Standards for City Streets

In previous Monday night meetings, our city commissioners have discussed the advisability of establishing a standard minimum width for streets which are permanently improved in the future. City Manager D. C. Egbert favors a 32-foot minimum. Several other commissioners at one time or another have expressed the view that 32 feet might be adopted as the base width.

But when it comes right down to establishing a "standard," commissioners still haven't made up their minds. The most recent indication of this is their action last week when commissioners okayed a 22-foot width for the Chesterfield paving. They started, originally, by considering the 32-foot width.

Is Birmingham going to have a minimum standard width for streets which are to be permanently improved? Or is the width of a proposed improvement to be determined by the project's own peculiar "circumstances"?

The city regularly is deciding to pave certain streets. If a "standard" is to be adopted, why can't it be adopted now? If "circumstances" are to determine the width of a paved street, then why all the talk about a standard?

Making Little Planets

It is quite possible that you have not heard about Penolite, a new explosive developed during the war and a stock military secret with about a third more power than TNT.

What brings Penolite into the news today is the effort of scientists to use the new explosive to shoot objects so high in the sky that they will never come down. This means that they will get beyond the gravitational power of the earth and become minor satellites, destined to circle around the globe forever.

We are not sure that we know the importance of the experiments that have been made but from what we read, it seems to have something to do with the development of inter-planetary travel.

Little did city officials realize, when they ruled that a bus garage could not be erected in a residential area without violating the zoning code, they might find themselves hampered by the ruling when the city attempted to put up a new fire station, city pumping station, or other public improvement in residential areas. It will be interesting to listen to next Monday night's discussion when the city commission considers the advisability of amending the present zoning ordinance to exempt municipal bodies from the provisions of the code.

"Headed for a Price Collapse"

Something of a warning comes from Leon Henderson, former chief of the Office of Price Administration, who says that the United States is headed for a price collapse rivaling the 1920-21 slump unless consumer buying power is jacked up.

Mr. Henderson believes that "prices have been permitted to get out of hand with the result that buying power has been cut to the danger point."

If anybody is inclined to be worried by what Mr. Henderson says, there is comfort to be received from Senator Robert Taft, of Ohio. Mr. Taft points out that "everybody has more money than ever before" and that the nation has "a perfectly tremendous economy."

The reader is entitled to take his choice between the conflicting opinions. As for us, we are inclined to string along with Mr. Henderson upon the general theory that what goes up must come down.

The present inflationary movement, which is apparent all over the nation and in many lines of economic activity, may fool some of the people, including economic experts, financial advisers and industrial executives. Nevertheless, it will come to an end, although no prophet can tell the day or the year.

Here's a suggestion to the parents of every young child; be sure that your youngster learns to love a dog. The presence of a good-natured dog in your household will do much to mould your offspring's character toward good.

If half the time, or even a tenth, that most people spend in idle recreation were given to some good community activity, modern mankind could transform his weary circumstances into something closer to Utopia.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 120-122 North Woodward Avenue

Telephone 11, 12 and 13

GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
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HAROLD P. BUERGE, Advertising Manager

Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Post Office at Birmingham, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(In Oakland County)		(Outside Oakland County)	
One Year	$2.00	One Year	$2.50
Six Months	1.25	Six Months	1.50
Three Months	.75	Three Months	.85

The Eccentric is a member of: National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, and University Press Club.

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributed material providing it has news value; and suggestions are welcomed. Contributions are usually edited superficially so that they conform to general newspaper style. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing and reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

Pursuant to provisions of Section 7 of Act 155 of the Public Acts of 1937, as amended by Act 62 of the Public Acts of 1947.

Notice is hereby given that the City of Birmingham will, at a PUBLIC AUCTION to be held in the Commission Room in the Municipal Building at 151 Martin Street in the City of Birmingham, on the 4th day of August A.D. 1947, at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon, Eastern Standard Time, offer for sale the property hereinafter described, reserving in the city the right to reject all bids, and final acceptance of any bid to be subject to approval of the City Commission at its meeting to be held on Monday, August 4, A.D. 1947, at 8:00 o'clock in the evening, Eastern Standard Time.

The property to be offered for sale is described as follows, to wit:

All that part of Lot No. 19 of Assessors Plat No. 29 of the City of Birmingham described as follows:

Beginning at the northerly corner of said Lot 19 thence south 27 degrees 23' 20" east along the northeasterly side of said lot a distance of 78.88 feet to the point of tangency of a curve to the right having a radius of 20 feet; thence along the arc of said 20 foot radius curve to the right a distance of 44.72 feet to the end of said curve; thence along the tangent to said curve north 75 degrees 16' West a distance of 2.62 feet to the point of tangency of a curve to the left which has a radius of 440 feet; thence along the arc of said curve to the left a distance of 28.95 feet to the southwesterly corner of said Lot 19; thence northwesterly along the southwesterly side of said Lot a distance of 76.36 feet; thence northeasterly along the northwesterly side of said Lot 19 a distance of 57 feet to the point of beginning. Containing approximately 5,169 square feet.

