The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 38—22 Pages BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1946 $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

According to information printed in this newspaper last week, it may be from 60 to 90 days before those Quonset huts being constructed in Birmingham for veterans are ready for occupancy. They were supposed to be ready this week. Here, as in so many situations shackled by federal bureaucracy, one observes the muddled thinking of the Truman administration.

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City Manager Donald C. Egbert recommends that a residential charge of 20 cents per month, and a graduated business charge starting at 60 cents for the smallest of time, be assessed to enable the City to do a better job of trash, ashes, and rubbish collections every week of the year. If Birmingham wishes to be clean, it must have the best type of rubbish collection, and Egbert's prices seem cheap in relation to the good that can be accomplished, don't you think?

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Local police state that they are issuing from 600 to a thousand parking meter violation tickets per month. The meters were installed a few months ago to enable more people to use the available parking space; if properly observed, obedience to the parking ordinance should be fair to all, costly to none. Now the City proposes to make it necessary for the owner of a vehicle to be made responsible for overtime parking violations, whether he or she may have done the parking at the time. Certainly, to all reasonable people, such a move ought to be acceptable.

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Birmingham and adjacent areas, of course, along with the rest of the nation, are happy that the coal strike is over. But let them not forget that, unless the federal government changes the labor law situation, they may face the same or similar threats again. Labor leaders who are honest and sincere, we know, will welcome equitable changes in the statutes.

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I agree with the City Commission's stand that East and West Maple avenues should not become an east-west State trunkline highway. As alternatives, either the 14-Mile or 16-Mile roads, Birmingham's southerly and northerly boundaries, should be used, declare local officials, who are consulting with the State Highway Dept. on this subject. How do you folks who live along these two latter highways feel on the matter?

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Michigan's Republican Gov.-Elect, Kim Sigler, although he does not take office until January 1, is busy learning as much as he can about various phases of State government. He is reported to be considerable of every day that he is in Lansing visiting various agencies, meeting persons who know subjects he wants to learn more about. Sigler's methodical pattern of thinking, plus his indefatigable energy, will not allow him to approach any job otherwise.

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Josef Stalin, Russia's dictator, is reported seriously ill. He may die. With all his power over 180 millions of people, the Soviet leader cannot combat the inexorable fate of all human flesh. Perhaps the release of his life will mean the greater release of the lives of his subjects as the days roll on. History reveals no more earthly shackles imposed by tyrants can forever enslave a nation.

—o—

The recent holocaust in an Atlanta, Georgia, hotel was a terrible sacrifice of human life. Considering the irresponsibility of so many people who patronize hotels the country over, it is a wonder that more hotel fires do not take place. Where responsibility rests with management, of course public officials ought to inspect public shelters and thus minimize the danger of fire breaking out. However, in view of the number of people who use hotels annually, the fatality list, tragic as it may be to the victims, is very small; that it will become less and less is the hope of all, of course.

Opening of 14 Mile Is Being Studied

A survey of the location and preparation of cost estimates for the opening of the 14 Mile road through from Southfield to Cranbrook will be undertaken by the County Road Commission, City Manager Donald C. Egbert reported to City Commissioners Monday evening.

"This road commission action was decided at a meeting last Thursday which was attended by several supervisors of adjoining townships interested in the opening," Egbert said.

He indicated that after these costs have been determined, there will be another meeting to discuss ways and means of accomplishing the project.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY. PHONE BYHAM 1-0788. —Adv., tf.

INSURE NOW
SECURITY—The Nation's Watchword. LUDGER'S, 411 E. Maple Avenue. —Adv. tf.

City Assessor Replies to Tax Queries

City Tax Rates Not Boosted; School, County Figures Are

Birmingham taxpayers are not being asked to contribute more in city taxes for 1946, Elmer Haack, Birmingham city assessor, declared in an exclusive statement to The Eccentric Tuesday afternoon in which he explained for many city residents why they thought they were being subjected to a jump in their city taxes.

