

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SEVENTEETH YEAR—NO. 3

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1947

\$2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

YES!!

You can build that new home now...

As exclusive sales agents for RANCH HOMES, INC., we offer this complete service:

1. A building contract at a guaranteed cost.
2. 25 floor plans to choose from—and variations may be planned to suit your own ideas.
3. Scale models of each so you may see your home before construction starts.
4. Radiant heat and all the new features you expect in modern 1947 construction.
5. Easy-to-pay mortgage financing, at current low interest rates.
6. Model homes—perhaps the one you've chosen—already built and occupied, for your inspection.
7. A complete building operation—site, plans, construction, supervision, financing—all at a contract price.

If you're ready to build and want to know what the total cost will be before you start come in and talk it over. You'll be pleasantly surprised to see how far your construction dollar will go. There's no resale profit to pay here!

CALL
MAX BROOK INC.
REALTORS
ESTABLISHED 1915
300 S. WOODWARD BIRMINGHAM 2212

Bloomfield—Near Cranbrook

One of the finest homes in the Hills. No expense was spared to secure the best in construction and equipment. It is a real family home with 6 bedrooms and 3 baths plus 2 servants' rooms and bath. The 1st floor has living room, sun room, porch, library, dining room, breakfast room and kitchen. The recreation room has fireplace and tile floor.

The beautiful grounds include orchard, rock garden, pool, playhouse with fireplace and tool-house and kennel.

Reasonable price for quick sale. Call for details and appointment to see this property.

Beverly Hills—Birmingham School District

Brick home, living room 12x20, sun room, dining room, breakfast room and tiled kitchen, 3 bedrooms and bath, 2-car garage, large lot. \$15,500.

WALSH, JAMES & WASEY CO.

REALTORS
PHONE BIRMINGHAM 1230
481 SOUTH WOODWARD AVENUE



Bits of Birmingham

Pretty soon now Spring ought to be here (this opinion does not necessarily represent the views of some doctors), so this Wanderer got to thinking about the housing shortage—for birds, that is. Every spring the birds face it and they know how to settle it: the first ones back from the South pick the finest accommodations in the community. Therefore, should any local resident like a few cherry notes around his place this summer, he would do well right now to put out the sort of birdhouse that will attract that particular type of bird he wishes around. Some elementary facts: bird house providers should keep in mind are: Robins prefer roofed platforms without eaves. When houses should have entrances no larger than a 25-cent piece. Ventilation should be considered. Roofs should be substantial, may even be insulated to ward off excessive heat. Best locations are near shrubbery where the male can perch and sing. And don't forget—care should be taken that the floggers are not easy prey for housecats.

Last week *The Eccentric* carried a story about Jerry Eller, who was honored by the Greyhound Suburban for achieving a coach driving record of 20 years without an accident. This week this Wanderer carries of another driver in the Birmingham division who is right behind Jerry. On his 20th non-accident year is Arnold Dewey, who hasn't far to go before getting the same honor.

Now that the time of year is approaching when the motorist and his family feel like taking the family "bus" out of the garage and going for a spin to look the birds in a countryside over, it might be good to remember these "famous last words" uttered by many a sorry driver: "Let's see if this new car really will do 100 miles an hour!" Any motorist who travels faster than 30 m.p.h. over roads in southern Michigan for some time yet will find plenty of holes that'll make driving miser-

able. County and city road commissions are going to have plenty of spring and summer work ahead to repair highways that have been pockmarked with holes because of these rains and floods. Take it easy!

This Wanderer wonders how many Birmingham men are still carrying in their wallets their draft tax and registration cards? Some persons reported to us that they "held" a special ceremony March 31 at midnight where they touched a match to the two cards and destroyed them completely. Nope, we're not carrying ours any more—after having them occupy valuable wallet space for nigh on seven years.

