Personal experience has taught me this human fact: if you would seek to change the world, or some part of it, into a new order, you must ultimately appeal to YOUTH. For young people are not so crystalized in their ideas, nor have they property to protect, that prevents them trying new ideas.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

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THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Among other items relating to Christmas is the need to emphasize the spiritual importance, to human beings, of this great commemorative event. In the contemporary drift of mankind, upon the sea of materialism, one often finds it difficult to maintain the proper perspective upon the Nativity that he should; to observe Christmas time without renewed and deep thought upon its spiritual meaning and value. is like appraising everything in a garden of roses but the beauty and aroma of the rose.

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"Hasn't this been a warm and wonderful fall and early winter so far?", asked a friend early this week. "Yes,", I replied, "and isn't that condition proof that no political party can or should claim to have been responsible for the fine state of the weather?"

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Just why President Truman, (now that he's been re-elected) continues to make light of the inroads Communists have made in the federal government, is puzzling. Truman is, we are sure, in favor of preserving the fundamentals of the American way of life—no Communist ever is. It is to be hoped that Congress keeps on with its investigation of Communistic influence in the federal area of U. S. government; regardless of who occupies the White House, there is no room there for loose thinking regarding the danger to America from the Kremlin.

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Of course, it seems rather cruel to our north woods to observe the slaughter of Christmas trees every Yuletide season . . . why doesn't the State do something to prevent this?... questions like this come to many folks each holiday season. The State does endeavor to protect its spruce trees, but allows a certain amount of controlled cutting for the econimic value accruing to all parties concerned; much of the cutting is done privately, just as in the case of any commercial crop that is planted and harvested. While it is true that a much economic waste results from the annual Christmas tree business . . . well, there are plenty of other areas of human activity more wasteful, indeed!

—o—

It is being noted that in many lines of merchandise the prices either are remaining static, or slightly declining. There are so many artificial factors in today's economy that the old law of supply and demand doesn't get in much time to apply its principles. Government, by extending free aid to other countries, and by building up the military establishment, is more responsible for high prices than any other factor today; there are many who argue that this attitude is all right, while others claim that if American production were left more to domestic trade, the supply would catch up and then surpass the demand—resulting in lower prices. We live in a topsy-turvy era, with selfishness and lust for power still dominant in human thinking.

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Among numerous fundamental accomplishments of the expiring Sigler administration is that of maintaining law and order on picket lines at struck plants. As the Sigler side who handled such problems during the past two years, I can assure you that the Governor never hesitated to use State Police (and the National Guard was always ready, too) when violence threatened during strikes. Sigler never held personal partiality for either side; but he felt, very strongly, that the best way to preserve democracy during labor troubles was to maintain law and order. It is to be hoped that Gov.-Elect G. Mennen Williams continues the same attitude; if he doesn't then Michigan will take a fast slip backward insofar as getting and keeping industry is concerned.

Dolores Rigden Dies of Injuries

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon from the Manley Bailey funeral home for Dolores Rigden, 17, of 1380 Webster, who died in Pontiac General Hospital last Thursday from head injuries received the night of December 5 when struck by a car at Opdyke and Auburn roads, Troy township.

She was walking on Opdyke with a companion, Beulah Taylor, 15, of Pontiac when hit by a car driven by Milford L. Connell of Pontiac. Connell told police he did not see the girl until his car had hit her. He was not held by police.

Miss Rigden was born in Birmingham May 28, 1931, and spent her entire life here, where she attended local schools. She was the daughter of Charles Rigden of Pontiac and Mrs. Mary Rigden of Birmingham. Other survivors include a brother, Jack L. of Chicago and two sisters, Mrs. Ambrose J. Walsh of Birmingham and Mrs. William Suiter of Royal Oak.

Burial was in White Chapel cemetery.

Members of Institute Panel Are Named

January Meeting to Follow Pattern of Last Year's Event

Completed plans for the January 26 City Planning Institute will be reported tonight to the board of the Community Council by Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, general chairman of the Institute.

The City Planning Institute will follow closely the pattern of last year's crowded session on world trade when a dinner was followed by a talk and a panel discussion open to everybody.

Clair W. Ditchy, secretary of the Citizen's Housing and Planning Council of Detroit, will be the after-dinner speaker and will develop the theme of the urgent need for city planning and some of its underlying problems, with which every citizen should be familiar. Ditchy, a well known Detroit architect, is also secretary of the American Institute of Architects.

Famous Architect

The panel which will follow his talk, and be presided over by Earl C. Kelley of Wayne University, a past president of the Birmingham Community Council, will include Eliel Saarinen of the Cranbrook Academy of Art, world-famous architect and authority on the ills of cities, and their remedies. Saarinen is the author of "The City—Its Growth—Its Decay—Its Future", and "Search for Form", published this year.

