*Music is a soothing guardian of the soul o' you, Sir Man or Lady Maid! Acquaint thah thyself with the harmony of song and bring to thy senses a thrill, and to thy soul a rapture!*

# The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 14—20 PAGES BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1948 $2.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

## THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

**From A Governor's Conference To The Republican Convention**

PHILADELPHIA, June 21 — Politics! Politics! Politics! ! That is what I have been up to my neck in since arriving in this "City of Brotherly Love" Friday evening of last week. You know, of course, that Philadelphia this week is the scene of the National Republican Convention, from where it is confidently expected that our country's next President will emerge; today marked the opening of that Convention which may last until Friday, or even Saturday of this week.

Likewise, it could be over by the time you read these lines—for such are the uncertainties of politics, depending upon the skillful direction of the respective candidates of their campaigns here, plus the always unpredictable reactions of masses of human beings who make up the Convention itself.

**Governors' Conference**

Since my last comment in this column, I have attended a national Governors' Conference in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where I accompanied Governor Kim Sigler; at it were the Governors of 48 of the States. I have also been privileged to be a guest aboard the United States Navy's aircraft carrier Saipan, upon which our party was taken on an eight-hour trip from Portsmouth, on the Atlantic ocean.

We were given an exhibition of various types of Navy airplanes taking off and landing on the carrier's 703-ft. deck, with the additional treat of seeing four Navy jet planes do the same thing. The Saipan is the first carrier to have experimented with jet planes. I'll give you more details of this in a future issue. Our party also went through a modern submarine.

But let's get back to Philadelphia and the Convention. The Michigan delegation is housed in the Benjamin Franklin hotel here, which also is the headquarters for the Taft-for-President contingent. All over the main lobby are banners and pictures, each advertising Senator Taft.

There is a band that gathers often in the lobby, and plays music; a large group of male singers, each wearing a big Taft button, gather frequently in an effort to woo more delegates' votes for the Ohio candidate.

Likewise in the Ballroom-Stratford hotel Messrs. Dewey and Stassen have their headquarters . . . and there, too, the use of animate and inanimate things are used to court the delegates' favor.

I have not yet been to the huge auditorium where the actual Convention will be carried on, but expect to do so this evening when the keynote speech will be given by Gov. Dwight Green of Illinois.

**Boosting Vandenberg**

In the meantime, along with Gov. Sigler and others, I have been kept busy in the effort of Michigan's delegation to further the cause of Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg for the Presidency.

The Senator has never made an open bid for the nomination; but he has, you will recall, stated that if he were to be nominated, he would accept. For many weeks it has been admitted by most informed political observers that Vandenberg would be the most favored compromise candidate if the Convention became deadlocked; by this I mean that if Dewey, Taft or Stassen could not obtain the necessary majority of 548 votes as the balloting goes on, Vandenberg stands the best chance of having most of these votes swung over to him.

In the meantime, Gov. Sigler has been the Michigan spokesman on behalf of Vandenberg; twice thus far, once in Portsmouth and again here last Saturday evening, emphasized his belief that "Senator Vandenberg is available". The Senator will arrive here this afternoon, and before midnight may, or may not, deliver a much more emphatic "beckoning nod".

Political conventions in the United States are "the greatest shows on earth", regardless of which party it stages them. They are capable of revealing about every good and bad phase of human nature—for they are built upon the American traditions of "turning man on the loose and allowing him, through free competition, to work out his own destiny".

Next week I'll give you more of this Convention; until it is concluded, I expect to be a fairly close observer and participant in a portion of this great Convention.

## Curb, Gutter Project to Start in 30 Days

Curb and gutter construction on portions of eight city streets, held up for lack of steel which must be used therein, is expected to begin within 30 days, City Manager Donald C. Egbert said this week.

Egbert explained that the $51,000 contract for the work has already been let but that the contractor found he did not have enough steel to complete the work immediately.

Streets included in the project are Cambridge, Cole, Edenborough, Henrietta, Manchester, Torrey, Webster and Windemere.

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

## No. 10 Average City Payroll Approximates $35,000 Every Month of Year

By George Wm. Averill

Up until about two months ago, the city treasurer's office concerned itself primarily with tax statements and receipts, city payrolls, bills and receipts for special assessment projects, and other types of financial affairs.

