

SIXTY-SECOND YEAR—NO. 16

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1939

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Local Restaurant Is Modernizing Front

Modernization of the store front of the Purefood Restaurant, on North Woodward avenue, by the installation of Carra glass, is going ahead this week. Two colors will be used, maroon for lower portion, and cream white for the upper. The restaurant's name will glow in red letters.

The Purefood Restaurant is owned by James Frank, who has been in his present location for 14 years. His lease still has ten years to go.

"Of course, what I am doing is proof of my faith in the future of Birmingham," said Mr. Frank yesterday. "Mrs. Frank and I like Birmingham so well that we intend to spend the remainder of our lives here. We believe that this city has a great and substantial future. It is a homey community."

Mr. and Mrs. Frank have a son, 21, and a daughter, 19.

What Is Music?
Music is the poor man's Parnassus.—Emerson.

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Oakland County Briefs

LANSING: State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagener yesterday announced that Oakland County's share of the second quarter release of automobile weight tax collections will amount to \$232,115.37. These funds are used by the county to retire road debt obligations and for certain maintenance work.

Next to Wayne, this county receives more money from this source than any of Michigan's other six counties.

WATERFORD CENTER: This community is completing plans for its summer reunion, to be held Saturday, July 29. All former residents are invited to the affair.

PONTIAC: Three specific bequests and allotment of the residue of the estate to the widow are provided in the will of the late Charles E. Baumbeck, Orchard Lake village, which had been opened for probate today in Oakland County Probate Court. The will, dated April 6, 1939, leaves \$1,000 each to two nieces, Mrs.

Joseph Wortman and Miss Elizabeth Bobe; \$2,500 to a son, Charles E. Baumbeck, Jr., and the rest to the widow.

ROYAL OAK: Gilbert H. Davis has been re-nominated by President Roosevelt as Postmaster of this city. He was appointed first in June of 1934.

ROYAL OAK: Officials are investigating whether or not Mrs. Helen Grace Nolan, 40, took poison or drugs before apparently setting her clothing on fire in the bedroom of her home at 719 West Thirteenth road last Saturday night. Her clothing and hair were burned off completely.

PONTIAC: Dr. Frank S. Bachelder, 61, died Monday evening of a heart attack while in his home. He had been in poor health for ten years.

PONTIAC: Oakland County Board of Supervisors have offered a reward of \$500 for information leading to the arrest of the slayer or slayers of Henry Becker. The widow, Mrs. Juliette Becker, and Ernest Hawkins, connected with the decedent's manufacturing company, have been held in connection with the affair.

PONTIAC: Oakland County's welfare crisis for July was averted this week when the Board of Supervisors voted up to \$20,000 to carry on until August 1. Had this money not been forthcoming, the office of relief administrator S. S. Skelton would have been closed, it is reported.

PONTIAC: 200 Indians, of various tribes, have been holding an "encampment" here over the week-end, concluding with crowning a 15-year-old Pontiac lad of Chippewa Indian extraction as Chief. State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagener, Duncan C. McCrae, Wayne County prosecutor, and others were taken into the tribe at sundown ceremonies.

BIG BEAVER: The Oakland County Association of Macabees will be entertained by Big Beaver Tent No. 408 today, with a pot-luck dinner served at noon. Pontiac Hive No. 247 will initiate a class of candidates. Honored guests will be Judge and Mrs. Howard J. Jeffrey, of Detroit.

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WHEN A BIG ONE IS HOOKED



A thousand feet of copper wire, a spoon and a hook are attracting an increasing number of sportsmen from Michigan and other states, say lake trout trolling in Great Lakes waters.

Good Fishin' For Bass, Bluegills

LANSING: July 19—Bass and bluegill fishing are having their finest days while trout enthusiasts in some sections are bidding adieu to the season. In the north, it is indicated in latest reports on state-wide fishing results filed with the fish division of the department of conservation.

In the past week district supervisors in most sections described the catches of bass, bluegills and sunfish in terms of "good," "very good" or "getting better every day." General opinion was that the bass and pan fish season was continuing to meet expectations.

News from trout streams and lakes told of adverse water and weather conditions in some areas. This was more true of Upper Peninsula counties, where reports from the western part attributed slow trout fishing to high water, although the few fishermen who still venture out into the heat were getting fair catches.

Trout in the Lower Peninsula were taken in fair-to-good quantities in the north-east section where the stream levels were normal, but the heat worked against trout fishing in most of the central section. Only "very good" prospects were on trout in Newagen and Lake counties.

"Bass fishing has held up marvelously," was one report, and another experience was of "the best bass fishing in years." Pike was said to be improving rapidly with the Upper Peninsula central and eastern sections reporting good catches, while most parts of the lower peninsula saw fair pike fishing. Bluegills and sunfish completed the group giving satisfactory catches. High winds kept fishermen off some of the larger lakes in the upper state regions, but the pan fish haul was large in most of the lakes fished.