"Since tax statements were mailed December 1, a great many persons have called me inquiring about the supposed city increase," Haack stated.

"They want to know why their winter taxes are higher this year, and ask about the comparison with last year's rates and whether the assessment has been raised since last July has been asked."

Same City Tax Rate

He pointed out that the city last May established a 1946-47 budget of $455,512 to be obtained largely through a tax of $19.91 per thousand dollars of assessed city valuation.

This rate has not been changed, Haack emphasized.

"Instead, what taxpayers notice on their winter tax bills is the increased cost of school and county taxes as over last year," he said. "Their tax rate is higher this year because of the increased budgetary requirements of those two units of government."

City Only Collects Tax

The City of Birmingham acts as only a tax collecting agency for the county and school taxes, Haack said, and the city assessor spreads on the tax roll only the amount of county and school tax that is called for in the warrants from those two units of government.

"These amounts are not dependent upon the city's scale of assessments in any way," he pointed out. "In other words, whether our city assessments are on the basis of 50 per cent or 80 per cent of full value, they have no effect in the amount of county and school taxes that were levied this year."

Basis for school and county taxes is an assessment not to exceed 35 mills on State Tribunal valuation, which valuation is determined by the county equalization committee.

Figures obtained from the Birmingham Board of Education office indicate that last year residents of the school district were assessed 6.40 mills for school district operating costs, plus 3.50 mills for

(See TAX QUERIES, Page 2)

City Approves $750 For Purchase of Maple Right-of-Way

A cash payment of $750 was authorized by the City Commission Monday evening to compensate Mr. and Mrs. James Wade, 1907 West Maple, for a portion of their property to be acquired for West Maple right-of-way.

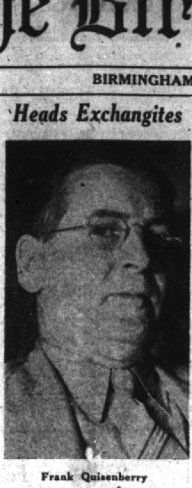
Elmer Haack, city assessor, had recommended the purchase of the right-of-way at a cost of $540.

Wade countered with a proposal that the city move their residence to a new location on their lot, placing same on a foundation without basement. For this consideration, it was understood they would agree to deed the right-of-way for both West Maple avenue and Westchesterway.

City Manager Donald C. Egbert recommended to the commission that the city make a cash payment of $750 for a deed to the property on West Maple and Westchesterway to provide a full right-of-way for these two streets, and that the Wades agree to move their house and clear the right-of-way within a period of not to exceed three years.

"It would appear to me that such an arrangement would be advantageous both to the city and to the Wades," Egbert said.

Heads Exchanges



Frank Quisenberry

Frank Quisenberry, manager of the Birmingham branch of the Wabeek State Bank, was elected president of the Exchange Club of Birmingham at the annual election of officers held at the regular noon meeting in the Community House Tuesday.

Other officers elected to serve with him during 1947 are: Donald C. Egbert, vice-president, and W. C. Morgan, secretary and treasurer. Fred Mock is the retiring president.

Elected as members of the board of control were: Ralph Wilson, George Thurman, Robt. Chissus, E. W. Brown, Manley Bailey, Harold Kuder and Dr. Russell Stephens.

The Eccentric Is Forwarding All Letters to Santa

Don't worry, kids, your letters to Santa Claus are on their way to him at the North Pole.

The postman, by mistake, delivered some of your letters to The Eccentric, but never fear, we've forwarded them to old St. Nick so that he'll get them in plenty of time before Christmas.

With various types of postage—everything from no stamps, Christmas seals, regular or air mail postage—the Eccentric this week has received a number of assorted letters addressed to "Santa Claus, North Pole."

Want Lots of Presents

A sampling of the childish scrawl indicates that it will be a very merry Christmas for many Birmingham boys and girls if Santa feels that he should give them all the presents which they have requested.

