

Passing Review of 1938 Reveals Year as Generally Better Than 1937

(Continued from Page 1, Part 1)

water and sewer service to residents. The city's water supply in 1939, unless that area is annexed to the city by that date.

Early in December, the Birmingham National Bank announced a proposal to increase its capital stock from \$100,000 to \$125,000 by the issuance of 2,500 shares of new common stock.

Another bank announcement made late in the year was that the First State Savings bank declaring a five percent dividend to former depositors.

Two new clergymen were installed in Birmingham churches during the year, and the resignation of another was made known. The Rev. J. O. Nelson was installed early in 1938 as pastor of the First Baptist Church, and the Rev. W. Glen Harris became pastor of the First Presbyterian church to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Rev. W. Clarence Wright. The Rev. W. Hamilton Aulenbach resigned as associate pastor of Christ Church, Brook to become rector of Christ Church and St. Michael's in Germantown, Pa. In December the announcement made by the vestry of Christ Church Cranbrook revealed the resignation of the rector the Rev. S. S. Marquis, D. D., and the acceptance of the Rev. Charles H. Cadigan of Grace Episcopal church at Amherst, Mass., as rector.

Statistically, records show 1938 to be an average year. Up to the completion of this record, there were 42 deaths and 32 births according to the figures of the City Clerk. In 1937, 44 deaths occurred. Many of those who died during the year expired suddenly as the result of various ailments. Donald Lackie, 18 year old Baldwin High School senior met death by drowning in Quanton Lake shortly before he was to graduate. Others who passed during the year included William M. Purves, general sales manager of the Division of the Chrysler Corporation, who died of a heart attack on a west-bound train; George E. Robbin, former mayor of Bloomfield Hills, who also died suddenly at the summer home of his son, Dr. Harold R. Robbin; others were Joseph Mack, Rudolf R. Stirling, Albert W. Wasey, L. Ford Merritt, Ellsworth Plumstead, W. H. H. Lynch, 22 year old athlete, who was stricken at Princeton University; 11 year old Robert Clark, James V. Bayley, Bloomfield Township clerk, and two aged residents, Mrs. Elizabeth Thurlby and Mrs. Emma Chaffield Robinson.

Two fatalities occurred late in the year to mar the month-end traffic record for 1938 maintained by the City until Thanksgiving Day. In 1937, Mitchell Edward Tyson, 11 year old Adams School student was killed instantly in the second fatal accident of the year when hitching his sled on an automobile near his home on Ruffner street. Police records show that up to

Dec. 27, there were 226 accidents during 1938, and one death by automobile. During the previous year, 222 accidents occurred, police records show, with one fatality.

Only one death occurred during the year as the result of fire. Norman F. Smith lost his life when his home on Benniville avenue was destroyed by fire in November. Birmingham's total fire loss up to Dec. 1, according to Vernon Griffith, Chief of the Fire Department, is estimated at \$5,646, which includes both buildings and contents. With the population of Birmingham estimated at 111,000, the per capita loss for the year is given as .48 cents, which is lower than the preceding year, when the per capita loss was .48 cents, according to Chief Griffith.

Building permits for the year fall slightly below those issued in 1937, according to the figures of J. B. Baynes, building inspector. For 1938, up to Dec. 1, permits were issued to the amount of \$496,696. This figure, Mr. Baynes said, is exclusive of the permits for the sewage disposal plant and the new municipal garage, which will appear in the city's report. Up to Dec. 1, 1937, permits were issued to the extent of \$487,070.

During 1938, the estimated cost of new buildings, up to Dec. 1, is \$411,021, Mr. Baynes said. New buildings, exclusive of the year of 1937, represented a total of \$762,797, or the amount of \$748,791 up to Dec. 1, of 1937. The latter figure corresponds to, and exceeds \$411,021, the estimated cost of new buildings up to Dec. 1 of 1938.

Chronologically, as taken from the headlines of The Eccentric, the events of the year were:

Jan. 6-13 City to act on sewage disposal. City commission plans to start construction soon, following purchase of 66-acre site. Proposed plant, adequate for city of 15,000, cost \$120,000.

Jan. 13 James French Strother, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Strother of 255 Greenwood avenue, first baby of 1938, born Jan. 3, at 10:14 p. m. at Harper Hospital. Deceased daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Merritt of 271 Townsend built on at 11:40, Jan. 3. Winner to receive prize from merchants.

Jan. 13 Emerson C. Brown named president of Lions Club.

Jan. 13 State is given first payment on Grand Trunk railroad debt. Initial installment on new right-of-way amounts to \$779,146.92. Colman gives seven-year skinning period between two.

Jan. 13 George W. Tremble, president of United Detroit Theaters, gets Jones on site for new theater. Rev. modeling to begin when outlook is improved, less averse. Building formerly occupied by Mr. Bride Hardware store, on South Woodward, leased for 10 years by owners of city's present theater.

