

To me, troubles are really only problems that can be solved by trying to solve them. There is no solution to a problem but only to run into greater trouble.

Maples Move Into Lead in Cage League

P. Huron, Upset By Mt. Clemens, Drops to Second

While GRA enjoys a well-deserved vacation in Florida, several newspapers in the state are following the progress of the cage league in Michigan. This week's guest columnist is Mayor Milton F. Mallerder, Detroit, Michigan.

By Milton F. Mallerder

Dear GRA:

"I will do anything within reason to help a fellow citizen along, but I cannot imprison a columnist. I am just going to write a letter to you about one or two things which you might know while trolling the blue waters around Cay City, for it will be known fact that man (i.e., the male animal), given a good rod, reel and stout line, can be completely and safely and completely can solve all problems."

Saturday afternoon I received from the City Building Inspector his report for the calendar year 1948. The report contains a piece of rather interesting information, viz., that during 1948 there were 112 new single-family residences and 13 new multiple-family residences constructed in our town.

Located in

"I know that this fact neither will make news from coast to coast, nor will it contribute much to the solution of our housing shortage, but on the other hand, it does point to a crisis situation which is already under way. Just delve a little deeper into that report and it will appear that some 336 new residential structures house 452 families.

For 38 years, according to the Bureau of the Census, Birmingham's families have averaged 3.6 persons each, so assuming an average of 3.5 persons each, exclusive of increase in population through the medium of the census, the other things being approximately 1,687 more persons arrived in town during the past year. In 1947, the census showed a difference than 1947, when according to the best estimate there were 1,687 more persons added to the population than contributed somewhat over 1,200 new residents.

These words, Birmingham's population has grown between 10 and 15 per cent in each of the past three years.

Period of Survival
As most of us well can recall, the city is in a desperate struggle for municipal survival, and it was not until near the end of that struggle that the city was able to meet the minimum standards to which our residents are entitled. Then, of course, food, shelter, water, and other necessities which municipal construction all but ceased.

During the '30's and the first five years of the '40's plans were made for the rehabilitation of the sewer, water, streets and other facilities, together with extensions and enlargements of these facilities fully to accommodate both the old and the new residences, assuming as a basis the past growth experience of the city and village over the previous three decades; but the basic fact of the growth experience of the City has thrown the municipal time table, and to some degree, has been completely and thoroughly off schedule.

One Illustration
By way of illustration, just recall that when the disposal plant was built here, it was so planned that there was one problem which was solved once and for all in 1935; and yet in less than one year of operation the plant's capacity had been reached, and substantial additions to that facility had to be made. This, of course, and certainly long before the necessary financial reserves have accumulated for such a purpose.

The old home town is like a lad in his middle teens—the suit that was the perfect fit when purchased last fall now is "bursting out all over," and the difficult part of the situation is, that it is not determinable how long this post-war pattern will continue. The only thing that appears as a reasonable certainty is that the city's financial resources are being depleted, and what appeared safely to be made for the future, certainly now is not more than 8 or 10 years away.

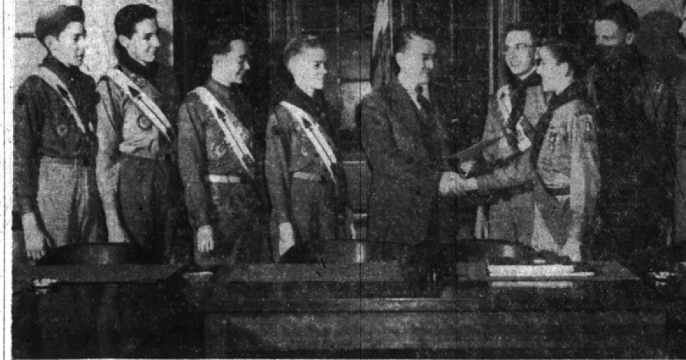
Maples Face Tough Ferndale Team To Defend League Lead

Tomorrow night the league-leading Maple Leafs will defend their lead in the first game of the season. The team, which is coached by Port Huron with a record of three wins and two losses. They have defeated the team from Ferndale in a 3-2 score. The team is coached by Port Huron with a record of three wins and two losses. They have defeated the team from Ferndale in a 3-2 score.

Torch Explodes
A gasoline torch being used by workers in repairing a water heater in the home of D. W. Burnett, 480 Westfield, exploded Tuesday night, blowing a hole in the ceiling and causing several basement windows and a basement door.

Mayor Congratulates Eagle Scouts

Mayor Milton Mallerder extends congratulations to eight Birmingham boys who have recently received their Eagle Scout awards. Pictured above (left to right) are Glenn Emery, Jr., Charles McIntyre, Jack Hooper, Ray Horne, Mayor Mallerder, James Buchanan, Richard Emery, Richard Staunton and Donald Trainer. The boys will be guests at the Scout Court of Recognition at the Community House Feb. 9.



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Lack of Water May Delay Construction of Some New Homes

A Detroit construction company, which would like to start building homes on 35 lots along Maryland and between North and 14 Mile, this morning may be able to develop only those lots on the east side of the street, the city commission said Monday night.

That portion of the street is practically unimproved with any city services, it was brought out, although the sewer is scheduled for installation during 1949, the water main assessment has not yet progressed through fiscal hearing.

That will be about a year or two before water can go in," said City Manager Donald C. Egbert.

