

There are many physical things in this world that are available to human beings, and offers some pleasure more than any other. Such things are short-lived, are subject to rust, decay, and the loss of their value. But serenity, peace, joy, are equally available, and more enduring.

# THIS IS THAT

By G. R. A.  
"Back Home Again!" This is being written at my home Monday morning, January 3, 1949. I mention this only because, for the first time since July 1947, I am not directly associated with a project to bring about "clean government" in Michigan. I am not directly associated with a project to bring about "clean government" in Michigan. I am not directly associated with a project to bring about "clean government" in Michigan.

My Usual Routine  
My usual routine during those two years was to leave Birmingham each Monday morning, at seven o'clock, arriving at my desk in the Capitol in Lansing, Michigan, before nine o'clock. I'd remain in Lansing until Friday, late afternoon each week, and then fly back to my Birmingham home in time for the evening meal.

Enjoying New Year  
So, folks, as I sit here this morning, at eight-thirty o'clock, I scarcely can realize that from now on I am free again to pursue the course of a private citizen; to go and come whenever I please; to live in direct responsibility for the conditions and circumstances of State government—to be able to stand on the sidelines and watch the activities of a new regime in Michigan's Executive Office; to resume more active interest in Birmingham's affairs; and, finally, to feel that my two years in Lansing have made me a more intelligent citizen and newspaperman, insofar as the problems and solutions of government go.

That I shall enjoy my new role goes without saying. I'll be home until January 12, then go south to my home, needed rest, and change.

## New Postal Rates Now In Effect

Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham will be paying more for some of their first-class correspondence. Starting the first of the year air mail was increased to six cents per ounce, and general letters to both the United States and other parts of the world were increased to four cents. Registered and insured mail fees have increased, as have the return receipt cards for both. The latter will now cost five cents in advance of the four which has been charged previously. Airmail charges have also taken a two-cent increase, bringing them to 15 cents.

## Youthful Marksmen Must Keep Records of Daily Activities

A minute by minute, day by day written record of their waking hours was the sentence meted out to 200 youngsters in Birmingham who sought to amuse themselves during the holidays by shooting out Birmingham city lights. The records must be kept for a period of 60 days and brought to police headquarters each week for Police Chief Ralph Moxley's inspection and approval.

## City Thanks Jaycees

A resolution thanking the Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce for its contribution to the downtown section with some Yule decorations during the holiday season was passed by the city commission Monday evening.

# Creation of County Plan Group Its Aim of Citizens League

Oakland County supervisors yesterday announced they had approved the creation of a county planning commission. Earl L. Clark, county drain commissioner, and Harry J. Merritt, county civil counsel, have been suggested for two places on the five-man commission.

By Alice E. Morgan  
Interest shown in comprehensive planning for Oakland County at the several Oakland Citizens League meetings held last winter is taking definite form now through committees organized to cover all aspects of the subject. They are coordinated by having all chairmen as members of the Planning Committee, whose chief function is promoting planning through the education of citizens to the extravagance of "hit-and-miss" development.

## U of M Yardstick Gives Birmingham Rating of 78%

Birmingham was rated 78 percent perfect against a University of Michigan Extension Service yardstick by two score sheets given to attendees the Community Council lunch meeting Tuesday at the Community House.

McCluskey Absent  
In the absence of the Howard McCluskey, University of Michigan Extension Service teacher and community council member, Mrs. Cleveland Walcott, one of the founding members of the Birmingham group, outlined briefly the present and future activities of the Council.

Among its achievements were the placement of the present municipal recreation commission, the growth of the Council's original survey and planning committee, the clothing drive, instigation of the local veterans' counseling service; surveys and reports on community funding operations; and the community calendar now posted each month in the Birmingham public buildings, resumed after a winter hiatus.

The calendar was first compiled by the Community Council ten years ago. It is the aim of the group eventually to put it in printed form and distribute it to member organizations.

Mrs. Alec Parry presided at the lunch meeting, in the absence of Blair Swartz, president, who is in the Birmingham hospital. Mrs. Parry's husband has been critically ill.

Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, chairman of the City Planning Institute which the Council will sponsor in the near future, presided at the discussion at the Community House on Jan. 26, asked delegates to meet on Saturday afternoon to motion picture on the subject.

Mrs. Berrien Ketchum, delegate from the Parent-Teacher Association Council, reported on her organization's program to improve the quality of children's recreation through the motion picture on the subject.

Delegates voted to return to the Community Council board for reconsideration a recommendation by Harry Hoyle, representing the Cranbrook Realty, that further study be made of the regional overlying of fund drives in the Detroit-Birmingham-Patuxent area.

The appointment of Mrs. John K. Ormond to head a local survey and study group to report locally on the city's physical planning was announced. The Council's services to children survey will be forwarded to the governor of the state and to the national agency which is collecting information for a national survey of children's recreation in 1950. Mrs. Ormond has not yet announced the names of the group that will work with her on the study.