Jan. 13 First Baptist Church plans reception to honor J. O. Nelson, new pastor, who will be introduced Jan. 14.

Jan. 14 Sale of present quarters of the receiver for the old First National Bank, on South Woodward, authorized Monday in public hearing before Circuit Judge George B. Hartwick, in Pontiac. Price is \$150,000.

Jan. 14 Death comes to Warren T. Hanna, son of former postmaster, the late John Hanna, on New Year's day. Blood clot causes demise at Ypsilanti home.

Jan. 15-31 Citizens give approval to sewage disposal plant. Group of 50 residents between West Maple and Lincoln avenues attend Commission meeting and endorse proposal of commissioners as to financing. Meeting is first in series planned to discuss disposal plant.

Jan. 15 Robert Seaborn, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Seaborn of Kennesaw road, told of attempted robbery of R. K. McKelvin home on Riverview. Robert Howell, 16, of Drayton Plains, former Pham resident with long police record, arrested Jan. 8, after second robbery in day.

Jan. 15 Thieves enter home of Mrs. C. and library on night of Jan. 6, stealing cash and stamps and causing confusion to disease disposal plant.

Jan. 15 Fire reduces Hills home of paroled from industry growing pool helps in fighting battle, estimated at \$100,000. Resident and servants not at home. Fire breaks out Monday alone.

Jan. 15 Thieves enter 967 Southfield road, and Shirley Smith, 397 Puritan, are chosen valedictorian and salutatorian respectively of high graduating class at Baldwin.

Jan. 15 Dr. Rudolph D. Lindquist, educational director of Cranbrook School for past year, named as director. George T. Nickerson to continue as dean.

Jan. 20-27 Theatre plans delayed by building code. Sol Krim tells Egbert.

Jan. 20-27 Hearings to continue on sewage disposal plant. Citizens are asked to express their views at series of Commission meetings. Continuing and unanimous approval voiced at Monday's meeting by residents in section bounded by West Maple, Lincoln, Woodward and Bates.

Jan. 20 Resignation of Hamilton Easton, teacher, social studies at Baldwin, accepted by School Board. Easton to continue work on Master's Degree. Howard Sumner of Saginaw will start new term here, teaching social studies at Baldwin, while Wilson Jenkins moves to Baldwin.

Jan. 20 Charles J. Stain heads Community House drive, preliminary steps in annual roll call reveal. Date of drive tentatively set for week of April 16-25. Rice A. Howell, P. G. Burnett and James B. Jones are also elected to offices on steering committee.

Jan. 25 "Changing World" will be theme of talk Rev. Henry S. Evans of New Concord, O., who will speak at 8 p. m. on Thursday evening, Jan. 27.

Jan. 27 Bham's 300,000 gallon water tank to be connected to city water supply by Jan. 23. Tank moved to city property south of new Grand Trunk station, from former site on right-of-way.

Jan. 27 City floods four new rinks for ice skaters. Rinks located on grounds at Adams, Park and Barnum schools, and vacant lot on corner of Emmons and Cummings. Eglest names voluntary supervisors of rinks.

Jan. 27-31 Fire loss per capita estimated at .48 for past year, according to annual report of Chief Vernon W. Griffith. Property valued at \$1,101,600 endangered by flames.

Jan. 27 Dr. Otto O. Beck elected District Governor of Exchange Clubs for Oakland County, at recent meeting of Metropolitan Clubs.

Jan. 27 Former resident of Hills dies in Miami. Mrs. William James Hackett, mother of Robert F. Hackett, lived in Bloomfield 25 years.

Jan. 27 Board approves plan to teach religion here. Training will be given as tentative course in at least one local school, starting next September.

Jan. 27 D. Crull, superintendent of schools.

Feb. 3-10 Crime and violent death reached a level in Birmingham during 1937 according to the annual police report prepared by Miss Caroline Seaborn for J. C. Howard and D. Crull is given "Silver Beaver" award by Detroit Area Council, "for outstanding service to boys."

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setting the rate of payment for the services of both.

Feb. 3-10 Death takes John S. Black, secretary of the Birmingham Board of Education, and a member of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors.

Feb. 3-10 William A. Dalee, 187 Pilgrim road, is appointed by the Board of Education to fill the unexpired term of John S. Black, who died this week. J. M. Hardin is named to fill Black's position as secretary of the board.

March 3-10 Birmingham's policy for extension of the use of its fire fighting equipment outside of the city's boundaries is reiterated when, by unanimous agreement, the commissioners oppose such extension unless those asking for it make a \$100 deposit.

March 10-10-17 Birmingham's new United States Post Office will be located on the eastern half of property now owned by the St. James Episcopal Church and will be bounded on the south by Martin street, the east by Bates street and the north by West Maple avenue according to word received here.

March 10-17 Balloting is light at spring primaries in Troy and Southfield Townships.

March 10-17 Mrs. Emily Spear Abbott, who passed the century mark in 1936, dies at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. E. Edwards of 329 Aspen road.

