

Summer Program Ends

By G. R. A.

Watching Maneuvers Board A Navy 'Plane Carrier'

A few weeks back I referred to an airplane carrier board of the U. S. Navy's aircraft carrier, while I was attending the 1948 Governors' Conference at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. On that occasion the carrier Saipan, 703, long, had been taken up to stage a demonstration of airplane take-offs and landings for the benefit of the several Governors and their parties.

So, one morning at nine o'clock, we steamed out of Portsmouth, to witness what we had been told would be the first such demonstration given by a group of non-military people. The Saipan is not the largest of the Navy's carriers, in fact, it is, however, the only carrier used by the Navy as a sort of floating laboratory where the Navy conducts most of its experiments for new types of aircraft, and also its development of new types.

All Have Folding Wings Our party spent most of its time on the flight deck of this 14 million dollar investment of the taxpayers' money. Approximately 40 airplanes, of several types, most of them of the new type, were on an officer on the island bridge of the Saipan; each airplane capable of being folded in wings, (thus allowing for more compact storing of them both on the deck and in the hangar), the latter being the best of its kind, and each pilot jockeying the plane to the starting place, he simultaneously unfolds the wings to flying position. The Saipan, capable of flying up to 40 miles per hour, (or about 36 knots), always heads into the wind when take-offs and landings are made, just as a pilot would do—natural or artificially made wind—that is, an engine that is less runway distance in taking off or landing.

As I presume most uninformed people think, was under the impression that most of the million dollar investment of the taxpayers' money, I soon learned better. I estimate that most of the planes cost only 350 feet of the deck's runway space available to them. By looking at the Saipan, you can see his engine to its near maximum, then releasing the brakes, the pilot would take off, and when reaching the forward end of the flight deck, easily begin his upturn.

On "Bombing Mission" The entire group of 40 planes took off and did a "bombing" mission in three hours, during which time they were presumed to be on a mission to bomb the island bridge, finally did return, before coming in for the landings, they made a "bombing" mission, and I can assure you that several of them appeared as though they were about to crash against the island bridge, they merely made that they were on an actual bombing mission, and they received an assortment of well aimed bombs.

When the propeller-driven planes had taken off, we were given a demonstration of four jet engines taking off, and they were placed in a catapult, one at a time when the pilot had his jets burning and they were launched into the air. More than three jets were used, and at 90 feet of catapult pull, the pilot was launched into the air, flying at a speed of 100 miles per hour in that brief space of time.

These jets looked beautiful, as they went "into the wild blue yonder", and were told that they landed with greater ease on the carrier than the conventional type plane.

Langs Interesting To many of us, the most interesting part of the maneuvers were the landings. Assume that you are aboard this 703-ft. carrier. Stretched across the deck is a cable from the bow to the stern of the ship, are five hydraulic cables, attached to hydraulic pistons, which are used to raise the flight deck; extending from the tail of each airplane is a thick steel cable, which is attached to the airplane is waved in by the landing signal officer, the plane glides to the deck, tail down, the cable is stretched, and the plane is being waved in by the L.S.O. And so it goes, until the planes are aboard.

Between the five cables and (See THIS & THAT, Page 2)

Troy Up. School Consolidation Plan Gains Easy Victory

By G. R. A.

Report of 8-Week Phase Given by Director Whitney

Birmingham's eight-week summer recreational program, ended last week Friday after a season filled with a myriad of special activities for the city's youth, Frank Whitney, recreational director, said this week.

Total attendance reached 16,476, Whitney reported, with the Bureau pool drawing an attendance of 5,831. Twenty-five all-city tournaments including such events as tennis, swimming, craft and handicraft, and other special contests—Whitney outlined the results of the 1948 summer program in a comprehensive report to the City Recreation board.

Here is a brief review of the activities conducted: Four playgrounds were in daily operation. Events sponsored were active and passive games, dramatics, and handicraft. A total of 5,681 boys and girls attended the summer program. Whitney outlined the results of the 1948 summer program in a comprehensive report to the City Recreation board.

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Shirley Hopkins, a tenth grader, was the honor of being the only participant to win a trophy. She won the city championship in tennis, ball, croquet, and roller skating.

Other Girl Champions The other girl champions for the summer were: Margaret Hanger in rope jumping, Audrey Brown in ping pong, Shirley Dubeiser in shuffleboard, Sally Harrigan in shuffleboard, Diana Tranel in hopscotch, and Laura Grithen in checkers.

Many Other Winners Mickey Plumstead gave an outstanding performance while winning the latter throwing event. Winners were too numerous to mention at this time for the kite, flag, doll, handicraft, boxing, miniature golf, swimming, tag and field, treasure hunt, bag and tag, and other events.

New tournaments introduced on the playgrounds this year were: miniature golf, tag, still life, walking, miniature golf, still life, and tag. The program was a success, and the city is looking forward to next year's program.

