

SIXTY-FOURTH YEAR—NO. 8

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1941

\$1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

Large Trees, A Large Site and Lots of Garden

A garden paradise in the center of Birmingham—apples, cherries and flowers galore, a smooth gravelled drive curbed on both sides, a three car garage equipped with flood lights—the lot is over 100 ft. wide and 200 ft. deep. A spacious garden in the heart of the city.

The house is soundly built of brick with an exceptionally large living room, dining room, kitchen, library, screened porch and full bath on the first floor. Three large bedrooms and an upstairs sitting room are served with a full bath on the second floor.

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The four delightful bedrooms and two baths make this well-built brick home an excellent investment for a family with growing children. Convenient to school. Air conditioned. Owner requiring larger home, offers to sell for \$10,900 with \$2,500 down.

Stream, Beautiful Trees

and rolling meadows are viewed from this hillytop country home. The flexible arrangement of bedrooms permits comfort for a family of two, three or four. Among the outbuildings are stable, kennel and children's playhouse. Offered at \$25,000, with terms to qualified purchaser.

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WANT ADS COST LITTLE AND GET QUICK RESULTS

BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASS'N

243 East Maple Ave.

Girl Reporter Investigates the Garbage Business!

(Editor's Note—Miss Umphrey was casting about for a "something different" in interviews, and before she could change her mind, we convinced her that for the sake of novelty, an investigation into the garbage business would be interesting! So it was.)

BY KATHRYN UMPHREY

Tim to one, you don't know what your garbage man thinks of you—but I do.

Garbage speaking, Birmingham has some very interesting features. The man who collects your garbage knows a great deal more about you and your neighbors than you can imagine.

Coffee-Cup Interview

If you don't believe me, just ask a few questions for yourself—that is what I did. In a half hour, over a cup of coffee, the late Russell Brace, I learned more about garbage, than I've ever thought of knowing or thought I wanted to know! Mr. Brace is the one who comes to your house every three days to collect money for your garbage service.

Bottomless garbage cans—and not just on April Fool's day—are one of the most trying problems with which the local collectors have to deal. After a considerable period of use the bottoms do just what you expect them to do—but that is one of those facts of life which you don't think of. Sometimes it is as long as two months before a new receptacle is purchased. The fact that a bottomless can is often spilled; that is, the collector picks up the mess with no better means than the refuse stays on the ground.

Immediately comes the complaint. "You men spilled garbage all over my back yard and want him to come right back and clean it up." Sometimes he has spilled it, other times, when it is the case of a bottomless can, and the owners are merely trying to pass the buck.

Dogs Are A Factor

A good garbage man's technique, and there is such a thing, necessarily includes a way with dogs. The first thing a man must do is to get acquainted with the family dog. Some dogs take their time about making introductions until they either bark profusely or bite. A new garbage collector should expect, according to Mrs. Brace, to be bitten at least once or twice.

A good garbage man is to be very valuable friend. Mrs. Brace said she told me the story of Pat, an Irish setter. Every morning Pat met the collector and accompanied him through a particular section of town. When a new man came on the truck there was no trouble at all, because the dog would bark and he'd never lead him anywhere on the route. What is more, the other dogs respected Pat, so there was no trouble there either.

To get back to Birmingham and garbage troubles, it seems that when this city was planned so much emphasis was placed on attractive streets that alleys, much to the collector's sorrow, were forgotten. When a town has alleys, garbage cans are always in plain sight, and all the man has to do is

THE ECCENTRIC'S CAMERA CORNER



Shots such as this—with an individual, "different" touch—lend life to your album. Try some, as it comes from ordinary, routine poses.

EVERYBODY has his preferences in pictures. In reading matter, in rituals, and other things, Abraham Lincoln summed it up neatly when he said, "You will like this story, if this is the kind of story you like."

However, despite differences of taste, most people agree on one point. They feel that something individual—something a little bit out of the ordinary—is better. It is the "different" treatment—the "individual touch"—that counts.

That's especially true in snapshot photography. A clever photographer—a little individuality in the lighting or arrangement—these give you pictures that make people sit up and take notice. And they're more interesting to you, too—they give you more satisfaction.