At that time, upon the suggestion of Hall and Liles, management consultants who just recently completed an exhaustive survey of our local municipal government, the employees' personnel records were moved into the treasurer's office and came under his supervision. Prior to that time they had been in the city manager's office.

Latest figures show there are 124 salaried persons and 42 hourly rated employees on the city's payroll. On the third and eighteenth of every month, the city treasurer's office makes out their checks, making all necessary social security, withholding tax, insurance, etc., deductions. This payroll, today, runs between 35 and 36 thousand dollars a month.

Now that the treasurer's office has assumed the additional responsibility of a personnel department, complete records for each city employee are kept in this office. These records contain information on when the employee was hired, his pay increases, sick leave earned and taken, compensatory time earned and taken, vacations and all other needed information.

**Personnel Records**

The city treasurer is secretary and treasurer of the employees' retirement board and maintains all records of the retirement system, accounts for employees' payroll deductions for retirement. When an employee retires, the treasurer accumulates data necessary to establish his rate of retirement pay, checks with the employee to see which of four retirement plans he wishes, and sees that he gets his retirement check every month.

Every week the treasurer compiles the current stack of bills the city owes various and sundry persons and firms, makes a list of these bills and the amounts due, and presents the list to the city commission every Monday evening. If the commission approves the bills, the treasurer causes checks to be made out to the particular creditor.

**Must Use Proper Account**

The mayor and treasurer must both sign the checks, and said checks must be drawn upon the proper city account. In other words, a check for the payment of of new water pipe must be made against the water department account; a check to a contractor for completing a curb and gutter project on 'X' street must come from funds in "Assessment District No. 997 Account."

Figuring the annual city budget, particularly the estimate of anticipated miscellaneous revenues, the treasurer plays a big part. Estimates of these miscellaneous revenues are based on past experience over a period of years, plus any new conditions that might affect the revenue collection. New services, such as that of present services and general business conditions are considered.

**Knows Indebtedness Program**

Another service of the treasurer should be mentioned here, although much elaboration would require five or six columns more space. It is the treasurer's responsibility to, at all times, know the condition of the city's bonded indebtedness program. He must make sure that the city has enough money to pay bonds and interest as they become due. Should the city commission decide to issue bonds for some particular city project, the treasurer is called upon to see that the bonds are properly prepared and sold.

Six years ago, the treasurer's office established the present accounting system. It classifies accounts in four ways: 1) as to fund, such as general fund, library fund, automotive equipment fund, water fund, etc.; 2) as to type of account in each fund, such as assets, liabilities, reserves, surplus, revenues, and expenditures; 3) each type of account as to sub-classifications affecting that type, such as in Assets—Cash, Receivables, Inventories, etc.; 4) each expenditure is further classified as to type of expenditure, such as equipment, labor, materials and supplies, repairs, etc.

**Accounts Audited by CPA**

Every year all city accounts are audited by an outside certified public accounting firm. Posting of various funds is done currently and each fund is balanced monthly.

All accounting, except for payrolls and water department billings, are done by hand at the present time. A new accounting machine has been ordered to not only do payroll and water accounting, but also budgetary expenditure accounting as well.

As the city grows and demand warrants, more of the accounting procedures will be done by machine.

NEXT WEEK: The city assessor's office.

## Methodist Bishop Tells of Changes in Local Pastors

Two Birmingham Methodist churches were affected by pastoral appointments made Sunday night by Bishop Raymond J. Wade, head of the Methodist church in the metropolitan area.

The Rev. Reginald Becker will replace the Rev. Jesse B. Epps at the Embury Methodist church, while the Rev. Robert Lawrason will succeed the Rev. James Wright, assistant pastor of the First Methodist church.

The apointments are effective immediately, and the two new clergymen are expected here this coming Sunday.

Having arrived here three years ago, Rev. Epps will now go to the 24th Street Church, Detroit. Mr. Becker comes to Birmingham from the Strathmoor church, Detroit, where he was associate minister. The Rev. Lawrason comes from Utica.

**Farewell Party**

Mr. Wright has served at the First Methodist for the past two years, assisting the Rev. Arnold W. Runkel, pastor. He will leave here for Marquette where he will become pastor of the First Methodist church there. He will also be director of the Wesley Foundation program at Northern Michigan College of Education in that city.