There's Bad News Today! Starlings to Replace Martins

By G. R. A.

Take heart, fair citizens—those purple martins (or are they starlings) will not be with you much longer.

This is the latest word from anti-startling and purple martin groups in the Municipal Building. Leland Gunn, director of public works, has announced that the purple martin is being replaced by the starling.

And then he came right back and announced that the purple martin is being replaced by the starling. He added a great big "I". "I", continued Gunn, "these martins are not replaced by starlings, the purple martin is being replaced by the starling."

Here's the situation: The purple martin is being replaced by the starling. The purple martin is being replaced by the starling. The purple martin is being replaced by the starling.

It appears the martins either travel slow or do not starlings, or else they can't stand to be around the same place as the starlings. So they get together by the thousands and finally light out for their own place.

Bears out Testimony But then the starlings mostly likely will make the same martin gartering points for the annual starling migration. And the noise and fuss starts all over again for the neighborhoods (or does it continue).

This testimony is borne out by the experiences of several Birmingham starting-martin haters, who over a period of years have written the antic of these two types of birds.

By a three to two vote, city commissioners Monday evening decided against the rezoning of a large triangular area bounded by the streets of Van Dusen, Hunter and Madison.

Commissioners Theron Van Dusen and Bruce G. Both were in favor of rezoning the area. The rezoning would allow for the construction of a new building on the site.

Bill Rogell Tells What He Believes Is Tigers' Trouble

By G. R. A.

Teachers' Rooms Still Needed

While local residents have been responding admirably to the school board's appeal for rooms for teachers during the 1948-49 school year, there are a number of teachers who have no accommodations. Superintendent Dwight B. Ireland said Tuesday.

"We are pleased with the response from last week, but we still need more rooming facilities," he stated. He urged all residents who have available rooms to contact the Board of Education office if they haven't already done so.

There's nothing wrong with the Detroit Tigers that a good coach, a new crop of fine outfielders wouldn't remedy. It is the opinion of Bill Rogell, former city councilman and noted Tiger shortstop, as expressed to Birmingham Post-Dispatch on their weekly Monday noon luncheon.

Stayed at Top "The Indians have stayed up at the top of the league for most of the season, and I see no reason why they shouldn't stay at that spot," Rogell, who retired after 20 years in professional baseball, said.

Two Best Pitchers Rogell believes the Detroit club has the best of Detroit pitcher and catcher. The game will be given it, the Tiger declared.

Right and Wrong Way "This is where good ball players are developed," he said. "At this point a good manager would take the youngsters aside and tell them the right and the wrong way to play ball."

Commission Vacates Special Assessment District for Alley For the first time since the city charter was adopted in 1933, a special assessment district has been vacated by the city commission.

100 Per Cent Representation After the Washington hearing was completed, city commissioners heard a real estate broker request the improvement of Haynes street, from East to the Porritt property, with curb, gutter and pavement.

No Time Limit Set by Mayor on Final Recommendation

By G. R. A.

Expect Maple Widening to Begin Shortly

Widening of West Maple, between Woodward and Bates streets, is expected to begin sometime next week. This was disclosed Tuesday by John B. Taylor, president of the Taylor Bros. Construction Co., which has been awarded the paving contract by the city commission.

Our schedule, as we have it at present, calls for us to start on the Maple widening sometime next week," Taylor stated. He explained that the company already is constructing the short piece of Lincoln paving, between Adams and Hunter, then East road, between East Maple and Yorkshire, comes next.

New Sidewalks Soon "What will bring us to the Maple-Pierce area," Taylor explained, "is the widening of four feet on each side, including the sidewalk area, from 15' to 17' on each side, and widening following several weeks of other construction which saw the widening of the sidewalk on the west side of the street, a new water main and new, larger gas pipe go in." According to Leland Gunn, director of public works, the city will remain for pedestrians after the widening of the sidewalk.

Only 11 feet of sidewalk will remain for pedestrians after the pavement is widened. The trees would be cut down, and the sidewalk would be widened to 17 feet on each side of the street.

Cost of upkeep in trimming branches would be too far beyond normal. The city commission approved Gunn's plan and indicated it would be a private thoroughfare, as a private company had to pay if it grew in a community.

While this is adequate for pedestrians, it is not adequate for cars. The city commission will have to consider the widening of Washington boulevard, a large group of residents has expressed interest in the widening of this street.

Complicated Maintenance Maintenance and repair of underground utilities are always complicated by the presence of trees; and trees planted in a very nearly impervious area would necessarily have a very large root growth in order to supply the trees with water, the PW director said.

All New Students Entering Baldwin Must Register Students who will be entering Baldwin high school for the first time this fall are asked to register there sometime this coming week. Principal Ross A. Wagner announced.