

Unfortunately, practical politics too often bring to the surface both the worst and the best in human nature. A politician first must get voters to do so he must cater to the selfish wants of people, and that generally means promoting things that are neither good for people or their government.

# The Birmingham Review

PART TWO

SIXTY-SEVENTH YEAR—NO. 31

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1944

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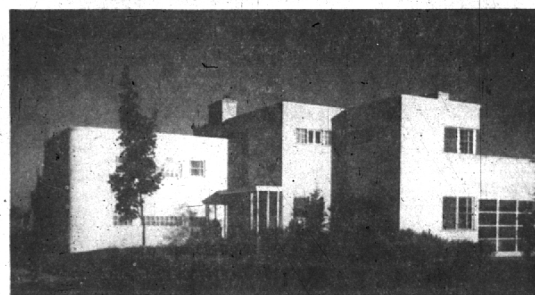
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## Bits of Birmingham

The Detroit and the Oakland County chapters of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America are collaborating on Nov. 4 in the main auditorium of the Detroit Masonic Temple in presenting a jubilee of barber shop quartets. World's champions of 1944, the Harmony Halls of Grand Rapids, will headline the show and the bill includes also the 1943 international champions, the Four Harmonizers of Chicago; the 1942 champions, the Elastic Four also from Chicago; as well as the Garden State Quartet of Jersey City; the Barber Pole Quart of Kansas City; the Misfits of Chicago; the Lampknights, the Four Flats; the Forest City Four—all of Cleveland; the Four Vets of Kalamazoo; the Continentals of Muskegon; the Ambassadors of Detroit and six other fourosomes from Wayne and Oakland counties.

In the editorial columns of this week's issue of *The Eclectic* is printed comment on the four State Constitutional Amendments to be presented to the voters of Michigan Nov. 7. It may help you to make up your mind on the subjects involved.

The Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, preparing its committee for the year's work has named Chief of Police John P. Hackett of Birmingham on two committees. He will serve on both the executive and the legislative committees. President of the association is Michael Ettenhofer, of Eacanna.

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Birmingham Representative  
**RICE A. HOWELL**  
WABEEK BUILDING

Hugh McLeese of this city is expected to be one of the Albion College alumni club presidents and class secretaries from as far east as New York City and as far west as Minneapolis and St. Paul who will meet with the central committee of the Frederic S. Goodrich Chapel campaign in an all-day conference on the Albion campus on Saturday, Oct. 28. According to President John L. Seaton of Albion this modified homecoming will not only be the first Albion Club presidents' conference ever held at Albion, but also the first full meeting of the central committee for the Goodrich Chapel campaign, the dates for which have been set for Nov. 14 to Dec. 14.

The Wanderer wandered a bit away from the truth last week when he stated that Birmingham and Pontiac high school girls teams would clash later on in the season; E. A. Hubbard, faculty manager, states there is no game this season between these two nearby schools. The Wanderer is sorry that his information was incorrect.

Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent of schools, may have to build a teachers' residence hall for his Birmingham schools. He told the board of education and visitors at the last meeting of the Board that this autumn teachers almost had to get down on their knees and beg people to open their homes so that teachers might have room-and-board. The price charged in the several cases are almost more than the teachers can afford to pay. Especially has this been true in case of beginner teachers, he told the Board. He cited one instance where two teachers shared one not overly large room, each paying \$7.50 per week.

A group of four men from the old Southside school district, which has now been combined into the Birmingham school district, attended last week's board of education meeting. They had questions to ask and voiced no complaints after two and a half hours session.

Birmingham, well as Detroit and other places, is paying top egg prices in the face of the greatest egg production in the history of the country because governmental regulations are more concerned with the welfare of the distributor than with the producer. Charles C. Lockwood, attorney for the Greater Detroit Consumers' Council charges. Egg prices in Birmingham the past few days ranged from 60 to 85 cents in most stores, although in many parts of Michigan producers are getting only 30 to 35 cents. Lockwood based his charges on information given him in a letter from Marvin Jones, chairman of the War Food Administration. The WFA, Jones said, now has on hand 35 million dozen eggs. Millions of the eggs bought by WFA have spoiled and millions have been sold at a fraction of their original cost, for hog food, Jones said in his letter.

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Winter isn't going to catch one Birmingham with a good coat of paint. A Purdy street resident was noted this week, mending his house evenings with the help of a powerful flood light. The man works every day in some nearby industry.

"What's this town coming to?" asked a voter today after learning that women will fill every place on the six precinct election boards in Birmingham for Nov. 7. "Time was," he huffed, "when men always filled these places."

Pedestrians are happy to have those broken and misshapen sidewalks repaired here and there about the city. There are still a lot more such spots needing attention and some of them are close in to the business district. Buses growing close along the sidewalks could be trimmed back considerably in spots and pedestrians would not complain a bit about it. Brushing into these busy spots on a morning is not the most pleasant experience.

