

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 21

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1948

\$2.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

Brook Briefs

1. Wanted: Imagination! Here's an older home in the older part of town ready for the right owner to fix it up. It's big and roomy with a first floor Bedroom and Lavatory and three tile Bedrooms plus full Bath on the second. Just right for a large single family or remodel it as an income two-family. Close to transportation and shops. Excellent value at \$8500 with only \$2900 down. Hurry!

2. This two-family on Piety Hill is an extremely well located income producer. Each apartment has two large Bedrooms and Bath, separate furnaces, really large rooms and a charming Colonial atmosphere. Only a step to the church, bus or shops and on a quiet tree lined secluded street. Only \$4500 buys it, with monthly payments of \$95. Buy this budget helper!

3. In Bloomfield Village: A superbly built brick and stone residence in spotless condition. Panelled Library, cool, shaded porch, five Bedrooms and three Baths. Recreation Room with fireplace, tree shaded car lot near Quorton School. Fine carpeting and a huge refrigerator included. You'll want to see this today.

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FOR POPULAR DEMAND

The house is planned with a bedroom and lavatory on the first floor and three bedrooms with two baths on second floor.

The 13x24 living room with fireplace is duplicated in the recreation room.

Additional features include: breakfast room, two car attached garage, oil forced hot air heat.

We will be pleased to make an appointment for you to see this desirable listing.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Excellent neighborhood, attractively landscaped, close to shops, transportation, schools.

This house has charming 18x21 living room with pine paneled fireplace, large screened and glassed porch, dining room, and kitchen with breakfast nook.

Spacious bedroom with lavatory on 1st. Two bedrooms, sewing room and tiled bath on second. Oil heat. Priced for quick sale at \$16,600.

BEST BUY ON WEBSTER

New Cape Cod, with gas fired, hot air heat, and early possession.

Call us for appointments to show these offerings

WALSH, JAMES & WASEY Co.

431 So. Woodward Ave.

Birmingham 4900



Bits of Birmingham

And here is the number one song on the Birmingham hit parade—"You Call Every Birdie Starling." Yaki! Yaki! Yaki!

Gene Hubbard is offering some man or boy, with a car, a wonderful six-day trip on a chartered boat through the beautiful waters around Isle Royale. If you can supply transportation for 12 duflie bags and 12 sleeping bags to Copper Harbor, better get in touch with Gene by calling him at Milford 20-F33. The trip will start on August 22, and return you to Birmingham on August 31—and can you think of a nicer way to spend a week than cruising around Isle Royale? We can't—we wish we were, a man!

We admit the red stuff in the thermometers around town stayed a great deal lower Thursday than has been doing for the past few weeks. However, we can't quite agree with one small boy seen walking down the street decked out in red wooly earmuffs.



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Congratulations to John H. Hennessy, of Berkeley, in being named King of the Berkeley Day celebration held there a short time ago. The little four-year old is the son of Mrs. Charles Bibb and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Hogan, former residents of Birmingham.

Happy birthday to the Boys with the Red Truck. The Birmingham Fire Department is celebrating its 35th anniversary tomorrow, and we may add that the Friday in August of 1913 was NOT an unlucky day, regardless of its being the 13th. Birmingham should be very proud of its firefighters. They not only do a splendid job when called on to put a fire out, but an equally splendid one in preventing fires in the city. Added to that are many other services rendered, some of which are done singly and some they are a nice lot of fellows.

Hide the mirrors, put the ladders away, search the lawn for a four leaf clover, lock up the black cat, don't spill any salt and polish up that lucky coin you carry—Friday is the 13th! It does seem strange that there are people who believe in this old superstition about nothing but bad luck on Friday the 13th, but thousands do. Some of course publicly scorn the idea, but are blamed carefully for what they do on that fateful day. Another group isn't even aware of the date, until they happen to think, on Saturday, that "yesterday was supposed to be bad luck." Whatever category you belong to—Good Luck, Neighbor.

Ames F. Owens of Bates street came into the office one day last week to show us a newspaper friend had sent him from Wales. It called the "Western Mail" and because of a newspaper shortage abroad, is only four pages. We noticed one item in the classified section that read "Don't worry if your wife takes your coupons. If you send your garments to us we will keep you looking smart." Also, we spotted a "Fifty Years Ago" paragraph (shades of the Eccentric's Happenings of Long Ago idea), which read, July 12, 1908, Alderman Carey had on the agenda for the Cardiff Town Council on Monday a resolution to add \$1000 pounds to the Mayor's salary. The Mayor, however, appealed to the alderman to with-

draw it, stating that he did not want anything done that would cause a fight between the office. (Note: The salary of the present Lord Mayor is 1,500 pounds.)

Mr. John Moorman, 367 Hamilton, received a cablegram from her family in New Castle, Ireland stating that her sister was very ill. This weekend Mrs. Moorman managed to put a call through to New Castle and was relieved to hear her sister was doing much better.

