Old Aristotle once said many, many years ago that "character is the habit of meeting each day's issues and taking the side of Right . . . opposing Wrong." Indeed, what this miscellaneous assortment of mankind needs perhaps more than anything else is more "character."

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 45—14 Pages | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1947 | $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Atomic Energy Can Destroy Us If Another War Is Allowed

Well, a number of local folks got together with some of the "experts" recently and spent hours discussing the menace of the atomic bomb upon the future of human existence. The whole discussion got down, finally, to what I pointed out in one of last week's editorials: ". . . in the last analysis, it is only the triumph of Good or Evil that can make an outlaw of the thing we call War!" In other words, unless and until enough human hearts among the leaders of this earth are changed, to the end that average people can love one another better, there is always the danger of war breaking out; that is when man uses every device and instrument for destruction that he can mobilize . . . and that is where the world's most dangerous new weapon, atomic energy, comes in as a threat to the destruction of civilization. The challenge is here . . . can men and women be turned from their contemporary pursuit for more material wealth and material satisfactions toward the wealth that exists in decency, tolerance, morality, truthfulness, unselfishness, self-denial, and other equally important virtues? That answer is up to each of us!

—o—

Will Educational Leaders Change Ever Be Most Adept at Bombs?

Referring again to this problem of controlling atomic energy so that it will not destroy the human race, one properly can ask: "In the face of this terrible and terrifying question, what are the institutions of higher learning in the nation doing about it? Are they changing some of their curricula to make it possible for future graduates to take places of leadership where the values of the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount may be used by them in their own activities . . . or will these institutions continue to turn out mere professional men and women, plus others whose dominant backbone has been allowed to focus on worldly wealth?" It is my conviction that the discovery of the atomic bomb continues to menace human life as much right now as did the attack on Pearl Harbor threaten the very life of the United States. Yet the apathy and inertia of many of today's educational, industrial, political, and spiritual leaders remains: they just lazy . . . are they afraid of meeting this challenge . . . or are they just stupid, really unaware of the danger right at hand?

—o—

A Gangster Whose Life Proves "Crime Doesn't Pay"

At the age of 48, when the average man expects to live quite a few years beyond the half century mark, Al Capone, former Chicago underworld czar of the prohibition era, died last week in his Florida home. Although the possessor of millions, Capone could obtain no help against the destructive impact that his illegitimate early life had impacted upon his mind and body. The notorious gangster, once confined to Alcatraz Island, famous federal prison, came up from obscurity during prohibition days that spawned so many rackets upon the nation. Capone's name became a synonym for evil doing; he always had to be surrounded by a bodyguard to prevent other gangsters from killing him. His life and the inexorable end of it, provide terrifying proof "that crime never pays."

—o—

Labor Management Problems Are Challenge to Gov. Sigler

A meeting that was held in Lansing by Gov. Kim Sigler one evening last week is one that may help Michigan into the fore as a State capable of coping with contemporary labor-management problems. At that meeting were representatives of the two leading labor organizations, the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L., as well as management, and members of the Michigan Senate and House. The Governor presided, while back-and-forth discussion lasted several hours. It was the first time that I was informed, that a meeting of exact status ever was tried by any Chief Executive of this State. It all took me back a little to the political campaign, last August; one morning, as I sat in Sigler's hotel room, while he was getting ready for breakfast, he pulled from his pocket his electric razor and striding over to where I was sitting, said: "I've been thinking again about this labor-management problem, George. I'm going to do something about it. . . . I'm going to do everything possible to effect workable governmental machinery to bring labor and management together . . . it is the only last hope to keep America American by producing the wealth of which our vast physical and human resources are so capable!" So, Folks, I can assure you that this problem is among the brightest on the gubernatorial mind.

50 gallon Clark automatic electric hot water heater. Cream. Immediate delivery. Leonard's. 162 W. Maple. adv.tf.

Norge oil burning space heater. Immediate delivery. Heats 5 rooms. Leonard's. 162 W. Maple. adv. tf.

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

Woodward Hospital Campaign Fund Is Over $250,000 Mark

The $2,500,000 Woodward General Hospital Building Fund today is well past the quarter million dollar mark according to reports from campaign headquarters in Birmingham.

