

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

This spring I watched, from day to day, the scander of bare trees as the smother gave birth to the first signs of bud life; then saw the bud swell with the color and pattern of the leaf... until, upon the entire tree was again showing the fact that within the plan of life was renewal of life... even for trees!

SEVENTIETH YEAR—NO. 7

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1947

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BRAND new offering—4 bedrooms, two bath home, in perfect condition, has library and powder room, fireplace in one bedroom, carpeting included, two car attached garage, lovely eating porch.

CHARMING three bedroom brick Colonial, living room 26 by 15, marble fireplace, Kelvinator home of 1939, tile kitchen, two-car garage, quick possession.

QUARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOR THE LARGE FAMILY. 7 bedrooms and 3 baths on 2nd floor, 7 large rooms on 1st floor, recreation room in basement. Lovely landscaped lot over 1/2 acre, glass enclosed swimming pool, many other features, all for only \$29,500.

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(USE ECCENTRIC WANT ADS FOR BEST RESULTS)

In Bloomfield Village



The easterly part of Bloomfield Village, near the Quarton School, is rightfully a much sought after residential location. Just outside the city limits in the low tax area one has here all city facilities at lesser cost and one of its finest schools within a very short walk. The attractive Colonial pictured above offers a larger family these conveniences at a much lower investment than may be found elsewhere.

First Floor—Center entrance Hall with graceful curving stair, Living Room with fireplace, large, cheerful Dining Room, wide Breakfast Room, bright Kitchen, comfortable, pine-paneled Library, Lavatory.

Second Floor—Four generous family Bedrooms and two nicely tiled Baths; fine Servant's Bedroom and Bath, servant's sitting room or child's playroom.

Mechanically this home is as fine as new. Heating, by gas, costs only \$225 and the annual taxes are but \$265. The basement is light and dry and the Recreation Room is over 30 feet long. Fine carpeting and most drapes are included in the price. If you need more room than your present accommodations don't fail to see this outstanding value today.

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Bits of Birmingham

Heartwarming incidents happen during many of the Birmingham drives, but notable among them were the two that occurred here during the current American Cancer Society campaign. Contribution of one family, who have suffered severely from a series of illnesses in the past year, was their \$10 board of Roosevelt—dine—and the contribution of one young eight-year-old lad was not money but time. He spent two days riding up and down the elevator in the Wabek Building; clutched in one hand was the contribution can, and in the other his small cuddly pouch.

Should anyone have an objection concerning the violation of the city's taxicab ordinance by any of the cabs operating in the city, the police department should be immediately informed about the violation so corrective measures may be taken. City Manager Don Egbert told this Wanderer this week. "We've got a city ordinance covering taxicab operation, and should anyone have a complaint about the way they were charged for a particular run, or have observed some violation by any driver, the person should contact our local police department," Egbert said.

Although Birmingham is near the source of the River Rouge, local residents during the recent "flood" had an opportunity to see how much water had accumulated between Birmingham and several miles northeast of here. But when the Rouge really went on a rampage, according to a release this week from the Michigan Conservation department, was at a point just above the Joy road (Detroit) bridge. Here, said the department, for the past 15 years the river averaged a flow of 91 cubic feet per second. On April 16 the flow at this point was prodigious—12,000 cubic feet per second, or 132 times normal and thousands of times this stream's minimum record flow of three second feet. Some estimate of the

amount of water that fell from the heavens during this period can be obtained by multiplying the Rouge figures by the other main Southern Michigan streams. It's a lot of water which got a lot of people and property very wet.

Michigan State Highway Department officials apparently have decided that the Woodward-long Lake intersection in Bloomfield Hills is a definite traffic hazard. Else how would one account for the additional two lights which have been placed there? North and southbound motorists, who seem to be the cause of most of the accidents, are now confronted with two lights as they approach the crossing. No excuses now for not seeing at least one of the lights.

A reminder to those persons who have been complaining about the rain these past few days: IT COULD BE snow, remember.

The California Chamber of Commerce can advertise all it wants to about the "sunny" weather on the Pacific Coast, but when, and if, it begins to claim the state as the birthplace of avocado ice cream, then this Wanderer never will go to California. That's right, avocado ice cream is being sold at California soda fountains. What's more, passion fruit, mango and guava are others slated for trial there. California can have 'em; just plain chocolate or vanilla still tastes the best.

For the information of those residents who are going to have the city put road oil on the streets in front of their homes this summer, the cost of road oil to the city has gone up more than two cents a gallon. Only one bid was received by the city when it asked for prices, and that was from the Standard Oil Co., who was low bidder last year. This year's price is 8.12 cents per gallon, while last year it was 6.03 cts. So when you go out to ask the neighbors to chip in for the road oiling, you'll have to get 33 per cent more

money. Just a reflection of these times—inflation, you know.

The three local women who served as the election board at Barnum Junior High School Monday during the special 6-mile election, were treated to a nice bit of neighborliness at nine o'clock that evening when Mrs. E. E. Palla, 159 E. Frank street, came in with coffee and doughnuts for the girls. It was a welcome bit of refreshment after a tiring day that began at 7 a. m. One of the girls on the board told this Wanderer that such was the custom many years ago, and she was glad to see it happen again after so many years of absence.

