Very few people have gone through life without losing their tempers at some time or other. To prevent frequent recurrences of such "tantrums" is an objective which, finally, is worth more than great wealth. "He who conquers himself is greater than he who taketh a city."

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SEVENTIETH YEAR—NO. 28 — BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1947 — $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

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Bits of Birmingham

Mary Lou Chapman, young artist from Rochester, has opened a "Portrait studio" at 323 E. Maple. She is a graduate of Bennington College in Bennington, Vt., where she majored in art. Her experience includes art work for magazines, two museums and an artist's market, as well as work done in her own Rochester studio. She will feature portraits in pencil, pastels, water colors and old oils, and although adults will be welcomed, she expresses a strong preference to work with 'teenagers and children.

—o—

The person or persons who have been circulating the report that The Eccentric is going "daily" are a bit premature in their anticipation of such an event. Someday, we admit, The Eccentric hopes to become a daily newspaper. However, that change is in the unpredictable future. When The Eccentric goes semi-weekly, then local citizens can begin to wonder when it will become a daily. But don't hold your breath till it happens.

—o—

When Greyhound bus driver Peter Cherry of 846 Bennaville attempts to make a right or left hand turn in the future, he not only will look right or left, but he will also look DOWN! Last week Cherry thought he was clear to make a right hand turn into the Greyhound garage. He swung the bus toward the entrance only to hear a scraping noise, as if he were up against someone's fender. Investigation showed that George Dutton, 1249 Ruffner, had driven up to the right of the bus in one of those diminutive Crosleys, unnoticed by Cherry.

—o—

Marshall Fredericks, noted Birmingham sculptor, was paid a recent visit by a pair of mysterious persons who walked into his studio and began a close scrutiny of his quarters on Woodward avenue below 14 Mile road. Evidently a young married couple, the two brushed Frederick aside when he asked them if he could assist them. He tried several times to find out what they wanted but in each instance the young man said "No, just looking, thanks." Finally, as the two were about to leave, Fredericks heard the man say to no one in particular, "Well, I'm satisfied at last. I've been going past this place every day and I thought some cult held meetings here." Fredericks believes the young man was impressed by the unusual design of the building, as well as the original plaster cast which is recessed at the upper right corner of the building.

—o—

Bloomfield Hills residents are now enjoying a new community service—a lending library. The service, sponsored by St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, is housed in the home of Mrs. Martin Wendell. About 55 books, fiction and non-fiction, are now on hand with others being added from the proceeds of rentals and commissions on a magazine subscription service. Mrs. Wendell, whose home is on Tiverton road, has the library open from 1 to 5 p. m. each Tuesday and Friday, and by appointment any other day. "I feel we are able to do a real service to the residents," she said, "since we have no library here. I enjoy good books, and I want others to, also. So I shall be happy to serve them at any time if they care to call me."

—o—

Mrs. Carol Plumstead, assistant director of the Community House, was surprised to hear her brother, Sam, refer to her and his mother, Mrs. Nancy Hayes of 468 W. Frank, over a Detroit radio station last Friday around suppertime. Sam is a news commentator over a Los Angeles radio station, and he also transcribes a program, "Touchdown Tips," which he sells to other radio stations during the gridiron season. In last Friday's broadcast, he mentioned his sister and mother "in Birmingham" in connection with a comment concerning various Michigan football contests the following day. Needless to say, Mrs. Plumstead and her mother were pleased to hear themselves mentioned over the air—it showed Sam was making an effort to let them know he was thinking about them, even though the type of radio program was more or less impersonal.

—o—

City commissioners appeal to bound and determined that west-bound drivers on Maple shall not make left turns onto Pierce street. They have asked the DPW to paint "No Left Turn" markings on the pavement (and they are not painted yet) and have even suggested, should the paint not prevent the turns, of installing a blinking sign at the corner.