More than $216,000 was reported at the first series of area report meetings at Royal Oak, Ferndale and Birmingham on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights last week.

Additional thousands of dollars were added to the building fund at the second series of area report meetings which took place at Royal Oak Monday night, Birmingham Tuesday night and Ferndale last (Wednesday) night. However, totals could not be tabulated and audited in time to meet this newspaper's new deadline.

$72.72 Per Man

Among contributions announced this week was one for $12,000 by Lamina Dies & Tool, Inc., 14925 West Eleven Mile road.

Herbert H. Gardner co-chairman of the County Division and leader of men's teams, pointed out that Lamina employs 165 workers and, on a gift-per-employe basis, the corporation's contribution represented a donation of $72.72 per man.

"Initial reports from County Division men's and women's teams were small, due largely to the fact that all workers had not received subscription cards for persons they had chosen to contact," Gardner said.

More Groups to Report

"Reports at the second series of meetings this week were larger and we look for still larger reports at the third series of meetings which opens Friday at Royal Oak High School."

Oakdale Gardens solicitors, led by Mrs. Pearl Wright, turned in subscriptions totaling $741.00 at their first report meeting Friday.

Following is the schedule for the third and fourth series of area report meetings:

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, Birmingham Community House; majors and captains of the Birmingham reporting group.

8 p.m. Wednesday, February 5, Royal Oak High School auditorium; Royal Oak reporting group.

Rules for Better Living Pointed Out to Graduates

Four rules to use as guides in "The Fine Art of Living" were given to Baldwin High School's 49 members of the January 1947 graduating class by Dr. Carl S. Winters, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Oak Park, Ill., in his commencement address delivered last Thursday evening in the high school auditorium before a near-capacity audience.

After the invocation by Dr. Glen Harris of the First Presbyterian Church, Joan Gove, member of the graduating class, sang "Ave Maria."

Class president Roland Watson, also co-salutatorian, presented the class' parting gift of a combination phonograph-public address system to Charles Murray, Student Congress president, who accepted the gift for the school.

Direction That Counts

Dr. Winters' address followed a piano solo, "Warsaw Concerto," played by Mary Anne Foster, also a member of the graduating class.

"The first rule I ask you to observe is this: it is not how fast you go in the world that counts, but the direction you're travelling in that counts," Dr. Winters stated.

"Today it's a race between high intelligence and high explosives, the merchants of death versus the guardians of life. The other day I saw this statement: 'The atomic bomb is here to stay—are you?' We will be if we find an intelligent way to handle the atomic bomb. If time to grow up—or blow up."

It's easy to talk about the fine art of living but very hard to live it, for people seem to have the ability to fight things rather than fix them, he pointed out.

Must Use Brilliance

His second rule, Dr. Winters said, is that it's not how much you know that counts, it's how you use what you know.

"Don't be any more ignorant than you can possibly help," he warned. "Too many people are brilliant of brain yet brutal of heart. They have the mechanical know-how but are emotionally unbalanced. Man needs to learn how to use his brilliance to obtain the really good things of life. In that respect, we haven't even learned to walk yet."

In citing his third rule—"It's not what happens to you that counts, it's what you do about what

(See RULES, Page 2)

Will Install New Well Pump During General Overhaul

Réplacement of the 10-year old pump in the city's West Well was authorized by the City Commission Monday night when it approved the purchase of a new pump for $1095.30.

According to City Manager Donald C. Egbert, the old pump will be thoroughly checked to see if it can be repaired and kept as a spare.

In recommending the new purchase, Egbert told commissioners, "The West Well is the city's main source of water supply, pumping about 80 per cent of the water in our system. We cannot afford to have other than the best equipment in it."

He said that the well needs a complete, general overhaul and that it was thought best to replace the equipment at that time.

Ireland to Speak

Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent of schools, will speak to the Birmingham Veterans Organization concerning the current problems of the system at the organization's next meeting Thursday, Feb. 6, at 8 p. m. at the Community House, according to James Hodges, Jr., BVO president.