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D. C. EGBERT
City Manager

15-16-17-18-19

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Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO
August 6, 1897

Everybody will be surprised to know that our long known and time tried friend, Thos. L. Hanna has made up his mind to venture to the far north in search of gold in the Klondike river country. He has resigned his job with the Purdy Bros. in Detroit, and after a few days with friends here will start for the Yukon.

The Grand Trunk Railway will run special excursion trains from Detroit to Niagara Falls August 12. The round-trip fare, from Birmingham, will be $3.50, and the station agent tells us that several reservations have already been made.

The Rev. Morgan Wood, who had been engaged to speak at the Island Park Assembly next month, has given up the engagement because he has accepted a pastorate at the First Congregational Church in Toronto. We hate to have our genial pastor leave, but wish him every success in his new field.

Birmingham enjoyed her liveliest Saturday night last week. The town was full, hitching posts were at a premium. Two patent medicine fakirs were haranguing the crowds, the band played, small boys were noisy, and everything went well. Incidentally, the band out-dinned the medicine men, and it is probably just as well that it did.

The wicked solemn-eyed grasshopper is chewing the twine on the wheat bundles at Ed Miller's farm, scattering the grain to the four winds of heaven. Jack Whitefoot came up with what they thought was a sure-fire idea last week, dipping the twine in sheep dip, which is supposed to be fatal to bug life. It seems to have only whetted the grasshopper's appetite and increased the power of his jumping apparatus. Have to try again, boys.

20 YEARS AGO
August 4, 1927

The windup of the street paving is seen this week by James W. Parry, village manager, who announces today that contracts for the streets scheduled to be paved are filled, except that of Hanna, which is expected to be finished within a few days.

More than 30 members of the Birmingham Rotary Club shed the cares of business for the joys of their annual picnic last Thursday. The scheduled activities were entered with a great deal of vim, even though it did mean cutting the hay from a field in order to have a baseball diamond!

Jane and Marion Fowler, Virginia and Elizabeth Packard and Betty and Janet Peabody were among the Girl Scouts who received awards last week at Camp Copmaconic. The awards were presented at the ceremony which officially closed the two weeks' camping trip there.

James Woorster and Seymour Adams are in charge of affairs as the local Exchange Club plans to play host to about 50 youngsters August 18. The day's outing will take the form of a trip to the Milford County fair, which will be made by auto.

Plans for the new Baptist church, to cost in the neighborhood of $150,000 are being made, following the sale of land owned by the church to Senator James Couzens.

5 YEARS AGO
August 6, 1942

A total of 262 volunteers contributed blood for the Red Cross Mobile Blood Donor Unit at the program held in the Birmingham Community House last Wednesday and Thursday. This made up the largest number of donors to ever contribute at any one program, according to Mrs. Ferd M. Broock, chairman.

Parents are warned that a Birmingham ordinance regulates the use of bicycles in the village, and prohibits carrying more than one person at a time. Better pass the information on to the youngsters and help them keep within the law on this.

About a hundred of the local lads and lassies dug down deep to get at that last stray dime to attend the street dance Friday. Miles of red fence, used in the winter to hold back the snow, was used in this case to keep away the gate crashers. The doorkeeper, as a result, raked in about $10 from the affair.

In their rounds of the business section each night, Birmingham police inspect all doors and windows. They report hardly a night goes by but what some merchant goes home and leaves a door or window unlocked.

Commemorating 15 years of serving the public here, the Virginia Market has opened its new market and grocery store. The new building, located next door to the original store, is much larger, and has been arranged to serve the public more quickly and easily, and give them a much wider choice of delicious foods.

John E. Marts, Attorney at Law, 727 Penobscot Bldg., Detroit 26, Michigan.
No. 31,096

STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 8th day of July, 1947.

Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.

In the Matter of the Estate of Mary E. Utter, Deceased.

John E. Marts, Executor of said estate having filed in said Court a petition, praying for license to sell at private sale the interest of said estate in certain real estate therein described.

It is Ordered, That the 11th day of August, 1947 at nine o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, and that all persons interested in said estate appear before said Court, at said time and place, to show cause why a license to sell the interest of said estate in said real estate should not be granted:

It is Further Ordered, That public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, once in each week for three weeks consecutively, previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric a newspaper printed and circulated in said County.