At a farewell dinner Monday evening by the congregation, Mr. Wright was presented with a minister robe, John Martz, chairman of the board of the church, made the presentation. Mr. Wright had been previously honored earlier in the week by two other church organizations, the church board of education and the youth fellowship group.

Mr. Lawrason's principal duties here, Rev. Runkel said, would be to take charge of the church's educational and youth program activities.

* * *

## Cranbrook Pastor Takes New Post

The Reverend William S. Hill, for the past four years assistant minister at Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, has accepted the call to become rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Uniontown, Pa.

A graduate of the University of Michigan and of the Virginia Theological School, Mr. Hill has served as rector of Grace Church, Hopkinsville, Ky., and as assistant minister of St. John's Church, Detroit. While at Cranbrook he has been a member of the faculty of Kingswood School.

A congregation which has long played an important role in the church in the Pittsburgh area, St. Peter's is the home parish of secretary of state George Marshall.

## Consumers Begins Replacement of Hi-Pressure Mains

Most of the areas in the city which are presently being served by 50-pound pressure gas lines are to be corrected by the Consumers Power Co. during the next year, City Manager Donald C. Egbert told city commissioners Monday evening.

"Consumers has promised the Michigan Public Service Commission that the area south of Lincoln and west of Woodward would be remedied during this season, while the area east of Woodward will be included in the company's 1949 program," Egbert said.

City officials last February appeared before the MPSC to ask its cooperation in getting Consumers to agree to the changes.

## Wet Weather Slows Start of Recreation

### Barnum Pool Again Proves Most Popular on Opening Day

Wet weather since Monday has affected all outdoor activities planned by the recreation board, Frank Whitney, program director, said today. Several tournaments had to be postponed and some confusion could not be avoided.

"However, Barnum pool activities again have started to prove that this activity is still the most popular one offered this summer," Whitney said. "Pool attendants were greeted by the largest group of beginners ever to report on opening day."

Class activities were divided into instructional periods and free play periods. Beginners will be promoted into advance classes as soon as they master the required swimming fundamentals. It is expected that several hundred will learn to swim by the end of the summer program.

**Craft Shop Opens**

Tuesday's activities were highlighted by the opening of the Barnum craft shop. Immediate work was begun by children in creating parachutes, constructing kites, building stilts, and general all-around nail-bending and woodbutchering. The shop hopes to be able to keep in good repair as much of the playground equipment as possible.

"The Barnum pool is open four evenings a week for adult and family groups who wish to swim from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. However, if the response is not great enough to justify the use of the pool it will be closed all evenings except Tuesdays and Thursdays," Whitney said.

He added that he hoped enough boys of the elementary grades will respond to the Recreation's Board attempt to form a new baseball league for this age group. All equipment will be supplied except individual fielding gloves. Boys interested should contact Boyd Larson or Whitney.

If enough cannot be formed, plans are under way for special instruction periods in batting, fielding and base running. The classes will start next week at Barnum school in the afternoon.

**Box Hockey Champ**

John Ross, 12 years old, emerged as victor in this week's box hockey tournament. Sixteen boys competed for the city championship. This was the first of a series of tourneys which will be held throughout the summer. Each champion is awarded a certificate for his achievements.

The Birmingham Junior American Legion baseball nine chalked up their second win in three starts last Sunday by defeating Pontiac Post 411 by a score of 8 to 4.

Bob Folin, high school basketball and track star, stopped the Pontiac nine with three hits as he struck out 13 batters. Skip Halpin led the local batters in the hitting department with three singles in five trips to the plate.

Elliott, starting pitcher for the Pontiac boys, had to be relieved in the eighth inning when Birmingham pushed four runs across on nine bases on balls, an error, and two singles by Halpin and Quilhot.

**Leading Batters**

Birmingham collected a total of 8 hits off the three Pontiac pitchers and boosted their team's batting average to a lusty .314.

Jim Gamble, diminutive Birmingham infielder, and Buzz Jackson are leading the individual batting averages. Both boys are hitting .500 at the close of three games.

Ed Smith was scheduled to hurl last night's game against Auburn Heights on Auburn's diamond while Bob Folin will pitch Sunday.

(See RECREATION, Page 2)

## To Aid Inspection

Purchase of adequate and proper weights, seals and handbooks, to be used by the city in its inspection of scales used by local retail establishments, was approved by the city commission Monday evening.

*Succumbs*

Rev. Samuel S. Marquis, D.D.