Modernization

Eight all-metal visible record filing cabinets were purchased by the City Commission Monday evening to modernize the city's permanent voting registration files.

The cabinets, which will cost $1562, have room for 9480 cards. The present voting registrations filed with the city clerk's office number approximately 7000.

Port Huron Hands Birmingham First Cage Defeat, 30-28

By Gerry Hughes

Despite a last-minute scoring spree, the Birmingham basketball quintet suffered its first downfall of the season at the hands of the fast moving Blue Water boys from Port Huron in a local basketball contest ended 30-28 last Friday night.

High scoring honors for the Maple cagers again went to Chuck Murray with 13 points, while Maxwell and Balough, Port Huron's towering stars, tallied eight and seven points, respectively.

Leon Thurston, Gene Sutton and Rog Reynolds, playing the final game of their high school careers, displayed an over-enthusiastic will to win but were unable to stop the Big Red scorers in the first half.

Dominate First Half

The visitors completely dominated the first half, holding a comfortable ten-point margin over the locals.

Arrott of Port Huron led the invading quintet with an onslaught

(See PORT HURON, Page 2)

Birmingham Needs a Hospital

For many years, the need has been recognized by physicians and surgeons of the community. Every doctor has all the work he can do. It is not he who needs the hospital for benefit of practice, but his patients, whose needs are so much better served when adequate hospital facilities are available.

The better Detroit and Pontiac hospitals are crowded to overflowing. We have presumed upon their hospitality for more than twenty years. If an epidemic, however mild, were to attack us, those hospitals would be forced to deny admittance to persons outside their cities. The residents of Birmingham and surrounding communities would be in desperate straits.

The proposed Woodward General Hospital is a must for our safety and our community respect. Practically all hospitals, except government institutions, result from such voluntary community projects as this fund-raising effort.

The Woodward General Hospital Building Fund has the support of Birmingham physicians, and deserves the unqualified support of everyone NOW — in their own self-interest.

SIGNED

DR. O. O. BECK
DR. RALPH G. FERRIS
DR. J. D. GREEN
DR. JOHN H. GORDON
DR. E. E. HAMMOND
DR. J. B. HASSBERGER
DR. W. LLOYD KEMP
DR. ROBERT J. MASON
DR. J. PAUL MCCONKIE
DR. JOHN B. SCHOENFELD
DR. A. KENNETH STOLPMAN
DR. GEORGE P. RAYNALE
DR. HAROLD R. ROEHM
DR. THOMAS Y. WATSON
DR. ARTHUR P. WILKINSON

Noted Writer Appears Here in 2nd Lecture

James Reston, N.Y. Times Reporter, Will Speak Feb. 6

James Barrett Reston, noted young national correspondent of the New York Times, will be in Birmingham for a return visit on Thursday, February 6, to speak

James B. Reston

at a lecture discussion of the Ruth Shain International Relations Class at the Village Playhouse. The subject of his talk will be, "The State of the Union."

Reston is remembered by many who heard his talk on the proposed United Nations Charter, which he delivered at the Community House on April 12, 1945, while enroute to the San Francisco Conference.

His analytical articles on persons and events which have appeared recently in the New York Times have aroused great interest among readers throughout the country.

Pulitzer Prize Winner

He is recognized as a distinguished war correspondent, having been awarded the 1944 Pulitzer Prize for his news dispatches and interpretative articles on the Dumbarton Oaks Security Conference, which are cited as "a distinguished example of the telegraphic reporting on material affairs published in daily newspapers in the United States."

Born in Clydebank, Scotland, November 3, 1909, he came to America in 1920 and was educated in the public schools of Dayton, Ohio.

Since he joined the London Bureau of the New York Times in 1939, he has reported international and national events continuously, and since January, of 1945, has been the national correspondent of the paper.

He remained in London until January, 1941, when he returned

(See WRITER, Page 2)

Begin Census Count

A number of persons yesterday began canvassing Birmingham and vicinity to obtain new census figures in the recently authorized recount in Oakland County.

According to Mrs. Julia Kuhl, county census supervisor, the work begun yesterday will continue for approximately a month. She urges all residents to cooperate with the census takers so that a fast, accurate count may be obtained.

