

## THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Who was it who said that beyond Alps lies Italy, and behind the billboards lies America?

King Zog, of Albania, has fled to Greece following Italy's entrance into that small country. A leader of the army of King Zog is jumping from the fire into the frying pan. Will Turkey be next in Mussolini's bill of fare?

Last week England's Prime Minister Chamberlain had to shorten his fishing trip in Scotland and return to London so that he could keep closer watch on the fast-moving European situation. So, even a great Prime Minister hasn't the leisure that is the lot of a poor boy who catches shiners in a little creek.

An amusing sidelight to modern collegiate activities is that of swimming goldfish. You have read of scuba, heretofore, beating another fellow's fish swallowing record, and a few days later that record is beaten. So what? I don't know, unless it serves to keep up the national sense of humor.

The most important part of the milk is prepared and stored. This is called the udder. By a series of arrangements, the milk is divided into four compartments, each with a separate tap. By this means the milk is divided at its source, so that part goes to the landlady, one to the mortgagor, one to the government, and one to the farmer.

Stripped of all pageantry and trappings of immensity, the European situation is much like an alley scrap. Hitler yells and gesticulates, Chamberlain and Deland walk down the back steps, reach for a couple of rocks, and assume threatening statures; Mussolini shouts encouragement to Hitler from the corner; Poland and Rumania are down in the basement looking for shells for their family shotgun. Talk, yelling, blustering, yet always the danger that somebody will start throwing or shooting—then the whole neighborhood gets into the fight.

Being a good citizen in a free democracy is harder than being a good citizen in a dictatorship. The former requires self-discipline, willingness to go through the drudgery of sustaining free government; living under a dictator requires less thinking, less self-reliance. But a democracy pays tremendous dividends in human happiness, while a dictatorship merely acts like chloroform and makes its victims live and act more like sleepy lizards in the sun than like slimy bank of a river.

Good government is the best kind of politics. Present Republican leadership in Michigan can do nothing of greater value for themselves than to conduct an efficient, frugal administration for the next 20 months. Day after day, week after week, month after month, the people will get to know that frugality is the watchword in Lansing; the record will show it; then, when election time comes round again, the Republicans will be able to get their present "customers" (voting strength) to "buy" from them again, plus many more who will be converted to trading at their store.

## One Man Missing—So Board Can't Act, Delegation Is Told

A definite request for the reclassification of the Birmingham school district from a graded to a third class district was laid before the Board of Education at its meeting Tuesday evening by a group representing parents, taxpayers and local organizations concerned with civic and educational problems. Lee E. Joseph Jr. was absent from the Board, because of his absence, the Board was unable to act.

## Merchants Reveal Plans for Spring Dollar Day Sale

Birmingham housewives who have been juggling the budget trying to make it include new spring toys for themselves and the children as well as fresh furnishings for the home, may forget their troubles.

The Retail Merchants' Association has an announcement to make that will banish wrinkles and bring smiles instead. It is the annual spring Dollar Day sale, which will take place in Birmingham the week-end of April 20-22.

To show the whole-hearted cooperation of the City in making this event a success, Chief of Police John P. Hackett has agreed to waive the parking limit throughout the sale. This will give eager shoppers an opportunity to discover all the bargains, which local merchants are preparing for them, without being too hurried.

Each year for sometime past, Birmingham housewives have looked forward eagerly in the spring and fall to these Dollar Sales and according to many, plan their budgets around these events. There are so many items one can afford on Dollar Day that it pays to shop extensively.

Here is an as yet incomplete list of the local merchants who will participate in the three-day spring sale. There will be many more by next week, so that housewives can plan on finding bargains in their favorite and most progressive shops. The partial alphabetical list follows:

Arno's Builders Supply, Birmingham Drug, Birmingham Eccentric, Birmingham Fruit, Birmingham Federal Savings & Loan, Brown Street Market, Cunningham Drug, Hayman's Market, Hudson Hardware, Kresge's, LaBelle's, McClellan Feed & Salt, McKee Service, Mike's Super Service, Mulland's, Olsen Market, Peck's, Sire Bros., Stern's Auto Supply, Trading Post, Vaughn Hat Shop, Wilson Drug, Williams Boot Shop, and Young's Shoe Store.

## Rotary President Names Committees

Committee appointments for the Birmingham Rotary Club for the year beginning July 1 were announced this week by Roy H. Bechtold, president-elect, who will take office on that date. The various chairmen are: Dr. Clayton H. Gracy, club service; Charles B. Randall, membership and classification; Harry E. Bissett, fellowship and attendance; George B. Averill, Rotary information; Forbes S. Hascall, entertainment; Victor Peck, music; M. W. Robinson, recreation; S. O. Wylie Bell, community service; Ray Cook, youth service; George W. Mullin, crippled children; Paul Grant, vocational service; Clyde C. Bennett, international service; Harold Rice, sergeant-at-arms; John McKee, luncheon fees.

## MAYOR AGAIN



Mayor Martz

## Commission Elects Martz to Serve 4th Term

Mayor John E. Martz, who has served Birmingham as mayor since 1936, was re-elected for a fourth term, Monday evening at the usual organization meeting of the City Commission. Mr. Martz is serving his fifth term as Commissioner.