Police Answer Few Calls While Firemen Are Kept Very Busy

Apparently heeding the many warnings which have been issued during the winter by the Birmingham police, motorists here have escaped the extremely bad driving conditions which have only a few banged up fenders. No serious accidents have resulted and no personal injuries recorded.

Delegates Named For GOP Conclave

The Oakland County Republican Convention was held Monday evening at the Hotel Rapids on Saturday, Feb. 19.

193 Trees In Sheffield Area To Be Replaced

Practically all the soft maple trees that are in the Sheffield Estates area are scheduled for removal in the next few years. But they will be replaced with hard maples.

Miss Singers Named Police Dept. Clerk

Miss Winona Singers, 528 Park Tuesday began her duties as senior clerk for the police department. Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley has disclosed.

Church Services Will Open Scout Week Observance

Local activities will get under way Sunday with a special service being held in St. James Episcopal Church at 3 p.m. Members of Troop B-4, under the leadership of Harold Holmes, scoutmaster, will have charge of the arrangements, and will take part in the procession. Rev. Harold E. Towne will speak on "Religion and Scouting."

Attendees at the hospital said Tuesday that the little girl was resting well, but that her condition was still regarded as critical.

3 Street Projects Cost Double What City Had Estimated

Three construction projects, completed the past fall, cost more than twice as much as the city estimated they would, it was revealed Monday night's city commission meeting when commissioners were given the final cost reports.

Nominees for Board

Names that will be placed before the association by the nominating committee of the board of directors for Feb. 7 are: Charles E. Rothman, Clyde C. Bennett, Jr., Mrs. Richard T. Hatch and Mrs. George W. Wood. Mrs. Loomis is now serving on the board having been elected last fall to a two-year term.

Actual Figures

MAPLE WIDENING—est. cost, \$12,045; actual cost, \$19,021.90; priv. prop., \$7,189.57; total, \$26,211.47. private property share, \$9,025.37.

BATES-MAPLE SEWER: est. \$7,790; actual, \$21,548.49; over-run, \$13,758.49; priv. \$6,998.98; priv. prop., \$7,189.57; total, \$13,988.55.

PIERCE WIDENING—est., \$1,732; actual, \$3,885.31; over-run, \$2,153.31; priv. \$1,124.33; priv. prop., \$628.98.

School Board Refuses Inasmuch as the business office of the new W. Maple sidewalks installed after the street widening assessed for a combined total of \$19,317.03—the commission decided be held over and inserted in the 1949 city budget.

Two Suffer Severe Burns Here Sunday

Two Birmingham persons suffered severe burns in home accidents here Sunday. Little Louise Glover, 2, was rushed to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, by local police after she had fallen into a kettle of boiling water. She was treated for shock and first and second degree burns.

Her mother, Mrs. Jack McFarland, told police she had removed a kettle from the stove and placed it on the floor while she put a stopper in the sink drain. Before she could pick it up the accident happened.

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Belongs to All

The introduction of motion pictures is a device by which the board hopes to attract more members to turn out for the annual stockholders meeting. Mrs. Lorraine Emery, president of the Community House Association, according to Mrs. Howard J. Liverance, president of the board, she points out that everybody who contributes as much as a dollar to the support of the Community House, a member of the Association, entitled to all its business meetings.

City Not Surprised

Commissioners were not surprised at these figures, however. Commissioner Don Bell, after the board meeting, pointed out that this situation was discussed a number of months ago before the contracts for the projects were awarded.

Outgoing Board Members

Outgoing board members are Mrs. Paul B. Hoffman, Frank Meier, Paul Penfield and Merle Bennett.

Petitions Out for Renomination of Mayor Mallerder

Nominating petitions have been taken out for re-election of Mayor Milton F. Mallerder, it was disclosed this week by the City Clerk Irene Hanley.

Hope Free Movies Will Draw Crowd to Annual Meeting

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Continuing Studies

Swartz pointed out that the Community Council, which 41 local organizations are represented, has in the past undertaken studies to hear about various interests to citizens of Birmingham.

Deeply Concerned

Only expert care extended his life, but even so, "Sarge" spent many long, painful hours before he returned to his home and family.

"Sarge" Victim Of Shotgun Blast Last November, Is Dead

"Sarge" is dead. "Sarge" was the lovely big brown dog owned by Mrs. R. S. Rankin and their two sons of 815 Riverside.

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Future Planning A Necessity for Cities, Ditchy Says

Complexities of modern times make cities hard to arrange, which only means cities must consider future planning as a necessity, Clair W. Ditchy told over 300 persons who assembled at the Community House last week, Wednesday evening, for the Birmingham Community Council's 10th annual Institute program.

"There are so many more phases to our lives today than in the past, that city planning is a necessity. Even 25 years ago we were aware of the fact that we must plan for the future, but today that need is even greater."

Citizens Form Group to Aid City Planners

First steps toward forming a citizens planning study group were taken by the board of the Birmingham Community Council at Tuesday night's meeting. The result of interest in such a group manifested at the tenth annual Institute program of the Council, which was held last Wednesday at the Community House. The Institute took place at the Detroit Citizens Housing and Planning Council meeting of "Why City Planning?"

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Planning Started Early

It was pointed out in the panel discussion that Birmingham had begun a planning system before other cities had started theirs. Several of the panelists were carried out. The depression had started in the city. The depression had started in the city.

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