ARTHUR E. MOORE,
Judge of Probate.

17

He Knows Which Side Is Buttered

People's Column

To the Editor:

I wish to express my appreciation for receiving The Eccentric each week. There are always several items of interest that keep me connected with "back home."

I also thought his old friends in Birmingham might like to know that the picture of the burning oil tanker, which appeared in The Eccentric on July 3rd, was taken by my brother, Daniel Robertson, who was graduated from Baldwin in 1931. He is now a free lance photographer in Wilmington, California.

MAVIS M. MAES
315 Park Ave.
Long Beach 14, Calif.

Oliver H. Kirk, Attorney, 207 Wabeek Bldg., Birmingham, Michigan.
No. 31,568

STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County on the 11th day of July, A. D., 1947.

Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.

In the Matter of the Estate of Daisy L. Brockway, Deceased.

Betty B. Matlock having filed in said court a petition praying that the administration of said estate be granted to the petitioner or to some other suitable person.

It is Ordered, That the 11th day of August, A. D., 1947 at nine o'clock in the forenoon, at said probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition.

It is Further Ordered, That public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order once each week for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

ARTHUR E. MOORE,
Judge of Probate.

17-18-19

Pat McDonald Plans To Week End at YWCA Camp Talahi

Pat McDonald, 1283 Buckingham, is among the 90 employed girls who will be spending this week end (August 2 and 3) at the YWCA's Camp Talahi.

High spot of the week end will be the Saturday night square dance. Swimming, fishing, boating, tennis and archery are also available with instruction by the Talahi staff for those who want it.

Each week campers select five of their numbers as a planning council to work with the staff in setting up special events of interest; hayrides, picnics, cookouts, and stunt nights.

Camp Talahi still has openings for week ends or longer periods during July and August, according to Anne Lindsay, camp director. Employed girls, 17 and up may register at Central Branch YWCA, 2230 Witherell. The camp is located on Lake Chelan near Brighton, 47 miles from Detroit.

All Deaf

The magistrate was deaf, according to a London paper, but certainly not deafer than the two men before him. The first man leaned forward.

"Sir," he exclaimed, "this man owes me a grocery bill amounting to 20 pounds and refuses to pay it!"

The second deaf man sprang up.

"That's a lie," he cried indignantly. "My dog didn't bite him."

There was a pause while the magistrate reviewed the situation, then he announced his decision.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I fully appreciate your feelings, but I can see no reason why you should not combine to support your mother."

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Shots at the beach are summer favorites. Your camera-wise shooter, however, is careful to keep grains of sand from getting in his camera.

SUMMER CAMERA CARE

THERE'S probably no handier place to store a camera when motoring than in the glove compartment of your car. And no worse place either. For on these warm summer days a glove compartment will grow hot. It may grow so hot, in fact, that both your film and camera are affected.

A far better idea is to keep your camera on the seat beside you. And keep it in its case. A case is not just a neat, nice looking device in which a camera is placed. It leaves your hands free when carrying your camera, and it serves to protect it from dust.

Keeping a camera clean is important in any season of the year. But it's particularly important in the summer time, when dust is in the air. So when you start on a week-end trip, it's a good idea to clean your lens with a piece of lens tissue or a bit of soft, clean linen. A drop or two of a reliable lens cleaner will cut any greasy dirt.

To clean the inside of your camera, use a soft camel's hair brush. And once your camera has been cleaned, try to keep it that way. As mentioned, a case will help a lot and so will a bit of everyday common sense. Don't, for example, go to the beach and drop your camera on the sand while you swim. That's just inviting trouble. If you must leave your camera on the beach leave it in its case and wet it on a towel or in a picnic basket—not where sand will reach it.

A bit of care of this sort will help insure you better summer pictures. So will another simple camera rule. This is: Always have your exposed film developed as quickly as possible after shooting. For while pictures have sometimes been obtained from films exposed years before development, it's best to have your films processed promptly.

—John van Gulder

Tonsillectomies in Polio Season Up to Physician

Although summer is popularly considered a favorable time for removal of children's infected tonsils or adenoids, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, through its local chapter, urges parents to seek the advice of their own personal physician on whether such operation during the polio season is advisable.

Scientific investigations carried out with March of Dimes funds indicate that there may be more of a predisposition to infantile paralysis infection as a result of tonsil and adenoid operations performed during the seasonal polio months—June through September.

Consequently, the National Foundation points out, parents should be guided by their own physician's advice in each individual case.

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