Give Liberally and At Once to Birmingham Canned Foods Drive

The world's great men and women have been quiet, humble, soft-spoken, kindly, considerate, honest —all qualities of intelligence. The few articulate ones who have become great really have something to say. Which only suggests that, with most of us, more silence will become golden.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 51 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1946 | $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

We Continue Our Trip From New Orleans to Fort Lauderdale

Last week this column took you from New Orleans to Bayou la Batre, via a small Chriscraft cabin cruiser owned by H. P. Furstenau, Ludington, Mich., newspaper publisher; we were headed for Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, the total distance by water being about 920 miles.

In that article I told you something about the illusion of the so-called Intra-Coastal waterroute; by the time we had been held up two days at Gulfport and the same time at Bayou la Batre, we amateur yachtsmen were becoming aware of the real fact that our journey wasn't going to be all sunshine and roses; but we had started, and there was no turning back, of course.

Like the original Asiatic Indians who crossed Bering Straits into Alaska centuries ago, and kept going southward toward the warm sun, so we kept on our way, though for some days yet we were going more east than south.

Crossing Mobile Bay

At 8 o'clock we left Bayou la Batre, hoping to get as far as Pensacola before stopping for the night. (We did not run at night, for the simple reason that on much of the trip we were guided by buoys and stakes, few flashing lights.)

The day was a bit cloudy, the wind about 15 miles per hour from the northeast. Six miles from the Bayou entry into Mississippi Sound, we changed our course to almost due east, and straightened out for the crossing of capacious Mobile Bay, a shallow body of water, channeled for boats drawing more than six feet. To the south of us were a number of islands which, of themselves, offered little protection against most any direction of wind. It is in this general area of the northern part of the Gulf of Mexico that most of the nation's shrimp are caught, as well as a goodly share of its oysters.

All across Mobile Bay we met dozens of fishing trawlers; those after oysters were in but a few feet of water, the oystermen using their tong-rakes to scrape the bottom and bring aboard their catch. The average shrimp or oyster fisherman, on good days, could make as much as fifty dollars; however, due to the fact that they could not work the year round, and also because of loss of days due to bad weather, we were told by one of them that they average about $2,000 annually in income.

Mobile Bay tossed us about a bit . . . but not enough to dislodge the dishes in the little galley cupboard. We left Mobile Bay when we entered the canal at Bon Secour, where we got our first glimpse of the real Intra-Coastal waterway route, the canal dug through southern Alabama at that point to Perdido Bay, thence into more of the canal project, and finally into Pensacola Bay and its western estuaries.

Through Wild Country

These canals run through practically unpopulated areas of Alabama and Florida; they may average 600 feet in width, with maximum depth of six feet; during the war many barges carrying oil and lumber were sent over them, but these days you meet very few barges and, too, few pleasure boats.

The canals were built under supervision of Army engineers; at places banks on either side may be up to 30 feet high; the usual southern pine trees grow in the country adjacent to the canals, or through swamp lands, the "spoil bank" (another name for the dredged earth piled in one or both sides of the canal); as you get further into southern Florida the canals run through thick mangrove swamps.

Did we have to blow for many bridges? Scores of them. Yes Sir! All kinds and types of bridges, some modern, but most of them old-fashioned swing ones. Three siren blasts as you approached a bridge, then looked through binoculars to see if the bridge-tender had heard; usually, generally, they were reasonably quick in responding, for each tender lived on the bank at one end of the bridge; it was surprising, too, to observe how many women, some helped by their little and big children, would rush out, close the traffic road gates, then open the big iron bar in position and start walking the customary circle.

They were a nice group of people; friendly, and we'd always give them two siren blasts for a "Thank You!"

Vigilance at the Wheel

And always one had to maintain constant control of the boat; speeding from five to twelve

(See THIS and THAT, Page 2)

IF selling your car, why not call your local Chrysler dealer, 175 So. Woodward. Phone 4621. Adv. tf

INSURE NOW SECURITY—The National Watchword TUGGEYS, 411 E. Maple Avenue. —Adv. tf

Four In Race For Places On Commission

No Other Contests In City Election to Be Held on April 1

Birmingham voters this year will have four candidates from whom to select two to serve on the City Commission. Time for filing nominating petitions in Birmingham expired Saturday afternoon with these names entered officially on the list of nominees: Ralph I. Coryell, Milton F. Mallender, William L. Martin and George G. Steelman.

