Angle Parking On Woodward Avenue Ends Saturday Night

This space last week, for the first time in many years, was without one of these little "ears." I went fishing up in Canada and forgot to send copy to the composing room. This corner of the paper did look strange without the usual line—typographically, I mean. I do enjoy this little assignment of neighborly thought exchange.

The Birmingham Eccentric

14 PAGES, PART 1

SIXTY-SECOND YEAR—NO. 26 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1939 | $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Last Monday I arrived home after seven delightful days spent on the French River, 220 miles north of Toronto, where the Canadian Pacific Railway branch between Toronto and Sudbury winds its tortuous way through an almost primitive wilderness. With me on that trip were Fred W. Johnson, Elmer C. Huston, and George E. Baldwin, local residents. We stayed at the Chalet Bungalow Camp operated by the CPR, over which Jack C. Strathdee serves as manager. Many people in the Detroit-suburban area have visited this camp, famous for its fishing: big and little pike, bass, pickerel or wall-eyed pike, channel cat fish, and some muskellunge, lure the piscator (fisherman to you) to these parts. In this column last week I said we would catch plenty of fish: well, we did—the four of us, singly and collectively. But, in all honesty, I must confess for our quartet that we did not bring ta gaff the coveted muskellunge, though two were taken by two New York chaps staying at the camp while we were there.

The French River, about 75 miles in length from its source on Lake Nipissing to its outlet on Georgian Bay, is a great body of water. Over it for centuries the Indians have paddled their canoes; and some of the Chippewas and Algonquins and Ojibways and others who still live in its vicinity continue to use it as a main artery of travel. Over it, about 1615, Champlain and his French explorers penetrated western Ontario and finally reached the Great Lakes; followed Pere Marquette and many others. But, in this column, I haven't space to narrate much of the river's history. It sprawls all over the place, so to speak; not a narrow, confined body of water as we know rivers in our middle west—because of the fact that the bosom of Mother Earth where the French River wends its way is chiefly the outcropping projections of every manner and shape of ponderous and formidable rock, the river varies in width from less than 200 feet to several miles, with many places where lengthy narrow and wide bays have been created by the earth's surface. As I remarked to my boat-companion, George Baldwin, and our Indian guide, Simon Stevens, (one-third Algonquin two-thirds French white), "there certainly is plenty of water for a fisherman to call on."

At the CPR camp you may rent a canoe, or small boat with outboard motor, with or without guide. You may fish near the camp, (and get 'em, too), or you may be transported by one of two fast 32-ft. cruisers to points as far away as 25 miles, up the river. You will, if you stay a week or more, for the first time, probably do as we four did; we went into the bush—twice making portages to inland lakes where fishing, especially for pike, was so good that you tired pulling 'em in. One afternoon in less than 65 minutes, I caught 13 pike and let 'em all go. Baldwin caught the largest pike, a 15-pounder; he also caught the smallest fish, a three-inch perch. Johnson caught a five-pound channel catfish—it required 30 minutes in fast water at the foot of a water fall to land it; Huston caught, usually, one fish for every lunch that we ate daily on the rocky shore along the river, cooked by the Indian guides.

Seven of the days we spent on the river were in two 18-ft. canoes, each canoe containing two of our party and an Indian guide. We started out with Simon Stevens in the Baldwin-Averill canoe; Charley Guolais, for three days guided the Johnson-Huston canoe, then was supplanted by Philip Commanda the remainder of the stay. Perhaps two-thirds of each seven hours daily in the canoe were spent trolling or casting for fish; the guides are adept with the canoe—timed their average stroking, 32 dips of the paddle per minute. From 16 to 23 miles was an average daily canoe trip.