March 10-17 Mrs. John H. Bosco will serve a second term as president of the Birmingham Parent Teacher Association Council it was revealed following the annual election of officers held at the Community House.

March 17-17 The Birmingham Board of Education announces in an official statement that high school students belonging to secret societies have been requested to resign by the board as a "preventative" measure rather than as a disciplinary measure.

March 24-24 Completion of negotiations with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for a loan on the remaining assets of the former First National Bank is assured. The payment of a ten per cent dividend to depositors shortly after May 1 according to word received by Murray D. Van Wagoner, State highway commissioner reveals that Birmingham will receive an allocation of \$125,000 to defer costs of paving 40 to 44 foot lanes of highway through the city over the old Grand Trunk right of way. The project will connect Woodward avenue north and south of the city.

March 31-31 With Rice A. Howell as commander-in-chief, an army of solicitors prepares to begin a march upon Birmingham armed with requests for contributions to the Community House.

April 7-7 April 14 With the contest for the filling of two three year terms in the City Commission and only one contest in a variety of other public library board, the week of spirited campaigning here results in only 62% of Birmingham's voters going to the polls.

April 14 The \$140,000 general obligation bond issue for extensions and additions to the City's sewer system carried by a vote of 429 "Yes" and against 100 "No." The proposition to annex land in the northern area of the city lost because the seven residents in the affected territory voted unanimously against it, though they signed petitions earlier in the year to have it placed on the ballot. Birmingham itself voted 488 in favor of it, with only 90 against. The same in Bloomfield Township was 12 for it and 46 against it. Mayor John E. Martz and Commissioner Frank S. Packard, opposed for election to three-year terms, received 573 and 544 votes, respectively. Mrs. Lee A. White and Howard P. Crull were re-elected to three-year terms on the Baldwin Public Library Board, and Mrs. H. G. Wood won over Dr. Hugo Erickson for a one-year term on the same board.

April 28-May 5 Bids for the installation of new boilers in Baldwin High School submitted to the Board of Education are rejected at a special meeting held at the office of Superintendent of Schools Howard P. Crull.

May 5 Plans for the construction of a running track on Pierce Field, according to a design submitted by Harry E. Brelsford of Pilgrim road, are under consideration by the Board of Education.

May 5 Organization plans have been completed for the Community House Recreational committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. Thomas R. Navin, with Miles W. Robinson, as the general director for the coming summer.

May 5 David Fredenthal, young Detroit artist and instructor at the Cranbrook Academy of Art, whom whom was recently conferred the Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, is in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, in a critical condition as the result of injuries received when his car was in collision with a truck at Thirteenth Mile and Telegraph roads.

May 5-May 12 The Eccentric celebrates its sixtieth birthday anniversary. In the presence of other members of the GAB Commission Mayor John E. Martz removes his hat and topcoat, grasps a long-handled WPA shovel in his hands and officially turns the ground preparatory to excavation for the sewage disposal plant.

May 12 National Music Week reaches a climax in Birmingham when an instrumental concert is presented in the Baldwin High School auditorium. Arnold W. Berndt, instructor in instrumental music in the public schools directs the orchestra which is composed of pupils from both elementary and secondary schools.

May 12 Plans for completing the erection of a 20 family terrace, to cost \$200,000, at Vinewood and Woodward avenues, are seen in the proposed zoning ordinance of Birmingham's zoning ordinance for dwellings in that area, which is now restricted (in part to single residences).

May 12-May 19 Three women carry off top places in the elections of the Michigan division of the Women's National Farm and Garden Association held at Jackson, Mrs. Lee H. Joly, Jr. of Tilbury Place, a member of the Bloomfield Hills unit of the association, is elected State president and Mrs. H. Gray Mazy of the Birmingham unit is named first vice-president. Mrs. Ewald E. Shaffer of Dunblane road, a new comer to Birmingham, but who still retains her membership in the Detroit unit of the club, is named the new corresponding secretary.

May 19 Louis M. Randall, business manager for the Board of Education appears before the Oakland County Tax Allocation Board to ask that the tax rate for fractional (Continued on Page 4)

NORTH BOUND BUSES

7:55 a.m.	9:55 a.m.	11:55 a.m.	1:55 p.m.
3:55 p.m.	6:05 p.m.	6:55 p.m.	8:55 p.m.
11:53 p.m.			

Extra Buses Saturday
10:55 a.m. 12:55 p.m. 2:55 p.m.

Extra Buses Sunday
4:55 p.m. 7:55 p.m.

Buses to Detroit
57 buses a day to Detroit
391 S. Woodward Phone 348

BLUE GOOSE LINES

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE RATES REDUCED FOR NEW YEAR'S WEEK-END

The same reduced long distance telephone rates that apply on calls to most points every night and all day every Sunday will become effective at 7 p. m. Saturday, December 31 (New Year's Eve) and continue all day Sunday and Monday until 4:30 a. m. Tuesday on calls within the United States and to Canada.

Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

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