Only one candidate was nominated for the post of constable, Clyde Collins. For the two positions to be filled on the Baldwin Library Board there were nominated Mrs. John S. Lamble and Merrill C. Adams.

Each candidate has until Saturday of this week to file his acceptance with Miss Irene Hanley, city clerk at the Municipal Building.

Names will then be placed on the ballots for the city election to be held on Monday, April 1.

Some Are Veterans

Commissioner Coryell was first named to the City Commission in 1940 and reelected in 1943. He is up for the third time. Mr. Mallender is up for the second time. He was first elected three years ago. Mr. Martin and Mr. Steelman are up as candidates for the commission for the first time.

Mr. Collins, if elected constable will replace Calvin Scott who was elected last year. The term of constable is for one year.

Mrs. Lamble was first named to the Library Board in 1934, according to records at the office of the city clerk. Mr. Adams was elected in 1940 and is up for the third time. Each is elected for a three year term.

Up in Bloomfield Hills there will be only one candidate for each office in the city election. Candidates for the two places on the city commission are George C. Booth and Charlton G. Eden. The terms are for two years. Domonick Velhaino is up for reelection to a second one-year term as constable.

City Purchases 200 Parking Meters for Early Installation

Birmingham today is well on its way to joining those other cities which help solve their car parking difficulties through the use of parking meters. Monday evening the City Commission accepted the bid of the Mages-Hale Park-O-Meter company for 200 parking meters at a cost of $59.50 each, for immediate installation in the Birmingham business district.

The meters will be installed by the manufacturers and are expected to be ready for use within a few weeks. Just how long it will take to complete the manufacture and get the meters set had not yet been determined but City Manager Donald C. Egbert told the Commission the time should not be too long.

Get Six Proposals

Proposals were received from six companies at a price range from $51 to $78.50 per meter. Manager Egbert was assisted by a committee of engineers and by Chief of Police John P. Hackett in studying the various meters and proposals for purchase. Other members of the group included

(See METERS, Page 2)

Two Boys Are Saved from Drowning After Breaking Through Ice at Quarton

Two small Birmingham boys were rescued from Quarton Lake Thursday afternoon after they had broken through the ice out about 150 feet from shore off Lakeside street, near Harmon.

Peter Roxborough, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred J. Roxborough, 642 Pilgrim, and Dick Armstrong, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold M. Armstrong, 679 Pilgrim, came very close to being drowned. The boys had been walking across the lake and had started back when they began breaking through the honeycombed ice. Soon they were into the icy water up to their necks. They grabbed the edge of the ice and held on while calling for help.

Persons hearing their cries called the police and fire departments.

Boys Push Rescue

About this time three high school boys noticed the trouble at the lake and proceeded to attempt the rescue. Securing boards and planks from a nearby building job Roger Booth, Jack Goodwin and Jack Phister proceeded to push out onto the ice. Then came the fire department with a 50-foot extension ladder which the men shoved out from shore. The rescuers succeeded in reaching the two youngsters and hauled them out onto the ice and to the ladder. There was plenty of willing aid to haul the boys and men ashore.

The two adventurers were wrapped in blankets and taken home by Sgt. Earl Moody and Patrolman George McCann. The officers helped get the lads into warm water, fed them hot tea and remained until they seemed on the road to recovery.

Both boys were chilled through, their hands cut by sharp ice and suffering from shock. Like healthy boys, however, they responded well to treatment and within a day or two seemed as good as new.

Families of the lads have been high in their praise to all who assisted in the rescue work. "Everyone was just fine," declared Mrs. Rosborough.

