BITS OF B'HAM

Testimonials as to the value of belonging to the Birmingham Rotary Club were offered by seven members of the organization Monday noon at the Community House in a program staged by Rotarian Clarence Craft. Rotarians who participated in the program included Charles E. James, Harold Rice, Dr. Clayton G. Gracey, Clyde C. Bennett, Joseph Moery, Ray Cook, and S. O. Wylie Bell. Each of them admitted that his contact with the program of Rotary International has made him more friends, has given him a wider sense of business and professional responsibilities, and has increased his interest and participation in community problems.

One of Birmingham's leading businessmen called The Eccentric Tuesday, and this is what he said: "Monday's snowstorm provided an opportunity for our strong men to lean on their own shovels—in the interest of comfortable and safe pedestrian travel over the community's sidewalks. It was good exercise, and I've come to the conclusion that those who failed to wield a shovel are not entitled to criticise the W. P. A. workers anymore."

Still Hope

Not all the old capacity for self-help has disappeared from the people. A great bakery chain reports twelve per cent of its sales are of unsliced bread.—Chicago Daily News.

Sour Note

We have never heard a radio program that made us want to commit suicide, but we have heard several that made us want to commit murder.—Fayetteville, (N. C.) Observer.

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G-MAN

(Continued from Page 1)

is on the average about a six-year term, Mr. Bugas said.

The heterogeneous population of our country also affects the crime problem the speaker said. "Our population lacks traditions and precedents which other countries have and which make for a more militant social offense against violators of social laws," Mr. Bugas emphasized. "Then, too, possibly prohibition engendered a disrespect for law and is thereby only now beginning to affect us," he said.

Speaking on the accomplishments of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mr. Bugas said that the largest crime laboratory in the world today is located in Washington. "With the help of this laboratory G men have apprehended 15,777 persons of whom only 12 were killed in resisting capture. To accomplish this the lives of seven of the department men were sacrificed and to this J. Edgar Hoover, department head, bitterly points out that six were killed by parolees."

Crime Cost High

The crime bill in the United States which amounts to $15,000,000,000 a year is the largest of any nation and yet with its limited staff of 675 men the Federal Bureau of Investigation has placed the fighting of crime on a new plane whereby a scientific approach is being employed by men who represent an investment of $5,000 in training before they are allowed to handle a single case, Mr. Bugas told club members. Mr. Bugas is a graduate of the law school at the University of Wyoming and has been with the Federal Bureau of Investigation for five years.

Serving on the committee in charge of arrangements for the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Phillips, Jr., chairman who were assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Neal Averill, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon H. Bake, Mr. and Mrs. Donald S. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Davis and Mr. and Mrs. John W. Shenefield.

The next meeting of the Tuesday club will be held March 1 with Robert Davis acting as chairman.

Life in the U. S. A.

Grasshoppers invading New Mexico are being opposed by the National Guard. This raises the grasshoppers' march to the dignity of an incident.—Toronto Star.

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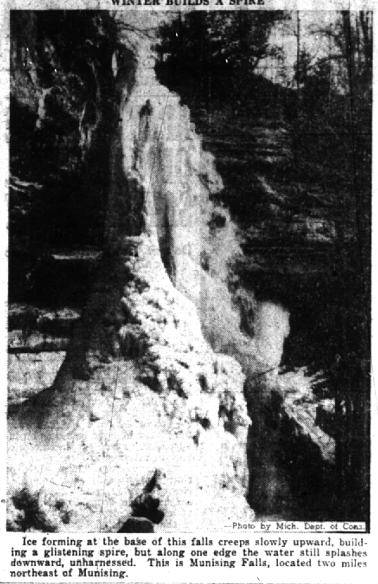
WINTER BUILDS A SPIRE



—Photo by Mich. Dept. of Conservation

Ice forming at the base of this falls creeps slowly upward, building a glistening spire, but along one edge the water still splashes downward, unharnessed. This is Munising Falls, located two miles northeast of Munising.

APATHY

(Continued from Page 1)

is going crazy on getting prizes. Unless private citizens, aware of the evil contribution of even so-called harmless games of chance, quit these activities, our nation is bound to become one of too many gamblers and drinkers, and our democracy will be wrecked. I do not pose as a tee-totaller or prohibitionist myself, but I do discipline myself to the point of extreme moderation—and that's all I, as a police officer, ask of any community.