We arose at the camp each day at 5:30 in the morning, finished breakfast by 6 o'clock, and were away shortly thereafter. At seven o'clock we would quit fishing and "make lunch." The two guides, old hands at the game, would soon have the fire going, the frying pans sputtering deep fat with bass or pickerel steaks browning therein. Hot coffee, bread & butter, fruit, pie, bacon and eggs, plus whatever else the camp lunch boy had packed, would soon litter the rocky "dining table." I suppose that, altogether, our party ate on every possible rocky slant that would support flat dishes; sometimes

(See THIS AND THAT, Page 2)

J. B. HOWARTH & SON
INSURANCE
Good Insurance is Not Cheap.
Cheap Insurance is not Good.
National Bank Building—Tel. 321

Retailers Vote To Keep Angle Parking Here

Seek Change in New Law; Same Officers Re-elected

Still determined that angle parking is desirable for Woodward avenue in Birmingham, the Retail Merchants Association, in its annual business session Tuesday night, went on record favoring a change in the new state traffic law, which Sunday makes parallel parking the rule.

In the election, last year's officers were returned to their posts. They are Harry E. Bissett, president; John McKee, vice-president and Walter R. Raychel, secretary.

Mr. Bissett

New members of the Board of Directors, to serve a three-year term, are Matthew Cammareri, cleaner and dyer; Frank Sloan, Firestone service station proprietor; David A. Green, wallpaper and paint retailer; and Walter Parmenter, florist.

The merchants, meeting at the Community House, decided that despite the new state law, angle parking on Woodward should be sought. The merchants feel that with the opening of Hunter boulevard, 90 per cent of traffic will be diverted from Woodward avenue, making it pointless to enforce parallel parking, according to Secretary Raychel.

A resolution was passed, and it will be sent to the City Commission and to various state officials.

Other members of the Board of Directors who will serve another year are Ralph A. Wilson, of the Wilson Drug Co.; Alfred J. LaBelle, of LaBelle's Books and Gifts; M. Ray Cook, of the Beck Cleaners and Dyers Inc.; Sam Bruni, of the Birmingham Fruit Company; Ray Peck, of Charles R. Peck and Sons; Sam Sfire of Sfire Brothers Market; Ben E. Holfus, of S. S. Kresge's; and P. G. Burnett, of the Birmingham National Bank.

In addition to the election and passage of the angle parking resolution, the merchants also discussed the program for the year. It was decided to have a special meeting within two weeks to discuss a Christmas merchandising program. An administrative committee for the coming year has not yet been appointed.

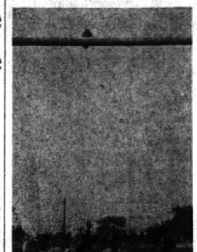
Lions Club Hears Of Airline Operation

Kenneth M. Kinnee, traffic representative of American Airlines, Inc., was the guest speaker Wednesday noon at the luncheon meeting of the Lions Club held at the Community House.

Motion pictures which Mr. Kinnee presented at this meeting were entitled "The American Way" and showed in graphic detail the workings of the airlines through their regular flight travel. These pictures also showed the difference in the length of time that it took to cross the United States a hundred years ago and time it takes today. It took 100 days to cross the continent by horse a few years ago while today the same distance is spanned overnight.

Following the pictures Mr. Kinnee spent some time answering questions put to him by members of the local club.

Perfect Kick



No, this ball did not hit the cross bar. It was a perfect place kick by Scotty Gowans adding one point to Birmingham's 13 to 0 victory over Dearborn last Friday. (Eccentric photo)

Woodward Fete Date Postponed To November 3

Because 740 of Birmingham's school children will hold their annual Hallowe'en Masquerade Party the night of Oct. 27, and also because State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagoner will be in the East on that date, the proposed celebration of the completion of Wider Woodward avenue through Birmingham has been postponed to Nov. 3, a Friday evening. This was effected Tuesday night when members of the committee in charge of the affair met in the Community House under the chairmanship of Richard Harfst, manager of the Automobile Club of Michigan, and reported on the respective progress of their committees during the intervening week.

As the plans now stand, the program for the event will include a banquet for approximately 300 at the Birmingham Golf Club, with several speakers, followed by a huge pageant to be staged on the southbound lane of the new highway, the center of the pageant to be within a block either side of East Maple avenue. The pageant is to depict the story of transportation methods, going back to the days when the Indians used "the old Saginaw trail," to the present Woodward-U. S. 10 highway between Detroit and Saginaw.