# Packers Outlet Announces Intent to Build New Store Here Sometime This Year

Packers Outlet, a Detroit grocery store chain, expects to construct a new, large super-market on South Woodward sometime during the current year, it was announced this week by Merwyn Grosberg, secretary of the organization.

"How soon construction will begin, we do not know at the present time. It is in the planning stage and we have merely a rough idea of what will eventually go there," Grosberg stated.

Expect to Develop This Year  
"But I can say that the company expects to develop that area with a modern super-market sometime this year," he said.

Packers owns the north half of the odd-shaped block bounded on the north by Bowers street, on the east by Hunter Blvd., on the south by Hazel, and on the west by Woodward. The parcel has 180 feet of frontage on Woodward, 120 feet on Bowers, and 179 feet on Hunter.

The south half of the block is owned by the Socony Vacuum Oil Co. A telephone conversation with James Foster, head of the Socony planning department in Detroit, revealed that the oil company has no immediate plans for their half of the property.

Will Provide Off-Street Parking  
"Of course, we will ultimately develop it, but there are no plans for construction in the near future," Foster explained.

In connection with the new Packers store, Grosberg said ample provision would be made for customer parking.

"We are familiar with Birmingham's attempts to solve its downtown parking problems. In this regard, Packers will provide off-street parking for its customers," Grosberg said.

A house at 611 S. Woodward is on the Packers property, and must be moved before any construction begins on the new super-market, Grosberg reminded.

A local moving company has made preparations for moving the house, but actual moving operations are temporarily stalled until a new site can be obtained for the house, it was reported.

## Manager Lists Reason for Slow Garbage Collection

Garbage collections in Birmingham may be slower than usual during the next couple of weeks until the new company making the collections becomes more accustomed to city routes. City Manager Donald C. Egbert explained this week.

As of Monday, a new company began making the garbage collections here in Birmingham, Egbert stated. It will take several more days for the new crews to get acquainted with the city.

He added that residents bear with city officials, who already have received numerous complaints that garbage collection was slow.

## Baby Makes Bow On Jan. 1; Police Busy As Firemen "Rest"

While members of the Birmingham Fire Department sat around, quietly enjoying the long holiday, their near neighbors, the policemen, ushered the New Year in with much scurrying. No serious accidents were reported, but everything seemed to happen at once, from an attempt at dogmopping to a three-car crash.

Thomas Carey, 17, of 8441 Wing Road, made a double entry as he became arrestee number one and figured in accident number one all at the same time when his car struck the one driven by Frank A. Guthrie of Rochester.

Guthrie, a Greyhound driver, reported to police that he was on his way to work at the time of the accident. He said Carey drove his car from an alley into Brownell, struck the front of Guthrie's car and driving it into a third street nearby. Carey told police that he did not know Guthrie and that he did not know where he was.

After striking the other car, Carey failed to stop and drove on to Maple where he turned east on James Yates, a 20-year-old driver, stopped the car at the intersection of the station property in what the police described as an attempt to take a right turn at the intersection. The case has been held for trial at the court house.

Wallace Giles of Detroit traces the "blotter" as the first man in a hurry. Police stopped him at South Woodward Saturday after a preliminary hearing he was released and ordered to appear Monday. The return trip carried with it 165 Woodworth, the first place in that category, too.

Edward A. Aldrich, 60, also of Detroit, garnered first place in the listing of drunken drivers after the car he was driving struck a parked car on 237 N. Woodward, pushed it sideways down the street. After posting a \$100 bond, he was released and ordered to appear for trial Wednesday, Jan. 12.

Raymond Peck, 560 Hanna; Lotie M. Whately, 1017 Pitt; Ann and Dena Hallock, 691 Ann were arrested in a three-car crash, which resulted in minor damages and no personal injury, after the car he was driving struck a parked car on 237 N. Woodward, pushed it sideways down the street.

The first New Year baby for Birmingham was Nicholas George Carter, born at 5:22 a. m., Jan. 1, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. His father is Dr. Nicholas Cherup, 1220 Stanley.

Birmingham's first little girl, Nicholas Cherup, 1220 Stanley, was born at 5:22 a. m., Jan. 1, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Her father is Dr. Nicholas Cherup, 1220 Stanley.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cummings at 165 Woodworth, the first place in that category, too. The first wedding of the new year took place Jan. 2, when George W. Woodworth and Dorothy married to George W. Shepherd.

## Varsity Court Stars Win Traditional Alumni Game

All the past Maple hardwood squads and stars seemed to blossom in the local high school gym last Thursday night when the varsity court played a sharp rally to win 30-17 in the traditional-arsity court game.

The old timers were well versed in the fundamentals of basketball, and the tight defense employed served to minimize the scoring. The Maples kept close tab on the alumni; too, and with both hands. The varsity defense, a low game score resulted.

