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The SCORE PAD
By Jim Gray
(Stems and measure at the bridge cable. Other settings.)
To establish a mood for something aside from bridge, I give you:
Footsteps, faintly, far, approaching...
Coming nearer, nearer, nearer, Stopped a moment. Then resuming...
With increasing sound and volume...
Loudly, as the distance lessens. Clattering, clamorous, approaching...
On the nighty peace encroaching...
Setting sleeping echoes sounding...
Striking solemn walls, rebounding...
Slightly lesser. Passing onward. Going, passing, moving onward. Farther, fainter, fading, dwindling...
Footsteps dying in the distance.

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Leonard's
162 W. MAPLE

Whom they call the Wandering Jew carefully lowered his aged bones to a reclining position, with his back to the wall. He laid his stick on the ground parallel to his gnarled limbs. He dropped his withered hands to his sides and glanced around him sidelongly. "Suddenly, he sat up straight. Was it... yes, yes it was... the place! How long now?... how long?... eighteen... no, nineteen... nineteen hundred and sixteen years lacking half a year!" It was around that corner they came... that corner right there where those lank-shouldered men are standing clicking the safety catches on their rifles... they were shouting and jeering at one in the middle who slumped over carrying a heavy wooden cross. They were beating him and slapping him and...
The old man leaned his head against the wall. He closed his eyes. Surely, surely now it is finished... the wandering, the scourging, the homelessness, the hate...
He opened his eyes again. His glance moved up the wall of the building opposite, past barred windows, to the roof. A flagpole was mounted there carrying a white flag with a six-pointed star. A small military car appeared. It raced past him and came to a stop at the foot of the flagpole, blocking the road. Four uniformed men jumped from the car and moved to positions in front of it. All were brandishing machine pistols. An instant later a limousine, wheeled around the corner and drew up at the road block.
The four men converged on the limousine, two to a side. Then they flung open the rear doors and shouted something at the occupants of the rear seat. A moment later a tall white-haired man stepped from the limousine, pushing the guns disdainfully aside as he did so. He took three steps from the car, wheeled, and faced the gun muzzles. Then he drew himself up to his full height. "I am Bernadotte," he said.
A fiery stream of bullets leapt from the gun muzzles. The clatter echoed and re-echoed down the narrow street.

BIRMINGHAM - PONTIAC DELICATE BRIDGE RESULTS:
Birmingham (Community House, Wednesday evening. Open to the public.) Sept. 15, 11 Tables. Mitchell game. North & South: Sammy Hyams-Henry Georgia, Elizabeth Guy-Jean Heugh, East & West: Myrtle Rummel-Ernest Guy; Olive McLaren-Connie Sills.
Pontiac (Hotel Waldron, Monday evening. Open to the public.) Sept. 15, 4 1/2 Tables. Howell game. Florence Kraus-Sammy Hyams; Henry Georgia-Ernest Guy.
Out of His Line
Little Archibald had had his first arithmetic lesson that morning, and was telling his mother that if he had two apples and some one gave him two more he would have four apples.
"Now, then," said his mother, "if you had three bananas and I gave you three more, how many would you have then?"
"Oh, we haven't done bananas yet," Mummy said Archibald.
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
Sealed proposals are requested for the construction of concrete curb and gutter in North Stone Road from Torkshire to Derby Road in the City of Birmingham, Michigan.
Plans will be received up to 2:00 P.M., 9:30, Monday, October 19, 1948, after which time they will be publicly opened and should be addressed to the City Clerk, Municipal Building, Birmingham, Michigan, and must be accompanied by a check for \$100.00 in full payment (10%) of the total price of the project to the City of Birmingham, or Treasurer of the City of Birmingham, or local office.
Plans and specifications may be obtained from the Office of the City Engineering Department on and after September 23, 1948, at a charge of five cents per set. It will be made for each set. This deposit will be refunded in full upon the award of the contract and the successful bidder will be required to post bonds and comply with the City Charter respecting contracts.
The City Commission reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive any irregularity in the proposals, and to accept any proposal in whole or in part which seems to be most favorable to the interests of the City.
IRVING E. HANLEY,

Mirrors
INTERPLAYING THE NEWS
By Gene Alleman

Inflation is fast catching up with Michigan utilities. Collectively, they soon reach the consumer's pocketbook. Utility rates are going up, if they haven't done so already. How much? That depends on the judgment of three men, members of the Michigan Public Service Commission, who serve as referees in behalf of the people to see that consumer and investor alike get a fair deal.
We chatted recently with Stuart B. White of Niles, chairman, and his two commissioners: Schuyler L. Marshall of St. Johns and Henry L. Woolfenden of Detroit. It was a late-summer day, quite hot and humid. All three had foregone summer vacations, and they were not any too happy about it. The pressure of work was heavy.
"Post-war inflation, added to war-time inflation, has increased expenses of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company 137.5 per cent, the Detroit Edison Company 62.8 per cent, Michigan Consolidated Gas Company 70.5 per cent, and the Consumers Power Company 67.2 per cent," said White, referring to a notebook. (Figures covered 1941 to 1947.)
"You can see why these companies are before the state commission with requests for rate increases. As a result, our utilities have tripled in 12 months."
"Utilities have a monopoly by state franchise and are not subject to self-regulation by competition, as is the case of private business. Because of this fact, they are permitted to earn only enough to pay a reasonable return to investors. They cannot seek undue profits to meet the cost of needed improvements and expansion of their plants and the private industry does. Utilities are regulated by the legislature, and the commission acts as a court's eyes and ears to look after the public's interest—good service at fair rates."
The Public Service Commission has jurisdiction over five general classes of utilities: Electric power, telephone, gas distribution, railroads, and motor transportation, such as buses and trucks.
What the commission does is highly important to the people of Michigan. These utilities touch the lives and reach into the pocketbook of every citizen. Invested capital of Michigan utilities amounts to more than \$2,000,000,000. The people pay more than \$600,000,000 each year in fees—just about twice what the State of Michigan collects in all forms of taxes.
Nineteen million utility companies filed applications in 1948

service by our public utilities. The consequences of our failure to do this would be costly, indeed."
When the commission does announce its findings on pending cases for higher utility rates, you may be sure that these three men—all appointees of Governor Kim Sigler—believe that rates to be the lowest rates consistent with good service.
The history of the utility commission has not been favorable to public interests. The average commissioner has held office for only three years. Salaries have not been always attractive to high-calibre business men. Appointees have been political, as one reward for political support, in too many instances.
The commission gets little publicity. Yet its work affects every one. That's the picture of the Michigan Public Service Commission in September, 1948.

Bits of Birmingham
(Continued from Page 1, Part 2)
ham men to become members of the organization. "The best insurance for good boys in Birmingham is the men's participation with boys on the boys' level of activity," he declared.
Through the courtesy of Birmingham Theater Manager Howard Holah and union projection operators who donated their time, a score of Birmingham civic leaders last week were shown a special 20-minute film dealing with juvenile delinquency and methods of combating it.
"The financial impact of an interruption in the service of a single utility," related Chairman White, "is well illustrated in the 17-day curtailment of natural gas to a number of Detroit industries in January, 1948."
"Approximately 100,000 workmen lost \$8,700,000 in wages. Unemployment compensation payments totalled \$1,255,880, while the state spent \$150,000 for additional administrative help to process the applications. It is estimated that the grand total was around \$10,800,000—all because one utility was unable to provide full service to all of its customers for only 17 days."
"Members of the commission sense an obligation, as representatives of the people, to do everything possible to assure adequate

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