

Van Dusen and Bell Elected as City Commissioners

Voting Record Set As 2,157 Appear To Cast Ballots

C. Theron Van Dusen and Donald S. Bell were elected to the two vacancies on Birmingham's city commission Monday as 2,157 voters appeared at the six city voting booths to set a new city record for a general spring election.

Van Dusen, in three of the six precincts, piled up substantial pluralities to give him a total vote of 1,202. Bell outdistanced all candidates in two other precincts, which, together with his commission's vote, gave him the other four precincts, with 999.

New Garbage, Rubbish Rules Set for July 1

Birmingham residents who do not use incinerators to get rid of their refuse or have it hauled away by a privately-contracted truck, will have their rubbish and garbage hauled away under the supervision of the DPW, beginning July 1, according to the provisions of a Rubbish Disposal Ordinance passed Monday night at Commission meeting.

Other stipulations in the ordinance govern the size and type of garbage and refuse containers to be used in Birmingham and regulations as to their maintenance by residents.

All persons or firms who do not wish to haul their own garbage away, or are not now using the facilities of a private refuse-removal system, will be charged a fee by the city for this new service. It will be payable in the same manner as water and sewage disposal bills.

The schedule of fees is now under consideration by the city commission. It will be terminated before the ordinance takes effect.

Will Get Experience The DPW will take care of the removal of all rubbish (not garbage); the days of collection to be announced prior to July 1.

The city is now considering the best way of handling the removal of garbage, and it seems probable that it will enter into a contract with a garbage collecting agency, the charge made by the agency if passed on by the city to residents who are served.

Commissioners, while they passed the ordinance, noted that in the future it may have to be repealed, to be replaced by separate garbage and rubbish ordinances. However, this ordinance would serve to educate the city to the best methods of dealing with the situation and give it valuable experience as a guide for new rules.

Plan Revisions in Zoning Code Before It Is Reprinted

Amendments to the zoning ordinance of the City of Birmingham, which have already been passed, and new ones under consideration, will be consolidated in new copies of ordinance to be printed shortly.

City Engineer J. E. Egbert, brought it to the attention of commissioners Monday night that the present zoning ordinance was exhausted and would soon be in demand in view of the proposed new building contemplated in the city.

The ordinance and its amendments will be compiled and printed following Commission action on new proposals now under consideration.

Two Spedsters

Police arrested two persons on speeding charges this week. Mary L. Shepherd, 1946 Kensington, was ticketed for 45 in a 30-mile zone, and also because, when her operator's license had expired, Anna B. Walsh, 1024 Clinton, was also arrested Friday for going 60 miles an hour in a 45-mile zone.

Torrential Rains Cause Much Damage

Storm Sewers Back Up and Flood Basements of Homes

Heavy rains, which began early Saturday morning and continued up to noon that day caused many thousands of dollars' damage to Birmingham basements, recreation rooms and landscaping when city storm sewers were unable to drain off torrents of water before it backed up in hundreds of basements throughout the community.

The east branch of the Rouge River once again reached its flood stage and inundated North Woodward avenue at Union street, causing traffic to be rerouted over Oakland to Hunter boulevard.

At the West Maple bridge, river waters just managed to clear the bottom of the structure during the height of the storm.

Beginning early Saturday morning, the city's Department of Public Works was swamped with phone calls from homeowners who reported sewers backing up and the flooding of basements.

The flood situation was not relieved until late Saturday when the rain had stopped and sewers began to drain off excess surface water.

Residents of the Quonset Lake subdivision, which included Fairfax, Lake Park, Puritan, Pilgrim, Sulfur, and other streets, were particularly hard hit by water which backed up into basements, according to reports received by the DPW.

Crews Wear Hip Boots Donald C. Taylor, city manager, reported that DPW crews were unable to cope with the floods of emergency calls which came in. Only the greatest emergency cases could be relieved, he stated.

A Detroit Edison Company official stated that this company experienced little difficulty in Birmingham but that most of the trouble centered in the Southfield township, Berkey and Hazel Park. Service crews of the Consumers Power Company had to wear hip boots as they turned off gas heaters in homes on Birmingham's east side, where they reported their greatest trouble due to flooding.

Sigs Blows Down A sewer-clogs-in on Adams road at Webster was blocked off Saturday but was repaired a comparatively short while later.

During Sunday's windstorm a plane glass show window at 408 S. Woodward was blown out. That afternoon a tree went down at Shirley and West Maple avenues.

