

Tuesday morning I wandered about the yard at home and discovered, coming up through the earth, the first signs of spring. My seedlings were made in the atmosphere of a lustily whitening red cardinal. The sun was warm—and, for some other, I felt that Nature still loves our earth.

SIXTIETH YEAR—NO. 51  
**HS and THAT**  
By G. R. A.

How far should a newspaper editor go in his published adoration of a politician, when the politician under consideration is a very close friend of long standing? And especially when such adoration is given in a community not very far from the editor's own home-town?

The question I've been thinking about lately as, each week, I peruse the columns of the Charlotte Republican and the one edited by Muri H. DeFoe, and read Mr. DeFoe's comment on State politics, particularly touching the present and future political destiny of Frank D. Fitzgerald, of Grand Lodge, former Governor of Michigan.

It seems to me that Mr. DeFoe is torn between the assignment of being true to his personal convictions and being loyal to a friend; were Mr. DeFoe not the editor of a newspaper that has a comment and is loved in by many Michigan people, his decision might be easier. But, since his is the voice of the public good, it does seem to me that his personal loyalty ought to yield way to his professional obligation to society.

Now, folks, the problem that troubles Mr. DeFoe is not a new one for many years he has been a staunch admirer of and booster for the man who is now Governor. It can be said that Mr. DeFoe has done more for Mr. Fitzgerald's good standing in Michigan than any other chap—and the newspaper support that Republican Fitzgerald has received from Michigan politicians can be said to be the result of the fact that Mr. DeFoe set the pattern. Liking and believing in Mr. Fitzgerald as he is doing his friends, including myself, began to like and believe in Mr. Fitzgerald while he was in Michigan on his first term as Secretary of State, I recall having lunch with him at DeFoe's home in Detroit afterwards I wrote a complimentary piece for Mr. Fitzgerald, suggesting his availability for nomination for the next year.

When Mr. Fitzgerald ran against present Governor Frank Murphy in 1936, I wrote a personal "open letter" to the then Governor Fitzgerald, asking him about his relationship with Mr. DeFoe. Mr. DeFoe had been stating that many Michigan people that "Frank D. McKay, former State Treasurer, was the controlling power behind Fitzgerald; that McKay is the purchasing agent of the State government, and that it was his duty to learn the truth, I wrote the "open letter" to Fitz, and recorded it publicly in the columns of this newspaper. The answer I received from Fitz was evasive; it was a firm statement that a popular belief that Fitz was too much connected with McKay.

Many articles have been published since by newspapers referring to the Fitzgerald-McKay relationship. So far as I know, to date Fitz has not said that McKay has never, directly or indirectly, exercised any power over his administration as Governor, either in formulating State policies, in influencing the State's purchases, or in attempting to dominate the Republican Party while I was its titular head.

**CITY TURNS STATE FUNDS FOR HIGHWAYS**

**Sum Of \$135,000 To Be Spent For Paving Roads In Birmingham**

Murray D. Van Wagoner, state highway commissioner, revealed the details this week of proposed construction programs estimated at \$8,752,92 for the next fiscal year, which \$4,266,26 will be expended.

Included in this list of projects is the paving of 21 44-foot lanes of highway through Birmingham, over the old Grand Trunk right-of-way, a distance of one and three-tenths miles, at a cost of \$135,000. This project will be carried out by the city north and south of the city.

As he went before the state administrative board on the proposed approval of the program, the commissioner emphasized the possibility that the department may not be able to match the Federal money unless its revenue increases during the fiscal year. "The program merely shows what we propose to do if and when we have sufficient funds to do the work," he said. "At the present time, I cannot definitely state that these programs will go ahead this year.

The commissioner's announcement followed a receipt by Governor Murphy of a letter from the State's Attorney General stating that President Roosevelt no longer desired the states to postpone action on their highway program. "The legislation is in Congress."

The programs constitute the entire amount of Federal State construction work proposed for the next fiscal year with the exception of a \$1,600,000 grade separation project. This program, which is to be financed by a direct Federal grant, has not been submitted to the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads.

**WOMEN VOTERS WILL DISCUSS SCHOOL FINANCES**

The problem faced by Birmingham's school system on a considerably reduced budget this year, has been the subject of a discussion by the Birmingham League of Women Voters at the Community House on Monday evening.

Mrs. A. M. Murray will lead the group which will discuss "School Finance," she is in charge of another, which will consider "School finances."

This program should be of particular interest to the women of Birmingham. Mrs. McKinley said, "We should receive from the State Aid fund the amount of \$58,000, and our school budget will be \$1,000,000 less."

These and other interesting details were brought out as the result of a survey conducted by Superintendent of Schools Howard D. Crull.