Victor and Bluebird Records. New releases weekly. Leonard Electric, 163 W. Maple. adv. tf

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY. PHONE B'HAM 1-0788. Adv. tf

Will Speak Here

Ralph Carr Fletcher

Prof. R. C. Fletcher Will Speak Here on Medical Aid Bill

An address on the much discussed medical aid bill, U. S. health problems, and social security, coupled with election of officers and vote on next year's budget promise to make next Monday's annual meeting of the League of Women Voters at the Community House one of the year's most important, not only for League members but for all interested citizens. At one o'clock Ralph Carr Fletcher, professor of social work in the University of Michigan Institute of Social Work, will talk on "Health and Social Security." The public is cordially invited to attend the afternoon talk and discussion.

Is Birmingham Resident

Professor Fletcher, a Birmingham resident, teaches social security and methods of research, concentrating on the latter subject which he came to the University expressly to teach, in the extension division.

From 1936 to 1941, Mr. Fletcher was director of social research at Pittsburgh and before that, assistant professor of economics at Washington University at St. Louis.

Mrs. Angus D. McLay, chairman of the League committee which planned Monday's program, will, assisted by Mrs. John Williams and Mrs. William Williams, present background material on the day's topic in the morning, beginning at 10:30 o'clock.

Will Vote on Issues

"Economic Policies which Promote Maximum Production and Employment," one of the "planks" proposed by the national board for the League to adopt at its national convention late in April, will be another subject of major importance discussed at the morning meeting. Local members will decide whether they want their convention delegates to vote for or against this "plank."

To clarify the issues, economic welfare committee members will discuss various phases of the problems concerned, Mrs. John May discussing the relevant bills before Congress; Mrs. S. James Duncan and Mrs. Peter Loomis, chairman, talking on the problems of maximum production; Mrs. Lee A White summarizing the federal subsidization of low cost housing and Mrs. Edward Proctor presenting a statement on the cost of subsidized housing.

"From League policy point of view it is especially important that the membership be represented one hundred per cent in the morning to express itself fully in the vote for or against support of the proposed economic plank, elect its new officers, and to pass its budget," said Mrs. H. J. Liverance, League president.

Canned Foods Campaign Gets Started Here

Committee Arrange Collection Places; Many Groups Help

Organization for the special campaign for canned foods for the starving peoples of the wartorn countries of Europe and the Far East was completed Monday evening at a conference of city general committee and workers representing many churches and clubs, held at the Community House.

The campaign has been endorsed by the City Commission, the Birmingham Community Council and the Birmingham Retail Merchants Association board of directors.

Set Up Stations

It has been arranged to conduct the campaign through March and collection depots have been set up in food stores, schools and many other places about the city.

Mrs. Paul L. Penfield is general chairman; Mrs. Cleveland Walcutt, vice-chairman; Miss Alice McHugh, secretary-treasurer, are on the main committee along with the Rev. William Hill of Christ Church Cranbrook, Mrs. Charles Rust and Clarence Vliet.

This committee will secure cartons for the food, label the cartons clearly, and their committee will provide the manpower to remove cartons from subsidiary depots to central locations from which the Good-Will will make its pick-ups.

Assign Various Jobs

Mrs. Philip Pretz and Dr. John Springman are the co-chairmen of the school collections. They will appoint a committee representing each school. "Collections in the schools may be combined with school assemblies," stated Mrs. Pretz. "Through several European consulates in Detroit we have obtained sound films showing European children. The American Friends Service Committee is also sending films and I have a silent film I made in the Balkans of peasants, and many peasant costumes. These films and the costumes will be shown in the schools.

(See CAMPAIGN, Page 2)

Telephone Expert Tells Exchangers All About Radar

Declaring that radar was a war-developed invention with one of the widest ranges of peace-time application, Dana Rose, a public relations executive for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, discussed the famous but little understood subject of micro-waves before the Birmingham Exchange Club Tuesday at the Community House.

Couched in layman's language, his talk was rated one of the best to be given here since radar first broke into the news shortly after America's entry into the war.

Rose said that most of the uses of radar was as a weapon of war. He predicted, however, that it would be a powerful factor in peacetime safety.

Plan Many Uses

Radar devices placed in the nose and tail of airplanes was seen as eliminating accidental collisions with high buildings, mountains and other planes. Installed on ships, radar would prevent collisions at sea during fog and darkness.