The Rev. Samuel S. Marquis, rector emeritus of Christ Church Cranbrook, died Monday evening at the home of his son at 712 Fairfax following a long illness.

He was born in Sharon, Ohio, June 8, 1866, the son of John and Sarah Perrin Marquis.

Rev. Marquis received his education at Allegheny College and Cambridge Theological school in the east. He married Gertrude Snyder in Warren, Ohio on August 25, 1894. Mrs. Marquis died in 1940.

**Dean of St. Paul's**

Rev. Marquis came to Detroit in 1899 as rector of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. In 1906 he became the dean of St. Paul's cathedral.

In 1916 he was named director of the sociological department of Ford Motor Company and was there until 1921 when he again became rector of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church.

He came to Christ Church Cranbrook as rector in 1925 and was a member of the board of trustees of the Cranbrook Foundation.

Rev. Marquis retired in 1939.

**Services This Morning**

He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. P. S. Johnson and Mrs. J. P. Carritte, Jr., of Pleasant Ridge; Mrs. Arthur Beane of Westport, Conn.; a son, Rogers I. Marquis of Birmingham and a brother C. E. Marquis of Sharon, Ohio.

Services are to be held this morning at 11:00 at Christ Church Cranbrook with burial in Greenwood Cemetery. Bishop Emerich of the Michigan Diocese, Rev. William Hill of Christ Church Cranbrook and Rev. Robert DeWitt are to officiate.

The family has asked that no flowers be sent.

## Birmingham Entry Wins Award in Model Plane Meet

Robert Seager, 391 E. Frank, participating Sunday in the annual Eastern Michigan Exchange Club Model Aircraft Meet at the Ford Airport, won a first place in the gasoline control flight class with a model which went 123 miles an hour.

He was awarded a Detroit News trophy.

The cup presented by the Birmingham Exchange club went to Ray Waggoner of Ann Arbor, who was the winner in the class A junior control line gas power event.

## *Only 458 Vote in School Election*

A total of 458 votes were cast in the June 14 school board election which saw Ross Campbell and William Spence get four-year terms as board members.

Leading the seven precincts was Adams with 103 votes cast; Pierce followed closely with an even 100; Quarton third with 83; Barnum next with 71; Franklin in fifth place with 62; then Walnut Lake with 24, and Bloomfield Village trailing with 15 votes cast in their precinct.

According to board of education officials, this year's vote comprised but about one fifth of the total number of registered school electors. However, the vote was twice as heavy as anticipated.

## Clear Vision Will Mend a Broken World

### Chicago Pastor Asks Baldwin Graduates to Try Their Hand

Impressive commencement exercises were opened Thursday morning in the Birmingham theatre by the processional of 155 members of the class of 1948, members of the faculty and school board.

Ross Campbell, member of the board, introduced the speaker, Dr. Frederick Keller Stamm, who spoke on "Mending a Broken World."

Dr. Stamm, pastor of the First Congregational Church in Chicago, is well known for his summer radio programs and his many literary works. He opened his speech by comparing the broken world to a bit of broken pottery. A man watched a potter at work one day, and saw that one of the vessels on which he was working had broken. The potter picked up the pieces and replaced them on his wheel, turning out a vessel without cracks or nicks, and fully as good as any he had made.

**In Pretty Poor Shape**

"World War I," he said, "left a broken world and "World War II left it even worse. Now, three or four years after the end of that war we find the world in pretty poor shape. The older people seem to have done, and to be doing, all that is not very good. That leaves it up to you, the young people of this and coming generations to mend it. We tried to do a job, but we failed. We are responsible for the state of the world today, and we must pass that responsibility on to you. The world is waiting for someone to put it together again.

"To do this, Youth will have to have vision. Good clear vision. It cannot be like the boy in New York who saw only twenty inches. You cannot judge things by their real value unless you see them clearly.

"Furthermore, you have to constantly look ahead. You know, some people reach thirty, and start looking back. They are useless to the world. They are the ones which the education paid should be given their diplomas at the end of their sophomore year in college. They wont learn any more, and the greatest part of approximate fifty per cent, would give instructors that much more time to spend on the other half."