One young lad has asked for a "doggie, milk truck, hook and ladder truck, wagon and pilot-a-plane."

A young girl asked him for "a doll, cradle, a wagon, a sled, and blackboard," and just in case Santa Claus wanted to leave any additional items, she added, "and anything else you want to give me."

Cookies for Santa

She also wrote for her baby sister, Suzy, who would like "a duck-pull, a doll, a telephone, a kiddy-car and a broom." As an added incentive to come down their chimney on Christmas Eve, she said that she and Suzy will leave some cookies on a plate for Santa Claus.

Johnny and Billy wrote that they were very good boys. They always wash before they eat, say their prayers, always pick up their toys and "do what Mommy and Daddy tell us." After listing a number of items which they would like to see under their Christmas tree, the two little fellows also asked Santa to take food and clothes for little boys and girls overseas.

As Christmas, 1946, draws closer, Santa in his ice-covered home at the North Pole is reading these requests and deciding whether or not each little boy and girl is deserving of the presents for which he or she has written.

Heaviest Yule Mailing In Years Is Seen

Mail Now To Avoid Overtaxing Postal System, Is Warning

Get those packages and cards for Christmas delivery in the mails pronto, or else they may not be delivered in time for Christmas, Postmaster Joseph A. Byrne warned Birmingham residents today.

Early mailing of Christmas packages and letters is especially important this year, he explains, since this will be the first real peacetime holiday season in many years.

"With the return of so many servicemen from abroad who will wish to exchange Christmas gifts and greetings with relatives and friends, and since people no longer feel limited in the number of cards and gifts they send, this 1946 Christmas promises to be one of the biggest ever seen," Byrne said. "Public cooperation is absolutely imperative to insure the speediest mail delivery."

Post Office Open Later

"Christmas greetings to distant states should be deposited in the mails now, and local cards should be sent not later than Saturday, Dec. 14, in order to be delivered in time. The parcel post and stamp windows will be open as usual this week from 8 to 6 p.m., and will be open Dec. 19, 20 and 21 until 8 p.m. or as long as business requires. Buy your stamps for mailing cards now, in order to avoid the rush at the stamp window later," he warned.

"The postal services, together with the national defense program, both rail and air, are now carrying the heaviest loads in their history and they face an acute delivery problem with the coming of Christmas," he went on. "If greetings and packages are not in the mails early enough, they cannot possibly be delivered in time for Christmas."

Lists Mailing Rules

Byrne outlined a few rules to follow for Christmas mailing to help insure delivery in time for Christmas, and these are listed below:

1. Mail out state cards now and local greetings in the next few days.

2. Use first class postage on Christmas cards so they may be forwarded if address is improper or insufficient. Many cards bearing 1½ cent stamps are destroyed because they do not carry a forwarding privilege.

3. Segregate local and out-of-

(See MAILING, Page 2)

Six Posthumous Awards Given To Navy Hero's Wife

A Distinguished Flying Cross, with star, was presented to Mrs. Robert B. Ellery, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Ewald of Bloomfield Hills, and niece of Henry T. Ewald of Detroit, at the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station by Captain W. D. Anderson, U.S.N., commanding officer, last Friday morning.

Mrs. Ewald's husband, Lt. Robert B. Ellery, was killed in July 1945, after landing on the carrier Santee when the cable to check speed of landing planes broke on the plane following his and crashed into his plane before he could get out of the cockpit.

The medals were pinned on the coat of Lt. Ellery's three-year-old son, Robert. Six air medals were presented in addition to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The honors conferred were for 40 flights in the Ryukyu Islands from April 1 to June 1, 1945.

Lt. Ellery, who attended Harvard University for two years, enlisted early in February 1945 and was graduated from the second Ensign School at Northwestern University. He was at Pearl Harbor when Japan attacked there, was later transferred as instructor at Miami, entered flying school and received his wings as a Naval pilot in the spring of 1945.