Frank S. Packard was elected mayor pro tem. The Commission is a newly organized group that is appointed to the Board of Supervisors, David Levens, Elmer Haack, Luther Heacock, E. W. Osborne and Robert K. McClellan.

Arthur J. Brant and former mayor Harry Allen appeared before the Commission to request that some action be taken to regulate the style of buildings to be erected on the new Wilder Woodward highway in order that a harmony of type of architecture may develop.

## Overcome by Gas, Small Boy Dies, Mother Is Revived

A 22-months old baby died Monday in its home of asphyxiation from escaping gas, and two others were made unconscious by the fumes. The child was Robert Louis Ives, son of Mrs. Lawrence Bevard, 21, who with her sister, Mrs. Evelyn Grimby, 22, was found unconscious by the former's husband. The Bevard family resides at 888 West Bennaville avenue.

When Bevard returned from work at 5:30 p. m., he found the door of his home locked. Upon breaking it open, he discovered his wife, son and sister-in-law, unconscious. Members of the Birmingham Fire Department, who responded to the call with inhalators, were able to revive the two women. Their efforts saved the child proved unsuccessful after a struggle of two hours. Coroner Donald S. Bell said he believed the child was dead at the time the three were discovered.

The family had moved to Birmingham only two days before. Funeral services were held Wednesday from the S. O. Wylie Bell Home for Funerals, with the Rev. John P. Newell of the Dearborn Presbyterian church, officiating. Burial was in White Chapel cemetery.

J. B. HOWARTH & SON  
It is better to have it and not need it than to need it and have it.  
National Bank Building—Tel. 321

## Roll Call Army Set to March on City

Goal Set At \$12,000 To Aid House Carry On Work, And Pay On Mortgage

Under the leadership of Harold B. Kuder, organizers are mobilizing to canvass Birmingham in the Community House Roll Call for 1939, with the aim of \$12,000 set as its goal for this year. The more than 200 workers volunteering their services, will begin the work Friday of going from house to house for contributions which will enable the House to raise the necessary quota and to continue its community center.

According to Mr. Kuder, the sum of \$12,000 was determined at the last year's meeting. Realization of this goal, it is pointed out, would enable the Community House to carry on its work and to make a payment of \$2,000 against the mortgage, which now stands at \$6,900.

## Commission Opens Drive

The 1939 Roll Call will get under way at a luncheon Friday noon at the House. Attending the gathering will be members of the Steering Committee, the general committee and all majors, captains and workers. Mr. Kuder will present Mrs. Carlton C. Patterson, vice-chairman of the general committee, who will introduce the speakers.

The Rev. W. Glen Harris, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, will pronounce the invocation. Principal speaker at the luncheon will be Mrs. Norman Lyle, who will give an inspirational talk to open the campaign. The financial aspect of the drive will be presented by Mrs. L. P. Ely, after which the drive will be officially inaugurated.

An interesting sidelight of the Roll Call this year will be a team of solicitors voluntarily organized by a group of the younger unmarrieds. Without identifying themselves with any of the captains, these young people will through their own personal efforts, endeavor to raise a substantial sum toward the Roll Call quota.

As the campaign progresses, pledges and contributions will be turned in by the solicitors each day to their captains, who report to the major in charge. Progress of the drive will be recorded on a giant thermometer to be erected on the northwest corner of Woodward and Maple avenues, through the cooperation of the Birmingham Fire Department. Members of the department have volunteered to see that "mercury" rises to indicate the increase in Roll Call funds.

Assisting Mr. Kuder in conducting the drive are Mrs. Patterson (Continued on Page 2, Part 1)

## HEAD DRIVE



Mr. Kuder

Photo by Richard



Mrs. Patterson

Photo by Arnold

## Gilman to Succeed Alvan Macaulay as Chief of Packard

Max M. Gilman of Dunston road, vice-president and general manager of the Packard Motor Car company, has been nominated to succeed Alvan Macaulay, who is resigning after 27 years as president. Mr. Macaulay will become chairman of the board of directors, he announced Wednesday.

Gilman's election to the board will be voted on at the annual meeting Monday, and the board will act on his promotion to the presidency at that time.

Mr. Gilman will be the company's fourth president. Preceding him have been James W. Packard, Henry E. Joy and Mr. Macaulay. The latter announced that he intends to concentrate on an extensive program for language expansion. Mr. Gilman, a pilot in the United States Air Corps, during the World War, became a Packard salesman 20 years ago. Since that time he has been Truck sales manager, general accessories manager, wholesale manager, and vice-president in charge of sales of the Packard Motor Co. of New York.

Returning to Detroit in 1932, he became vice-president of distribution, and became vice-president and general manager in 1934.

Miss Matronas and His Springs Remodeled, Remodeled and Remodeled Birmingham, Mich. adv.

