

A Free, Responsible and Aggressive Press is Democracy's First Line of Defense

Medical Habits of Citizens Aid Work of Health Dept.

By George Wm. Averill

Birmingham is a pretty self-sufficient community, maintaining its own stores, restaurants, recreational centers and areas, water supply, sewage disposal, and other factors necessary for satisfactory community life.

Due to Birmingham's type of population and economy, most of the social problems, particularly that which concerns public health, found in most communities are pretty well taken care of on an individual basis.

Responsible for the administration, direction and coordination of the city's public health program lies in the health officer. He also must provide whatever professional medical services the program has to offer.

Yet there are specific public health problems which have increased in recent years in proportion to the population increase in this city.

This article will outline the major duties and responsibilities of the health department. The other city agencies will be dealt with in later special articles.

Home visits to teach disease prevention, principles of nutrition, mental hygiene and child development.

The second city nurse's work closely parallels that of the supervisor, except the former exercises no administrative duties.

The sanitary inspector is concerned with the supervision of weights and measures in the various business establishments. He checks unsatisfactory methods of handling food and milk samples.

Next Week: Birmingham's Fire Department.

'Can They Deliver the Goods?'



Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO July 29, 1898

Local residents were somewhat awed Thursday evening when about 30 young people came out from Detroit for a party at Liberty Hall.

The hill on Maple avenue is in bad condition. Teamsters going to and from the mill are voicing their complaints as well as others hauling stones, lumber, etc.

Harry Staley is expecting his brother and a party of friends to arrive here tomorrow from Toledo. The people are traveling by bicycle from Toledo to Milford.

My! It keeps them bustling over the city during the noon hour for their boarders are legion.

20 YEARS AGO August 2, 1928

The Detroit Zoo, at Ten Mile and Woodward, opened its gates yesterday to admit about 40,000 visitors.

The Birmingham Lions' Club erected their club insignia at the village limits of West Maple last Wednesday, with fitting ceremonies.

High School graduates of the past two years may apply for scholarships at the University of Michigan.

Hunters traveling north from Birmingham this year will be pleased to learn that the day's bag of pheasants has been raised from six to eight birds.

More Benefits From New Health Department Plan

A plan for the creation of a Southern Oakland County Health Unit, operating under the county health commissioner and offering increased health facilities to the City of Birmingham, as well as several other municipalities in this area, was endorsed last week by Birmingham city commissioners.

The proposal would establish a full-time health director for the southern portion of the county to carry on, with an adequate staff of nurses and technicians, a health program which would afford much greater benefits to the residents in the participating area.

Like several other communities, Birmingham presently has a health officer who must perform his city responsibilities in conjunction with his private medical practice. There are no laboratory facilities easily available. The proposed plan would provide a full-time director, adequate staff help, and a laboratory.

Cooperating in the plan would be, besides Birmingham, Royal Oak, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Berkley, Clawson, Pleasant Ridge, Huntington Woods and Oak Park.

The Birmingham health department has been performing an excellent job with the time and limited personnel it has. But Dr. W. Lloyd Kemp, the city health officer, realizes the added benefits which would become available to the city should the proposed plan be adopted.

To obtain its operating capital on a charge of an estimated \$1.27 per person in the area served, this is only slightly more than the amount Birmingham residents are now paying for their own city department.

Thus our city officials recognize that concentration of effort and facilities, with adequate personnel, will be of more benefit to our local community principally through the broadening of health activities and the acquisition of proper laboratory equipment.

Economy or Atmosphere?

No one gets something for nothing, even "village atmosphere." In the long run, it costs every penny of money to keep it.

Birmingham has for many years enjoyed a particular, possibly indefinable "something" which has made it the most desirable of Detroit's suburbs. Call this "village atmosphere", if you will, for lack of any other phrase to describe it.

Certainly that peculiar, attractive quality should be maintained here as much as possible. However, there are certain village characteristics which even Birmingham must surrender if its citizens are to get the most for their tax dollar.

We can't have scattered country schoolhouses; we've got to have large, efficient, fully equipped school buildings. We must dispose of sanitary wastes through a disposal plant. We have to have a modernly equipped, paid fire department. These

are only several "village" aspects which the residents of Birmingham have sacrificed in the past for more efficient present operation.

For the past couple of years a number of persons have been vigorously protesting the city commission's attempt to have curbs, gutters and hard surfaces installed on city residential streets. This action, the claim has been, is "destroying more of Birmingham's attractiveness, its village atmosphere."

Yes, it's true: gravel and dirt streets ARE characteristic of a village. But the entirely volunteer fire department gave way to modernization for better economy and fire protection. The sewage disposal plant was erected to protect public health. Our schools were consolidated, brought up-to-date so our children could be provided with better, fuller educations.

These moves were but sacrifices of atmosphere to economy.

So it is with the improvement of city streets.

City commissioners and other city officials have, for two years, repeatedly stated that more than \$20,000 a year of the taxpayer's money has literally been going down the sewers. It costs at least this amount to clean road gravel out of them each year.

Quite a bit of this road gravel is carried through the sewers right to the disposal plant where it seriously damages or destroys valuable, expensive machinery. This has caused so much concern at the Municipal Building that the city now must plan on erecting a \$250,000 grit chamber to prevent gravel from getting mixed up in the equipment.

Our city officials, who must spend the taxpayer's dollar, want to do it wisely, economically.

If the residents, on the other hand, want dirt and gravel streets they must be prepared to stand the expense of maintaining those same streets, together with the evils that accompany them.

To continue to have "village atmosphere", we must sacrifice economy. To gain economy, we must sacrifice to a certain extent the "village atmosphere."

