

SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 51-24 Pages

HS and THAT By G. R. A. Educator Re-examines School Laws

(GRA arrived back in Michigan early Tuesday morning after a nightlong plane trip from Florida. He will resume his writings in next week's Eclectic. During his stay in Florida, he gathered local citizens have been writing his column for him. This week's guest columnist is Herbert H. Gardner, a Birmingham resident for 22 years and president of the Birmingham National Bank for the past 6 years.)

By Herbert H. Gardner Readers of The Birmingham Eclectic are aware of activity and growth in and around Birmingham. This post-war period has brought to Birmingham and its environs a building program of unprecedented proportions. It is necessary to dwell on the obvious advantages and attractions which influence people in their choice of this area as a place where the establishment of a home will afford satisfactory living conditions and opportunity for interesting and enjoyable activities. The observer is impressed by the number of young people who have purchased residential properties here since the war. Their parents and relatives are active members of the various civic organizations and churches give assurance of the considerable interest in the future of the city in which their children will be educated and form their associations.

Problems United States Throughout the United States, the problems of large metropolitan centers multiply. War-blown populations have carried over the conditions of crowding and congestion, with a host of related vexatious problems. As a result, a trend discernible over the last 30 years, has been toward the suburbs. Our suburbs will continue to grow over a long period of time, the rate of growth being dependent upon the rise and fall of general economic activity.

Many residents would prefer to have Birmingham remain the small, charming community which it has been in the past. Ordinarily, movements of population do not take such peculiar preferences into consideration. It is reassuring to observe that the newcomers in our midst are not only bringing with them to have the character and charm of the community preserved. Their interest in the well-being of the city is the consideration which brings them here.

Market Expansion In the face of growth, it is essential that all of us be active in making it possible for the new residents. Through the years, much planning and effort must be undertaken if the Birmingham case of the future is to be, on a larger scale, the desirable place that it is today. The responsibility must be accepted at large, not loaded on too few shoulders.

State Maintains County Roads Until two years ago, Emerson pointed out, there was no sales tax diversion. During the early 1930's, during this 20 years state subsidies for road building have been about \$75 million per year.

Local Man Is Found Unconscious Beside Ontario Highway Ontario police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the finding of Earl Tobias, 21, of Birmingham, lying unconscious on the side of the road 3 miles from his home last Thursday night.

Walnut Lake Child Saved After Plunge Through Thin Ice A six-year old Walnut Lake boy was rescued from the water in a small boat after he had fallen in after his little playmate ran home for help.

Don C. Brown, 5760 Putnam, with a blanket under his arm, ran to where the boys had been playing. Brown, having been unable to reach the boy, pulled him in the blanket, and wrapping him in a blanket, he carried him to the shore. Reports from the lad's home Tuesday said he was recovering from shock and faint but seemed otherwise none the worse for his experience.

So Far This Underpass Has Been Unused for 19 Years

Since its completion in the fall of 1930, this 16 Mile Road underpass has never been used by vehicular traffic. Only an occasional Sunday afternoon hiker passes through it amid the tall weeds and thick underbrush. The underpass cost the State of Michigan and the Grand Trunk Railroad, sharing equally, a total of \$96,753.13 to construct. Today it would cost three times that much to build, yet after 19 years it still stands there unused.

What happened to change the county's mind? The approaches are still to be paved—after a lapse of 19 years. Big Beaver Road (16 Mile) ends abruptly at this curve into Kensington Road, which runs to the north along side the railroad. All westbound 16 Mile traffic is forced to turn north or south (mostly south) because from this point to Quanton road, one mile directly west, there is no road—only trees, woods and undergrowth.

Study of Traffic In 30 Years or More, Will Laws Can Greatly Reduce Violations Michigan's 'Redwood City'? During the past few months, Birmingham Police have noted a sharp rise in motor vehicle cases, according to Chief Ralph Moxley. This includes parking violations, violation of stop signs and lights, speeding and reckless driving.

Obstruct Traffic 'Take parking, for instance. It's not very often a motorist will park in a restricted area, or within 10 feet of a fire hydrant. They do though, park their cars in such a manner that traffic is obstructed. The state law says there must be no parking where this can happen, nor in sidewalks, across drives, on intersections, near a theatre entrance or an emergency exit.