Many Contributions Are Still Needed in 'March of Dimes'

In a recent letter to Herbert H. Gardner, campaign director of the Oakland County 1947 March of Dimes drive, Governor Kim Sigler expressed his wish for the complete success of the polio drive in this county and throughout the state and nation.

In Oakland County alone last year there were 69 cases of polio and most of the funds in the foundation for the care of persons afflicted with infantile paralysis, as well as considerable money from the fund for research and hospitals was used.

The National Foundation exhausted its $4,000,000 epidemic fund in addition to financing research and education programs which eventually may conquer this disease.

With only one day of the 1947 March of Dimes campaign remaining, Gardner urges a last-minute response of donations to this cause.

Checks should be made payable to the Oakland County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and sent to Gardner at the Birmingham National Bank.

City Authorizes Hiring Full-Time City Forester

To accomplish the desired results in regard to park and recreational development within the City of Birmingham, the City Commission approved Monday evening City Manager Donald C. Egbert's recommendation that John P. Johonnot be employed by the city to assist in its park and recreational program.

"The city has not made satisfactory progress in the development of its park lands. For a residential city such as Birmingham, this proper development is of utmost importance," Egbert told commissioners in his recommendation.

The new city forester will concentrate his efforts for the rest of the year primarily on the trimming of trees along the city's streets, with some planting of nursery stock.

Within the next three years, Egbert hopes the city will have enough nursery stock on hand to park planting program may be placed under way.

Johonnot was graduated from Michigan State College in 1942 with a BS degree in forestry and he majored in recreational and municipal forestry. He was discharged from the Army about a year ago.

According to Egbert, Jahonnot's salary has been tentatively set at $235 a month.

Sees Stars Once, So Now She Wants to See Them Again

When Mrs. Louis Aldrich of W. Maple avenue and her daughter, Leigh, 18, set out for Hollywood, Calif., last September to visit Leigh's sister, Betty Lou, neither of them expected that Leigh might obtain work and want to stay in Hollywood, but that's what happened.

Betty Lou, who is secretary to screen star Betty Hutton at Paramount Studios, introduced Leigh and her mother to her friends at the studio. Soon Leigh found herself typing away at scripts for Kay Kayser, and then for Alan Ladd. Then she was hired by the studio in their photographic department.

At the present time she is in charge of Paramount's movie star photograph files and is having a wonderful time on the side, according to her mother.

Sees Actors at Work

"While I was in Hollywood, I too had a wonderful time," Mrs. Aldrich said. "The girls live in a house right on Sunset Boulevard in a portion they call "The Strip," between Hollywood and Beverly Hills, and are only one block from Ciro's.

She saw many of the famous stars at work on the lots. "Lizbeth Scott and Bert Lancaster were out there one day, and when they were at work on "Saigon," I saw both Veronica Lake and Alan Ladd. "The Road to Rio," I also saw being produced, with Dorothy Lamour, Bing and Bob Hope. There were so many stars at the studios and in the dining rooms that I couldn't begin to list them.

"In fact," Mrs Aldrich declared, "I liked it so well that Mr. Aldrich and I may leave again in a month or so to revisit our daughters and the famous city!"

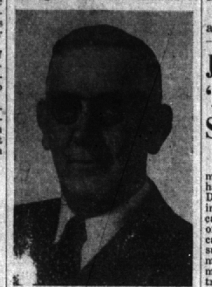
Boy Scout Week

Mayor Milton F. Mallender Monday evening proclaimed the week of February 7-13 as "Boy Scout Anniversary Week" for the City of Birmingham in commemoration of the 37th anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America, and recommended that Birmingham residents lend their support to the Detroit Area Camp Extension Fund which will be conducted during the month of February.

State Senator Tells of State Tax Problems

Says State Has Three Answers to Financial Dilemma It's Now In

Repeal of the sales tax diversion amendment, adopted at the November 5 election, is certainly a step in the right direction toward solving the financial dilemma in



Sen. Otto W. Bihop

which the State of Michigan finds itself today, declared State Senator Otto W. Bishop of Alpena before nearly 100 persons assembled at the Birmingham Community House Wednesday, Jan. 22, for the regular monthly meeting of the Birmingham Retail Merchants Association.