Relatives attending the ceremony in the Grosse Ile Naval Station hangar included: Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Ewald and the great grandfather of Lt. Ellery's son, Foster W. Allen; Mrs. Robert Ellery of Toledo, mother, and Mrs. Fred W. Poske, aunt of Lt. Ellery; the brother of Lt. Ellery and wife, of Bay City, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ellery.

Christmas Issue Deadlines Are Advanced

The Eccentric's Christmas week issue will appear on Thursday, December 26, the day after Christmas, but in order that our employees may enjoy Christmas Day with their families, all news and society deadlines have been advanced to 12 noon, Monday, Dec. 23, for the Dec. 26th issue. Advertising deadlines have been advanced to 5 p. m. Saturday, Dec. 21. Remember, advertising in by 5 p. m. Saturday, Dec. 21, and all news by 12 noon, Monday, Dec. 23.

Northwest Resident Sees No Need for Widening Oak Street

Out of slightly less than 200 letters which have been written to the mayor and the city commission concerning the improvement of Oak street, pro and con, only one denial has been received from a resident of the city west of the Rouge bridge stating that Oak street does not have to have a major overhaul because traffic does not warrant it.

This one letter was received by the city commission Monday evening. It came from Robert F. Grindley, 852 Puritan.

In his letter, Grindley declared that in his opinion the only thing that is necessary for Oak street is a good pavement.

He deplored the speeding on Oak street west of the bridge and referred to it as a "race track." He felt the bridge should not be widened because, "it is the only thing between Woodward and the stop sign at Chesterfield which tends to slow down these speeders."

However, several other communications received Monday evening by the commission called for the blacktopping of Oak street and possible widening, provided none of the trees are disturbed.

E. L. Sylvester To Aid Hospital Building Drive

Elmer L. Sylvester, 253 Hupp Cross road Bloomfield Village, executive vice-president of Florez, Inc., will be chairman of the advance gifts committee for South Oakland county in the $2,500,000 Woodward General Hospital building fund campaign, H. H. Gardner of Birmingham, County Division chairman, announced today.

The advance gifts committee, now being formed by Sylvester, will begin immediately the solicitation of contributions from persons in the higher income bracket, Gardner said.

Sylvester has served as chairman of Red Cross War Fund campaigns in Bloomfield Township, exclusive of Birmingham, and during the war years was president of the Bloomfield Village Protective Association three terms.

He is a former vestryman of Christ Episcopal Church, Cranbrook, a member of the board of the Church Society for College Work.

Recruitment Under Way

Mrs. Robert L. Ostby of Royal Oak, co-chairman of the County Division and leader of women's teams, announced today that recruitment of women campaign workers is under way in the 14 committees of the projected hospital's service area.

One hundred and eighty-nine women's teams will take the field in mid January under leadership of the following community chairmen:

Berkley, Mrs. J. N. Cummings; Beverly Hills, Mrs. Hammond Baker; Birmingham, Mrs. Forbes S. Hascall; Bloomfield Hills, Mrs. Edward A. Proctor; Clawson, Mrs. Lewis George; Ferndale, Mrs. Carleton A. Shafer; Franklin, Mrs. Ross Campbell; Hazel Park, Mrs. Jesse M. Landon and Mrs. Ernest W. Baker.

Huntington Woods, Mrs. George K. Graves; Lathrup Townsite, Mrs. Howard D. Steere; Magnolia, Mrs. F. D. Leonhard; Oak Park, Mrs. John Velloy; Pleasant Ridge, Mrs. Eugene L. Spoehr; Royal Oak, Mrs. J. C. McRoberts; Royal Oak Township, Mrs. D. L. Fulkerson, and Troy Township, Mrs. E. W. Hewson.

Many Stores Will Be Open Evenings; Home Lighting Contest Off

Plans for the citizen home decoration program, recently set up by the Birmingham Retail Merchants Association, were called off at a board meeting Tuesday, due to the shortage of light bulbs and lighting materials.

