

Beneath the superficial armor of what appears to be a man or woman is a creature that can respond to the love, friendly approach. Why not make a game of changing one's critical, caustic, into friends!

73RD YEAR—NO. 41

HIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Intelligence

Does education prove intelligence? Nay! Education's oft opposed to sense. To own a special knowledge—hold a creed? But men imitate as children learn to read. To hold a broad philosophy of life? Not even this, for men may learn in strife. Then common sense is wit? A vain pretence! For this is common, wit, uncommon sense. What is intelligence, and what the test? It is to seek with stern, untiring pluck the core. Amongst the dark complexities of thought, Revealing truth where others find it lost. To disentangle threads, to mark the flaw, To reach the heart of things and pluck the core. To free the thought from bias, hunt the truth. As one would hunt in the enquiring youth. When no fierce dogma rules the reasoning mind. Nor soured experience makes the logic blind. To grasp a subtle point in argument. Until all facts are known with hold content; To sound upon a phrase, unmask a wrong. That hides in a dissertation long; To hold an image of a complex, thought. How'er ingeniously the form is wrought. To fear not least one's cherished thought or creed. Be harshly rooted out, for like the weed. Which inexperienced eyes may not discern. From purer growth until this art they learn, they are in error judged a truth. And held and nurtured in the mirror from youth. Until his time to be our very own; Nor will we see it plucked, for it is a flower of love, and seems a vital part of life within the garden of the heart. But like that weed, a long nursed error abain. Though seen at first as loss, turned out to gain. And so intelligence at last is seen to probe alike, with calm, unaltered mien. The thousand varied forms of faith and creed. Exposing wrong, from fear and bias freed. Stanley Blundell. in "Land & Liberty", a British periodical.

January Through June, 1950: News Highlights Reviewed as 1950 Becomes History

In spite of all the admonition to look to the future, there is a certain satisfaction to, now and then, take time out to review what has gone before. With this in mind The Eccentric looks over the local news highlights of the year just closing. This week we review the first six months of 1950. The last six months will be presented next week.

Probably one of the city's most controversial subjects, off-street parking, began to stir things early last year. It brought a storm of protests and a flood of petitions. It split the city into factions and is still one of the big questions of the day as 1950 takes its place in the past. During the past year Birmingham has seen a remarkable surge in business building. Ground was broken and construction started on the new high school and Torry school.

SEVERAL NEW STORES have been built in the city and the property acquired for the new YMCA building. The Porritt property has been designated as the site for a new hospital. Carrying over from 1949, several investigations and hearings on the Dec. 11 gas explosion were conducted at various times. As a city, Birmingham did look to the future by hiring Charles Sartt to study current local problems and present the city with a master plan for future building and expansion. The water supply of the city has undergone considerable study and city officials are looking at a Birmingham of years yet to come as they plan.

Birmingham has seen tragedy strike and has seen others lifted to success and happiness. It has watched young people step from high school into college and from college into the business world. It has, with a deep sigh, watched the passing of several of its older and well-loved residents.

IT STRUGGLED THROUGH one of the "hottest" winters it has ever known—mud ankle deep (or more). It spent a winter of watching local hills grow thinner and thinner as strikes cut supplies to the bone. It watched the construction completed for the new telephone building and awaited the day when Birmingham would join the ranks of the "dial towns," which it did on June 18.

Issue of January 5 Members of the Department of Public Works are hoping for a big freeze as the city's streets continue to look like vast seas of mud. Max Fall says freezing.

Police First Aid Class

A well-banded Patrolman LeMar Gilchrist poses for practice as members of the local police department, under the direction of Glen E. Dean, Red Cross instructor, add first aid to their training. Here Dean explains the proper adjustment of a head bandage to Policewoman Winona Singers as Sgt. Robert Emmett looks on. The course, which is being taken by all members of the department, is about halfway through the required nine weeks training. This project was planned by police in order to increase their efficiency in handling accidents within their jurisdiction.

Telegraph Open Again For Traffic

Asphalt Surface, Shoulder Repairs Wait Till Spring

The newly widened two-mile stretch of pavement on Telegraph from Maple north to Long Lake road, was opened to traffic last week-end. This road has been blocked off since summer. Construction has been in progress. Edwin Schwoppe, district construction engineer, said the state highway department said that concrete and asphalt paving for the delay in removing the asphalt surface and shoulder repairs will be done next spring, but the road will be kept open to traffic.