Consider one concrete case—snapshots of children. You know that most of them are "too much alike." As a rule, they tell no story

about them. Not so with Birmingham, however. People here have a way for catching these individual objects. One time the garbage man will be near the back door; another time it's hidden in the bushes; maybe the next it is out behind the garage and finally it may find a resting place under a hedge. All this time the garbage man plays a fruitful game of hide-and-seek with the children.

Often an irate customer calls up the service department with, "My garbage hasn't been collected for two weeks—not since it moved!" When the customer has quitted town somewhere, the woman answering the phone matter-of-factly asks him just where it is he has moved. Garbage men are not mind readers it seems!

"You never know what to expect from one time to another," Mrs. Brace said, explaining that usually people talk and talk and talk on her collection rounds. She hears everything from the latest divorce to the newest baby.

"But then," she added, "woman, it is fun; this is the part I like best about our work. The men, you know, see an altogether different type of person than I do—they really know people as they are, since there is rarely any attempt made at pretense for the

4 Crashes Occur On Week-Day

Four automobile crashes were recorded by Birmingham police last Thursday, the smallest number for one week-day.

Driving in the fog, Albert Nahl, 24, of 725 Philip street, Detroit, hit the slow blinker light at the South Woodward-Hunter boulevard intersection.

At 12:57 a. m., Randall Johnson, 16 years old, driving west on Hayes, collided with a car driven by the Rev. David E. Burgess, Elkhart, Ind., going south on Hunter boulevard. No one was hurt.

Mrs. Marie M. H. Tillotson, of Henry Grove road, Bloomfield Hills, going north on Chester, collided with the car of Earl A. Maxwell of 506 Tenth street going west on Merrill. Damage was not great.

At Woodward avenue and 14-Mile road, a car going east, involving the car of Jack Cunningham, Berkley, and Roland Demain, Rochester.

COUNCIL TO MEET
The annual business meeting of the P. T. A. Council will be held tonight at 8 o'clock at room 101, Baldwin High School. Annual reports will be made, with Mrs. F. H. Mellinger presiding.

The early Indian residents of Michigan knew the shortest distance between two points: Many of the state's modern roads follow the old Indian trails.

honestly name the particular family as an ideal Garbage customer, there are too many. So I asked her if there were any particular district where they could work most satisfactorily, and she smiled emphatically. As a whole, the northeast section of town is practically ideal for the garbage man's standpoint.

For upwards of 17 years, the Braces have been feeding Birmingham garbage to the hogs on their farm which is located on the 14-mile road. Until five years ago the collector had to take time to purchase three trucks and have been operating the whole service by themselves since then.

Mrs. Brace says care of the business end of the collection from each household once every three months, extending about four days a week during the winter months. It is necessary to cover each street about three times during the three-month period. Mrs. Brace says, in order to find every-body home.

Messengers, Too
About one-half of the families in Birmingham take the garbage service. This year round, the number averages at 900, increasing in the summer to about 1,200. The other half of the town disposes of its garbage by burning it, burning it, or smothering off the neighbor's street, she said.

Mrs. Brace says she couldn't

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TOTAL MONTHLY PAYMENT	\$70.25
Average principal payments over life of mortgage	36.67
Average net amount chargeable as rent- or ownership	33.58
	\$70.25

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Neighbors and Good Citizens

Few Michigan citizens stop to think how much the railroads mean to Michigan today. In this era of commercial and industrial development the railroads are vitally essential to Michigan's progress.

For example: In the average year the railroads spent more than 75 millions in Michigan—\$55,007,715 in payrolls to 47,000 men; \$5,759,621 in taxes; and, in 1939, \$15,473,292 for supplies purchased in 248 communities in 69 counties in our state.

The railroads are our neighbors. They operate in all but two counties in Michigan. Their employees live in nearly every community in the state.

The railroads are good citizens. They furnish us with an indispensable service. They are the state's largest taxpayers. Railroad taxes help make possible the schooling of hundreds of children in this county. Railroad taxes last year in Oakland County amounted to \$273,029.86, all of which went into the Primary School Fund. The prosperity of the railroads and of their employees help make the business of all of us prosperous. Railroad employees in Oakland County were paid last year the sum of \$879,121.66, most of which was spent with local merchants.

We urge our Legislature and Congress to be just and fair in considering any legislation intended to remove the inequality under which our railroads are forced to operate.

MICHIGAN RAILROADS ASSOCIATION