The city is going to study Chesterfield street, between Oak and Quarton road, to see just what sort of avenue should be made out of it. According to present plans, the street is laid out for an 80-foot boulevard north of Oak. A report will be made after all available contacts are made and facts have been obtained, say local city officials.

That alley in back of those stores at the corner of Chesterfield and West Maple is in for improvement along with the proposed paving of Chesterfield itself, this Wanderer has learned from city officials. When completed, the alley improvement will enable city rubbish trucks to move more easily get to the refuse that some citizens say has been piling up because of the deep mud which comes with the spring rains.

Merrill C. Adams, 516 Kensington National Bank, Monday night, the 55th member of the Rotary Club when he was inducted into the service organization by Oscar Peterson, club president. Many attempts have been made to convince customers to fool the operators into believing that the call was an emergency. Most of these attempts boomerang on the caller. For instance, this Wanderer this week was told of the local matron—let's call her Mrs.

Lindsey—who thought she'd phone her son who works in Detroit. According to our informant, Mrs. Lindsey was the talkative type, anyway, and finally decided she'd try to get a call through just to see if she could. Picking up the phone, she told the operator the call was an emergency and was given the Detroit number for which she had asked. She spent about 15 minutes talking to her son about the weather, the house and garden and other unrelated and unimportant subjects. Next day she figured that since the first call went through without any objection, that she'd try it again. She picked up the phone and asked the operator for the Detroit number. Replied the operator very sweetly, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Lindsey, but you talked entirely too long yesterday and used up your time. And besides, it wasn't an emergency, either." Click! Mrs. Lindsey didn't get the connection.

A second incident of this nature just related to this Wanderer concerned a local citizen whose phone rang for the first time in many days. He was being invited over to dinner to a friend's house. The friend was something like this: "Say Jim, how about you and the Mrs. coming over here to our place for a nice trout dinner? Jack Derby picked up a nice mess of them near Mt. Pleasant and we're going to have a little feed... Oh, this call, I just told 'em it was an emergency and they put it through... Now as I was saying, that dinner will be... And click! went here to our place for the operator cut the caller off. So our local friend has an invite to a trout dinner sometimes, just when he doesn't know. Unless the fish are packed in ice and the phone strike is over shortly, he'll probably never get that dinner, either.

That Rotary Club attendance contest held last month resulted in a draw, members of the two teams learned Monday noon at the club's weekly luncheon. As a matter of fact, it was revealed by Oscar Peterson, club president, that the actual attendance was 96.10 per cent. Then he shyly admitted that in April 1946, when there was no such contest, attendance was 96.20. That's one time a contest seemingly reversed the usual order of things.

Legion Post Host To 17th District

Charles Edwards Post No. 14 of Birmingham will be host Monday night, May 12 at 8:45 p. m. to more than 400 guests included in the 17th District, at initiation ceremonies, open to the public, in the Birmingham Community House.

High ranking officers of the 17th Legion District, as well as from the American Legion State department will be present at the initiation. It will be put on by the degree team of the Forty and Eight, Oakland County Vulture No. 811, under the direction of Captain Ernest Reinke of Royal Oak.

Department Commander Earl F. Ganschow of Saginaw will be guest speaker of the evening. Following the official initiation in the Community House, Legionnaires will gather at the American Legion Post Home, 266 S. Woodward, for a buffet supper.

Ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Lee Mohr and Miss Margaret Tewillager, will serve the refreshments.

While last year the Birmingham post played host to the 17th

District at installation of officers ceremonies, this is the first time that the Legion initiation ceremonies have been scheduled to take place in Birmingham.

Last Pierce PTA Meeting of School Year Is May 15

One week from tonight, Thursday, May 15, the Pierce School PTA will hold its final meeting of the school year at 8 o'clock in the school auditorium.

Miss Elly Cross, Pierce sixth-grade teacher retiring after 25 years service in the Birmingham school system, will be honored, and a special program is being arranged by program chairman Mrs. Russell Richardson.

Officers who will serve during the 1947-48 school year will be installed.

Highlights of the PTA state convention being held in Detroit this week, Wednesday through Friday at the Masonic Temple will be reported.

Refreshments will be in charge of Mrs. Wilbur Sears.

Natural color Irish linen is combined with brown calf to make new looking low heel sports gilles, oxfords and sling pumps.

Bloomfield Village—A most attractive recently built Brick and Frame Home. Liberal size Living Room and dining room, modern kitchen and screened-in porch. 3 bedrooms and 2 baths on second. This is an interesting home and we will be glad to show it to you at your convenience.

Remodeled brick and frame house in Quarton School district. Living room, den, dining room and kitchen on 1st, 3 bedrooms and modern bath on 2nd. Location walking distance to stores and Holy Name School. Prompt possession—Call today—it's worth seeing.

1942 Ranch Bungalow, 2 bedrooms, tile bath. Recreation room space, gas heat, fenced yard. We invite your inspection. Priced \$10,500.

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Lots of closet room, a small study or sewing room and a full attic answer the family's "put-away" problem. The heating is a superior installation. Games room with fireplace and beamed ceiling can be attractive.

June first delivery. \$27,500.



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