Annual Memorial Day Parade Scheduled Tomorrow at 10:30

The power of scientific invention and research for good or evil is illustrated in the present European war. Germany, capable of creating wonderful machines for the production of good, has turned its current talents toward evil. Machines merely obey their creators; so one ought not condemn machines, but should condemn some men.

The Birmingham Eccentric

16 PAGES, PART 1

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 9 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1940 $1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

. . . . In Which I Receive "Honor" From The Bosses!

Conclusive proof that Michigan's Republican activities are controlled by "Bosses" Frank D. McKay and Edward N. Barnard is again revealed in a certain maneuver at the State Republican Convention held in Grand Rapids two weeks ago; strangely enough, the proof I wish to offer is the simple fact that I, George R. Averill, for years a critic of Boss rule in Michigan, was selected by these same Bosses as one of two Republican Presidential Electors-at-large at that Convention! And I wasn't at the Convention either!

Michigan has a Presidential Elector for each of its 17 Congressional Districts, plus two at-large for the two U. S. Senators. John W. Blodgett, Grand Rapids philanthropist, was the other Elector-at-large selected.

A humorous angle of the situation is the fact that I didn't learn of my selection at the Grand Rapids Convention until I reached Cheboygan the afternoon of May 17, in company with editors Floyd J. Miller, of Royal Oak, and Elton R. Eaton, of Plymouth. We were on our way to the Upper Peninsula, for an eight-day sight-seeing and fishing trip, arranged by editors Al Weber, of Cheboygan, and Hal Whiteley, of Rogers City.

Arriving at Weber's office our car was met by Mr. Whiteley who, after greetings, shouted out to me: "Well, George, I see you've been taken in by the Republican political Bosses and made a Presidential Elector-at-large!"

That statement gave me a good laugh—until, after a moment, Mr. Whiteley reached into my car and proved, by a Detroit Free Press story, that my name was published as he had declared.

Well, you can imagine my surprise; here was I, for more than a decade a constant critic of Boss rule in Michigan, a scribe who has mentioned by name both McKay and Barnard as political influences antagonistic to the best kind of self-government; yet I well knew that they were in complete control of the Grand Rapids Convention of two weeks ago— and here was I, one of 19 Presidential Electors in the coming fall election. Why should they include me in their set-up, when there are thousands of other Michigan men who deserve whatever empty honor this selection may confer upon them?

The answer, of course, is easy to see. There is an old saying about "if you can't overcome an enemy, just take him into your own camp and make him your friend."

In other words, my selection as a Presidential Elector-at-large is a kind of vanity-tickler, a sort of sop thrown my way by these Bosses.

What is my reaction to this overture?

I first considered refusing the selection, on the theory that it might, by mis-interpretation of the public, seem to compromise my position as a crusader against Bossism in Michigan, especially in view of my position as president of the Michigan Fourth Estate Group. Then I decided to accept the selection, merely as a courtesy to these very same Bosses.

Their action in my regard proves, of course, that they are human beings, not great and sombre ogres bent upon completely devouring the unsuspecting public-at-large; they are, it would seem, (if I may be completely humble and modest about the matter), desirous of leavening their Boss-selected slate with a lofty atmosphere—and so, with a few other more angelic personalities also placed on their slate of Electors, they include me.

So, Folks, here am Im, a friendly enemy of McKay and Barnard, the beneficiary of their political largess in the handing out of empty honors. A strange paradox; almost an anomaly.

I'm recording these facts, Folks, for two reasons: first, believing that you may be interested in the ways of politics; second, as a protection for myself and the Michigan Fourth Estate in our journalistic crusade to eliminate Bosses *(See THIS AND THAT, Page 2)*

League of Women Want Planning Group

A re-establishment of the old village plan commission was asked of the City Commission in a petition read at the meeting Monday night, sent by a committee of the League of Women Voters. The resolution cited the value of long range planning, declaring that sometimes certain projects may be favored over others because of pressure and not plans.

Mayor John E. Martz appeared to favor the request but deferred action because time was short Monday evening.

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

City to Honor War Patriots Tomorrow

Cemetery Services Will Follow Parade at 10:30

While war ravages Europe, the cost of such conflicts will be brought home in the annual Memorial Day observance in Birmingham tomorrow, when honor again will be paid to those who lost their lives in the service of their country.

The speaker will be Ralph L. Lee, 1009 Suffield avenue, a member of the public relations department of General Motors.

Form Line at 10 a. m.