Not all Birmingham teachers are of the opinion that perhaps the Birmingham Board of Education and superintendent of schools haven't done all they could to relieve the local teacher salary situation. This Wanderer learned through the "krapvine" that last week an undetermined number of anonymous Birmingham school instructors sent Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, school superintendent, a bunch of lovely flowers with a little note expressing their appreciation for past considerations. It is reported that he has received several letters stating that the writers were believing the B of E's policy of not going out on a limb in regard to the school financial picture.

This week's front page pictures of the flooded condition of North Woodward Avenue Saturday were taken by a 15-year-old lad who hopes someday to be a regular newspaper photographer. He is Jimmy Lighton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin W. Lighton, 4700 Webster. Jim right now is definitely associated with the newspaper business, being a carrier for one of the Detroit newspapers. For the past 14 months, Jim says, he has been taking various pictures so someday he may become a regular press photographer. He does his own developing and enlarging. He finances his subject

with money obtained from his paper route. A couple of weeks ago, he reported, he and four of his buddies organized a camera club. From the results of Jim's work last Saturday, this Wanderer feels Jim is quite accomplished for only 14 months' experience.

Early Easter morning, a family to the south of us reports, they awoke to the sound of their barking dog, "Lady." Ordinarily "Lady" quietly sleeps on the carpet alongside the bed of the two junior family members down in the basement, where the two boys bunked during the winter. Now she barked, and awoke one of the boys and the lady of the house. The lad put a hand down to slush her—and trailed his fingers in water. Startled, he peered into the early gloom to see that he and his brother were floating on a sea of seeping water. He shouted, so startling his mother, who had come to the basement floor with him, that she dropped the dog's dish—and heard it splash a moment later. That basement, we hear, eventually carried a six-foot water mark. The boys swam their way out and so did Lady, but the recreation equipment, stored items, bed, bedding and rug were absolutely ruined. At the time we heard about the episode, they hadn't yet been able to check on how badly damaged the oil furnace was. The individual story of this one family is of real importance only in that it epitomizes what happened all over Southern Michigan last week end.

This Wanderer just recently heard about the Franklin Hills matron who recently returned, still fagged, from a Florida vacation with her two children. Even though she took her faithful maid (nervous) with the family for years, and even though the children's grandmother finally came down to join them, this young Franklin mother still returned Upon getting in to St. Petersburg, it developed that the maid, who would never take a day off at home here, met a very young black

down there and decided to take the never-used days off while they were down there in Florida. Nothing twinged her, so Young Mrs. Matron wired for grandmother to come. When she arrived they adjourned to a hotel tearoom for refreshment, where 76-year-old grandma met an old flame of hers. She, too, promptly decided on a real vacation, and even bought a few new gay and colorful dresses. Two weeks later Young Mrs. Matron returned home with her two youngsters, the maid and grandma. The two youngsters, the maid and grandma are fine—they never had a better time, but Mrs. Matron says she is now planning a trip to the West—by herself.

After the city commission Monday evening passed a resolution calling for a preliminary hearing for the construction of the new 24-foot pavement on Oak Street from Woodward to the bridge, one of the commissioners who prefers to remain anonymous, suggested to this Wanderer, "Now that the improvement necessitates the removal of the great Oak for which the street is allegedly named, maybe some civic committee should plan a huge city-wide 'wake' for the tree, to be held with appropriate solemnity at the time of removal."

Motorists who regularly use the Grand Trunk overpass on East Maple will be pleased to learn that in the future they will not have to ford the viaduct whenever it becomes flooded as a result of heavy rains and heavy snows in the past couple weeks. According to City Manager Donald C. Eberhart, the Grand Trunk Railway has promised to relieve the condition by putting proper drain-off facilities along its right-of-way at that point. What causes the flooding is the draining of water along the tracks down the embankments at the viaduct.

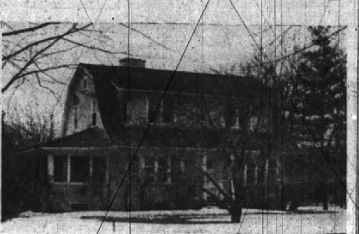
Annual election of officers for the Birmingham Rotary Club will be held at next Monday noon's meeting, this Wanderer learned this week.