Foster Toothacker, president of the association, told board members he did not feel the contest would be a particularly fair one this year, since everyone could not get materials with which to participate. Other board members agreed.

The board recommended that all Birmingham stores which are not now open in the evenings begin their later hours next Monday.

Also recommended and passed was the rule that all gift merchandise purchased in Birmingham should be returned to stores for the privilege of exchange before Saturday, January 4.

High School Choir To Broadcast from Birmingham Store

Stephan K. Williams, proprietor of Williams Shop, announced this week that a remote control broadcast featuring the a cappella choir of Baldwin High School, in a program of Christmas music, will be held direct from his store at 166-176 West Maple next Wednesday afternoon, December 18, at 3:15. The choir is under the direction of Victor F. Ulrich.

The program will be broadcast by station WCAR in Pontiac, 1130 kilocycles.

According to Williams, the public is welcome to witness the broadcast at the store if they so desire. No previous arrangements are necessary.

$25-$30 Monthly Pay Increases Sought by City Police, Firemen

Members of Birmingham's Police and Fire Departments petitioned the City Monday night for an overall increase in pay, amounting to $350 annually for the policemen, and $360 annually for the firemen. Both petitions stated that the salary boost was to cover the increased cost of living.

Fire department men asked for a flat $30 monthly increase, while policemen ask a $25 monthly increase, and a $50 a year uniform allowance.

Average salaries in the police and fire departments are now $2,940 annually. With the increase they will rise to approximately $3,300. While no comparison of salaries paid policemen by other cities is available, the present wage in the Birmingham Fire Department now places tenth in comparison with twelve neighboring cities. The proposed increase would bring them up to fifth place in the comparative scale.

Still Below Detroit

Even with the increase, however, Birmingham would be below Detroit, which pays its firemen an average wage of $3,492.

Police Chief J. P. Hackett and Fire Chief Vern Griffith both declined to comment on the situation, saying the petitions were merely passed through their hands to the City Manager.

Highest officer salary paid by the fire department is approximately $3,700, and lowest salary is $1,570. The salary increase would affect all salaries to the same degree.

Fireman Charles Reynolds, reportedly earning the average fireman's wage, gave detailed information on just what happened to his bi-monthly paycheck. After deductions, he received approximately $88, out of which he has to keep up his home and support his wife for two weeks.

"I don't have any children," he said, "yet I find the going quite rough. I don't see how fellows with three or four children—and some of the men have that many or more—manage to do it.

Can't Manage On Present Wage

"A fireman's job is a good steady job and I like it—but I just can't manage on the present set-up. The $30 increase would certainly help out a lot, although even then it will not be easy for some of us. That salary we earn, incidentally, is not for a regular 40-hour week—we firemen

(See PAY INCREASE, Page 2)

Cage Practice Started for Maples' Games

By Gerry Hughes

The familiar swish of the basketball, combined with the cold December winds, officially announced the opening of the basketball season as 70 hardy Maple eagers reported this week to Coach Lloyd Cooper for practice.

Due to the limited space and facilities in the high school building the squad will have to be divided into two A and B sections.

The A squad will practice at Baldwin, and the B squad will use the Adams school gymnasium. The A squad, which will be the varsity, will be under Coach Lloyd A. Cooper and the B squad will be directed by Hal Helmer.

Colorful Season

This should prove to be one of Birmingham's most interesting and colorful seasons with high-scoring Chuck Murray chosen on the second all-State team, leading the way.

There will also be many strong returning lettermen, among them Leon Thurston, Gene Sutton and Roge Reynolds who will be a decided asset in the first semester of the season.

Many new candidates will furnish material to fill the places left when these boys graduate in January.

Up from Helmer's last year's B squad will be Bob Littleson, Dick Murray, George Pope and George Burdick who will be fighting for those upper berths. Also from last year's reserves will be Jack Moses, Jim McCall, Drayton McClelland and Hugh Morrow. Lee Daly, over from Cranbrook, will be eligible to play for the second semester.