Sunday evening the wind tore down a display sign from the front of an automobile showroom at 479 S. Woodward. The sign fell onto a parked car and some Edison wires, causing little damage to both.

Birmingham Is Short 98 Pints of Blood For Plasma Bank Of the 226 appointments made for donation of blood to the Civilian Blood Donation clinic held Monday and Tuesday in the Community House, only 120 were kept, Mrs. A. K. Toepfer, chairman of the Birmingham clinic, reported last Tuesday.

A total of 102 pints of blood, which will be processed into plasma for use in Oakland County after the Red Cross unit sent out of hospital, was all that resulted by the Michigan Department of Health, was here for a two-day stay.

Birmingham's quota was 200 pints of blood.



Three maintenance men and three girl switchboard operators march in a picket line Monday morning in front of the Pierce street office of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company when members of the National Federation of Telephone Workers union went on strike throughout the nation early.

Phone Users Are Cooperating

Counseling Office Now Lacks Navy, CG Bonus Forms

The Birmingham veterans' office in the Municipal Building has been literally swamped with veterans coming in for the application forms, filling them out and asking for help in the process, according to Miss Blanche Breaker, veterans' counselor here.

"We've already given out over 4,000 of the forms," she said at press time. "We still have Army blanks and a small supply of Marine Corps blanks, but the supply for Navy and Coast Guard veterans has been exhausted. The latter forms are expected in the near future, but we have no promise on when they will come in and have been unable to contact the man office."

Those veterans who have not yet filled out the blanks should remember, Miss Breaker warned, to fill all discharge and certificate data exactly as it stands on the original papers. The greatest difficulty she has found is that veterans, in copying data, will overlook the fact that the papers fall into the blank's service, and will insert their present mailing address, which the veteran entered the service, and will insert their present mailing address exactly as it stands on the original papers.

Two temporary evening offices have been opened for the convenience of veterans in addition to the regular office.

Working in 10 to 12-hour shifts, supervisory employees are maintaining only emergency service. Miss Laura Schroeder, chief operator at the local office, requested that only emergency calls be put through.

"Some persons have attempted to put through routine calls claiming that it was an emergency," she said.

All calls are monitored by the operator, and when it is discovered that such a call is not an emergency, the connection is broken off, she pointed out.

Persons can assist as greatly in putting through emergency calls by not trying up such operators as we have, and such delay in the connection is broken off, she pointed out.

To Decide Paving Of Oak Street at Hearing on May 5

Weather Oak street, from Woodward avenue west to the Rouge bridge, shall be paved in order to provide an easier riding access to homes in the northwest part of the city, will be decided May 5 when the city commission will hold a preliminary hearing to determine the necessity of such a project.

This was announced Monday evening when the commissioners tentatively approved the city engineer's plan for a proposed 24-foot pavement which would eliminate holes from Oak street, that have resulted in many complaints from northwest property owners.

According to the tentative plans, a rolled curb would extend along the north side of the street to permit parking between the curb and the sidewalk. A straight curb would be constructed along the south side and parking permitted.

Will Lose Big Oak Under the proposal, a minimum number of trees would have to be removed although it includes the "great oak" on the south side of the street supposedly derived its name.

It is anticipated that this hearing will attract a maximum number of interested persons to the meeting, either to defend the present condition of the street or to approve the proposed plans.

Open Meeting Launches City Cancer Drive

Opening of the 1947 American Cancer Society drive in Birmingham will take place tomorrow at 10:30 a. m. when Dr. W. S. Miller, newly appointed director of the Southeastern Michigan Division of the Society, will speak at an open meeting to all the volunteer cancer drive workers and any other residents interested in what the society is aiming for.

This year's drive will be conducted according to Mrs. Walter E. Powers, Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills district chairman, for the purpose of increasing the scope of the Cancer Society's work on cancer research—education and service.

To sufficiently amplify the work in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties, at least \$320,000 is needed, she stated.

Begin Canvass Tomorrow Birmingham will officially begin canvassing this area tomorrow. Literature will be distributed and a flow it is being accomplished and why the money is needed will be conducted according to Mrs. W. S. Miller, Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills district chairman, for the purpose of increasing the scope of the Cancer Society's work on cancer research—education and service.

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City Will Try to Save Blighted Elms

Trees along Aspen and Linden streets will receive immediate attention by City Forester John P. Johnson in order to correct a blight condition and save the affected trees and those of the surrounding area.