Lynn Allen, Oakland County Clerk, informed the Wanderer this week that registrations throughout the county are lagging and unless many get on the ball before the deadline on August 25, the vote in the September 14 primary election is going to be mighty slim. Fred M. Aigner, Secretary of State is said to be alarmed about similar conditions all over Michigan; in fact, he has considered soliciting Governor Sigler's aid in taking steps to encourage more people to register. How about you? Have you checked on your status lately?

One of the most difficult holes-in-one that this Wanderer has heard of, was negotiated by Fred Vandenberg of 21245 Southfield Rd., south of here, at Springdale Park last Sunday. It was on the 194 hole on a very big hole and anyone who is acquainted with it will take their hat off to Fred. The angle in question is that of a driver, and that is the club curved around the back about half of the front of the green, with a couple of big trees protecting it on the left. Just a terrific hole, and it is left and it was this area that Fred's ball passed through to find its way into the little hole on a very big green. J. J. Peters, P. M. Freeman and R. C. Cupph witnessed the feat. The Wanderer of the opinion that this is the first hole in one ever made on Springdale's number 3, and if anyone else has ever turned the trick we'd like to have him step into the office and tell us about it.

One of the girls who handles the phone at the Will Way Playhouse office reported that she was startled out of arranging tickets for that evening's performance and laughing. Curious (and who wouldn't be!), she started to use the word in hopes of finding the cause of such raucous enthusiasm. It was merely the "Sister Eileen" cast having fun with the Brazilian Navy episode. Sound carries far out there in the countryside and quiet, and the cast rehearsed outdoors. It must have been a noisy week or so for the actors because "Eileen" is full of happy-go-lucky bombilation and the actors enjoyed the rehearsal wholeheartedly.

Strange things happen, we grant you, and in the realm of Mother Nature they are pretty hard for mere humans to understand. We would really like to know what allied the beautiful orange and black butterflies we saw Tuesday morning. They were high in the air—about level with the second story windows, and spent a good share of their time flying backwards!

At the commission meeting Monday night, when the question of artificial ows had been thoroughly discussed, someone brought up the suggestion of planting trees on West Maple, to replace those which had been removed earlier this year. Som wit (?) promptly suggested that since imitation ows were becoming so plentiful in town it might be a good idea to put in a few imitation trees there.

Annual Fire Loss In State Reaches New High in 1947

Fire losses in Michigan reached an all-time high of \$25,193,822.94 in 1947, an increase of \$8,252,828.35 over the previous record of \$16,940,994.59 in 1946, according to the annual report released today by State Police Commissioner Donald S. Leonard in his capacity as state fire marshal.

Leonard said the new record could be attributed almost entirely to the increase in the value of property, which is substantiated by the fact that 48,163 fires occurred in 1947, or a reduction of 8,522 under the 56,685 fires of 1946.

Virtually all of the increase, or \$5,104,130.03, occurred in the loss on the contents and buildings other than dwellings, the total being of \$21,929,247.59 in 1947 compared with \$11,294,823.34 in 1946.

Losses on dwellings and contents showed a slight increase, the 1947 figure being \$8,468,534.10, or \$275,157.29 more than the 1946 total of \$8,193,376.81. Farm fire loss in 1947 amounted to \$2,848,364.47 which was \$146,669.37 less than in 1946, when it totalled \$2,511,695.10. Fewer fires occurred in 1947, the figure standing at 157 as compared with 173 in 1946. Included among the dead last year were three firemen, while none lost their lives in 1946.

Local Ball Team in Playoff Series

The Birmingham Merchants softball team will compete in the class "A" tournament at Pontiac in the State District playoffs. The games will be held at Beaudette Park. The Merchants have been representing Birmingham in the Southern Oakland County League, with games being played at 13 Mile and Woodward. They have competed against class "A" and Major teams throughout the season and finished in first place in their class "A" league.

In Pontiac they will compete with the winners of other class "A" leagues of this district in a two-game-knockout tournament. If they are successful there, they will continue play in the state finals, to be held in Lansing.

The Birmingham Merchants have been paced all season by their star pitcher Glen "Whimpy" Johnson, Howard Willie, the "George Vico of softball" on first base, and the excellent all around play and relief hurling of shortstop, Roger Reynolds. Excellent hitting by Russ Bruyn, George LaCharite and Maurice Gorman has made the team a strong contender for district honors.

The Merchants will play their last regular league game tonight against the Gordon Clothes team of Hazel Park. The game will start at 8:30 p.m. Playoff and exhibition games will continue for several weeks, however.

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Rivewood

Gracious English home in a setting of majestic oaks and elms.

Commodious living room, screened terrace, dining room, breakfast room and lavatory. Upstairs, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Maid's room and bath on third floor. Priced substantially below reproduction cost.

Dorchester, East

A delightful early American home on a broad avenue of beautiful shaded lawns.

Library, cherry dining room and terrace, dining room, sunny breakfast room and lavatory. Three bedrooms, 1 bath, an unfinished bath and a "roughed in" suite over attached garage on second floor. House and equipment in the best of condition.

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