The varsity held a margin throughout the tiff, but the alumni closed the game with a five-point lead in the final minutes. The Maples had complete superiority in shooting accuracy, and the varsity closed the game with a five-point lead in the final minutes.

## Gov. Williams Names Mrs. John K. Ormond To State Committee

Mrs. John K. Ormond, 1169 N. Woodward, is among the 13 civic leaders in the state who have been named to the advisory committee on civil rights in Michigan by the Michigan Council of Government.

Mrs. Ormond has been very interested in this type of work for several years, and is serving as the chairman of the Christian Social Relations committee of the United Council of Women.

Others on the committee represent special groups which are studying inter-racial relations such as churches, representatives of labor organizations, educational institutions and business firms.

The Veterans Disposal Service, which has the new collection contract, has been operating in Bloomfield Hills for the past two years without a recorded complaint.

"We undoubtedly will have the same type of service here once the contract is put around the city," Egbert concluded.

Local Lions are adding their part in calling special attention to the ceiling project which they have purchased for the benefit of persons who are confined to their beds and unable to read because a physical handicap makes it impossible for them to hold a book.

The projectors and film are at the City of Birmingham Library. To obtain a copy of them, one need only contact the librarian, give the name and address of the patient and the type of books wanted. A member of the Lions Club will deliver the projector and film, give the patient instructions as to its use.

The local projectors were first used at the City of Birmingham hospital in a case of a patient who had received a serious injury in a coasting accident confined a young girl to her bed, unable to sit up. Since that time several others have used them, and all have been enthusiastic about them.

No Charge for Use  
Roland W. Rege, president of the local club, urges all doctors to remember these projectors and films to their patients who are too ill to hold books, or whose injuries prevent them from doing so.

In Bloomfield Hills, which has been a free area for several years, severe highway crashes within the past few weeks, highways also remained calm with no calls received by police.

## Two Hills Policemen Receive Promotions

Elmer Kephart, city manager of Bloomfield Hills, reports the promotion of two police officers there. The promotions were made at a meeting of the city commission Monday evening.

Edward Banks, a member of the force for four years, and Walter Sluiter, who has been with the department since 1938, were both advanced from patrolman to the rank of sergeant.

Many of the alumni are still playing a sharp rally to win 30-17 in the traditional-arsity court game. The varsity held a margin throughout the tiff, but the alumni closed the game with a five-point lead in the final minutes.

## Highway Dept. Ends 2nd Traffic Survey at Woodward-14 Mile

As a comprehensive survey of traffic movements at Woodward and 14 Mile road was completed yesterday by the State Highway Department and will be sent to Lansing for analysis and recommendation, S. J. Levine, traffic engineer at the highway department's field office on Grand River avenue, Detroit, told The Centric yesterday morning.

Traffic volume on both Woodward and 14 Mile was compiled by automatic traffic counters for a 24-hour period extending over Monday and Tuesday; waiting time for 14 Mile motorists attempting to cross Woodward was checked; any and all turns made at this intersection during the peak hours of 6-10 a. m. and 2-6 p. m. were listed, and traffic speed counts were made, Levine stated.

Others on the committee represent special groups which are studying inter-racial relations such as churches, representatives of labor organizations, educational institutions and business firms.

At the present time, the department believes the new traffic signal at Woodward and 14 Mile in Royal Oak, and at Lincoln and Woodward in Birmingham is the one promised several months ago.

Levine pointed out that high way officials hesitate to place more traffic lights along Woodward, but that absolutely necessary for safety.

Want To Be Certain  
"Each additional light hinders Woodward traffic, and Woodward was built as an express highway," he said. "We want to be absolutely certain that additional lights are spaced before erecting them."

Speed of Hunter traffic from Woodward to the north, 14 Mile is also being studied to see if the state should make any reduction in legal speed limit. It presently is posted for 45 miles per hour, and City Manager Donald C. Egbert has expressed the opinion that it should be reduced to 35 M. P. H.

One of the factors that was checked this week were the traffic habits of 14 Mile motorists crossing Woodward. Levine admitted that while ordinarily slow before entering Woodward, many drivers in the center island before attempting to proceed across the second street. "We believe we may have some effect on any proposed signalization of this intersection."

## Two Pontiac Men Pick Wrong 'Junk' from Cranbrook Yard

Bloomfield Hills police last week arrested Maurice Johnson and Albert Zeno, both of Pontiac, on a charge of grand larceny.

Johnson was charged with his counsel pending further investigation. At his arraignment, Zeno demanded an examination, which has been set for Jan. 11. He was released after posting a \$1,500 bond.

The two men, junk dealers, allegedly received permission to search the Cranbrook yard to remove scrap materials. After they had left the yard, they were notified that a quantity of new welding and plumbing material was also missing.

Johnson, police chief, said that some of the materials had already been sold by the two men. He said that the recovery had been made by the police.

Another Petition  
Meanwhile, city commissioners Monday night received a petition signed by 22 motorists asking that the City of Birmingham install a traffic light at this intersection as soon as possible.