The parade will leave the High School at 10:30 a. m., and all taking part are asked to start forming the line of march by 10 o'clock, according to Richard Dewey, American Legion commander, and Edwin Minks, Veterans of Foreign Wars commander. The cavalcade will go east on Maple to Woodward, north on Woodward to Oak, and thence to Greenwood Cemetery.

(See PARADE, Page 2)

Jr. High Singers Are Given Praise

By FENTON R. MATHEWS

In the Baldwin High School Auditorium Monday evening, 600 junior high school and high school students gave thrills and joy to parents and music lovers that packed the concert hall.

This was one of the best Music Festivals that has ever been given in Birmingham and the increasing crowds that are attending these musical events of the schools are most gratifying to music lovers and school authorities.

Musical numbers were interpolated with delightful dances depicting English folk dances, Irish, Scotch, Sailors' Hornpipe and a winsome bit to the tune of "Dancing in the Rain." To Miss Jeannette Kriekard and Miss Nina Kitts belongs the credit for additional enjoyment.

The High School A Cappella Choir at times reached professional proportions in sonority and shading. "Music of Life" and the beautiful "Lord's Prayer" by Malotte showing this group to decided advantage. Several outstanding voices reached these ears, one that of a soprano that this reviewer would like to hear at close range; another was a tenor. This group could do worthwhile things.

"Ranger's Song" by the boys' chorus was sung with relish and no doubt the air of spring made them conscious of the outdoors and wide open spaces.

A duet by Dulcie Krasnick and Sally Spouse accompanied by Normadean La Ra gave an unusual touch to an already excellent program.

The program was spicy and there was not a dull moment, for the program finished at 8:35. It did not seem possible that our youngsters could deliver so many choice bits of entertainment in this length of time.

Victor Ulrich, the musical di- *(See SINGERS, Page 2)*

Masons to Celebrate 89th Charter Year

On Tuesday evening, June 4, Masons of Birmingham, will celebrate The 89th Anniversary of their charter, with a dinner and dance at the Community House. Life memberships will be presented to Johnh M. Rainey, James M. Cobb and Edward J. Hamm.

All Masons and their friends are invited. Reservations should be made.

Blitzkrieg Strikes Home Here; or Was It Tornado?

(Special from the Front)

Blitzkrieg hit Birmingham last week—that is, one house suffered what the owner thought at first was earthquake, but concluded later was a frontal attack in all sectors patterned after the worst Hitler manner.

The surprise foray was made at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy C. Thompson, 1544 East Lincoln avenue, and the "enemy," consisting of Roy, 4 years old, and Bobby, 2¼ years old, penetrated the lines by means of a basement window—first a barrage against the glass, and then a quick thrust through the casement.

A Rear Attack

Once inside the lines, Bobby and Roy stopped to mop up other defenses and 17 windows were shattered in the rear-attack.

Then, the pair turned the opposition's flank by tramping up the basement stairs to the kitchen where an attack was made on the very inner citadel—the icebox and breadbox. Weary from incessant action, the forces stopped to rest and eat bread and jam, and to contemplate a further plan of battle.

Electing to pursue the campaign without leaving the "enemy" time to rally its forces (Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were still away), the blitzkriegers blitzed into the next room and the next, pulling out drawers and scattered their contents. In the bathroom salient, a successful maneuver to cripple the opposition's source of supply was performed, and the bathtub was filled to overflowing. The opposing sea forces failed to put in an ap- *(See BLITZKRIEG, Page 2)*

Food and Clothing Sought for Europe

Birmingham is cooperating with the French Committee for Relief in France in seeking used clothing and canned food to alleviate the acute suffering of the five million French, Dutch, Belgian and Luxemburg refugees that are overtaxing the civilian relief agencies in France.

Mme. Germaine dePons Takken is chairman of the local drive and contributions may be left with Mrs. Charles J. Shain, 813 Pierce street, Mrs. Russell Barnes, 788 Randall court, or Mrs. Angus D. McLay, 715 Wimbleton drive. Those wishing to have their material collected should contact Mrs. McLay.

Clothing and food will be sent abroad on the S. S. deGrasse, which has been chartered by the French government for that purpose. Canned and dried milk, sugar, coffee, canned soup, pork and beans and canned food of all kinds is especially needed, Mrs. McLay said this week. The actual food is requested as these supplies are not available in France.

The Hon. Maxime Rainquet, French consul in Detroit, is general chairman for the Detroit area with headquarters at 35 East Grand River. This committee is cooperating with the Red Cross and is not asking for funds at this time. They are stressing the collection of used clothing since the Red Cross handles only new materials.