Others taking part in the discussion of city planning and its significance for this area will be Colt Alee former city commissioner and member of the Birmingham recreation commission and Detroit lawyer; Edward D. Connor, Detroit councilman, and executive secretary of the Citizen's Housing and Planning Commission of Detroit, and Jerrold Loeb, Chicago architect who is the regional chairman on urban planning for the American Institute of Architects, and a visiting professor at the University of Michigan School of Architecture and Design.

Members of the Birmingham city planning commission will act as information sources for members of the panel. They have been invited to attend the Institute as a group and have accepted the invitation of the Community Council through their chairman, Mrs. Peter B. Loomis.

No admission will be charged for the after-dinner discussion meeting which the residents of the Birmingham area are urged to attend. Dinner reservations may be made at once at the Community House. Limited seating capacity makes early reservations advisable, according to Mrs. Quinn. Both dinner and panel discussion attendance at last year's institute taxed the capacity of the Community House.

Assisting Mrs. Quinn on plans for the Institute are Harry D. Hoey, program chairman; Mrs. Cleveland Walcutt, co-chairman; Blair Swartz, chairman of the group - participation committee; William T. Kennedy, chairman of the dinner ticket committee, Jack D. Andrews, co-chairman; Mrs. Matthew Cammarere, hospitality; Mrs. Herbert G. Wood, decorations; Paul D. Carter, chairman of physical arrangements, assisted by Malcolm A. Tindall, and Mrs. Lee A White, publicity, assisted by Mrs. Charles N. Blunt.

A Hospital Christmas for Kathie Eynon, 5, Automobile Victim

Little Kathie Eynon will spend Christmas in Ford Hospital, her leg in a traction splint.

Kathie, 5, was playing with two other children last Tuesday afternoon at the rear of an oil truck which was making a delivery near her home. Suddenly she darted into the street, directly into the path of a car driven by Miss Mary Frances Corbet, a neighbor. Miss Corbet did not see the child until the car had struck her, she told police.

The little girl is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Eynon, 539 Half Moon drive, Bloomfield Hills.

Walter Morgan Heads Local Exchange Club

Walter Morgan was elected president of the Birmingham Exchange Club at its annual meeting held in the Community House Tuesday noon. He will succeed Lloyd Dean.

Other officers elected include W. Carlton Scott, vice-president and Henry Seltzer, secretary-treasurer. Members named to the board of control are Ralph Wilson, Robert Clark, Laurence Hetzel, Stanley Bailey, Howard Johnson and Frederic Mock.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, PHONE B'HAM 1-0788.

Holy Name School Is Presented With Safety Award

Great Lakes Camera Photo

Police Chief Ralph Moxley and Rev. David Duncan are shown displaying the Detroit Times Green Safety Pennant to the children of Holy Name School. The award was made last week for the excellent record which the school has established in safety during the past three years. Jack Bogan (standing, left) was named "Safety Patrol Boy of the Week" as recognition of his exceptionally good work in tending school crossings.

Speaker Calls for Action to Back Up Foreign Policy

The United States, in dealing with the Russian government, must back up what it says with action firm enough to support its remarks, S. L. A. Marshall, military analyst and editorial writer for The Detroit News, declared before Birmingham Rotarians at their Monday noon luncheon.

He criticized both the U.S. government and the American people for letting the U.S.-Russian situation develop to today's critical point.

"Half the American people believe we are getting too firm with Russia and should perhaps give her some concessions. The other half believe Stalin is an out-and-out stinker and we should really get tough," Marshall emphasized.

Won't Begin to Pay Costs

"Then the federal government comes along and decides we will stay in Berlin at all costs—even including war—then fails to back up these words with a military program that would really mean something to Stalin and his cohorts. The President's statement that 15 billion dollars is all that can be afforded for armament next year is a weakening of our foreign military program and Russia knows it. That sum won't even begin to pay for the defenses we must have if we are going to halt Russian aggression."

It's high time the American people decided just how tough they want this country to get with Russia, stated Marshall. A colonel in the Army reserve, he is the Army's chief historian.

"The public doesn't realize the fact that unless they decide, we won't have any foreign program. We get wound up in discussions over tangential questions rather than consideration of basic matters," the speaker declared.

Russia On War Standard

An instance of this is current arguments on why the U. S. permitted itself to get caught in the Berlin trap, rather than recognition of the fact and an attempt to decide what we shall do now that we are caught there, Marshall said.