Early evening and after-dark fishing brought the most results in pan fish. Bluegills were said to be taking to fish during the hour before dark, while worms and bait held their attractions during daytime angling.

Lake Superior trolling for trout was good and its prospects were improving at Ontonagon county. Trout trolling in Lake Superior was excellent at Chippewa county.

No More Trick Plates, Says Kelly

Trick license plates with designations such as B00, G00, PAK 4 and C00 I will be taboo in Michigan beginning March 1, next year, Harry F. Kelly, secretary of State, has decreed. Instead 1940 auto plates will be uniform for every car whether owned by state officials or persons with great influence. The 1940 plates will have two letters and four numbers, with the letters designating the locality in which the plate is issued so law enforcement officers can tell at a glance where a car is from.

When Secretary Kelly took office he found in existence an astonishing variety of goofy and confusing license plate numbers. Hundreds of requests for similarly numbered cars on file and these were promptly denied. It was of course impossible for Secretary Kelly to recall the hundreds of fancy numbers which had been issued by a former administration.

"There will be no more of the confusion that results from the childish practice of issuing a huge variety of license plates which has placed an almost unworkable impediment in the way of police agencies in the effort to enforce the law and track down criminals," said Secretary Kelly.

Uniformity of 1940 license plates will make possible a key filing system from which information can be given speedily to non-officers concerning any car that is sought, a very important matter in police work.

Fact, Not Fiction, Wins First Place In Local Reading, Says Librarian

By Cassius F. Smith

What kind of books are Birmingham people reading these days? Who are the most popular authors? Fiction or non-fiction preferred? What time of year do reading habits most strongly manifest themselves?

These and many more questions can be answered as a result of the report read to the Library Board at its annual meeting in the Baldwin Public Library July 14th by Miss Adeline Cooke, librarian.

Beyond these facts and figures lie the changing reading habits of a people that might alter their own lives and even those with whom they come in contact.

Not only in Birmingham is the following fact true, but all over the country, the reading habit of non-fiction to the exclusion of fiction. "This is due," says Miss Cooke, "to the more interesting style of writing and the subject matter. Writers are discussing political events in other countries from their own personal observation."

Biographies Lead
In Birmingham, Biography leads in circulation; in second place comes Fine Arts, which includes gardening, architecture, sculpture, painting, art and movable works, photography, music, drama and sports. Travel is in third place, followed by Literature, Social Science and Philosophy. Literature really occupies second place in circulation, but as this is usually for school reference and not a free choice, it cannot be listed as second place reading material of library users.

The library this year shows a gain of 2883 in circulation over last year.

Non-Fiction Leaders
The one book in the non-fiction class that leads all the rest is Dwight Long's "Seven Seas on a Shooting." Nora Wain's "Roaching for the Stars" is another way up in the list. "Days of Our Years," by Pierre Van Paesson; Van Doren's "Benjamin Franklin"; "You're the Doctor," by Victor Heiser; "A Peculiar Treasure," by Edna Ferber are other non-fiction books widely read in Birmingham.

Movies Influence Reading
According to Miss Cooke the movies have distinct influence on reading habits. "The Citadel" traveled faster from home to home after it had been transcribed to the screen. "Green Light" too, gained wider circulation after its screen treatment.

In the field of fiction, "Disputed Passage" is a circulation leader, but after the screen version is released authorities expect they will have to buy more books to meet the certain demand. "Fugate Uter" has also been found to be filmed, will follow this same rule unless tradition is upset.

All these are worthwhile books by authors who know how to write and have a story to tell. Once an author catches the attention of the public with a popular book, the public reads his past books, library records show. The secret of success, then, is one book that will strike the popular fancy.

Fiction Finds Favor
The leader in the fiction group is Daphne Du Maurier's "Rebecca." Others are Emily Bronte's "Wuthering Heights," a leading

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Summer Concerts Will End Tonight

The last in the series of summer concerts by the Detroit Federal Symphony Orchestra will take place this evening on the campus of the Grosse Pointe high school at 8:15 p. m.

The concert, a Federal Music Project of the Works Progress Administration, have been under the conductorship of Walter Pade. Tonight's program includes the famous Fifth Symphony of Tchaikovsky, which will be the major offering. Also featured is the Russian Sailor's Dance from "The Red Poppy," by Rimoldi-Giere. Giere studied with Ippolitov-Ivanov at the Moscow Conservatory and as a composer gained favorable attention by his inventive power and technical workmanship. The Russian Sailor's Dance is only one

part of several which he wrote for a ballet.

Another sparkling gem included in the program is the overture "Orpheus in the Underworld," by Offenbach.

Other numbers to be offered tonight are "Dream Fantomime from 'Hansel and Gretel,' by Humperdinck, and "Artists' Life Waters," by Strauss.

Times Change
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ASSETS

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- JUNE - 1936 - \$124,000
- JUNE - 1937 - \$252,000
- JUNE - 1938 - \$376,000
- JUNE - 1939 - \$474,000



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