**Learn to Think**

Formal education, Dr. Stamm pointed out, is valuable, but not necessary if it is replaced by clear vision and clear thinking. Abraham Lincoln was not an educated man, as schooling goes, yet his Gettysburg Address hangs in the halls of Oxford University in England as an example of fine English. This is only because he learned to think. He said he believed many speakers were misunderstood by people. They talk over the heads of their listeners, but because they talk under their feet. This is because they have not learned to think."

He said another thing which will be necessary if the broken world is to be mended is the reduction of prejudices. "Some people rearrange their prejudices and call it thinking and eliminating them. The truth is they have only shifted them around a little. Of course, in order to be able to get rid of them, we must be able to think. It all revolves around thinking and seeing clearly.

**Follow Through**

"To think you must be able to ask yourself questions, and follow through to clear answers. It is because some man asked himself why that today our cars speed safely down the highway. Then, in answer to another man's question, we of today are traveling in more comfort, with greater speed and with greater ease. This is applied to any field which touches our lives.

"One difficulty you will have," the speaker said, "is that you have learned to take things too much for granted. You have had so much of this safety and ease and comfort given you that you do not exercise the powers of vision and thought and judgment that God has given you. Just remember, though, that you have these things because, in the past, men have thought. When you press a button and get light and heat, and another to get water, stop and think of how your grandfather got these things.

"However, don't do as I once heard a woman do. She gazed after a speeding car, a convertible, shook her head and sighed, 'Poor boy! Today the world has everything, and there are no opportunities for his kind.'

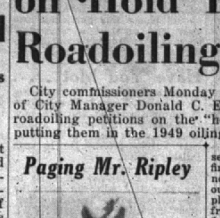
**Plenty of Opportunities**

"Nothing could be farther from the truth than this. Why this very day you have one challenge that has not yet been seen clearly and thought out. In the west the Columbia River is taking lives and causing property damage that is beyond understanding. Why? Because no one has thought and seen how to control this story of things successfully. The world teems with opportunity and adventure, just as it has always

(See SPEECH, Page 2)

## Place Five Streets on 'Hold' List for Roadoiling in 1949

City commissioners Monday evening, at the suggestion of City Manager Donald C. Egbert, began placing new roadoiling petitions on the "hold" list with the idea of putting them in the 1949 oiling program.



*Paging Mr. Ripley*

"Mr. Van Zyl"

Accordingly, the commission set July 19 as the date of the first hearing on five streets in the northwest part of the city. As outlined by Egbert, these streets, plus any others petitioned for from now on, will go through the first hearing but be held until the fall for confirmation of the assessment roll. This will enable the city to get an early start on the 1949 program.

These five streets coming up in the July 19 hearings are Raynale, Chesterfield Park, Lakeside, Lake Park, Redding to the center of Lot No. 153; Puritan, Redding to Raynale; Pilgrim, Redding to Oak, and Suffield, Redding to Oak.

**Confirm Eight Rolls**

Egbert has told commissioners that roadoiling petitions which had come up for first hearing prior to June 14, together with the obligation to put oil on streets already set for permanent improvement with a hard surface, will require the amount of oil which the city expects to receive this summer from manufacturers.

Monday night eight streets saw the confirmation of assessment rolls for the roadoiling application. These were Cedar, Lincoln to Catalpa; Edgewood, Lincoln to Catalpa; Catalpa, Grant to Pierce; Harmon, Lakeside to Greenwood; Baldwin, Harmon to Maple; Randall, Lakeside to Baldwin; and Greenwood, Harmon to Willits.

### Next Streets on Roadoiling Program:

**Within the next 10 days to two weeks, weather permitting, the following streets will get a treatment of road oil, Marx Fall, DPW superintendent, said yesterday:**

**Yosemite, Adams to Columbia; east 500 feet of Holland, Woodlawn to Greenwood, and Lakeview, all from Harmon to Oak; Vinewood, Lakeview to Woodlawn; Hazelwood, Vinewood to Lakeview; Catalpa, Grant to Pierce; and Cedar and Edgewood, both from Lincoln to Catalpa.**

Abbey, Wimbleton to 300 feet north of Henley; Henley, Abbey to Oxford; and Oxford, Henley to Abbey, also will receive an oil treatment this summer.

**Economical for City**

The commission also set hearing dates for considering the necessity of permanently improving eight other city streets.

Egbert, in recommending the construction of permanent asphaltic concrete surfacing on Humphrey, between Woodward and Grant, pointed out that Humphrey was the only street of four in this area which will be permanently scheduled for hard surfacing.