Bob Foster, Pat Wall, and Duke Layland are the promising candidates just up from Barnum.

When asked about the possibilities of a State championship team, Coach Cooper said, "Birmingham High School should be good competition for any team in the State

(See PRACTICE, Page 2)

'Turnabout' Opens Its Three-Day Run At High School

By Ruth Kadell

Last night "Turnabout," the 1946 version of Baldwin's variety show, presented its opening performance before a capacity crowd in the high school auditorium.

The show will be repeated tonight and tomorrow night to accommodate the many ticket holders.

The bright and varied program delighted the audience from beginning, consisting of orchestra selections played by Gerry Hughes, Rusty Dawies, Ralph Dunbar, Doug Layman, Bill Luscombe, Ronald Hiselman, Dick Adams, Ed Smith, Jim Phillips, and Harris Jackson.

Has 32 Acts

Following the Advance of the Colors by George Allen, Harris Jackson and Tom Wyles, a chorus of 40 students opened the program with its theme song, "Turnabout," words and music for which were written by Mary Anne Foster.

Consisting of 32 acts, "Turnabout" presented "Stars and Stripes," a tap dance by Virginia and Avis Duncan; "The Darktown Poker Club," featuring George Burdick; chorus numbers, "I'm a Big Girl Now" and "Sleighride,

(See 'TURNABOUT,' Page 2)

Uses Wrong Phone, City Revokes Cab Driver's License

A Birmingham taxicab driver who admitted to police last Thursday that he responded to a phone call which he answered over a competitor's phone had his cab driver's license revoked by the City Commission Monday evening.

The driver was Minford Armour, an employee of the Star Cab Company.

Chief of Police John P. Hackett, in a report to City Manager Donald C. Egbert, stated that Harry Reynolds, proprietor of the Birmingham Cab Company, received a call from a citizen at 12:45 a.m. to pick up a fare at 1335 Webster.

Relays Call to Stand

"Reynolds relayed the call to his stand at the southeast corner of Maple and Woodward. According to Reynolds the person who answered the call said it was Chuck. Reynolds has a driver, Charles Adams, who was on duty at this time, and Reynolds supposed that he had taken the call."

Checking the driver's trip sheets with the office records the following day, Reynolds noticed that this call was not accounted for and he checked with Adams. According to Adams, he had gone off duty before 12:45 and did not answer the call.

Reynolds assigned Richard Chambers, another employee, to investigate the matter. Chambers reported that he found persons who stated they saw Armour leave his stand at the Star Cab stand on the northeast corner of Maple and Woodward, go to the Birmingham stand, and answer a call.

Passenger Identifies Driver

Chambers, who reported the incident to Chief Hackett, stated he talked with John Follis, the passenger who was picked up at 1335 Webster, and that Follis identified Armour as the driver of the cab.

"I had Sergeant Bill Moody bring in Armour and talk with him about this case," Hackett reported. "He admitted to me that he did answer the Birmingham Cab telephone, take this call and pick up Follis at the Webster address and take him to an address on Catalpa Drive."

Egbert, in asking the commission to revoke Armour's taxi driver's license, declared, "The cooperation of the taxicab companies has been very good during the past several months. It is my opinion that practices of this type cannot be tolerated as they will tend to cause difficulty between the cab companies."

MaynardAgainHeads YMCA Camp Board

John D. Maynard, 919 Mohegan, was re-elected to the presidency of the Oakland County YMCA Camp board at a meeting held Tuesday night in the Community House. James C. Covert of Pontiac was made vice-president, Maurice Cole, re-elected as secretary, and S. J. Lang of Pleasant Ridge became treasurer.

Plans were discussed at the meet for improving facilities on the Y camp at Loon Lake, near Hale.

'Yumpin Yimminy!' Pluvius Kvindlog Moans, "Lookit Them Prices Back in 1896!"