A work room is to be opened at the Community House Tuesday from 10 to 3 o'clock. Sewing and knitting will be done at this time and coffee will be served at noon. Workers are asked to bring their own sandwiches. Sewing and knitting will also be given out for work at home. Anyone willing to lend a portable sewing machine is asked to contact Mrs. Barnes.

Golf Tournament for B'ham, Hills Planned by Jaysees

A championship golf tournament for Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills will be sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, it was decided Monday night by the club.

The contest will be open to any amateur living in either of these two communities, it was announced. Further details will be revealed later, according to David MacAdam, president of the Jaysees.

Two Detroit business men who are interested in fingerprinting as a hobby explained the art to the Junior Chamber Monday, following dinner. Illustrations were made by means of slides.

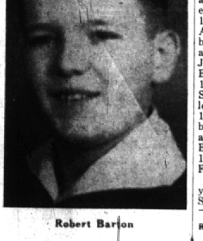
Later, club members were fingerprinted and their records will go to the FBI non-criminal files at Washington, D. C. There are many cases in which persons have been identified by means of this civilian file, it was said. The speakers were a Mr. Patton and a Mr. Penner.

WILL ATTEND CONFERENCE

Several trustees of the Camp Mahn-go-tah-see association, along with Robert D. Lynd, director, will attend a conference on "Health, Safety and Sanitation in Camps," Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Battle Creek.

Honored at Adams School

Constance Coulter



Robert Barton

Post Office Job Attracts Interest

Closing date for the U. S. Civil Service post of substitute mail clerk-carrier is June 3, it was announced Tuesday by Mrs. Gladys Heinze, secretary for the Civil Service office here.

Applications must be on file with the district manager at Chicago at the close of business on that date or they will not be accepted, it was said. Already considerable interest has been shown. Because of the expanding population served here, it is expected that the substitute will soon become a regular.

Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 45; must be citizens; possess good health; and must take a examination, the date of which has not yet been set. The basic rate of pay for substitutes is 65 cents an hour. Regulars get $1,700 the first year and $100 a year raise every year thereafter for five years, less 3½ per cent deduction for retirement.

Application blanks may be procured from Mrs. Heinze at the post office.

New Post Office Open for Business Friday at 8 a. m., Byrne Announces

An "Open for Business" sign will be hung out, figuratively speaking, at Birmingham's new post office, opposite Baldwin Library, Friday morning at 8 o'clock, Postmaster Joseph A. Byrne announced today.

The old headquarters on North Woodward avenue will be abandoned Thursday, Memorial Day, when 8 p. m. the last outgoing mail will be cancelled and the machine carted to the new office. On the holiday, only the lobby will be open at the old building.

The holiday comes at an opportune time for it will give Byrne and his men a day to move records and what equipment is being retained. Most of the equipment in the old structure is owned by J. B. Williams, who built the structure especially for the post office some years ago. He is selling the material.

Sixty-six box numbers must be changed because of the new layout, and all box users will be required to call at the window for their keys. There will be no more combination locks.

Finishing touches were being made this week on the new structure, which with its lot cost $155,000.

Concrete driveways at the rear of the building were being completed this week. The contract also calls for grading of the soil and planting of grass. Another contract will be let for landscaping, but it is likely to be fall before that is completed.

Faculty Names Two Students

The Highest Honor Award, presented annually to two outstanding students at Adams Junior High School, was decided this week, recognition going to Constance Coulter and Robert Barton.

(Barnum Junior High School's Honor Plaque is full and an award is no longer made, according to Principal Miles McCormick.)

The two at Adams were chosen after a faculty vote this week. Both students rank very high in scholarship, and are active in junior high school affairs. All candidates were chosen on four points: scholarship, leadership, service and character.

Constance is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Coulter, of 287 Ravine avenue; Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barton of Oakland avenue.

The first plaque was donated and engraved by Weyhing Brothers jewelers. The first winners (in 1931) were Fred Schwarze, Mary Ann Reel, John Parker and Roberta Chissus. The other winners are as follows: Lucille Hallett and Jim Schooley in 1932; Charles Boynton and Margaret Lynd in 1933; Glen Kendall and Nancy Strelinger in 1934; Charles Hallett and Jean L'Hommedieu in 1935; George Mullin and Elizabeth Lynd in 1936; Russell Fisher and Mary Jean Hastreiter in 1937; Bill Tighe and Rosemary Essig in 1938; and Maud Keller and Bob Fisher in 1939.

Both, honor students for this year will attend Baldwin High School next year.

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

Table Motion to Increase School Taxes

Time Not Right for Vote, Board of Education Decides

The time is not opportune for a vote of the people on raising the tax rate to furnish more money for Birmingham school district, it was decided by the Board of Education last night.