## State Will Receive Bids On Highway Beginning April 26

At the bottom of this page may be seen a drawing of the new Woodward avenue cut-off highway, bids for which will be received by the State Highway Department at Lansing, April 26, completion of which is expected by November 1, 1939. This drawing, together with some detailed information concerning the project, was sent to The Centric this week, following contacts with Murray D. Van Wageningen, State Highway Commissioner.

## Officials Canvass Cities For Aid In Amending Tax Act

City Manager Donald J. Egbert, assisted by Treasurer-Engineer Harold H. Corson, this week are sending to dozens of cities, villages and school districts in southeastern Michigan, printed material to solicit their committed support to amend Act 155, passed at the 1937 Legislature, so that local units of government may not suffer unnecessarily losses in the liquidation of delinquent tax property.

The Act, also known as the Scavenger Tax Act, unless changed during the present term of the Legislature, may cause Birmingham to lose upwards of \$250,000 in city assets, while the local school district stands the chance of losing approximately \$150,000 in delinquent taxes.

The Act, as it now stands, makes it possible for a delinquent piece of property to be purchased by the owner, or any other person having the cash, for as little as 25 per cent of its last assessed valuation. The Act bears all the marks of having been enacted in the interests of speculative land groups, whether they be owners of subdivisions, mineral, or timber interests.

Local leadership, stimulated as the result of articles in The Centric, is confined chiefly to the City officers; the Birmingham Board of Education, aside from making one trip to Lansing and attending a meeting in Royal Oak, has apparently ceased to lend every possible aid in getting the Act changed.

Manager Egbert hopes to cooperate with Royal Oak and other units of government so that when public hearings are held before legislative committees in Lansing, soon, proper representation may be made.

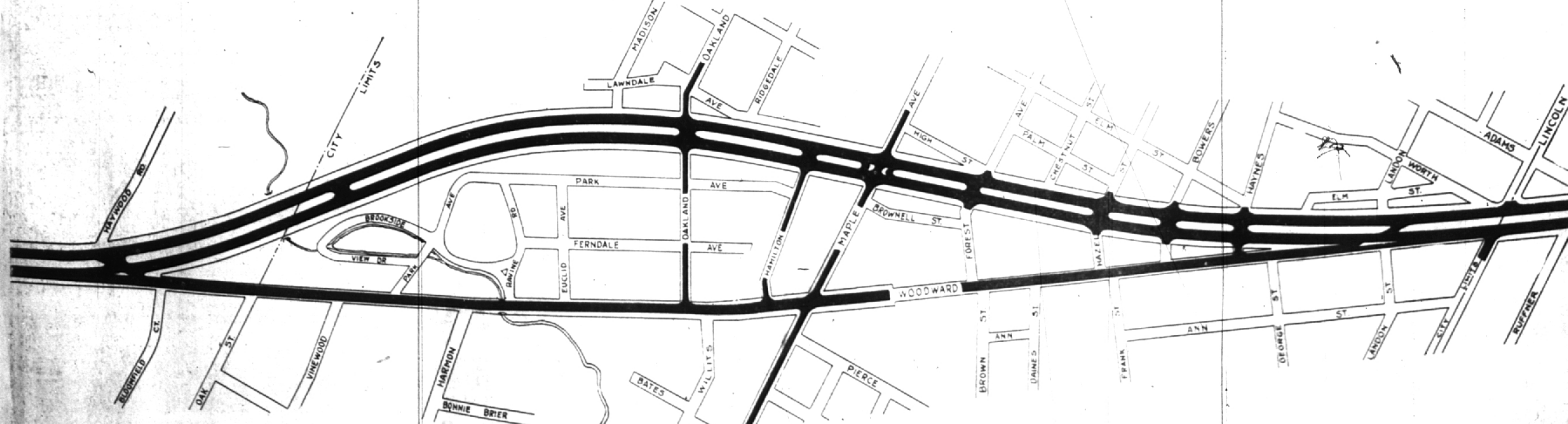
## Fall Down Shaft Fatal to H. B. Gunn

Injuries resulting from a fall down an elevator shaft on April 5, while he was at work, proved fatal to H. B. Gunn, 24 years old, 475 Park street, who died Sunday in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital.

Funeral services were held Wednesday from the Manley Bailey Funeral Home, with the Rev. J. O. Nelson, pastor of the First Baptist church, officiating. Mr. Gunn came to Birmingham 15 years ago from his birthplace, Meridian, Miss. He graduated from Baldwin High School in June 1934, and was a member of the First Baptist church. He was unmarried. Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Gunn, a brother, C. Leland Gunn, and a sister, Mary Gunn, all at home.

Serving as casket bearers at the funeral were William Farry, James Thurber, Paige Dinell, John Lawler, Donald Ellenwood, and Donald Vettrano. Interment was in Roseland Park cemetery. (Continued on Page 2, Part 1)

## HOW THE WOODWARD AVENUE SUPER HIGHWAY WILL APPEAR TO BIRMINGHAM WHEN IT IS COMPLETED NOVEMBER FIRST



(TRAFFIC PROBLEM WILL BE MINIMIZED BY USE OF "ISLANDS" AT NORTH AND SOUTH ENDS, ALSO AT WEST MAPLE INTERSECTION. SEE STORY ABOVE.)