A world-wide system of radar stations maintained by the United Nations was envisioned by Rose as making sea and air navigation as easy as reading a road map.

Other applications of radar was cited for automobiles, trains, fishing boats to detect catches, burglar alarm systems and for detecting weaknesses in heavy machinery. "The possibilities seem endless," the speaker said.

Outlining the telephone company's part in radar development, Rose pointed out that the Bell System through its laboratories and factories supplied about 50 per cent of the radar production for the whole nation.

Aid Communications

He said that the micro-waves used in radar will be turned to use in the electrical communications field.

The Bell System also uses radio waves in coaxial cable for television networks and for sending hundreds of simultaneous long distance calls over just two wires.

LEAVE FOR THE ARMY

Five local young men have recently been inducted into the U. S. Army and have left for their new posts of duty. Local Board No. 7, at the Municipal Building reports these young men having been inducted: Geirge T. Breutfuekdm, Walter Kadell, Wesley H. Staples and Frank W. Allen, all of Birmingham, and John M. Shuell, of Bloomfield Hills.

Proclamation

Share the Food Canned Goods Drive

WHEREAS, there is a need for immediate assistance to starving peoples in the devastated areas in Europe and the Far East, and,

WHEREAS, a local committee has been organized to cooperate with the Goodwill Industries and the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) in the distribution of your donations of canned foods, and

WHEREAS, this humanitarian and worthy project has been endorsed by the Community Council and the City Commission,

I, THEREFORE, hereby officially proclaim the three-week period from March 11th to April 1st in the City of Birmingham as "Share The Food Weeks" and do sincerely urge the residents and citizens of this city to actively support the drive by contributing canned food suitable for shipment to war ravaged countries.

WILMER E. MOODY
Mayor

March 12, 1946

Studies Disclose Need For Expansion of School System With Buildings, Equipment

This is the seventh and final in a series of articles The Eccentric has presented concerning the predicament of the Birmingham public schools.

By WILLIAM AVERILL

In four or five years the high war birth rate is going to hit the Birmingham Elementary schools with an impact that will add considerably to the already overcrowded classrooms, Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent of schools, estimated this week.

"Our school system is already feeling the pinch in the elementary schools," Dr. Ireland continued. "The senior high school will have a little more time before the pressure is felt here."

According to the latest Board of Education figures, Pierce School next year requires a six-room addition to properly relieve the pupil over-crowding manifest this year.

Educational standards have proven that more than 25 pupils per classroom in the early elementary schools, or 30 in the later elementary and high schools, result in an inefficient teaching method.

Rooms Are Crowded

Three classrooms at Pierce this year have 40 or more pupils each, one has 38, two contain 36 each, two more have 32 each, and three have 30 pupils each. Redistributing this present year's load after the six-room addition would relieve the situation but it still would not be normal. It would place 34 pupils in each of two classes, two more classes would have 32 each, with the rest of the classes under 30.

The above figures do not take into consideration any anticipated increase, which is bound to occur since new homes are continually appearing in the Pierce School area.

Quarton school is filled to capacity, with an average of 30 pupils per classroom. There is not

(See EXPANSION, Page 2)

Baldwin Band To Participate In Annual Festival

Members of Baldwin High School band will participate in the Southeastern Michigan Band and Orchestra Festival Saturday at Ypsilanti.

Each band will play a march and two concert pieces, one specified by the state association.

The two concert numbers will be "Coronation" by Skornicka, and "Spiritual Rhyme" by Gault.

If the band receives a first or second division rating in the district festival; it will be eligible to enter the State Festival at Lansing April 13.

Band members include Nancy Pierce, Dick Robertson, Lois Bloyer, Marian Adams, Josephine Connor, Ralph Dunbar, Lou White, Marilyn Kemp, Bill Robertson, Duane Kaiser, Clifford Young, Fred Mallender.

Sally Smith, Penny Penfield, Wanda Olin, Russell Davies, Harris Jackson, Henry Price, Ed Davey, Russell Blaisus, Donald Trainer, Warren Frayne.