Children and youths came in for investigation a bit more the past week when complaints were made by Mrs. Ray Clark, 682 Smith street, that children were letting the air out of the tires of her car. As the children were riding in reports children were setting fire to leaves left piled at the curb. As the tires were being investigated were caught taking gasoline out of cars parked in the rear of the Smeal garage.

A pedestrian was heard to remark the other day that there appeared to be more bicycles on Birmingham streets this fall than ever before. But records at the Manly garage disclosed that only 1390 bicycles had been licensed thus far this year. Last year, up to Monday, October 28, there had been a total of 1,774 licenses issued. Traffic police did issue a warning to children not to ride their bicycles on the sidewalks in the business part of the city.

The Kaiser service station on 14 Mile road at Woodward, was broken into Sunday night, police report. Glass in both the front door and side window was found broken Monday morning but nothing of value appeared to have been taken. It is thought someone attempted to get into the drawers of the desk by use of a stick or wire from the broken window.

Running traffic lights and speeding are under a heavy ban in Birmingham according to the police station indicate. Four tickets were issued in one day for traffic violations. Leon E. Thomas, Utica road, was ordered to appear on a charge of driving while under the influence of liquor. O. J. Hall, Detroit was ticketed at 60 miles an hour in a 35 mile zone while Charles G. Helpenstein received a ticket which charged he was traveling 50 miles an hour in a 35 mile zone.

This city has a lot of storms but none quite so severe as that Florida tropical hurricane which William K. Elock, former resident, tells about in a letter from St. Petersburg. He said there was heavy damage there, with a big loss to the fruit crop on nearby ranches. The wind which near to 100 miles an hour at times and rainfall exceeded seven inches. Business in the downtown area was suspended during the blow and many stores had their windows boarded up. People living in cottages close to the beaches were moved into the city for fear of high tides, he says.

Chief of Police John P. Hackett, who is helping up the safe walking and safe driving campaign in Birmingham, said today another evidence of the need for greater care in driving and walking was seen in the accident on South Woodward

## More Plans For V-E Day Formed By School Group

The Junior Defense Council met on Monday evening, October 25, to discuss further details concerning the program for V-E Day. It was suggested that the Baldwin High School band assemble in front of Baldwin High School at 7:00 P.M. on V-E Day. The parade will be led by color bearers and the Boy Scouts. The band will be next in order followed by the patriotic organizations of the city and, lastly the students of the Birmingham public schools.

The line of march will be east on Maple to Henrietta, south on Henrietta to the Municipal Building. It was suggested that a platform be erected at the Municipal Building for the program.

Short talks will be given by a veteran, a business man who has a son in the service, the mayor, and one of the ministers. These speakers are to be chosen by the Mayor's Committee and will, after being named, call a meeting and upon a program which will last about 30 minutes.

The whole program will be over in sufficient time for churches to have their planned meetings, beginning at 8:30 P.M.

It was suggested that flags of the allies be the theme of the parade, that the platforms of speakers are to be white and blue and be properly lighted with spot lights. A public address system will be used.

If the V-E Day comes on Saturday the parade will be in place as usual. If it occurs on Sunday the program will be left in the hands of the several churches of the city. The Junior Defense Council solicits the cooperation of the entire community in this program.

Thanksgiving and urges the hearty support of everyone. It encourages the support of the press and all other media.

That old Birmingham school district scrip, issued back in the depression days, has met its end by the Board of Education. The scrip, which is still scrip in the amount of several hundred dollars outstanding. At the last Board meeting a resolution was passed calling for cancellation of all unpaid scrip 30 days after the official publication of the order. Following this is expected the scrip which has been stored in the vaults of the school district, will be officially destroyed.

A plan whereby teachers in the public schools may receive extra pay for their extra work is being studied by Dr. Dwight B. Ireland of the city schools. Some teachers are already being paid but several are not. Dr. Ireland told the Board recently. Especially has this been true of the home economics teachers who have been given the added duties of managing the school cafeteria. Dr. Ireland's suggestions will be made at the next meeting of the Board.

Maybe you did not start a forest, brush or grass fire, and maybe that match or cigarette stub you tossed out of your car did start one of the seventeen forest fires during the four-week period end Oct. 15 that burned 249 acres. Fires to date in 1944, totaling 1,183, have burned 14,643 acres.

The F. H. Whitmers, who live on Riverside drive, had been planning to pick plums this week end; however some thousand character came and picked all of their plums for them and incidentally made off with them. This "bum market" not only picked the good fruit and the bad but cleaned up all the windfalls. Did we say all? There was one plum left on the tree. Thoughtful, right?

Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties are closed to pheasant hunters this fall, in addition to Alcona, Benzie, Mason, and Westford counties, closed last fall, and all of the upper peninsula.

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