At Tuesday night's meeting assurance was given by Mrs. M. L. Fletcher, of the Southeastern Michigan Tourist Association, that her organization will enlist the aid and support of all communities be-

(See WOODWARD Page Two)

YMCA Meeting Set For Thursday, 6:30

About 50 men—trustees, directors and friends of both the Pontiac and Birmingham Y. M. C. A., are meeting Thursday evening at Springdale Park clubhouse, starting with a dinner at 6:30 o'clock. Pictures will be shown and activities and reports of Camp Mahngo-tah-see discussed.

Public Opinion Differs Sharply On Arms Policy

Jaycees In Favor Of Change; Women Voters Give Views

With the eyes of the whole nation upon Washington, awaiting with intense interest what changes Congress may make in the Neutrality law, Birmingham was no exception in so far as public and private discussion is concerned.

The Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce polled its members Monday night and found a sharp division in its ranks over the question of amending the Neutrality law, but with a plurality in favor of the cash-and-carry plan for sale of arms. Even if Germany violates this country's rights under international law as she did in the last war, 15 of the 26 Jaycees who voted are opposed to declaring war even if no expeditionary forces are sent abroad to fight.

Eccentric Symposium

The Eccentric assembled a random symposium on the subject (to be found at the bottom of the page) and found opinion considerably divided.

The local league of Women Voters has taken no stand on the matter, but a communication from the national headquarters of the organization received in Birmingham, stated that the National Board of the League is in favor of revision of the Neutrality act so that all trade will be controlled under restrictions of cash-and-carry or some similar proposal, instead of arms and munitions alone, which are said to be but 15 per cent of the total trade in time of war.

Vote on Five Questions

The Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce voted on five questions pertaining to the war situation. They are as follows:

"**Do you favor or oppose this country's amending its neutrality policy to permit the sale of the goods to any and all nations at war**

(See JAYCEES Page 7)

Retailer Wins Change in Zoning

To correct what several City Commissioners felt might have been an error in the City Zoning Ordinance, that body Monday night voted to permit Timothy Thompson to erect a new building on Adams avenue, near Lincoln, 60 feet near Adams than the ordinance permits.

Thompson pointed out that a large building already on Adams is only 39 feet back from the center of the street (it was built before the ordinance was passed.) He plans to build next door, 11 feet away, and he pleaded to get permission for the front of his store to be on the same line as that of his neighbor. Thompson promised to move his building back or tear off the front 11 feet should Adams ever be widened.

Commissioner Lawrence Hulbert was unalterably opposed to any change in the ordinance. Commissioner Arthur J. Kane declared, "I think the present building on Adams was overlooked when the district was designated as 'Business A' (requiring all buildings back 50 feet from the street-center).

We can continue the present building line down to Adams and then stop there."

The commission, approved except for Hulbert, a contract with Thompson and his assignee and successors which stipulates moving back to the 50-foot line when the city should demand it.

Thompson will sell groceries and dry goods.

'Model Plane Madness' Hits Boys of City

(Right GEORGE WATT, of 364 Hanna, inspects his "de Voltaire." This is the same ship which "ran away" over Birmingham last year and caused people to think a big airplane was in distress. (Left) This is one of the amazing little gasoline engines used to power model planes. The one-cylinder power plant is only 4¾ inches high, yet it has a maximum speed of 10,000 RPM's. (Eccentric photo.)

One Youth Stakes All on New Ship

George Watt, 364 Hanna street, airplane designer and manufacturer, is staking his reputation and fortune on a new amphibian sesqui-plane now in the process of building in Birmingham. The plane must either fly, or the financier behind the project, Frank Everingham, who lives at the corner of Hanna and Brown, will get his investment returned.

All this sounds like a pretty important deal, and it is, too, to George and Frank, both high school boys who, like thousands upon thousands of other American boys, are mad about model airplanes. They simply eat, sleep and breathe model planes.

Visits Headquarters

An Eccentric reporter visited the headquarters of the Voltaire Aircraft Company the other day and secured the latest information on the status of the airplane industry in Birmingham. The company has its main offices and plant in a garage at the rear of George Watt's, and while the business done in several months may not equal the amount spent by an adult for a set of new automobile tires, yet George and his partner, Robert Allen, 16, are in dead earnest about the whole enterprise.

