

## Birmingham, Area News Highlights of 1949 Are Reviewed In This Section

(Continued from Page 1, Part 1)

A residential area. Their work will be fitted into the general scheme of three neighboring counties for wide-spread improvements.

Birmingham was rated 78 per cent perfect against a University of Michigan Extension Service yardstick by the 40 delegates who attended the Community Council luncheon here Tuesday. The scores judged the city from many angles including entertainment, education, social life and community welfare. The purpose of the meeting is to bring out weak spots so they may be corrected.

The State Highway department has just completed its second traffic survey at 14 Mile and Woodward. Findings were forwarded to the Lansing office. This is another step in the two-year battle which the city has been conducting to have the state install proper traffic controls at this extremely busy intersection which is currently without any controls at all.

"Michigan on Canvas", a showing of Michigan scenes as portrayed by some of the state's

most talented artists will open at Cranbrook Academy of Art on Jan. 11, for two weeks. The collection of over 100 scenes was viewed by more than 750,000 persons while hung at Hudson's in Detroit. Several artists from this immediate area have works in the exhibit.

Mrs. John K. Ormond has been appointed to the advisory committee on civil rights by the newly inaugurated governor of Michigan, G. Mennen Williams. Mrs. Ormond, who has been vitally interested in this sort of work for several years, is one of 13 civic leaders named by Gov. Williams. Their studies will include interracial situations in the various fields such as churches, labor organizations, educational institutions and business firms.

**Issue of January 13**

An old Birmingham landmark, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald McGaffey, was badly damaged by fire Thursday morning. The house, located at 981 Woodward, had most of the roof destroyed when a defective chimney ignited beams in a closet through which the fire was driven. Firemen were unable to estimate how long the fire may have been burning before it was discovered.

Robert Gravin met almost instant death early Saturday morning when the car he was driving crashed into a tree on Adams road. Police said he apparently lost control of his car when he struck a small patch of ice on the road. Gravin's death marks the first motor fatality in the city in over a year.

**Dr. Stanley A. Cain**, well known scientist from the Cranbrook Institute, will address a meeting of the League of Women Voters on Jan. 17. He will speak on "Our Exhaustible Resources," telling of the possibilities of national consumption of natural resources, and the chances we face against their some day being completely used. Dr. Cain is one of 44 international scientists who will visit Ireland next summer to participate in the international plant and geography excursion.

The city commission refused, Monday night, to enter an expensive legal contest with the Michigan Public Service Commission, involving the increase in gas rates allowed the Consumers Power company. The action came in response to a letter from the Michigan Municipal League, which was acting for a number of affected communities, including Detroit.

**The Birmingham Community Council** welcomes enthusiastically the public panel discussion of "Why City Planning?" scheduled for Jan. 26 at the Community House. At that time they will present some well known authorities on this subject, who will discuss the benefits and detriments of city planning, backing up their statements with facts gained through years of experience in the field.

**Issue of January 20**

Birmingham and its immediate vicinity escaped with slight damage, the 80 mph wind which lashed the entire area early Wednesday morning, and treated 75 citizens to a severe thunder and lightning storm. At the Berg airport one wing of a small cabin plane was broken. The parapet front of the Birmingham Bowling Alley was destroyed and a partially completed building nearby was blown down. A general

alarm alerted all firemen in case an emergency arose in parts of the city where plunged into darkness. Plans are under way by the members of St. James Episcopal church for the remodeling and expansion of the church during the coming summer. The plan calls for an additional 110 feet on the nave of the church with the over-all length of the church to be extended 150 feet. A new parish house will also be erected which will be installed at Quenton Lake Sunday school and church group activities.

Members of the city commission approved the installation of the 12-inch water main on Lincoln, from Torry to Taunton, at the meeting Monday night. It was pointed out that it would greatly improve the distribution system in that area. The main will connect with an eight-inch line on Torry at the intersection of Lincoln and Taunton.

Acts of vandalism threaten the skating pleasure of the entire city. Safety measures, which have been installed at Quenton Lake, have been removed or damaged, and city officials warn that when

their current allowance is used, nothing more can be done to make the lake available to skaters. Wire cable, used to fence out danger spots, has been cut and removed, as well as several signs and other safety devices.

Marshall Fredericks, local sculptor, is assisting producer Charles Adams with preparations of a television broadcast entitled "The World of Art" for WXYZ-TV. The program will be presented at 7:45 each Thursday evening, in collaboration with the Detroit Institute of Arts, and is sponsored by the Chrysler corporation.

**Issue of January 27**

A questionnaire issued by the

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### Fire Badly Damages Old Birmingham Landmark



Birmingham firemen in January fought a blaze at the Donald McGaffey home, 981 N. Woodward. The fire partially destroyed this old Birmingham landmark.

Birmingham Eccentric, shows that the two foremost desires of the residents of Birmingham are a new high school and a city-owned water softener system. The current question of parking brought 83 who find it difficult to find parking space, 82 who do not and an additional 13 who expressed no opinion.

Two Pontiac men were fined \$15 each by Justice John J. Gaflill last week when they answered charges of selling short measures of wood in the city. The men were arrested after they had sold several short cords to local householders, on a complaint signed by Henry Johns, sealer of weights and measures.

Donald E. Knorr, Bloomfield Hills, has been announced the winner in a \$2,500 chair designing contest. The contest drew more than 3,000 entries from 31 countries. The chair which Knorr designed will go into production at once. It is planned to suit moderate incomes, and is designed for comfort and utility in today's small homes and apartments.

PFC Donald E. Thom, USMC, 1619 Bates street, will be one of 300 Marines assigned to special guard duty during the inaugural ceremonies in Washington, Thom, who is stationed at the Marine Barracks in Washington, is the son of George P. Thom.

Dr. J. S. DeTar of Milan, speaker of the House of Delegates of the Michigan State Medical Society, spoke on government-controlled medicine at a meeting of the Men's club of Christ Church Cranbrook Thursday. He told of proposed plans for social medicine in the United States and of the experiences of other countries which have had since adopting it.

**Issue of February 10**

Henry T. McGaughan suffered a compound fracture of his left leg Friday morning in an accident involving two cars and two trucks. After his car figured in a minor accident on Hunter, McGaughan left it parked in the second traffic lane while he went to talk to the other driver. The vehicles, in attempting to pass his car struck it, forcing it across the highway where it pinned the driver against the side of the first truck.

A series of speeches on the Russian-American situation will start Feb. 17 at Baldwin high school, continuing for eight weeks. The series is presented in answer to a suggestion of local teachers that they be given a greater opportunity to increase their knowledge on this very important topic. Speakers of international fame will appear before (Continued on Page 2)

building program in Birmingham showed that living quarters for an additional 452 families had been provided. Permits were issued by the building inspector for 313 single family dwellings; four for two family, eight for terraces which will house 124 families and one for an apartment building housing seven. A total cost of \$4,769,335 was represented.

Andrew M. Campbell, 1726 Bates, has been transferred to the Pittsburgh office of the Jam Handy Organizations, according to a recent announcement. Campbell's new duties will be to assist customers in planning productions, meetings and special devices. He was former vice-president in charge of sales with the Detroit office.

**Issue of February 10**

Henry T. McGaughan suffered

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