Philip Allen, Tim Adams, Donald Wilson, Clark Rogers, Dick Adams, Francis Hayes, Jim Phillips, Art Williams, Burt Bronson, Chuck Murray, Gerry Hughes, Hugh Quinn, Bill Hickman.

Berz Airport Plans School For Flyers

A school for airmen is being planned at the Berz Airport as a part of the general educational program under the G. I. Bill, according to Milton Berz, today.

Mr. Berz and his two instructors, Charles Baker and Ralph Carmona flew to Lansing, Monday evening for a conference with state and federal officials. Plans were discussed for including flying instruction in the general educational program for veterans and the Berz Airport made application for a part in the program.

"We plan to have such a school in operation within a few weeks," Mr. Berz said yesterday. "We anticipate considerable interest and may soon be able to offer instruction in twilight, and week end classes as well as to regular, full time students.

"We are just waiting for the ground to dry off a bit before opening our gravel pit and giving our runways a complete new covering of gravel. This will make them available even in wet weather.

"If plans for the school materialize we will likely add considerable equipment and additional plans.

Many Grass Fires Already Reported

Birmingham's annual spring battle with grass fires has already opened, according to the fire department, which had three calls on Tuesday and anticipates many more.

"Grass fires can be quite well controlled if people burning leaves and rubbish would watch their fires, get a permit from the fire department, and if children and other persons would be more careful with matches," said Fire Chief Vernon Griffith, today.

"Permits for burning grass and rubbish may be secured, as always, from the fire department and in that way we are able to keep close track on most fires of this nature."

Board of Education Bans School Secret Societies At Baldwin

Fraternities and sororities and any other secret societies in the Birmingham High School were outlawed Monday evening through a resolution unanimously adopted by the seven members of the Birmingham School Board.

The resolution, offered by the Board President Lee E. Joslyn, Jr., and supported by Amos F. Gregory and Ernest W. Seaholm, stipulated that beginning Sept. 1, 1946, students and parents will be acquainted with the state law governing these illegal bodies and required to sign a card at both the beginning and the end of each semester saying the student is familiar with the law and has not been a member of one of these organizations during the semester.

The Board had attempted to settle this matter at a special meeting Tuesday evening, March 5. However, in the light of the special attention it drew from Birmingham parents and students at that meeting— where more than 250 persons were in attendance—the Board deferred its action till last Monday so it could consider the problem further.

Record Crowd

Another record audience witnessed Monday's meeting and was larger than the group which attended the Tuesday session. However, Mr. Joslyn did hold down considerably those extemporaneous speakers who, at the first meeting tended to discuss the pros and cons of fraternities and sororities.

In introducing the resolution, Mr. Joslyn said, "the law governing these bodies is part of the statute book of the State of Michigan —whether individuals agree with it or not. People who attended the last meeting began discussing the law's interpretation as well as the benefits or detriments of belonging to a fraternity or sorority. But that didn't solve the board's problem, and the law still confronted them."

The resolution was then introduced.

Mr. Gregory stated, "I endorse Mr. Joslyn's statement and want to add my feelings to my feelings in this matter. I move that the resolution be adopted."

(See SOCIETIES, Page 2)

Sidewalk Repairs And Replacements Get City Attention

What to do with the sidewalks on the streets now being torn up for replacement of the gas mains, is a question now before the city government.

Ralph I. Main called the attention of the City Commission to the matter Monday evening when he said. "Our sidewalks have been in a rather uncertain condition for many years with a lot of patched walk along our main business streets," he said. "It just seemed to me that the present situation might provide the city with a chance to lay some entirely new walk in the business area.

"Maybe we could work out some kind of program with the Gas company, the city and the property owners to replace some of these walks entirely. Some sections might not be so bad if the broken places are replaced, but in some areas we have patched so much that the walks have long been anything but inviting. Why not make this a time for a general rebuilding of these walks?"

Program Already Started

City Manager Donald C. Egbert replied that he had already asked City Engineer H. E. Coroon to take the matter up with the Consumers Power company with a view of working out some such program. "We hope to have some information on the subject within a very short time," he said.