Both of them deliver papers in the morning to secure working capital for their company, which when it does $100 worth of business will get a license from the city. Meanwhile, every sale is carefully noted in a day book. Stock in trade consists of model airplane parts of all kinds: propellors, rubber bands, cement, the feather-light balsa wood from

(See MODEL PLANES Page 2)

2 Boys on Bicycle Run Into Automobile

Two boys on a bicycle which had defective brakes narrowly escaped serious injury Wednesday afternoon when their bicycle ran into the slowly-moving car of Mrs. Katherine W. Murray, 351 Lake Park drive, at the corner of Pierce and Brown. Mrs. Murray reported the mishap to police, but did not obtain the first names of the boys, whose surname is Kothe. They live at 1128 Emmons. One received a bump on the head but not serious enough to require medical attention. He was taken home by a witness, Mrs. Emma Christiansen, 412 Lincoln.

"It might have been serious had my car been going faster," Mrs. Murray told The Eccentric.

Essay Writers!

This is your final chance to get into The Eccentric's Civic Loyalty Day essay contest! Prizes totaling $60 are still available.

In order that the youngest and oldest age groups may further compete, the contest has been extended until Oct. 6 at 4 p. m. Girls and boys 14 and 15 years old can win $25 in prizes, while persons 19 years old and over may compete for $35 in prizes. Subject: "How does my Interest in Local Government Make Me a Better Citizen in a Free Government." Get the complete rules in The Eccentric for Sept. 21.

Unusual Variety In Kryl Concert

A program of unusual variety and one which promises to prove of interest to both school children and adults will be presented Wednesday morning at 10:30 in the auditorium of Baldwin High School by the 50-piece symphony orchestra of Bohumir Kryl.

In addition to the symphonic program, solo numbers will be presented by Irene Walther, soprano, Richard Kloko, tenor, Florian Zabach, violinist and May Hopkins, harpist.

The concert will open with the overture to Mignon by Thomas and will be followed by a tenor solo from Rigoletto, "La Donna e Mobile" to be sung by Mr. Kloko.

The second orchestral group will include the Mendelssohn "Spring Song" and "Moment Musical" by Franz Shubert. Two numbers by Russian composers will conclude this group, "The Music Box" by Liedoff and "Flight of the Bumble Bee" by Rimsky-Korsakov.

Miss Walther's contribution to the program will be the air "Lo! Hear the Gentle Lark" by Lax. Florian Zabach, violin soloist, will present Fritz Kreisler's arrangement of the Beethoven "Rondino."

The orchestra will present a group of numbers by American composers including "To A Wild Rose" by MacDowell, "The Harmonica Player" by David Guion, "Mosquito Dance" by White and "Country Gardens" by Percy Grainger.

Miss Walther and Mr. Kloko will present a soprano and tenor duet from "Don Giovanni" by Mozart and the orchestra will play the "Hungarian Dance No. 6" by Brahms and the introduction to the third act of "Lohengrin."

Sewer Project Deferred By City

After a 2½-hour debate in which minority rights, the question of a public health menace, the lethargy of the WPA and the possibility of a sea of mud all winter figured prominently, the City Commission deferred until the first meeting in April any further action on the proposed Madison-Rivenoak sewer.

A great majority present were against the proposal, but a determined defense put up by Henry M. Foley, 888 Madison, kept the discussion alive. Foley's case was supported by the statement of City Engineer Harold H. Corson that the sewers now on Madison and Rivenoak are inadequate and must be replaced eventually, and also by a spirited defense of minority groups spoken by George R. Averill.

Commission in Quandary

The City Commission was in a quandary. Twice hearings had been called, and once, questionnaires were sent by mail to the 90 property owners who would be affected, but only 33 questionnaires were returned, far under a majority.

The group was practically unanimous on one point: The job should not be turned over to the WPA because that organization's limited work-hours available would prolong the project all winter and convert Madison and Rivenoak into a sea of mud. The other alternatives mentioned were: (1) Doing the work by private contract at a higher cost, or (2) a PWA project with a private contractor in which 45 per cent of the cost would be borne by the Federal Government.