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Community House Annual Roll Call Is Now Under Way

Seven thousand households in the Birmingham area were "alerted" this week for the Community House Roll Call by which operating costs of the civic center are met annually. In an illustrated letter appeal, residents of the area were urged to make their contribution, or pledge, to the Community House Fund as soon as possible in order to expedite the work of the campaign which is conducted entirely by volunteer, non-paid workers.

Particularly, contributors are asked to respond before March 24 when members of a committee of 400 will visit the homes of all whose contributions are not received before that date.

Are District Champs Fourth Time in Row

The Maple copped their fourth consecutive district basketball championship Saturday night on the Ferrandale floor by downing Royal Oak Shrine, 39-21.

Maples Score Easy Wins Over Shrine and Centerline By Pete Hartusuff The Marples copped their fourth consecutive district basketball championship Saturday night on the Ferrandale floor by downing Royal Oak Shrine, 39-21.

Margin Is Narrowed The beginning of the second round repeated the first as Shrine began leading first to narrow the margin. The third quarter pided 21-17, the Marples making all their points in the final quarter.

Foils Leads Maples' Bob Folin was high for 17 points, his top score being 11 from four free throws. The Marples defeated 50-30, holding complete control throughout the contest and staying far ahead at every quarter. The half time count was 28-11, the Marples leading by 17 points.

Can't Close Street Packers Super Market is in the process of erecting a store on the south side of the street, while the new location of the Oldsmobile dealer agency and service garage will be on the north side.

Two-Car Needed for Two-Ton Truck After Crash with Pick-Up A two-ton oil truck came out second best in an "argument" over the right-of-way with a pick-up truck on the way to the Hills. The two-ton job was taken away by a tow car, while the pick-up continued under its own power.

Voting Registration Deadline Is March 15 Birmingham residents who cast their last election ballot prior to November 1946 must register at the city clerk's office by 8 p.m. March 15 to be eligible to vote in the forthcoming city and state election April 14.

Susan Johnson, 6, Hit by Automobile Susan Johnson, 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Johnson, 1019 Knox, sustained a broken collarbone Friday when she ran into a truck driven by Frederick E. Mull, 40, of Rochester. After x-rays and treatment by a local physician had failed to bring relief to her home, where she is reported as recovering nicely.

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Hunter Water Main, Bowers St. Paving Approved

Water mains, street paving, fire limits, playgrounds and airplanes drew the attention of city commissioners in their comparatively brief 45 minute meeting Monday evening.

Plant One in City, Park? "Twelve years ago one of these redwood seedlings was planted in California coastal town," Johnson said. "Today it is about 60 feet tall which means it grew about 4 1/2 feet a year."

Will Soon Find Out Or take a walk through Birmingham's 50-acre redwood grove? Impossible, you say? Well, we are soon going to find out whether this would be possible or not. Come April, City Forester John Johnson will receive from California three redwood seedlings, each about two feet high. He is going to plant them in the park.

Packages to Berlin Temporarily Halted by Postoffice Order Bernard Fowler, acting postmaster, has been notified from Washington that technical and transportation difficulties in Europe, the acceptance of parcels from Germany, France, Italy, British, French and Russian sectors, comprising the entire city of Berlin, has been temporarily discontinued. The notice also ordered all postmasters to promptly return to the senders any packages which might be on hand when the notice was received.

Approve Hunter Water Main In a second hearing, the assessment roll was approved for a 12-foot arterial water main on Hunter between Haynes and Lexington. Private property not present at the hearing will be assessed \$2,652.28 of the \$10,788 total cost, which is their proportionate share of one-half the cost of the street which will be vacated and provide these two businesses with an extra entrance out of Hunter Blvd.

Water Mains were also the concern of Mrs. Henry Kothe, 1128 Emerson. In presenting a petition to the commission for immediate installation of a water main on Maryland Blvd., she said, "We have to move from our present home pretty soon and want to build on our lot on Maryland. But the PHA won't approve our loan because the water main problem is not solved for this area."

Told of Progress Mayor Milton F. Mallerer told Mrs. Kothe that the city already had initiated proceedings for the water main. (See APPROVAL, Page 2)

Police Investigate Reports of Shots in Southwest Area

Birmingham police are investigating several reports that persons are shooting high-powered rifles in the southwest section of the city. Mrs. R. G. Hoover reported that she had heard the sound of a shot over her house at 593 S. Glenhurst and entered the apartment building, causing considerable damage.

In checking the report, police looked for other residents of the area that every Saturday a group of men are using a range for rifle practice which is located near the police department's own target range off Cranbrook road.

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