**HACKETT DISCUSSES TRAFFIC ORDINANCES**

Details of a new Traffic Ordinance for Birmingham, patterned after a model statute being adopted in many cities in the United States, are to be found in this issue of The Eclectic, beginning on Page three of Part two of the issue.

**TRAINING YOUTH FOR VOCATION IS THEME OF TALK**

Parents and teachers who seek to guide youth into a certain trade or profession before youth has left high school or college are generally doomed to disappointment, unless they are very successful. Advertisements covering the issue were inserted in several Michigan newspapers during the past three weeks, bids to be opened last Friday. On that date a single day of training for the youth of our state was held.

Admitting that modern specialization in industry has made possible the mass production of goods in a cheap cost in the world's history, Mr. Lee declared, however, that this efficiency is excellent, as Tuesday's meeting was heralded as the 27th anniversary. In honor of the occasion, three tempting cakes

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**Students Once Traded Through Miles Of Snow—Today, They Want Good Cars**

Once upon a time, boys and girls trudged miles through snow, wind or rain that they might not be absent from the Little Red Schoolhouse at 1230 South Broadway. Today, they drive to school in their family motor car, and complain that the summer is too long.

**CITY RECEIVES LOUVE BID IN SEWER DISPOSALS**

General Commission Plans To Take Matter To Washington For WPA Approval

Although but one undisclosed bid for the \$180,000 special sewer revenue bonds, proposed for which are to be used for the erection of an adequate sewage disposal plant for Birmingham, was received by City officials during the past week, the amount of which is believed to be much less than the \$180,000, the City Commission is making plans to carry the matter direct to Washington, D. C.

**Spirits Fall As Tests Reveal 'I. Q.'s Like Cold Weather Temperatures—Pretty Low**

Birmingham Exchanges looked mysteriously crestfallen Tuesday when they emerged from the Community House after the luncheon meeting for the general membership of the Eclectic.

**FULL PLANS FOR DISTRICT MEET TO BE TOLD BY P. T. A.'S**

Everything is in readiness for the all-day convention which District Six of the Michigan Congress of Parents and Teachers will hold Friday at Baldwin High School.

**Meadowbrook Will Sign 'Ernie' Shave**

"No fooling" on April Fool's day, they have a new "pro" at Meadowbrook Country Club, near Northville. It is Ernie Shave, a Cleveland golfer.

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**GROUP WILL SUPPORT BOND ISSUE PROJECT**

Eight interested Birmingham men gathered together at the Community House Tuesday night to discuss the details of the proposed \$140,000 bond issue to be voted on April 4, the Eclectic has been added to Birmingham's sewer system.

**REV. HARRIS WILL BE FORMALLY INSTALLED**

Formal and official installation of Rev. W. Glen Harris, in his new pulpit in the Birmingham First Presbyterian Church, will take place Tuesday evening.

**MAYNARD BUYS PROPERTY FROM BANK RECEIVER**

Circuit Judge George B. Hartick last week signed an order permitting Murray M. Ashbaugh, receiver for the former First National Bank, to sell the three-story building on North Woodward avenue for \$25,000.

**Organists To Play At Christ Church**

Professor Arthur Poister, head of the organ department and University of Minnesota, will play at the regular service at Christ Church on Sunday, March 27, at 4 p. m.

**Baseball, Track And Tennis Comprise Cranbrook's Tri-Sport Spring Program**

Cranbrook School's three-sport spring program is now under way, and interscholastic competition in baseball, track, and tennis will begin the middle of April.

**Howell Welcomes Aid For House Drive**

Several inquiries have been received from persons who have not been appointed to teams in the Community House Drive.

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**BAK TO PAY IN FULL**

Completion of negotiations with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for a loan on the remaining assets of the former First National Bank assures the payment of a ten per cent dividend to depositors shortly after May 1, 1938.

**DEPOSITORS OF CLOSED FIRST NATIONAL TO GET SHARE OF ASSETS**

The last ten per cent dividend was paid in July, 1935. The book value of the remaining assets amounts to \$1,475,000, and Mr. Ashbaugh has estimated the current value of these assets to be \$684,000.

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**Merchants Ready To Open Spring Door Days Sale**

Shops Participating In Event To Feature Three Days Of Bargains

Bargains that bloom in the spring. Featuring merchandise as fresh as budding leaves, and as timely as the robin, will mark the advent of Door Days, to be observed by a group of Birmingham merchants beginning today and continuing Friday and Saturday of this week.

**M'BRIDE TALKS TO LIONS ABOUT DISPOSAL PLANT**

Russell McBride, speaking before members of the Birmingham Lions Club at their regular luncheon meeting at the Community House on Wednesday, presented the facts of Birmingham's proposed sewage disposal plant.

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