City Manager Donald C. Egbert was not certain that a PWA (not WPA) contract could be arranged, but he pointed out that if it were, the work must be done this fall,

(See SEWER Page Two)

Church to Mark Freedom of Debt

To celebrate the payment of all church debt, members of the First Methodist Church will hold a "Victory Dinner" on Friday evening, Oct. 6, at the Community House.

The debt existed since the days of the bank closings several years ago, and was entirely paid off by the church.

The committee representing both the Women's Society and the Men's Club has engaged as speaker the Rev. Marshall Reed D. D., the dynamic minister of the Detroit Conference, who is looked upon as the outstanding leader of its official life among the younger group of conference men.

Dr. Reed is in much demand as a public speaker and was lately elevated to the position of Governorship of the Kiwanians of Michigan. He is pastor of the Nardin Park Methodist Church in Detroit. Guests of honor will be Mrs. Reed and Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Harrison. Dr. Harrison is superintendent of the Ann Arbor District of which the First Methodist Church of Birmingham is a part. A delightful evening is hoped for and members and friends of the church have been asked to attend.

Truly A False Alarm

"There's a fire at Sherman's market" an excited resident informed the Fire Department the other day. The fire crew raced to the scene and found the supposed smoke to be an insect spray put about just before closing. On Sunday, firemen answered a call to Maple and Southfield where a tree had been set afire allegedly by golf course caddies.

Angle Parking Ban To Start Here Sunday

No Right Turn On Red Light Is Effective Friday

Angle parking on Woodward avenue, the custom in Birmingham for many years, will come to an end Saturday night when the new state law providing parallel parking on state trunklines will be put into effect here. Another important change, starting Friday, will be a ban on right turns made on red lights.

Although the state law stipulates that the parallel parking shall start Friday, City Manager Donald C. Egbert pointed out that the new rule would be deferred because the city has no warning signs erected. However, signs now in place warn against angle parking on Sunday, and Egbert thinks it best to begin enforcement then. He also believes considerable confusion would ensue if the law were enforced during the heavy traffic on Saturday. The City Commission discussed the matter briefly Monday night and accepted the innovation, for the time being at least, with the attitude, "There's nothing we can do about it."

Birmingham's Retail Merchants Association went on record Tuesday night advocating change of the state law to permit resumption of angle parking.

Monday night, Commissioner Ray H. Palmer suggested that yellow lines be painted a car's width from the curbs on Woodward, together with cross marks, to aid cars parking in the proper manner.

The merchants feel that with the opening of Hunter boulevard, the traffic on Woodward will be very light and that angle parking will entail no problem.

An important consideration in the matter is whether the State Highway Department will continue to designate Woodward as a trunkline highway after Hunter boulevard is opened. The city is said to receive about $2,000 a year for maintaining Woodward avenue, and if it chose to forego the state money, it could probably have Woodward taken off the state list, and then regulate parking as it sees fit.

Exchange Club Hears Prosecutor

"Crime costs every person $10 a month and for that reason we should be vitally interested in the crime prevention methods of all communities, for in one way or another part of the expense of this prevention reverts back to us," Charles L. Wilson, Oakland County prosecuting attorney, told members of the Exchange Club at the noon meeting Tuesday at the Community House.

Mr. Wilson, during the course of his talk, expressed the feeling that a crime prevention campaign would be a worthy venture for any community and suggested that every locality should have a committee to study the problem. While speaking on law enforcement Wilson told members of the Exchange Club that the average citizen can help governing officials by becoming interested in jury duty and by serving when called.

"One of the problems of the public officials in law enforcement," Mr. Wilson said, "is that no law can be enforced to a greater degree or be more effective than the public demands."

Dr. James J. Reilly, president of the club, presided at the meeting, and Mr. Wilson was introduced by Police Chief John P. Hackett, chairman of the program committee for that meeting.

Ralph Moulthrop, who is chairman of the sports committee, told members of the club that two teams will participate in the service club bowling match which is to be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Rotary Club Sees Highway Movies

Interesting sound movies, "Adventures on Michigan Highways," were shown at Monday's meeting of the Rotary Club by Lloyd Reid, of the State Highway Department. Harry E. Bissett was in charge of the program.