"We don't know just how much war material Russia has, but we do know that certain Russian plants, since the end of the war, haven't for one second halted production of certain war instruments," he pointed out.

U.S. resolution slips and begins to fade, "and there is no way under the sun that America can come through its present situation without its willingness to start mobilizing its forces, its willingness to tighten its belt for war economy. We can't have all this and heaven, too," Marshall stated.

Ice Cream Only to Be Sold at New Hunter Stand

City commissioners—and local residents—were assured this week that the small building now under construction on the east side of Hunter Blvd., between Maple and Oakland, "is no hotdog stand."

Mrs. Stella Fisher, 546 Ridgedale, who has rented the small property tracts to two young men, declared this week that only ice cream will be dispensed from it.

"These men are going to manufacture a new kind of ice cream never before sold in Michigan, and are going to use that building for retail sales," Mrs. Fisher stated. "They may sell a few cones and sundaes, but these will have to be taken out to be eaten."

Maples Open Cage Season Today Against Hamtramck, One of Best Teams in State

By Pete Hartsuff

Opening the 1948 basketball season at the Eastern Michigan league invitational meet in Mt. Clemens today and tomorrow the Maple cagers face a long, tough schedule against practically all class A competition.

Birmingham's first game at the league invitational is at five o'clock this afternoon with Hamtramck, reputed to be one of the best teams in the state. If the Maples get by Hamtramck, they will meet the winner of the Ferndale-Port Huron match Friday.

27 On Maple Squad

There are 27 boys working out on the squad now including the nine returning lettermen: Mac Booth, Bill Bowney, Bob Folin, Dick Halpin, Clay Joyce, Duke Layland, Bob Littleson, Dick Murray, and Pat Wall.

Other squad members are Bud Boynton, Walter Bodle, Colin Campbell, Gordon Crawford, Sandy Gruber, Bob Hardy, Lucius Jackson, Rollie McGinnis, Ken Mac Queen, Keith McIntire, Tom Nalle, Charles Olin, Paul Phillips, Pete Plumstead, Dick Shallberg, Charley Thomas, and Bill Wilkinson.

Following the Eastern Michigan league invitational at Mt. Clemens today through Saturday, the Maples meet Royal Oak on the home floor at seven o'clock next Tuesday.

Fine Coaching Record

Coaching the cagers again this year is Lloyd A. Cooper who has produced many championship teams and has won 53 contests and lost 29 against practically all class A competition while coaching here.

Ticket prices for the eight home games are $5.92 for season reserved seats; 40 cents for students pre-sale, 50 cents for general admission, and 25 cents for children.

Game Schedule

The schedule following the tournament is:

Dec. 21	Royal Oak
Dec. 30	Alumni
Jan. 4	Flint Beecher
Jan. 7	Ferndale
Jan. 11	at Mt. Clemens
Jan. 14	Hazel Park
Jan. 21	Port Huron
Jan. 28	East Detroit
Feb. 4	at Ferndale
Feb. 8	Mt. Clemens
Feb. 11	at Hazel Park
Feb. 18	at Hazel Park
Feb. 22	(tentative) at Redford
Feb. 25	at East Detroit
Mar. 3-5—6:15 p.m.	District at Ferndale
Mar. 10-12—6:15 p.m.	Regionals at Ferndale
Mar. 16-19—6:15 p.m.	State at East Lansing

(All games start at 7 p.m. except where indicated)

Will Spend $1,750 on Additional Police Facilities

Approved Monday night by the city commission was a $1,750 appropriation for expansion of police department facilities. A new clerk will be added to the department to permit uniformed personnel, who have been assisting with the work of the regular clerk, to perform regular enforcement duties.

Three hundred fifty dollars will be spent on a new camera and photo equipment, and $500 on additional furniture and files. A fire extinguisher will be added to each squad car, and $50 worth of new traffic forms will be purchased.

These additions were recommended by Daniel G. Reynolds, assistant field service director for the International Association of Chiefs of Police, who has been conducting a training school for police officers of several Southern Oakland county communities in an effort to obtain more uniform traffic enforcement.

Reynolds also recommended the addition of three more officers and three squad cars to the department. City Manager Donald C. Egbert said that the city at the present time was not in a position to provide more officers or cars, but that this matter would be taken under consideration in adopting next year's budget.

City to Share in $225,000 Fund

Birmingham is one of 19 taxing units which will share in a $225,000 fund recovered from the State of Michigan as a result of litigation against the state in a case involving lands exchanged by the state land office Board for the Cadillac Square Building in Detroit.

Birmingham's cut will be $5,948.63, attorneys representing the city have informed the city commission.