—o—

It was just the other day that a young girl—all of 11 years old—walked into one of the local women's wear stores and approached a salesgirl. "Do you have any size 30 brassieres?" the 11-year-old straightforwardly asked. "Why, no, we don't have any of them in stock right now," the clerk answered. "Well, do you have any size 28?" was the next question. "No, we don't have any that size either," said the clerk. "Can they be ordered?" The clerk assured the youngster that an order could be placed, but that it might take some time for the order to go through. "That's all right," replied the little girl, "I won't need it until next year, anyway."

—o—

As you all remember, Monday morning was anything but bright and cheerful. The walks and streets were wet from earlier showers, the sky was leaden and a dismal air hung over everything. The young lady said, "Not a very nice day, is it?" and the fellow-diner, without looking up from his plate of bacon and eggs replied, "Nope. But that's one nice thing about Michigan weather—if you don't like it, just stick around for half an hour—it'll change."

—o—

Wayne Mortimer is asking the Wanderer to invite all young men interested in playing volleyball to meet with this special interest group October 9 at the Quarton School. The group plays between the hours of 7 and 10 p. m. from fall until late spring. It is a Birmingham YMCA sponsored activity and all men residents of the community are eligible to join. Come prepared to play, equipped with gym suits and gym shoes, next Thursday, Wayne says.

—o—

Now and then the work of a Birmingham child receives recognition in one of the various children's magazines. The October issue of "Children's Activities," a national publication, has a bit of art work contributed by Darlene Kay Johnson, seven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson of 1487 Ruffner. The art work contributed by Darlene includes a house with a flower bed and a tree as well as a citizen standing in the front yard. Darlene submitted the work several months ago when she was six.

—o—

In the season beginning October 15, Birmingham pheasant hunters and their dogs will have to work through tangles of unusually heavy cover, the product of the unusually wet weeks of spring and early summer. State conservation department men say that in some of the heavy cover huntogs will find only half as many birds as were there a year ago—also in part a consequence of the wet weeks of spring. But in spite of the anticipated tough going and the reported scarcity of birds, local hunters will find some excuse to get away from business and out into the open for a tramp through the fields with their pet bird dogs.

—o—

George R. Averill, editor and publisher of The Eccentric, has been made an honorary member of the Birmingham Rotary Club, according to latest word from the board of directors. GRA is a charter member of the local club and served as its first president. In 1936-37 he was governor of the 153rd Rotary district. Because he finds it practically impossible to attend regularly any Rotary club near Lansing, the local board of directors made GRA an honorary member until his duties at Lansing are completed and he returns to Birmingham where he can become a "regular attender" again.

—o—

A policeman's lot is not a happy one, especially the one assigned to checking violations of parking meter time. He is a constant victim of persons who try to tell him "why" they should not have been given a ticket. Sometimes the situation becomes much more serious. Just last week Officer Richard Brown stood behind a car parked overtime, his foot on the bumper while he wrote out a parking violation. A woman came out of a store, approached Brown and tried to argue him out of writing her up. She was not successful and finally got into the driver's seat, started up the motor. Then, with Brown still behind the vehicle, she started to back up. Brown just had time to get out of the way or the woman would have run over him. The woman—from Pontiac — got the ticket but Brown hasn't yet filed a charge of reckless driving against her. He admits that he may not be so lenient should someone else try the same thing.

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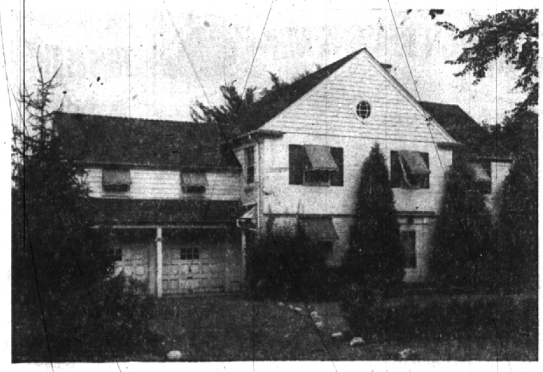

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