The choice lies with the citizen and his pocketbook.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 723 1/2 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11 11 and 18

Editor and Publisher: GEORGE W. AVERILL. Business Manager: GEORGE W. AVERILL. Managing Editor: HAROLD P. BURGER. Advertising Manager: DAVID EMMONS CUMMINGS

Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Post Office at Birmingham, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Rates: (In Oakland County) One Year \$2.50, Six Months \$1.50, Three Months \$1.00. (Outside Oakland County) One Year \$3.00, Six Months \$2.00, Three Months \$1.50.

The Eccentric is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, and University Press Club.

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief, condensed material providing it has news value and space is available. Contributions are usually edited superior so that they conform to general newspaper standards. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

BIRMINGHAM MOVERS. MOVING • STORAGE • CRATING. 277 PIERCE ST. PHONE 1343. BENDIX BRAKES. STOP HERE SO YOU CAN STOP ANYWHERE. We are authorized Bendix Brake dealers which means you get the best in materials. Our experienced mechanics assure you of the finest workmanship, too. It Pays to Shop for Brake Service GET OUR PRICE. GENERAL AUTO SERVICE. Erich (Dutch) Kurik, Oliver Carver. WOODWARD AT FOREST. PHONE 336.

FRIENDLY BANK. WHEN YOU PAY BY CHECK YOU MAY SAVE ON TAXES. Your check book helps greatly in the task of filling out your Income Tax return. It's the best advantage. It forms an accurate record of deductible contributions, taxes, medical costs, interest—and your cancelled checks are proof of payment. Day in and day out, a checking account saves time and trouble. And here at your friendly bank, a small deposit is all you need to open a pay-as-you-go checking account. WABEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT. BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEK BUILDING.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

With a backlighted shot such as this, the use of a flash bulb to supplement the outdoor lighting helps brighten the shadows on subject's face. Flash in Daylight. MORE and more people seem to be curious concerning flash photography outdoors, inquiring into the why and when of using flash in sunlight. I suspect their interest stems from two reasons. First, they've undoubtedly noticed that press photographers often use flash this way. And second, more and more cameras today are equipped with built-in flash synchronization. Even box-type cameras.

The reason for using flash outdoors in daylight, of course, is to brighten the shadow areas when picturing people. Suppose, for example, you're shooting a girl wearing a wide-brimmed hat. Flash will help you, for it will brighten the area normally shaded by the hat brim. Similarly it may be of use when you are picturing a baby in his carriage. The light from the bulb will reach right in under the carriage top.

However, it's wise to remember two things when making shots of this sort. You must work at fairly close range, say five to ten feet,

Yosemite Dust Proofing

Notice is hereby given that Special Assessment Roll No. 215, heretofore made by the assessor for the purpose of defraying the cost of construction of a temporary asphaltic, dust proof oil surface, to be maintained by the City for a period of five years, on Yosemite from Adams to Adams, is now on file in my office for public inspection.

Notice is also hereby given that the Commission of the City of Birmingham will meet in the Commission Room in the Municipal Building in said City on Monday, the 2nd day of August, 1948, at 2 P.M. to review said assessment, at which time and place opportunity will be given to all persons interested to be heard. IRENE E. HANLEY, City Clerk.

Notice is hereby given that Special Assessment Roll No. 216, heretofore made by the assessor for the purpose of defraying the cost of construction of a temporary asphaltic, dust proof oil surface, to be maintained by the City for a period of five years, on East Broadway from Elm to St. Andrews, Dorchester from Elm to St. Andrews, Foster from Elm to St. Andrews, and Edensborough from Buckhannon to Dorchester, is now on file in my office for public inspection.

Notice is also hereby given that the Commission of the City of Birmingham will meet in the Commission Room in the Municipal Building in said City on Monday, the 2nd day of August, 1948, at 2 P.M. to review said assessment, at which time and place opportunity will be given to all persons interested to be heard. IRENE E. HANLEY, City Clerk.

RESTAURANT OPERATION SCHEDULE. So You'll Find Them Open When You Go to Your FAVORITE EATING PLACES. Knowing that you do not want to waste time, the restaurants listed in this advertisement are letting you know what days they are closed and what hours of other days they will be open to serve you. Check this list carefully when you plan your dinner engagements.

CORNING'S EL PATIO. WOODWARD AVENUE AT COOLIDGE HIGHWAY. Near Birmingham. SEA-SHORE DINNERS. OPEN WEDNESDAY EVENINGS ALL DAY SUNDAYS. PHONE ROYAL OAK 9722. FOX AND HOUNDS INN. JOHN INGELSON, Proprietor. Birmingham Hills. Woodward at Long Lake Rd. SERVING DINNERS. Sunday—1:30 until 9:30 p. m. Week Days—4:30 until 11:00 p. m. Monday—Closed. Fine Liquors—Good Food—Phone B'ham 3290.

HOME PLANNERS. Consult with us if you are contemplating improvements or additions to your home. We'll help you with sound advice... tell you how to go about it at a minimum cost and we'll supply you with the finest building materials. STOP IN AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. LAWSON & SON. 484 Forest. BUILDERS SUPPLIES. Phone 111.

BROOKS COFFEE CLUB. FOR MEMBERS ONLY. Noon to 7:30. 10 to Midnight. Holidays, 7:30 to Midnight. CLOSED TUESDAYS. MINTS ICE CREAM CO. 1365 S. Woodward, Birmingham. Week Days 11 A.M. to 8 P.M. Including Saturdays. CLOSED ON SUNDAYS.