A motion passed by the P.-T.A. Council last week, asking the Board to consider the idea, was tabled until the first meeting in September.

Favors Rate Increase

Lee F. Joslyn, Jr., president of the Board, expressed himself favorably on the idea of raising the rate, which is now $14 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. Because the $15 limit has now been reached in the part of the district in Troy Township, it is not possible to exceed this limit except by a vote of the people.

Mr. Joslyn said that much public discussion would be necessary before the people would be ready to vote on the subject.

J. Mark Hardin, secretary who is retiring June 10, said that people are "too jittery" now to think about increasing taxes.

Council Clarifies Action

The resolution passed by the Birmingham P.-T.A. Council regarding possible raising of the school tax rate does not specifically ask an election on this issue, it was emphasized by the executive committee of the Council, following a meeting called Tuesday by Mrs. F. H. Mellinger, president.

Meeting to discuss and clarify the motion, the committee unanimously agreed that the action be interpreted not as one of direction but rather of cooperation with the Board of Education.

The original motion, passed last Thursday evening, stated: "The Parent-Teacher Council of Birmingham respectfully petitions the Board of Education to consider taking immediate steps to place before qualified school electors of this district with full publicity the question of whether or not it wishes to increase school taxes, to the amount that, in the opinion of the Board of Education, might be sufficient to assist materially in *(See SCHOOL BOARD, Page 2)*

Funeral Is Thursday for E. P. Hammond of Bloomfield Hills

Requiem high mass for Edward P. Hammond, prominent Detroit manufacturer who died at 10 a. m. Tuesday morning in Providence Hospital following an illness of several months, is to be sung Thursday morning at St. Paul's Church, Grosse Pointe, at 11 o'clock.

Long a resident of Bloomfield Hills, Mr. Hammond's home on Orchard Lake road has been open to the general public.

Eugene Hubbard, who returns for his eighth season at this camp, will again be program director. Hubbard has recently completed a course given at the Detroit Yacht Club by the United States Power Squadron, on piloting. This work includes instruction in sailing and the completion of the course makes Hubbard a member of the U. S. Power Squadron.

Miles Robinson, principal of Barnum School, and who for several years supervised the summer recreation program, is to be director of all water activities.

Finish Water Course

Both Robinson and Hubbard finished recently the American Red Cross course in water safety, life saving, methods of teaching swimming and diving, and how to instruct in boating and canoeing skills.

Dick Harrell, who is an accomplished counselor in bird lore, is taking special work at the Cranbrook Institute of Science to fit him to help boys to appreciate nature.

Among the other counselors are Wilber Wiseman, who returns for his eighth season; Richard Northway, of the University of Michigan, for his fourth season; Vern Larsen, an instructor in boxing and physical education at the University of Michigan, for his third season; Chris Montross, of Wayne University, for his fourth season, and Larry Wagner and "Grandpappy" Hubbard, father of "Gene," for the second season.

"Grandpappy" is the fishing counselor and takes parties of boys fishing every day.

Among Newcomers

Among the new counselors are a group of old-time camp men *(See CAMP, Page 2)*

J. B. HOWARTH & SON INSURANCE

Good insurance is not cheap. Cheap insurance is not good. National Bank Building—Tel. 321

MEMORIAL DAY—1940

"If ye break faith with us who die . . ."

Scout Honor Given Ralph A. Main

The Acorn Award, one of the highest awards given to adult leaders by the Boy Scouts of America, was presented to Ralph A. Main at the Court of Honor last Friday night.

This award, which is given for assistance and outstanding achievement in forming new Scout and Cub units, is a national honor, and less than 20 of this type have been given in the Detroit Area Council.

Mr. Main has been Birmingham

Mr. Main

district commissioner since 1938. Before this time, however, he was very active in Scouting in Pennsylvania. In recent years four new Scout troops and three new Cub packs have been organized in Birmingham. This district now ranks as one of the best in Detroit Area Council, according to William Church, an executive of the Detroit Council.

Camp Mahn-go-tah-see Leader Staff Announced by Lynd; Opening June 28

Robert D. Lynd, who returns to Camp Mahn-go-tah-see, the Oakland County, Y. M. C. A. camp, at Hall, for his ninth year as director, announces the selection of three local men as counselors.

FINISH YOUR HOME

Let us help you finish your home. Easy terms. Birmingham Lumber Co., 1000 Woodward. Phone 1-0700.

Business Halts Memorial Day

All public offices and almost all stores will be closed Thursday, Memorial Day.