Citizens Responsible

"It's not those who engage in dispensing liquor and gambling that are the major problem of law-enforcement, I assure you," went on Commissioner Pickert. "If these groups had no customers, they would not be in business. During prohibition days too many of our best people laughed at the law; they associated with the scum of the underworld. In the larger cities, about all that the police can do to control evil is to raid and harass the operators of gambling and illegal liquor places. It's almost a fruitless job, too, because when you close one place another springs up—but wouldn't spring up if citizens were more law-abiding themselves.

"Every police department depends upon complete cooperation of the courts, if evil is to be uprooted from society. Nothing breaks down the morale of a police department so much as to have a judge fail in backing up law-enforcement officers."

Commissioner Pickert also admitted to his audience that "youth today is a real problem, too. I have just written an article, to be published in the next issue of Liberty magazine, on the subject of youth. I hope you will read it, for in it I am defending decency in society. I am grateful that Detroit's present and previous Mayor are backing up the Police Department in our policies.

"In conclusion, I am of the firm belief that, in the last analysis, no town can be crooked if its citizens are alert to their responsibilities. Public officials are elected by the people, and can be influenced or removed by them."

Commissioner Pickert was introduced by Exchangite Harold Kuder.

SHERIFF PICKS WRONG CAR

HOWELL (MPA) — When Frank Anderson noticed that his car was missing, he called the sheriff's department. A stolen car message was broadcast. When the car was found, however, Anderson learned it had been in good hands. Undersheriff Basset had taken the wrong car when he went on a hunting trip with a friend.

What! No Moonlight?

Mrs. Alec-Tweedie very much regrets that she is obliged to postpone her moonlight party tomorrow.—Note in the London Times.

FIRE LOSS

(Continued from Page 1)

months was the lowest since 1934, when the loss in property amounted to $1,162, the report shows.

During the year, the report indicates, the greater number of fires were without loss to building or content. There were 157 such fires during 1938. The number of fires where loss amounted to less than $100 is given as 32, in the report, and only five fires resulted in loss of between $100 and $1000. Only one fire is reported during the year in which the property loss amounted to between $2000 and $3000.

The department responded to 212 alarms during the year. Of this number, 200 were silent alarms, four were general alarms, one false alarm, and 7 inhalator runs. The actual number of hours spent in fire fighting amounted to 79 and 49 minutes, the report shows.

From the standpoint of future safety, fires have been classified in the report into various types resulting from different causes. Of the total number, 17 were due to sparks from the chimney igniting the roof, 16 were due to overheated and defective heating plants, and 31 to "careless smoking and carelessness with fires."

Grass and rubbish fires amounted to 82 during the year, and 12 fires were caused by explosions, spontaneous combustion, friction and lightning storms. Defective electrical appliances were the cause of six fires, and one fire was of undetermined origin. Only one fire resulted in loss of life. Fires in which automobiles, trucks and other vehicles were involved, amounted to 16, according to the report.

Other Activities

The 512 hydrants in Birmingham were completely inspected twice during the winter of 1938 to ascertain their conditions relative to the amount of water standing in them, the report discloses.

In addition to the actual time spent on fire fighting, the department reports 215 hours spent on flood control and special detail during one of Birmingham's worst floods in recent years, early in 1938. Routine duties of the department included inspection of 1124 business places, which consumed 76 hours; nine hours were spent on residential inspection, and 361 hours were devoted to fire-prevention work.

Cooperation from the personnel of the department, the local press, city officials and citizens, schools, and merchants was given by Chief Griffith as reason for the low losses during the year.

Fine Cooperation

"I have personally enjoyed excellent cooperation from the personnel of the department, also the various news collection agencies. The Birmingham Eccentric and Pontiac Press, which cooperated by publicity on fire prevention, emergency warnings, the reporting of losses and causes of fires, and to these agencies, the department and I are most grateful," Chief Griffith states in his report.

"With out proper equipment and cooperation from the officials of the City, the department would not have been able to function with such a degree of efficiency, the support and cooperation of the City Manager with this department, and that of the Mayor and Commission, has made my work interesting and easy to carry.

"I feel, and this report shows, that we have enjoyed the cooperation of the citizens of this City, the merchants and business men, the churches, schools including the Superintendent and other school officials, and that this cooperation has contributed largely to our low losses.

"During the year we had one of the heaviest floods the City has ever had to contend with, and at no time was the water supply imperiled, this was because the men assigned to these responsibilities were alert."

WUGGAZER

(Continued from Page 1)

loved, avenge not yourself, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written: Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord.'