Nex week, a feature of the program will be donation of bundles of old clothing which is to be given to the Thrift Shop at the Community House. Forgetful members will be assessed 50 cents, Elmer Huston is in charge.

Birmingham Citizens Tell Why They Are For or Against Changing Neutrality Act

Selected at random, a group of Birmingham citizens were asked their views on the neutrality question. The symposium follows:

K. B. OLSON, 540 Hawthorne—"At first glance, I'd say, 'leave the neutrality law as it is.' But, I don't pretend to have the information that may be available to our representatives in Washington, so I haven't written them. In the last war, we got into it much too heavily, so this time, if we are going to make any mistake, I would rather make it in the other direction."

MRS. MALCOLM W. WELTY, 2279 Yorkshire—"In my opinion the present neutrality act should be amended, for I do not think that the embargo as it is now constituted will be effective in keeping us out of war. It should be strengthened."

PETER L. DRONKEN, 848 East Lincoln—"My mind is not yet made up. Some times I am against it, some times I am in favor of it, when different possibilities are considered."

W. G. LEWELLEN, 671 Pilgrim—"My only desire is this: Keep America out of war, and I don't care how they do it."

MRS. J. W. DeBEAUBIEN, 524 Southfield road—"I feel very strongly in favor of leaving the neutrality act in its present form. As Senator Vandenberg said several days ago this bill was passed in 1937 at a time when the law makers had time to give it a great deal of thought and should, therefore, not be changed in these days of emergency."

CHARLES S. KIDDER, 275 East Brown—"As the act now stands it appears to favor Germany. I don't think the embargo will determine whether or not this country is to get us into war; rather, I believe that it will be the propaganda and the talk by government officials. It all depends on the sentiment of the people."

MRS. W. W. DEAN, 287 East Brown street—"As the mother of two sons I am primarily concerned with America staying out of the European muddle. There are so many options in the embargo question that it is difficult to form an opinion. However, I am bitterly opposed to anything which would allow the monied interests to draw us into another war."

WILLIAM C. SHAUGHNESSY, 1539 Birmingham boulevard—"The neutrality act should be left the way it is. I spent a year and a half overseas and I know how those people over there think about this country. They are jealous of us and want to bring us down to their level. This is the best country in the world and we will do well to leave Europe strictly alone."

REV. THEODORE WUGGAZER, JR., 496 Lincoln—"I am in favor of real neutrality. The embargo should be left as it is."

MRS. DONALD E. WRIGHT, 779 Randall court—"I am in favor of repealing the present embargo act and have based my opinion mainly on the speech which President Roosevelt gave several days ago."

MRS. HAROLD A. DICK, 374 Wellesley drive — "I feel, with probably every other American, that everything should be done to keep us out of this European war. But I don't want to see the neutrality bill changed in any way."

MISS MARGARET McCARROLL, 431 Park street—"I have not yet been able to formulate an opinion. Naturally I am interested in any measure that will keep the United States out of war. I feel that it is a very momentous question and am studying both sides rather carefully."

RICHARD H. DEWEY, American Legion post commander, 219 Woodward—"My personal view is that the neutrality act should be left as it is. Ex-service men, 250,000 in number, are in favor of the embargo. We want America kept out of war."

MRS. H. H. CORSON, 336 West Maple—"Due partly to the fact that my father and my grand-parents were born in a country that had been oppressed for centuries, and to my early schooling with the nuns of the Sacred Heart Academy, my sympathies and efforts have always been with oppressed or neglected groups and minorities. Whether this group is in China, Poland, or American slums, I am acutely aware of the human

(See NEUTRALITY Page Two)

Have your Timken Silent Automatic Oil Burner serviced by the only local factory-authorized service. Attention—Genuine Parts.
Timken Silent Automatic Service
Phone 16231 Day or Night
adv.—23-27

Beauty Rest Mattresses Repaired. Royal Mattress Co., Phone B'ham 1-0788
adv.—tf.

Victor and Bluebird Records. New releases weekly. Leonard Electric, 162 W. Maple.
adv.—tf.