Baldwin Library will be closed also on Friday for refinishing of the floors. The Community House will close Memorial Day. There will be no postal service except the delivery of specials and perishables and the dispatch of out-going mail. Schools are closed Thursday and Friday.

League Getting Aid For Civil Service

Birmingham voters are rallying to restore Civil Service in Michigan by constitutional amendment. Hundreds of signatures have already been obtained in the first week of the campaign sponsored by the Birmingham League of Women voters, according to Mrs. Anthony Woina, chairman for the drive.

"The Birmingham electorate has been quick to recognize that a well-written, smoothly operating Civil Service is perhaps the most important unit of democratic government. Impersonally it fits the man to the job, weeding out the inefficient insecure-hunter, setting a standard which inspires the good government worker and protects him," Mrs. Woina said.

The campaign to secure signatures will continue through June and should include the name of every qualified elector in this district.

The committee will be glad to call at any elector's home for signatures. Members are Mrs. Paul L. Penfield, Mrs. William E. Esery, Mrs. Stanley Spiegel, Mrs. E. C. Coil, Mrs. Wilber U. Johnstone, Mrs. Angus D. McLay, Mrs. William Coit Allee, Mrs. Draper Allen, Mrs. J. N. Hadjisky, Mrs. H. S. Burlingame, Mrs. Lee A White, Mrs. Sidney Oviatt, Mrs. Frederick C. Smith, Jr., Mrs. John E. Ormond and Mrs. Eric F. Hyde.

$1,400 Drive Of Red Cross Starts Monday

Leaders Organizing Staff, Divide City Into Three Sections

House-to-house solicitation in Birmingham's drive to raise $1,400 for the Red Cross war relief fund will start Monday, it was announced last night by William Coit Allee, chairman of the drive here.

Following the announcement of the campaign in last week's Eccentric, checks have already started coming in, Mr. Allee reported.

"People are more than willing to give," he said, "and I am confident that Birmingham will easily reach its quota."

City in Three Sections

The city has been divided into three sections for the campaign. Leaders of each are organizing their workers this week.

East of Woodward avenue, Merrill Adams, 516 Kennesaw, is in charge.

The area bounded on the east by Woodward and on the north by West Maple has been divided into two parts. The easterly half, captained by Dr. John P. Wood, 675 Larchlea, and A. Shanley Rosso, 964 Pierce street, includes the territory between Woodward and Southfield.

The westerly half, in charge of Lee M. Farr, 507 Linden road, consists of the area between Southfield road and West Bloomfield road.

The entire northwest corner, to Quarton road, is in charge of Milton F. Mallender, 1386 Oak street, and George D. Miller, 948 Fairfax.

These men and their workers will begin the task Monday, June 3, and expect to complete the canvass by June 7.

School Aid Sought

Supt. Howard D. Crull is making arrangements to garner gifts in the schools.

Checks made payable to the American Red Cross should be sent to Mrs. H. H. Corson, 336 West Maple, one of the chapter directors for the Red Cross. Cash which the public may wish to contribute immediately may be left at The Eccentric office.

The national goal to alleviate refugee suffering in Europe has been set at $10,000,000, although this was boosted Tuesday by Norman H. Davis, national chairman.

Two More Records Will Go on Sale

Two additional records, over and above the eight already released in Detroit, will be on sale here this week-end, the Detroit Music Appreciation committee has announced.

These records will be available in Birmingham either Friday or Saturday according to Mrs. Anne Stanwood, who is in charge of the record sale at the Community House.

The releases will include Tschaikowsky's "Nutcracker Suite" and Beethoven's "Eighth Symphony." Whether they will both go on sale here at once or whether one release will be made this week and the second next week was not made clear by the Detroit office, Mrs. Stanwood said. Nor did she know which, in such a case, would go on sale first.

These records were brought to Birmingham largely through the auspices of the Birmingham Musicale in cooperation with the National Committee for Music appreciation which is headed by Howard Hanson, noted composer and director of the Eastman School of Music at Rochester, N. Y.

They came . . .

They saw . . .

They bought . . .

Mrs. L. E. Smart, Wing Lake, ran this ad in the Eccentric May 23, received 7 calls—sold the articles advertised.

FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

FROM good home, expensive walnut bedroom set, $40.00; antique black walnut bed and small chest; library table; 2 solid mahogany gate-leg tables, 2 Windsor chairs, bedroom chairs, reasonably priced. Phone B'ham 3432-W3.

If you have something to sell Make Your "Wants" Known IN THE ECCENTRIC CLASSIFIED

Phone 11 before 5 P. M. Wed.