Commissioners Monday night agreed that the infected limbs should be removed, that they should be fed with a fertilizer high in nitrogen and that heavy watering at frequent intervals should be administered, as recommended by Johnson.

This corrective treatment if applied now will probably save the trees, making it unnecessary to remove them which would be an expensive solution to the problem.

Car Is Stolen

David Bell, 209 Daines, reported to police early Monday morning that his 1946 car had been stolen from the garage at his home some time Sunday evening. The car is black, super-deluxe model in license, EBB184.

The police department will welcome information from any resident knowing the whereabouts of the car.

Seek Installation of Storm Sewers in Quaron Subdivision

Inasmuch as only sanitary sewers are existent in the Quaron subdivision, adequate drainage for normal times but apparently inadequate to carry off all the water during storm periods, the city commissioners Monday night asked for a report on the advisability of equipping the whole area with storm sewers in the streets.

During the last several days, City Manager Donald C. Echeverri told commissioners, considerable damage was done in that area due to flooded basements.

"While the sanitary sewers at the rate of each lot are sufficient for normal times, Echeverri stated, they are poorly laid out and overflow during periods of storm.

Several residents appeared at the commission meeting, aroused over what they believed was an inexcusable condition and wanting some action.

Here Is How the Rouge River Appeared Saturday As It Went on Another Rampage



(Above) Woodward Avenue at Hayden street looked like this Saturday when the Rouge River went over its banks during one of the worst spring floods that Michigan has ever experienced. (Left) The house of J. P. Bourgeois, 11 Ravine road, just north of the Woodward bridge over the Rouge, suffered extensive damage as flood waters poured into the basement Saturday.

Heaven's Spigots Opened

When the heavens open and old J. Pluvia turns on the rain spigots, about all mankind can do is to wait until the water runs off. In the meantime, if a person lives where drainage is not sufficient, the cause the waters to flow quickly toward the sea, he finds his basement flooded. That situation developed in many places in this and other Michigan areas during the past week and there are two basic causes for these flooded conditions in basements: one is that municipalities do not plan ahead, the other is that some subdividers get by with inadequate sewer systems as they build homes. Thus, it is plain to see, some folks need live in the dangerous territory of a river valley to find themselves threatened by floods.

Local Recreation

Congratulations to the Birmingham City Commission and the Jackson School Board for joining together in the creation of the permanent Recreation Board! With funds of government and private sources, the youth and adults of this community, as well as many others who wish to obtain greater facilities with which to enjoy various recreational purposes, for a number of years Birmingham has had a Recreation Committee, which started out with funds from the Jackson School Board, and which has since proven, over the years, that healthful recreational projects are worth the support and interest of the entire community. There is no good reason, in my opinion, as well as many others why this area should not develop as good a recreational program as any in Michigan. It is sufficient to say that private individuals and groups will, as did the Birmingham-Hills district chairman, for the purpose of increasing the scope of the Cancer Society's work on cancer research—education and service.

Making State Appointments

Some folks have asked me how Governor Kinzig makes up his mind on the appointment of various men and women to places in State government. The answer, of course, there is a variety of such appointments; some of them are without any consultation, even to the appointee; some require all of the appointee's time, with full salary and expenses. Gov. Kinzig can tell you what makes his appointments without a variety of ordinary political consideration. His formula goes like this: "First, the person must be a native-born citizen of the United States; second, he must be loyal to the theme of the Sigler administration for clean and honest government; third, he must be a member of the Republican Party, providing the other three qualifications are met, doesn't do the business under consideration any harm. (Some appointments are taken from the Democratic Party, of course, for the statutory bi-partisan boards or commissions; but here, too, the first three conditions of loyalty, loyalty, loyalty, are taken into account.) The Governor wants to know all about about candidates for an appointment; a half dozen letters from regular and able-enough citizens is desired—but mere petitions and hundreds of names, or a list of names, are of no use. The Governor's consideration for appointments is a simple matter of business. He wants the same as any employer should do when he wants an important job filled. After all, Gov. Kinzig thinks the job of making appointments for public service is to get the proper men and women to perform such service. There's no mystery about that, is there, Folks?"

Wanted and Blinded Records

Newly weekly Record Electric, 1414 1/2 Maple. All makes of used auto mattresses. MAKE NO MISTAKE. PHONE BIRMINGHAM 1-0788.

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"Yes, we finally found a nice little one room place through an 'Economic want ad.'"