Members of the Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce were present, having combined their regular meeting with the merchants.

"There's no 'free lunch' economy today—we've got to pay for the services we get or we have to do without them," Senator Bishop stated. He was introduced to the audience by Rep. Howard R. Estes, local member of the State Legislature.

Bishop, who is chairman of the

(See SENATOR, Page 2)

Advice on Water System Problems Sought by City

To assist Birmingham in determining the answers to many problems concerning its water supply and system, the City Commission Monday night aproved City Manager Donald C. Egbert's recommendation that the city employ a Detroit firm as consulting engineers in connection with obtaining answers to these problems.

Egbert said he contemplates employing the firm to act in consulting capacity and to advise with the city's engineering department in regard to proposed improvements in the city's water system.

Problems All Related

He further suggested the firm be employed to design the water treatment plant if it is ultimately determined that the construction of facilities for treating the present water supply is justified.

The problems pertaining to the development of additional supply, construction of mains, additional storage facilities and the water treatment plant are all so related and each phase of the problem affects the design of the other parts," Egbert stated.

To be employed on a per diem basis, the firm will not be called upon to devote too much time prior to the actual design of the plant, the manager indicated.

Dutch Woman Tells How She and Husband Forged Papers for Underground

How Dutch patriots forged registration and identity cards to prevent the death of thousands of Gestapo-sought persons during the Nazi occupation of Holland is the interesting story of Mrs. Mirte deBoer, who, with her two sons, 13-year-old Jarl and 4-year-old Aeint, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Janneka Leisz, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Ernst Scheyer, 256 Ravine road.

Mrs. deBoer is in the United States on a temporary six months' visa. She arrived in the States on December 30, 1946, and immediately came to Birmingham. Her mother left Holland in September, 1939, just two days before England declared war on Germany.

Mrs. deBoer and her husband, Roelof, were perhaps the center of Holland's vast network of underground activities in the matter of producing all types of false, forged registration papers.

Steal Most of Stamps

At their home in Amsterdam, they secretly created new identity papers, registrations for bicycles, automobiles, ration books, and countless other papers which the Dutch were required to have during the Nazi occupation.

"We tried to steal most of the official Nazi stamps which the papers required. If we couldn't get them that way, my husband, who is a sculptor, would get a photographic copy of the stamp and make a duplicate himself. His sculpturing ability proved invaluable in this respect," Mrs. deBoer related.

During the occupation and after the underground began to function properly, most of the forged papers were made by local underground units unless materials and stamps were not available to them.

(See UNDERGROUND, Page 2)

IF selling your car, why not call your local Chrysler, dealer, 479 So. Woodward. Phone 4021. adv. tf.

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

Joslyn Defends 'Ambition' of Superintendent

No person or group of persons may attack the policy of Birmingham Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dwight B. Ireland without including the Birmingham Board of Education, Lee E. Joslyn, Jr., president of the Birmingham board, indicated this week in a statement issued in reply to a public criticism made by four residents of the former Bloomfield Village school district two weeks ago.

"If criticism there be, let it be directed to our Board," Joslyn declared. "We selected Dr. Ireland, we believe in his ability, we like his enthusiasm and we approve of his school program."

Joslyn added that his statement would not have ordinarily been made except for the fact that the letter reprinted in The Eccentric's "People's Column" of January 16 "did not purport to be a personal attack on the 'ambitions' of Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent."

Tries to Secede

The letter to which Joslyn referred was written by four residents of the former Bloomfield Village school district from which the inhabitants petitioned unsuccessfully attempted to secede prior to the consolidation election last June. Many of these residents at that time indicated a desire to be annexed to the Bloomfield Hills school district.

The letter writers called Ireland "ambitious" in his attitude concerning the consolidation, and stated "he accomplished the raid on our territory through a legal technicality."

Joslyn's statement follows:

"The letter in your 'People's Column' of Jan. 16, 1947, concerning the possible annexation of the northerly one-third approximately, of School District No. 5 to the School District of the City of Birmingham, would remain unanswered if the entire tenor of the letter did not purport to be a personal attack on the 'ambitions' of Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent.

