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The Birmingham Eccentric

PART 3

Thursday, July 21, 1949

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Local Girl Places in Belle Isle Vocal Auditions

Sixteen-year-old Nancy Allen of 984 Suffolk placed among the winners in the final round of the Belle Isle vocal auditions last week, the Department of Parks and Recreation announced.

Twenty-nine finalists competed at the Belle Isle music grove July 13 before a crowd estimated at 8,000. The Judges, Valter Poole, J. Bertram Bell and Otto E. Brown, selected 11 as winners.

The victors were awarded solo appearances at Belle Isle this summer with the Detroit Federation of Musicians Concert Band, directed by Leonard B. Smith.

Talented young Nancy Allen is scheduled to make her solo appearance Monday, August 8. At the final audition she gave a splendid performance of Mozart's "Non So Fin Cosa Sono."

Nearly 300 aspirants entered the contest, which is held annually to aid talented, but unknown singers to gain recognition by appearing with an outstanding band before large audiences. A dozen winners of previous auditions have attained some measure of stardom.

The auditions are sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Federation band and the Detroit Conservatory of Music.

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Fisher Elected to Top Lion Job

NEW YORK — Walter C. Fisher, Queenston, Ontario, Canada, is the new president of the International Association of Lions Clubs (Lions International). He was elected at the annual convention in New York City last week.

Fisher, 45, is a member of the Queenston Lions Club. He has been in the Lions service for 12 years. He was elected to the position of president of the Ontario Lions Association last year.

The convention was held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. It was the largest ever held by the organization.

Porter Qualifies For Insurance Convention

Robert H. Porter of 188 North Chester has qualified for the regional convention of the Provident Mutual Life Insurance Company to be held at French Lick, Indiana, August 16 to 19th.

This qualification is based on a paid-for business at the rate of a quarter million, or more, per year. Porter joined the company in 1946 and has qualified for every convention since. He is an agency supervisor.

Aboard Carrier

Charles C. Helgerson, seaman apprentice, and George W. Campbell, chief aviation machinist's mate, are scheduled to arrive at the island of Crete as crew members aboard the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea for a five-day visit.

Mulholland's Store Getting Face Lifted

Mulholland's is in the process of receiving a new facade which will give the windows a far greater display area.

The entire front of the store is being remodeled to give it a uniform appearance. Upon completion a new sign of either neon or block design will be erected at the center of the store.

The center entrance is to be set back with plate glass windows on both sides. This will give the effect of an open front with the windows looking into the store.

The facing will be of a type which gives it the look of a stone finish. The window and door trim are to be of aluminum.

By next summer the inside will have been remodeled also. New fixtures are to be installed throughout. An air conditioning system will be in by next year too.

Board Carrier

Charles C. Helgerson, seaman apprentice, and George W. Campbell, chief aviation machinist's mate, are scheduled to arrive at the island of Crete as crew members aboard the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea for a five-day visit.

Bicycle Racing Hits Playground

The feature of the week's playground activities was the bike day events which were held Tuesday at the Barnum baseball diamond.

Several hundred youngsters whipped around the special course in two wheelers, three wheelers, whizzers and motor scooters. They were attempting to better the course records for their ages and types of vehicles.

The whole thing was made more difficult by the placing of 20 or more cardboard boxes on the circular course to mark turns and by the fact that any rider who knocked over a box was disqualified and had to start over.

The favorite race of the afternoon was the "Christmas Tree" race. Each contestant raced a marble to the "tree" where boxes of candy and gum were located. The marble started rolling down a special trough as soon as the contestant got started on his bike.

The object was to get to the "tree" and grab as much candy as possible before the marble got there. Arguments were at a minimum and the judges escaped with their lives. And, as might be expected, the cyclists came up with their share of candy.

In the bomb the bucket event the riders sped over a course lined with buckets. The object of the race was to drop croquet balls in these buckets while still in motion. The names of all event winners will be published next week.

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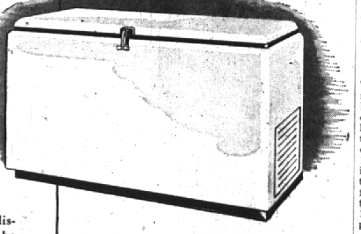
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Establishment of New Fire District Increases Benefits

By Lillian Diederich

SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP — The Southfield township board meeting was held last week at Berg road town hall. A new fire district was established to obtain lower fire insurance rates in districts having fire hydrants. Property owners must reside within 1,000 feet of a hydrant, and within three miles of the fire station, to be eligible. It will become effective in about two weeks, when the new fire hall at 30,000 West 10 Mile road is ready for occupancy.

The district is bounded on the northeast by 12 Mile road and Greenfield, west to Evergreen, east to 11 Mile, west to a quarter of a mile of Labor road, south to Eight Mile, east to Greenfield, and north to Twelve Mile road.

An amendment to the water ordinance was necessary. In the past, hydrants were opened with improper tools thereby damaging them. In order to guarantee proper usage, the fire department will require a \$25 deposit, and furnish a wrench. Upon return of the tool and inspection of the hydrant, the deposit will be refunded.

The Southfield-Detroit park is being readied in response to a plea by Kiwanis, presented at the last board meeting. To date four picnic tables and benches have been set up; a baseball diamond completed, the road graded and foot paths moved throughout the park, the board stated.

It was agreed that electrical fees be adopted to coincide with Detroit rates. A representative from Detroit submitted a code of rates at the last meeting which seemed adaptable the board stated. The schedule will be used to avoid confusion in issuing refunds.

D. J. Healy subdivision resident sent a petition requesting the paving of roads in that area. This will be held subject to approval of Oakland County road commissioners.

At Navy School

Robert Woodward Bishop, seaman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Bishop of Devoushire road is undergoing a course of instruction at the Naval Radioman's School located at the Naval Receiving Station, Norfolk, Va.

Each Tuesday at 5 p.m. is the deadline for news, society, classified and display ads.