

Birmingham Wins Season Grand Orener, 6-0

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Attorney-General Black and the Sales Tax Case

In this column I have revealed, over the period of the last 21 months, some of my observations and impressions of Michigan's government, as witnessed from my post as Gov. Sigler's executive secretary. On that type of job, I believe I can say that, next to the Governor himself, I have been able to view the overall activities of State government as well as, or perhaps even more closely, than any other person in the State and public service.

All of which is merely introductory to some comment on Attorney-General Black's most recent feat, namely: Governor's sales tax case, the part that Ernest T. Conlon, Wayne County administrator for the State Revenue Dept., and the Executive Office played in it.

To begin with, after some months in Lansing, I came to the conclusion that the Revenue Dept. was to have a representative in the State who was to be in charge of the State's sales tax case, the part that Ernest T. Conlon, Wayne County administrator for the State Revenue Dept., and the Executive Office played in it.

Personally, over a period of two months, I made inquiry into the problem, with the view of getting the idea of getting the governor to influence the appointment of Conlon to the Wayne County administrator's position.

Louis M. Nims, Commissioner of the Revenue Dept. and Arthur W. Deputy Director of Civil Service, were requested to come to the Governor's office early last week, where the subject was discussed. Both Nims and Rasch concurred completely in placing Conlon to represent the Revenue Dept. in Wayne County.

Right from the start, Conlon began to interest himself in improving the Department's efficiency in collecting sales taxes in the Detroit metropolitan area. Conlon actually started the process against the Galperin's, and he informed of his progress. So far as I know, the procedure of concluding that case were going along well.

For legal advice, the Revenue Dept. had two lawyers, known as assistant Attorneys-General, responsible to the Attorney-General Mr. Black. When the Galperin case had gone along to the extent of about \$150,000 in unpaid taxes from them, it was brought to Lansing for final disposition. It was in the office of the Revenue Department's "top brass," where sat Black's assistants, that his case was concluded.

The Governor's own appointee, Conlon, had started the case—himself, proof that the Sigler administration demanded the execution of the law.

Maples Need More Blocking Practice, Coach Points Out

Scoring the only touchdown of the afternoon, feefooted Bob Littleton streaked around left end, spun away from the safety man, and finally reached pay dirt as Birmingham eked out a 6-0 decision over Dearborn in the Maples' season opener Friday.

This play immediately followed a fumble by Fry of Dearborn on his own 25, which was recovered by the Maples' Maple fullback. It was on the next play that Littleton raced 26 yards for the tally. The key for the extra point failed.

Dearborn came back strong in the second half—after a 18-yard pass had been called back for illegal use of the hands. Nutt broke through the middle of the line for a 20-yard gain.

Eds-Scoring Threat: A pass put Dearborn on the Maple 10 and the Pioneers were rolling. But not for long. Two plays later Campbell intercepted a pass ending their only threat.

This was the beginning of a 64-yard drive that brought Birmingham to the Dearborn nine where a scoring opportunity was literally thrown away.

Weak Dearborn Rally: With the ball resting on the 11-yard line on first down, a touchdown was in the air. A run picked up three yards. A Walt Blyle then passed to Rouse in the end zone. The ball slid into his arms and popped out again. The next two plays were also incomplete passes and the Pioneers were spared as they took possession of the ball in the shadow of their goal.

Late in the game Dearborn again rallied, but a pass interception by Bobby Hardy and a fumble recovered by Bud Boynton ruined the Pioneers' chances and preserved the main victory.

In a statement after the game Coach Vincent, Scouting and A. Moore forwarded to Foster.

The offense stammered, and the blocking was pathetic. We have a lot of work to do before meeting Mr. Clement Friday. From all reports the Bathers have the best team in the league, and we will have to improve greatly if we expect to win."

This Is a Columnar Maple



Have you been wondering just what a columnar Maple tree looks like? What W. Maple avenue in the downtown section—will have planted along its "denuded" portion? Well, the above is a columnar Maple, 3 to 4 inches in diameter to the right along W. Maple, and the three along Pierce that the city commission last week decided would be planted there.

Chamber of Commerce Members Meet Tonight to Discuss Year's Plans

An agenda to direct the coming year's activities will be set up tonight when members of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce meet at the Community House in the first general membership meeting held since the organization of the group last January.

To begin at 8 p.m., the assembly will discuss, modify, and suggest for adoption, certain city projects which members feel should receive attention of the group.

Principal speaker will be M. R. Liles, 983 Kenesaw, whose firm recently completed a survey and organization of Birmingham city officials. He is expected to tell his audience some of the information he has learned on the "how and why" of municipal operation. The membership will be brought up to date on the work which has been accomplished by the organization in past months. A program outline for the ensuing year will be presented, part of the outline being an analysis of the community's needs as determined by the group's board of directors and results of a recent membership questionnaire, Mortensen said.

Nine Miles of Road Oiling Next Summer

29 Streets Divided into Two Districts; Hearings in Nov.

Portions of 29 city streets, totaling 9 miles in length, have been worked into the city's road oiling program for next summer, City Manager Donald C. Egbert told the commission Monday night.

To eliminate the necessity of holding a number of small hearings, the streets have been set up in two large assessment districts, he said. Streets which presently have curb and gutter, and which will be oiled during 1949, are in a distinct A-hearing on which has been set for November 15.

