

The report of the Birmingham police department issued for the month of June shows that \$274.40 in fines was collected during the month. Three felonies and seven misdemeanors were reported to the department. They were handled by the department.

### Collectors Advised of New Stamp Issue

Local philatelists will be interested to know that a new stamp is now available at the Birmingham Post Office, according to an announcement from the postmaster Joseph A. Byrne. The stamp, of three cent denomination, in the Northwest Territory was issued by the United States. Busts of Putnam and Cutler flank the map of the Northwest Territory. The West Territory distinguished by a lighter shade of lavender. The legend is at the bottom.

## Supervise Recreational Program

# RECREATION DEPARTMENTS TO PLAY PROGRAM

### Additional Funds Needed To Carry Recreation Work Until Sept. 15

Birmingham's summer recreation program requires \$398 in additional funds to continue its activities through Sept. 15, according to a report issued by the recreation commission. Almost all of the money supplied to date has come from civic organizations, the city and schools.

In asking individuals to contribute in carrying on the program, the best "sales-talk" in recreation history can be presented. It is that 11,063 names have been enrolled in one or more activities since the opening of about 1000 different individuals have registered and taken part in the program.

The Eccentric has printed on page two of this issue a coupon which, if filled out and mailed to P. G. Burnett, treasurer of the recreation commission, by those who wish to make contributions, will be used to purchase tickets for the Softball League teams, playing at Barnum field on week nights at 7:30 p. m. have announced their standings to date. Pastime Billiards is leading the league with five games won and one lost. Following in order are: Northside, three won and two lost; White Tower, two won and two lost; White Tower, two won and two lost; White Tower, two won and two lost.

—Photo by Arnold

general charge of all activities, supervises the craft and life saving classes, the Barnum junior high playground activities and men's swimming. Miss Gertrude Allen, who has charge of the school playgrounds and girls and women's swimming. Don Clark, who supervises the Adams junior high playground, instructs in golf, and assists in swimming lessons for boys. Director Miles W. Robinson, who in addition to handling

## P. T. A. Leaders Express Their Opinions On Defeat Of Plan To Increase School Levy

After the defeat last week of the proposal to increase the school levy \$38,000 to aid in paying salaries to teachers in Birmingham's public schools, the Eccentric was interested in learning the reactions of some of the organizers. Realizing that Parent-Teachers' Associations are the linking factor between the school and home, and that the heads of the association would naturally be as well informed as to the result of the question as any voters in Birmingham, several of the P. T. A. leaders were asked for their reaction to the election results.

### Looking For Bess To Put In Your Bonnet?

By Carol Dweley

Have you any taste for honey practically on the hoof? Do you want to put in your bonnet? Or, to be sensible, do you know of anyone who has lost a swarn colored, long-haired, blue-eyed beauty in Birmingham, and which must be worth at least \$15,000? If so, the owners of anyone else who with courage and enterprise (prudence) can have "em"—if he were fast.

### Two Negroes Returned Here From Kentucky To Face Felony Charge

Two colored youths, George Hall, 21, of Pontiac, and Clarence Whittaker, 18, of Detroit, were in the Southern branch of the Peace Corps at Hascall on a charge of possessing a stolen automobile. They were arrested and were bound to the present term of circuit court in Pontiac.

### Summarize Municipal Affairs For Past 18 Months

Editor's Note: Mayor John E. Martz and City Manager Donald C. Egbert, at the suggestion of the Eccentric, have collaborated in preparing major accomplishments of the city government during the past 18 months, together with some of the plans for the coming year. Both Mr. Martz and Mr. Egbert took considerable of their own time to prepare this material in order that Birmingham residents might be better acquainted with municipal government affairs.

### Refunding

This important operation was practically completed during the month of May. Since then final exchanges for the new bonds have been made. During the past calendar year the debt has been reduced by an approximate total of \$75,000 in an added reduction of about \$50,000 in special assessment debt. We doubt whether any city can claim to be more successful in refunding than Birmingham.

### Budget and Collections

A \$190,000 tax rate, the same as last year, results from the current budget of \$190,000 for operating and \$35,000 for debt service and contingencies.

### Mayor Martz by representatives of the three units involved, the Birmingham City Council, is drafted and presented to the others a contract of settlement. A minor modification in the plan was made wherefore the contract was formally approved.

## Dual Winners In Camera Contest

These two snapshots, one by City Treasurer H. H. Corson and the other by 14-year old Walker Bagby, 1131 Dorchester Road, jointly are awarded first prize in the best pictures submitted this week in The Eccentric's camera contest.

Mr. Corson's picture reveals a group of boys at work in the scout room, Community House, within the area of the famous Minute Man station in Lexington, Ky.

The Eccentric urges its readers to send in pictures taken any time in any place. It is suggested that vacation pictures be sent in for next week's competition.

### Hitch-hiker Killed In Crash Saturday

An accident fatal to a young hitch-hiker and involving three cars occurred at 9:30 a. m. Saturday, at the intersection of Ten Mile and Telegraph roads. Corner Donald Bell said the accident was probably caused by the driver of at least one of the cars running a red light.

### British Official Speaker At Rotary Luncheon Monday

A Rendle Stone, Vice-Counsel of the British consulate at Detroit, will be the main attraction of the Rotary Club at their Monday luncheon in the Community House, 449-451 St. Clair street, at 12:30 p. m. His office, J. Mark Hardin presided at the assembly with E. G. Whitney serving as program chairman.

### Contributions Make Possible Fortnight Of Camp Life On Lake George For Scouts

A group of Boy Scouts from the South Birmingham area are now enjoying two weeks of outdoor life at Camp George under the leadership of Scoutmaster Roy Weir.

### Exchange, Lions Tie In Golf Match

Golfers representing the Exchange and Lions clubs tied for first place with 2 1/2 points while Rotary players trailed with a score of 32 in the closest interschool competition ever recorded, played recently over the Sunnybrook Golf Course. Forty took part in the match. Participants included R. R. Allen, of Exchange, and Claude Morrow, of Lions, who tied with an 81. George Baldwin paced the Rotarians with an 83.

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## CITY HIGHER HEELS NEAR TEST FOR ESTIMATE

City commissioners agreed Monday evening to have the engineering department prepare an estimate of the cost of installing sewers adequate for two inches of rainfall per hour in the Highland View section of Birmingham.

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### Group Hears Vice-Council

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