Before long, the city's dump just east of Eton road will be hilled up and the city will have to (Continued on Page 2, Part 2)

RALPH A. MAIN
CIVIL ENGINEER and SURVEYOR
Subdivision Design and Layout
Certified Lot Surveyor
Wabek Bldg. Birmingham
Phone B'ham 721

INSURANCE - BONDS
THE BIRMINGHAM AGENCY
CHAS. B. RANDALL
OSCAR P. PETERSON
Insurance for Every Need
PHONE 840
1065 WOODWARD - BIRMINGHAM

An Orchard Setting



Manor Road

APPLE BLOSSOMS will soon transform the surroundings of this Dutch Colonial home just outside Birmingham—in Bloomfield. Two acres in all with enough room to provide a site for another home if you desire.

Upstairs consists of 3 bedrooms and small nursery or study. First floor includes den or bedroom and lavatory. Oil heat. Garage facility, of course.

Real suburban atmosphere is yours here for the asking and—the price has been reduced to \$19,500.

Appointments for inspection cheerfully arranged.

SNYDER KINNEY & BENNETT
INC.
239 S. WOODWARD BIRMINGHAM 1400

SUBURBAN WINDOW CLEANERS
ARTHUR ZETTEL
1813 Cole
Birmingham
Phone 2166

Chapin & Company
Investment Securities
RA 7062
W. Fred Davis 608-10
B'ham 2952 Penobscot Bldg.

INSURE with the **HARTFORD INSURANCE COMPANIES**
All Types of Policies
FIRE, MARINE, AUTOMOBILE
LIABILITY—BURGLARY
PHONE 324-J
Birmingham Representative
RICE A. HOWELL
WABEK BUILDING

New Homes

(VETERANS AND OTHERS)

Attractive and cozy 1½ story 5 room frames or bricks with stairway to second floor space for 2 more rooms, soon ready for occupancy.

Also 6 room bungalows with 3 bedrooms. All have automatic oil air heat and many other fine features.

See us now and invest your bonus in your choice of these new homes located in a fast growing popular neighborhood near stores, transportation, new school site and city park site.

JOHN W. KNECHT
Realtor
1692 S. WOODWARD — PHONE 3300
Over 22 years licensed in Real Estate

It's fun when you have NO RENT TO pay

You pay interest only on actual monthly loan balances, with our home-financing plan.

When you buy or build a home on our plan, your future rent-money pays for it. After a few years, you'll have no more payments and no more rent... the home will be yours!

BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL
SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION
Woodward at Maple—Phone 1040
Member of Federal Home Loan Bank System and Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation

You See **HUGH C. WHITE AGENCY** for INSURANCE and BONDS of EVERY KIND
217 PIERCE ST. (Opposite Municipal Bldg.)
Hugh C. White M. Lloyd Dean

FIVE ACRES



- ★ A Woods and a Stream,
- ★ Birmingham School District,
- ★ Four Bedrooms and 3 Baths,
- ★ Spacious Livingroom, Diningroom, Kitchen and Breakfast nook,
- ★ Two-car Attached Garage,
- ★ Air-Conditioned Oil Heat,
- ★ Designed for Addition of future wing,
- ★ Price at \$32,500.

HOEY, BENJAMIN and STEPHENS
Realtors
291 S. WOODWARD BIRMINGHAM
Phone 4129

ALL BIRMINGHAM INVITED

To Inspect Homes Being Built in **MEADOWOOD** — the Planned Neighborhood

by **Reid-Paterson, Incorporated** on **Washington Drive**
(6 Blocks East of Southfield) between Lincoln and 14 Mile Road

NOTHING LIKE IT ANYWHERE

OPEN SUNDAYS 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Shown by Appointment Any Time
Phone University 1-5890 or VERmont 5-1839