Commend, Not Slur

"As both a taxpayer and as President of the Board of Education of the City of Birmingham, I consider that Dr. Ireland should be commended rather than slurred because:

"1. He has an 'ambitious school program.'

"2. He is using the 'legal limit' for the purpose of raising taxes

(See JOSLYN, Page 2)

Must Hold Primary

In accordance with Tuesday's State Supreme Court ruling that primary voting must be held even though there is no contest for the office, Birmingham City Clerk Irene Hanley Wednesday declared that only one voting machine would be operating in each of the city's six precincts on February 17, the day of the primary.

Miss Hanley also stated that the minimum number of three election workers would be present in each precinct.

Highway Expert to Investigate City's Traffic Problems

Assurances that Birmingham would receive almost immediate attention concerning several traffic problems where the State Highway Department was concerned as well as the city were given to Mayor Milton F. Mallender and City Manager Donald C. Egbert at the conclusion of a two-hour conference in Lansing last Friday with Charles M. Ziegler, State Highway Commissioner.

Within the next 30 days, I hope the department will be able to send to Birmingham J. C. McMonagle, director of our planning and traffic division, who will confer with city officials in an attempt to settle agreeably to all concerned, several of your traffic problems," Ziegler told Mallender and Egbert.

Present Four Problems

McGonagle has conferred with Birmingham city officials at previous times and helped arrive at solutions to certain problems relating to traffic.

Mallender and Egbert went to Lansing to present for Commissioner Ziegler's consideration four matters:

(1) Designation by the State of some other East-West highway than Maple avenue.

(2) Traffic hazards at Adams and South Woodward.

(3) Parking along Hunter boulevard.

(4) Possibility of an Oak-Hunter cut-off.

No Definite Plans

After listening to the city's reasons why it would be more beneficial from many standpoints to create an East-West highway over either the 14 or 16 mile roads rather than Maple, Ziegler remarked to the two Birmingham officials, "Just by looking at the map, the natural tendency of our department is to shy away from any consideration of Maple as an East-West through route.

"We haven't made any definite plans concerning such a state designated highway, but it would also be to the State's benefit to prevent congestion of present highways when planning a new through route. The logical move would be to place it a mile or so away from the present route if the opportunity affords itself.

"Any such development in your territory will be a long way off, though, I assure you."

Work Together on Parking

Ziegler enthusiastically welcomed the city's proposal to do something about little problem along Hunter boulevard in order to prevent the hazard now existing because of such parking along Woodward avenue in Ferndale.

"That's welcome news to me and we'll work together toward solving that problem," he declared.

Ziegler said he was aware of the traffic hazards at the Adams-Woodward intersection, but that one-hour conference between McGonagle and city officials should arrive at a more agreeable arrangement than that now existing.

While he offered little comment concerning the proposed Oak-to-Hunter cut-off, the Highway Commissioner suggested that this problem should also receive better consideration when McGonagle makes his visit.

Commissioners Deny Request to Close Oakland Ave.

Deciding that the costs of closing Oakland avenue, Worth to Adams, and diverting traffic both north and south around Quarton elementary school, would greatly exceed any benefits derived, the City Commission Monday evening denied a petition from the Board of Education which requested the street closing.

In a letter dated April 17, 1946, the school board had asked that that portion of Oakland between Worth and Adams be closed permanently as a safety measure for children playing on the school grounds.

No official school board representative was present at the hearing Monday night, but approximately 50 residents in the school neighborhood were there to protest the proposed $25,000 improvement.

These persons objected to the permanent closing of the street although they approved the present regulations which block the street off from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. on school days.

After which the commission had turned down the request, Commissioner Coit Allee declared, "Years ago the school board had ample opportunity to purchase playground property north, east, south or west of the school building. For reasons known only to it, it decided on putting it to the south, or across the only east-west through street between Maple avenue and the northern city limits.

"That created what they now call a hazard. It's a problem of their own creation, although we wish we could help. However, the costs far exceed any benefits to the city."

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