Christmas Vacation

Birmingham school district's 3,168 students will start their Christmas vacation at the school day, Wednesday, Dec. 22. Classes will resume the morning of Jan. 3.

C of C Advisor

Harry A. Lintz

Directors of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, together with several other local organizational representatives, will meet tonight with Harry A. Lintz, national offairs advisor for the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, at a 6 o'clock dinner at the Community House.

Important issues before the Congress and which seriously affect American economy are to be discussed.

Lintz has had considerable public administration experience during the past 25 years. Before joining the USCC, he taught political and social science at the University of Denver. He holds two degrees from the University of Southern California where his training was largely in the field of governmental affairs.

Most Stores Now Open Evenings Until Dec. 24

If local Christmas shoppers want to do their purchasing after supper between now and December 25, they are going to have to learn by experience whether the particular store they want to visit is open that evening or not.

A majority of Birmingham stores, Chamber of Commerce Manager Charles Mortensen said, will be open evenings until 9 o'clock until Christmas.

"There is no common pattern that merchants will follow in regard to 'late hours,' he said. This lack of uniformity extends even to the same kinds of businesses."

Agree on Two Points

Some business places began staying open evenings early last week. Others have indicated to Mortensen that they will not begin staying open late until next Monday.

"And a few say they will not be open any evening," he stated.

Two points have been agreed upon: they will be open Wednesday afternoons until Christmas, and will close at regular hours Christmas Eve and stay closed Christmas Day.

"I presume most drug stores, however, will have special hours on Christmas Day for emergency errands," Mortensen said.

Simultaneous Crashes Keep Policemen Busy

Two accidents at 2:20 Monday afternoon gave Bloomfield Hills police a busy time for a few minutes. No injuries were reported.

One accident involved two cars, and resulted only in minor scratches and bumps to the vehicles.

In the second, Michael Izzo of Saginaw escaped serious injury when the tractor-trailer he was driving jack-knifed as he attempted to stop for the light at Woodward and Long Lake road. The truck skidded on the wet pavement, the cab crashing into a tree. Police said the tree prevented the truck from tipping, causing a more serious accident and probable injury to the driver.

Last Rites Held For Sgt. Joseph C. Herr

City officials and members of the Bloomfield Hills police department attended the funeral Monday for Sgt. Joseph C. Herr, who died Dec. 8, in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital following a heart attack.

Sgt. Herr joined the department in 1937, and last month was advanced from patrolman to sergeant, after 11 years of excellent service.

A resident of Auburn Heights, he is survived by his wife, two daughters and eight sons. Burial was made in Oak Hill cemetery.

Women Convicted Of Larceny Charge Here

Mrs. Lucille Usler of Royal Oak, and her mother, Mrs. Rose Madonia of Hazel Park each paid fines of $25 and $10 court costs last week rather than accept the 10-day jail sentence offered as an alternative by Judge John J. Gafill.

The women were arrested Monday, Dec. 6 on the complaint of a local merchant who charged them with larceny. Merchandise found in their possession, according to the police, included a dress and blouse.

New Hospital Will Integrate 2 Other Plans

Previous proposals that would have meant two hospitals for the Birmingham area would be consolidated into one with the construction of a new 200-bed structure with the aid of monies obtained through the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund, it was announced this week.

James W. Webber, Jr., fund president, said Sunday that features originally intended for the Bloomfield Hills Medical Center and Woodward General Hospital are expected to be incorporated in plans for the new hospital.

Funds already in hand or committed for the two previous projects will be used to supplement the $3,500,000 fund allocation. This $3,500,000 is the largest amount to be allocated to a single project of the 14 included in the fund.

A total of $19,000,000 would be raised in a single drive to provide four new hospitals in the Greater Detroit area, plus additions to 10 existing hospitals. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, would be one of those enlarged by addition of a $650,000 nurses home which would release to patients 65 more beds.

Better Distribution

The fund's master plan is aimed at bringing about a more logical and more equitable distribution of hospital facilities throughout Greater Detroit. It would supply more than 1,500 additional beds urgently needed for the use of patients in the Wayne-Oakland-Macomb area.

Exact location of the Oakland hospital has not been revealed. It reportedly will not be as far north as the proposed Bloomfield Medical Center nor as far south as the proposed Woodward General Hospital. The Bloomfield facilities would have gone up on a 60-acre site at Adams and Square Lake roads, donated in December 1946, by the Walter O. Briggs and Walter O. Briggs, Jr., families. The 105-acre Woodward site is just west of Woodward, between 13 Mile road and Webster street.

Agree With Plan

Preliminary contacts with spokesmen from both groups indicate they each are favorable to the single, new hospital proposed through the Hospital Fund.