Pluvius Kvindlog, head of The Eccentric's VOID—Valuable Odd Investigations Department—was digging in the files of The Eccentric of 50 years ago, and happened to glance at an ad which said, and we quote: "Special Offer —Potatoes at ONE CENT a BUSHEL."

"Potatoes at one cent a bushel!" Pluvius did a quick double take. "Impossible! Why they're at least 49c for 10 lbs. and maybe more!" But he did some more checking in other issues, way back in 1896, and it was true!

Not only the price of potatoes was amazing in them thar days, but raisins and crackers and sugar and cheese could all be had for five cents a pound! Now all of those items are at least four times as high, and cheese is seven times.

Soap At 2c a Bar!

Back in those good old days, soap, now next to impossible to obtain, sold for 2 cents a pound and one to three cents a bar.

Kvindlog, hungry though he is, is no fool in these days, did not confine his investigation to food ads, however.

Homes, he noticed, were advertised at $1,000 and $2,000 in the classifieds. Two in particular caught his attention—a house and lot with a small barn on Pierce street, with all the buildings in excellent repair, was for sale at the phenomenally low price of $1200—not the down payment, $1200 paid for the house itself!

Pluvius murmured low to him-

(See PRICES, Page 2)

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

IF selling your car, why not call your local Chrysler dealer, 619 So. Woodward. Phone 4621. —Adv. tf.

City Action May Result in 12 Huts Finished by Jan.

At least ten and possibly twelve Quonset hut units are now slated for completion around the first of the year instead of two or three months from now, following Commission action on the problem of obtaining plumbing equipment for hut installation.

Commissioners agreed to have the City absorb a cost of $9 per hut unit in order to install copper pipe—which is more expensive than the hard-to-obtain steel pipe required in the FPHA contract—but of which the city has an ample supply.

Copper pipe is more expensive by 14c a foot and would not be approved by the FPHA for that reason. If the completion of the huts were to await delivery of steel pipes by the firm from which they were originally ordered, hut occupancy would probably be held up until late February.

City Manager Donald C. Egbert recommended the action to Commissioners following a meeting with a representative of the FPHA, the general contractor of the huts and the plumbing contractor. He advised that the plumbing contractor now has fixtures on hand for ten units, and will possibly obtain additional fixtures for two more units in the near future.

The six Cranbrook huts will now receive immediate attention, with the prospect that they will be ready for occupancy at the end of the year.

Egbert stated that if the contractor finished the huts by that time, he would be doing a good job under the present conditions.

6 Minor Accidents

Birmingham police report six minor accidents this week, all occurring at Woodward avenue or Hunter boulevard crossings.

Place of General Education In Secondary Schools Told To Rotarians by Dr. Ireland

"Birmingham students are receiving excellent educations, and the Birmingham Board of Education is planning to make them even better," Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent of Birmingham schools, told Rotary Club members at their noon luncheon Monday.

Ireland discussed the place of general education in the secondary school.

Commenting on the current series of articles in a Detroit newspaper, which allege that students graduated from the Detroit high schools are apparently incapable of speaking grammatically, figuring simple arithmetic correctly, or reading comprehensively, he said that Birmingham parents must remember that the articles apply only to the Detroit school system, and do not include Birmingham.

"It is also possible," he said, "to present a few facts by themselves in such a way that an over-all picture of a situation is distorted.

"It is true," Ireland told Rotarians, "that all children should be taught the basic three R's. But equally important is the gradual introduction of perspective into their studies, which the Birmingham school teachers attempt to do. Lessons should be taught so each student knows not only the essence of what he is studying, but the purpose for studying it. It is also necessary to correlate his studies with past experiences and background material, as well as his future plans."

Ireland stated, too, that in the modern school system educators do not "flunk" students out of school as they formerly did. All students are required by law to attend school. The school system attempts to equip them for the future.

(See IRELAND, Page 2)