The program was divided into two districts, Egbert said, because those streets presently improved with curb and gutter will be given a slightly different treatment since it is planned to prepare the base for the application of an asphaltic concrete top at a later date.

"By proceeding in this manner, a substantial amount of time will be saved by the commission, and all parties concerned," Egbert declared.

November 15 Hearing: He is the district up for hearing Nov. 15.

An street, Frank to north end of street; Birmingham Blvd., Lincoln to 14 Mile; Brookwood, Raynolds to Redding; Kimberly, through Westfield Garden Sub.; Latham, Lincoln to Northlawn; Latham, Northlawn to 14 Mile.

In Nov. 22 Hearing: In the second assessment district, to be considered by the city commission on Nov. 22, are: Ann, Latham to Lincoln; Chestnut, Hunter to Adams; Clark, Lincoln to George; Edgewood, Smith to 14 Mile; Fairview, Chesterfield to city limits; Floyd, Lincoln to George; Forest, Hunter to Adams; Glenhurst, Pine to Oak; Hayes, Hunter to Adams; Henrietta, Lincoln to Brown; Kimberly, through Alondale Gardens; Oakdale, Ridgedale to Oakland; Pine, Chesterfield to city limits.

Young Katter suffered a broken nose, laceration of the left eye, and shock, Nicholas said, when he was struck by a car driven by John B. Nicholas, 16, of 911 Madison. Nicholas, according to the police report, was turning south on Woodward when he struck the car. Nicholas was released in the custody of his father. His case will be heard by the Probate Court of Oakland County.

Do 'Press Conferences' Interest You? Well, Here's What Takes Place

The public has often come across this phrase in their newspapers, at election time, "Candidate So-and-So, in a press conference yesterday, attacked the policies of his opponent..." or words to that effect.

Yet, unless you are a newspaperman, chances are you have never attended such a press conference, particularly one held by a presidential or vice-presidential candidate.

Therefore this reporter would like to take you behind the scenes at the press conference held last Friday afternoon by GOP vice-presidential candidate Earl G. Warren, just to give you an idea of what goes on at such a meeting.

Nothing Spectacular Happens: First of all, let it be admitted that nothing spectacular occurs. It was a routine conference, but they are well attended because of the public interest in the subject that is of paramount importance to newspaper-readers.

Coming into Detroit Friday afternoon on his special 14-car train, California's Governor Warren was expected at the Book-Cadillac at 4:15 p.m. The press was to meet him at 4:30 in the Esquire Room. A 4 o'clock party notables began congregating at the Washington Blvd. entrance to the Book-Cadillac.

Warren's first attempt to get through the crowd, were heard to comment, "What in heck's going on here?" "Who's arriving?" "Why are these people blocking the sidewalk?"

It was about 4:40 when down Michigan Ave., from the direction of the Michigan Central station, came a truck with a band. The band was making enough noise to call attention to the banners on the truck. The truck advertising Warren's speech that night at the Masonic Temple.

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Will Have Much More Authority

To Be Strengthened By Charter Addition At April Election

A new 9-member city plan commission, which is endowed with considerable legal authority in comparison with the "advisory" powers granted to the present 5-man plan commission, will meet next week to organize under a new ordinance unanimously approved by the city commission Monday night.

Heralded by Mayor Milton F. Haller as "another milestone" in the Birmingham plan commission, which Birmingham has passed, its way to becoming a much more progressive community, the new plan commission members will have greater powers than the present commission.

Named to two-year posts were E. W. Seaholm, 856 Kenesaw, president of the Birmingham Board of Education; Elliot S. Kinney, 1123 Chesterfield, member of the Birmingham estate board; and Harold F. Klein, of Beach road, Troy township, landscape architect.

Serving for one year will be Dr. Robert Mason, 564 Overhill, Bloomfield township; Mrs. Peter B. Loomis, 1648 Dorchester, active in local women's civic organizations; and E. B. Sisson, 1184 Edgewood.

Subsequent appointments, according to provisions of the new ordinance, will be made each July 1 for three-year terms.

Sisson, an industrial and long-time Birmingham resident, is the only carry-over from the old plan commission. He is a member of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Birmingham Board of Education.

The ordinance, as passed Monday night, however, is just a preliminary step to the creation of a plan commission. An amendment of the city charter at the April 1949 city election. This interim measure, while much broader in scope and which permits more decisive action by the city planners, really is pretty general in nature.

By amending the city charter, and accordingly broadening its allowances, Birmingham can establish a plan commission adapted to the particular needs of the community and which can meet those particular needs.

Exchange Club Gives \$500 to New Field House

A \$500 donation from the Birmingham Exchange club this week brings a total of \$1,325 to the fund contributed for equipping the Pierce field house, now under construction.

Lloyd Dean, Exchange club vice-president, has informed the Board of Education that the club has contributed this amount for building the proper uniform and equipment drying racks and storage bins.

Rollie Reese, school board member who has undertaken the responsibility of obtaining local subscriptions for equipping the field house, reports that the club's contribution for equipping and supplying a medical treatment room is about that remains before the drive can be ended successfully.

Jewelry Theft

Birmingham police are investigating the theft of a ring and watch Monday from the city Jewelry store in the Theatre Building.

Three men entered the store, and while two engaged the clerk, the third, who had moved the ring, a zircon, and a Longines watch from the show window, fled. Chief Ralph W. Mosley reported.

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(See PLANNING, Page 2)