As of December 26, 1946, donations or pledges to the Bloomfield project amounted to $500,000 of the estimated cost of the $2,000,000 to $2,500,000 structure which would have provided 175 beds. No recent figure for contributions could be obtained.

The Woodward General would have added 300 beds for use of residents of this area, and was estimated to cost $3,000,000. The South Oakland County Hospital Authority this week said pledges amounted to $754,000, while cash already donated was $475,000.

Up-to-Date Facilities

The communities of Birmingham, Berkley, Clawson, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Royal Oak, plus Royal Oakand Troy townships, comprise the South Oakland Authority area.

Webber described plans for the new Oakland hospital as including complete and up-to-date facilities for the care of medical and surgical patients as well as departments for maternity, emergency and pediatric care.

A single, federated campaign will be conducted through the summer of 1950 to obtain the $19,720,000 necessary to finance the program.

Webber's report on increased facilities planned for this area was made as the fund executive committee approved recommendations submitted by an admissions and allocations committee which, under the chairmanship of William J. Norton, developed the community - wide program for integrated hospital expansion.

3 Other New Hospitals

Besides the Oakland unit, three other new hospitals would be established: a 200-bed general hospital in western Wayne county, $3,000,000; Jewish Hospital, with 200 beds, in northwestern Detroit, $2,500,000; and St. John Hospital (200 beds) on Detroit's east side, $2,000,000.

Existing hospitals, in addition to St. Joseph's, to be expanded, and their respective allocations, are: Childrens' ($750,000); Cottage ($750,000); Detroit Osteopathic ($200,000); Florence Crittenton ($570,000); Grace Northwestern ($1,250,000); Harper ($500,000); Mt. Carmel Mercy ($1,000,000); Providence ($550,000), and Woman's ($1,500,000).

Total construction cost of the 14 projects is estimated at $23,000,000, of which approximately $8,000,000 is on hand as the result of campaigns previously conducted by individual participating hospitals, or anticipated from other sources.

Norton stressed the commit-

(See HOSPITAL, Page 2)

Bell Asks for $20 Million Rate Increase

Propose Immediate Raise to Meet 'Urgent Expenses'

Michigan Bell Telephone Company announced Tuesday it will ask the Public Service Commission on Dec. 29 for permission to raise telephone rates an average of 17 per cent.

The additional revenues being sought by the company would total $20,000,000. Only $12,400,000, however, would be available to the company after taxes.

Emphasizing the serious ness with which Michigan Bell views its financial situation, the company will ask for $10,000,000 of the amount it needs as "immediate relief to meet increased payroll costs and other urgent expenses."

Walter B. Fauser, manager for the company of the Birmingham-West Bloomfield area said the application would cover two main items: (1) the amounts requested in the recent rate proceedings but ruled out because of legal adverising requirements and (2) recent wage boosts and other increased costs.

Company Costs Are Up

The increase would be applied to virtually every type of service and to every exchange in order to spread it out as equitably as possible for all customers, according to Fauser.

In accordance with the recommendation of a fact-finding panel appointed by the Governor, Michigan Bell has offered its employees "third round" wage boosts of $7,000,000 annually. In addition, the cost of materials and equipment, said Fauser, "have increased for the telephone company just as rapidly as for all other companies."

Michigan Bell will propose immediate raises of 25 cents per month for all residence lines, 75 cents for private branch exchange trunks, 60 cents for semi-public lines, 50 cents for all other business lines, and $1.50 for service connection charges.

Rates for long-distance calls within the state also would be raised immediately. Station-to-station messages would be increased 5 to 15 cents, depending upon distance. Person - to - person rates would be upped from 35 to 40 per cent above station rates. Sunday and night discounts on all calls would be reduced from 35 to 20 per cent less than day rates.

Fauser said further increases in long-distance rates, and service connection charges were not contemplated at this time.

Exchange rates, however, would be further boosted when and if the additional rates are approved by the Commission.

The local services to be affected by the additional boost, and the amount of both increases, are:

Residence Lines

Residence lines (including both immediate and additional increases) at Birmingham and West Bloomfield) (Longacre)—individual, local area, 75c extended area, $1.00; two-party, local area, 50c, extended area, $1.00.

Business lines (including both immediate and additional increases)—individual, $1.00; semi-public, at $3.00 monthly charge but a reduction of $1.50 in the monthly guarantee.

These rates are based on schedules currently in effect and do not include any increase which may result from further enlarging the extended calling area.

An optional extended area business service will also be intro-

(See PHONE RATES, Page 2)

LETTERS TO SANTA from Quarton School children appear this week on Pages 4 and 5, Part 4.