It is said that if the present walks are repaired, with the broken places replaced, the city will have a long stretch of walk with a stripe running right through the middle. Manager Egbert stated that it would be almost impossible to repair the walks without leaving a "patched" appearance.

Clarence Vliet suggested to the Commission that there were a lot of other sections of the city where the sidewalks were in bad shape, many being so low they are covered with water spring and fall, and others with broken and sunken places which were dangerous at times. Commissioner Milton F. Mallender suggested that a study of much of the walks in the city already had been made and some work had been done on repairs and improvements. "I understand the program of repair and improvement will be continued until all walks have been placed in good condition," he said.

MISS OUT ON TRACTOR

Birmingham's order for one of those Army bulldozers reached headquarters for these sales in time for the city to get a new medium speed outfit, according to City Manager Donald C. Egbert. One of the heavy types of tractor and equipment was offered in place of the one Birmingham wanted but this type is considered much too large for the city's needs, Mr. Egbert told the City Commission Monday night. "We are still hopeful of landing one of the outfits we need," he said.

Birmingham Wins District Basketball At Last Week's Playoffs At Ferndale

By BILL BONES

After a year's lapse Birmingham copped the district basketball championship by swamping Rochester 45-28 Saturday night at the Ferndale tournament.

The Maples took advantage of a low scoring first period to dope out the opponents' defense and sharpen shooting eyes. This momentary lull didn't bother Chuck Murray as he racked up all of the local's points in this frame. Rochester's lanky center, Melving Chapman, proved to be a slight problem and he, too, scored all the Bronchos' markers, the first horn sounding the score 8 to 7 for Birmingham.

Turn On The Steam

The locals really turned on the steam in the second quarter. Starting a scoring spree that was halted only by the final gun, Birmingham proceeded to make Rochester heads swim. Quick baskets by Thurston and Reynolds from deep corners coupled with Murray's skillful rebounds left the Tri-County boys in the dust. A temporary halt was called at half time, the score at 21 to 13.

Picking up right where they left off, this time with the Thurston-Murray combination really clicking the basket continued to fly. With Murray leaping into the air and flipping Thurston's on-the-spot passes through the nets the capacity crowd was constantly on its feet and screaming. The locals had extended their lead to 31 to 21 at the third quarter horn.

Much Exciting Play

The last frame saw more spectacular action as Birmingham went on to score a most decisive victory. This period was highlighted by Murray's floor-long dashes climaxed by amazing skillful dog shots. The locals completely dominated play, scoring almost at will.

The Maples' husky guard turned in a stellar performance, his pass interceptions keeping Rochester constantly on the defensive.

Murray led the Maple scoring

(See BASKETBALL, Page 2)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS annual meeting, Monday, March 18, at 10:30, Community House. At 1 o'clock Ralph Carr Fletcher, Professor of Social Work with University of Michigan, speaks on Health and Social Security. 31

Veterans Urged To File Their Record Of Illness, Injury

Birmingham has had a very good record so far as disability claims are concerned but in the last month many men have returned who have neglected to file for this benefit," said Jack Thomas, veterans' counselor. "Relatives are asked to remind these men upon their arrival home in the future to immediately file claim. These claims must be filed within a year after discharge in order to establish service connected disability.

"Any veteran who was injured or was ill or exposed to a tropical disease should have this fact placed on record at the Veterans' Administration as a permanent part of his record.

Many Assistants

"Many well trained service officers have been placed at the veterans' disposal in the county and these men are fully capable of processing all types of claims.

"Also in order to obtain treatment from a local doctor for any service connected case, a claim must be filed. This treatment is now available to any veteran provided he has filed a claim or is willing to sign an affidavit to the effect that the ailment is service connected.

"The Oakland county service officer is in the office of Veteran Affairs at the Community House every Tuesday and Wednesday morning to file claims. Persons interested may phone me. For further information Phone 3778."

WHO . . .

Ever heard of a person today making an antique shop of his or her home by storing these unwanted articles in the attic or the basement? If you don't need them or don't want them, somebody else might. Get them out of the house and make some money at the same time by advertising them in the "For Sale" department of the

Classified Ad Section of The Birmingham Eccentric