"It is only economical, both for the city and for the property owner, to have this street hard surfaced at the same time as Ruffner, Bennaville and Chapin in order to obtain the result of saving the cost of temporary relief, but he recommended as a practical, economical measure that a permanent building be constructed.

"Even if we only had walls and a roof, the city could use a dirt floor for a time," suggested Commissioner Don Bell.

While the commission admitted it was not likely the DPW garage addition would be forthcoming this year, they asked Egbert to study the situation further and report back.

## If City Had Money, There Would Be a Larger DPW Garage

Birmingham city commissioners are laying to figure out some way that considerable DPW equipment can be placed under roof this winter rather than be left out in the city yards and exposed to the elements.

"I know the city has no money in its new budget for such a plan, but I believe some thought should be given to the problem—we've got upwards of $100,000 invested in equipment, some of it brand new," stated Commissioner Theron Van Dusen, who proposed the idea.

Marx Fall, DPW superintendent, estimates a minimum of 2,800 square feet is needed in order to house equipment which now must stand outside.

City Manager Donald C. Egbert said the quonset hut type structure would provide temporary relief, but he recommended as a practical, economical measure that a permanent building be constructed.

"Even if we only had walls and a roof, the city could use a dirt floor for a time," suggested Commissioner Don Bell.

While the commission admitted it was not likely the DPW garage addition would be forthcoming this year, they asked Egbert to study the situation further and report back.

## To Spare Audience of Long Minute Reading

Persons attending city commissions meetings will not have to sit impatiently for 15 to 45 minutes while the minutes of previous commission meetings are read, Mayor Milton F. Mallender stated this week.

"Miss Irene Hanley, city clerk, is now working on a method of having the minutes mimeographed and passed out to commissioners before the meeting," the mayor said. Any corrections or additions can then be taken care of in a few minutes at the beginning of the session, he said.

"There's nothing more boring to the audience than having to listen to formal descriptions of property and all the other things which they don't care about anyway," he explained.

## Mallender Harvests Season's First Peas

The first peas of the season were picked last Saturday by Fred Mallender, 1444 Chesterfield. Although they did have enough for one meal, Mallender was not able to pick many because of the damp weather.

According to Mallender, he has been first with peas for several years. He said he always tries to have them by June 15, but this year they were a little late. They were planted about April 9.

As soon as the weather permits, Mallender said he will be able to pick enough peas to fill a 12-quart can.

## Speaks to Rotarians

Franklin Whitney, director of the city's summer recreational program, was guest speaker at the Monday noon luncheon of the Birmingham Rotary club.

Whitney briefly outlined the seven-week program for this year, and said that the scope of activities was as large as the limited budget would permit.

## *Mud Won't Stop Firemen Next Spring*

Next spring, should the weather result in Birmingham city streets being as bad as they were this past season, will not find the city fire department giving the matter a second thought.

It will be because they will have a fire truck that will get through practically any kind of a mire except outright quicksand.

The city commission has approved the department's request for a four-wheel drive "Power-Wagon", which is a peacetime adaption of a wartime Army weapons carrier.

This past spring, because of the unusual depth of the frost line and the spring thaw, more than 40 Birmingham streets had to be blocked off to traffic. Street surfaces degenerated into sticky mud. And this caused considerable alarm in the fire department.

**Will Plow Through Mud**

"If we had sent a fire truck down one of these bad streets, there were 99 out of 100 chances of its getting stuck before it reached the scene of the fire," Chief Vern W. Griffith explained this week.

Therefore, the department planned to run down the nearest parallel street and hand-stretch hose across the block. Depending on the number of fences and other obstructions, this method would have required 10 to 30 minutes additional before actually starting to fight the blaze, the chief said.

"The new truck will be able to plow through the mud, stretching fire hose from the nearest corner as it goes," Griffith stated. It will also be equipped with a 40-foot ladder. The departments big pumper then will stay at the corner and pump water through the hoses down the street to the fire.

**Winch on Front**

The new truck, however, is expected to be used primarily on early spring grass fires when the grass is dry and will burn but the ground is soft enough to mire the present pickup truck which is used for this purpose.

Firemen will build up the new truck by equipping it with a booster pump and hose.

A winch on the front is to be used for lifting and replacing pipe and pump mechanisms in the city's wellhouses whenever the pumps are cleaned or repaired.