"Second, we are never to sacrifice truth for peace. Strange as it may sound, we are not commanded to have peace with all people at all times. We are to live peaceably only if it is possible. It is my duty as a Christian to be at peace with all men, but it is not my duty as a Christian to make every man be at peace with me. There is a great difference here. If there are some people who do not want peace, I cannot help it. When we look at some of the old Christians, we find that they never had peace with everybody at any one time. Look at the old prophets, for example. In Elijah's day there was a king who was bound to have peace, but on a wrong basis. There were many false preachers who were bound to have peace, but on a wrong basis. Elijah told them all: I am glad to have peace with you, but I want peace on the basis of right; I am not going to sacrifice truth for peace, even if all the world is against me. And so he stood on Mount Carmel all alone, but he stood there as a man of God who would not sacrifice truth for peace, even if it cost him his life. He could have no peace with Ahab; he could have no peace with Jezebel; and he could have no peace with the ungodly worshippers of Baal. And neither can we have peace with the modern counterparts of these ancient disciples of falsehood.

"Third, we are to live strictly honest lives. How often we hear it said in the best circles that there are church members who do not pay their grocery bills; that there are church members who go home drunk; and that there are church members who are in the habit of cursing and swearing? There is nothing that hurts the church of God as inconsistent Christian membership. If I were to say that the man staggering up the street drunk is Jesus Christ, who would believe me? If I were to say that Jesus Christ does not pay his grocery bills, who would believe me? If I were to say that the man standing out there cursing is Jesus Christ, who would believe me? No one would. In short, if I am a Christian I dare not do anything that will ever put my Savior to shame. I would therefore make a plea for everyone of us to remember that we have a conflict, and it is to be carried on in such a way that whatever else may be said against us, it cannot be said that we are dishonest; it cannot be said that we are not trying to live decent lives.

"Does all this sound too idealistic? It need not be, for there is a power that will enable us to carry out such a life program. It is the Cross of Christ. Until the time it was planted on Calvary, men had the courage to walk up and slap Jesus in the face; they had the courage to scourge his back; but after he was nailed on that cross, bearing the sins of the world, even the commander at the head of a group of Roman soldiers, stood there and smote upon his breast and said: 'Surely, this is the Son of God.' From that time on no hand touched Jesus to slap him; no hand touched him to murder him, and there never will. The Cross of Christ is able to subdue all enemies, and with it as our shield we can gain any victory.

LIVE and LEARN

By Alice Ann Sanders

A frail, anemic little man sideled in the door. His eyes, pale blue in a white lineless face, skittishly searched the room.

One slender hand held his hat while the other nervously pushed back imaginary hairs on the top of his shiny bald head.

When he located, in the crowd, the person he was looking for he took mincing steps on tip-toe and held his empty hand daintily at his side as he walked.

His neatly pressed suit was shiny in the back and the sun's rays pouring in the window actually rebounded off it with every step he took.

When he reached his party, he timidly reached up and dubiously tapped the large, beautifully dressed, woman on the shoulder, then seemed to shrink as she turned and glared at him.

He whispered something to her and she opened her purse and taking out a coin placed it violently in his hand and dismissed him.

He nodded gratefully and minced his way out, smiling. She, his wife, had given him car fare and twenty-five cents to spend as he chose.

Day's Worst Pun

Some golf players would make wonderful cake-cutters. They give such generous slices.—Toronto Daily Star.

Gilbert the Great and Gibson Girl

Champion Gilbert Thomas von Eric, blue ribbon winner in the Great Dane class at the 44th annual dog show in Philadelphia, makes friends with little Barbara Gibson, not much taller than himself, of Ardmore, Pa.

THIS AND THAT

(Continued from Page 1)

tleman was largely responsible for the hundreds of repaired toys that were handled by Birmingham's Boy Scouts. He lives at 244 Aspen road; his name is Sheldon Wright. So doff your hat to a fine citizen when you drive by his house, won't you?

Eight millions of dollars will be spent this winter by rich New York papas to introduce their daughters to "society." That puts both the girls and some money into circulation.

POLICE—NOT COSSACKS

IRON RIVER (MPA) — A stranger in Iron River this winter might think some Russian Cossacks had become stranded here. However, the men in the black sealskin caps are not Cossacks, but officers of the law. Winter is officially recognized here when the chief of police and his officers don the warm, furry headgear.

PONTIAC—Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty began a hearing last Thursday on the suit of the Ferndale city school district to extend its boundaries to the city's eastern limits. The suit is designed to settle the dispute over whether the territory lying between the eastern limits and Hilton road belongs within the jurisdiction of the Ferndale or Hazel Park school districts.

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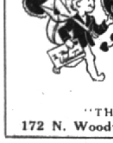

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