THE MAPLE SOUTH on Telegraph from Maple south to Northwestern highway was opened several weeks ago. The highway is now 52 feet in width and has four lanes. It was formerly only 20 feet wide. Before construction started, the state highway department termed the stretch on Telegraph from Northwestern highway to Long Lake "too inadequate to handle the heavy truck and other vehicular traffic which handles this road."

A shortage of cement contributed to the delay in completing the project. Schwoppe said construction materials were limited to 900 barrels of cement a day. Next spring, permanent bituminous surfacing will be applied and shoulder widening completed. While construction was underway, he was counting money spent on the road to Long Lake road. The project was scheduled for completion Jan. 1, 1951.

Fenders Are Only Victims as Long Weekend Is Noted

Another holiday passed with Birmingham coming through with a record of only minor accidents. Police reported heavy weekend traffic, especially during the final shopping hours on Saturday and Sunday. Traffic services Sunday and Monday.

Only 10 slight property damage accidents were received at the local department with no personal injuries reported at all. Police Chief R. W. Moxley said he felt the splendid record was made possible simply because motorists were urged to realize that a moderate, safe speed and thoughtfulness for the other driver and the pedestrian "paid off."

"The department has asked that these policies be followed for several days prior to each holiday period," he said, "and we have been getting excellent cooperation and results. I sincerely hope we can continue it through the coming long New Year's week-end."

Spilled Pipe Snarls East-West Traffic

About 12 tons, or 22 pieces of 35-foot steel pipe scattered around the W. Maple-Baldwin intersection at 8 a. m. Thursday slowed traffic in Birmingham. The pipe was strewn about the street when an axle broke on a trailer truck. Police said the pipe was being transported by the Panhandle Eastern Pipeline company of Texas to a point in Fort Huron.

Nine Billion Gallons of Water Pumped in 17 Years

Although Birmingham's 1949 water production total of 563 million gallons was 21 million gallons less than that in 1939, it is possible to serve more people by pumping less water due to the city's continued program of repairing leaks in the distribution system.

This fact was pointed out in a six-page pamphlet recently compiled by Dana Whitman, assistant to the city manager, and in cooperation with water department, city commission and City Manager Donald C. Egbert. The report explains the condition, history and status of the Birmingham water department.

FIRST OF TWO ARTICLES

The pamphlets were distributed through the treasurers office, the desk at the water department office in the city hall, and the city clerk's office. Whitman said that close to 250 have been given out, and he plans to prepare about 150 more copies. During past summers, the city has maintained a safe, unflinching supply of water, while water supplies in nearby districts have been low. The report commends the work and foresight in co-operation with water department, city commission, planning commission and city administration for the location.

Careful planning is now under way, the pamphlet pointed out, so that an unflinching water supply will be available in future years despite the city's continued growth. All copies of inner spring mattresses required. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY. PHONE ENTERTAIN 6319.

Maple Cagers Divide Pair On Road Trip

GRU Wins From Locals 53-45; Greenville Loses

By RAY DENNIS

The Birmingham high school cage season got under way last week-end as the Maples took to the road, and were defeated by a strong Grand Rapids Union squad, and won from Greenville. In both games, the work of Barry Wall, six-foot-five-inch Birmingham center, stood out as he scored a total of 53 points in the two games. Greenville, which saw the lead change several times, the Grand Rapids Union Red Hawks defeated Birmingham Thursday evening 53 to 45 before 536 fans.

Maples Play Friday

Local fans can see the Birmingham high school cage team in their first home game Friday evening, Dec. 29 against an opponent from the Baldwin high school gymnasium. The variety game will play under at 7:30. At 7:30 high school reserve squad will play another game of former Birmingham basketball players.

Take Down Yule Trees Now, Fire Chief Advises

"Now is the time for that Christmas tree to be taken down if the home is to be kept safe." This warning comes from Fire Chief V. W. Griffith who adds: "In spite of the fact that a few more days remain of the holiday season, those Christmas evergreens are at their worst. They become dry in 10 days and have been constantly increasing as a fire hazard."

Hold back that desire to go forth New Year's Eve and let the tree lights glow. You are asking for trouble. Small though the bulbs may be, they still generate enough heat to set off the dry needles of tree or wreath. Precautions if you decide to keep the tree up for the balance of the holiday season. Insist on a minimum of light load on the circuit which supplies your tree. Insist that all electric toys of the children be used as far away from the tree as possible.

"Be sure evergreens are fully protected from sparks if you have a fireplace and see to it that no one gets close to the tree or other trimmings while smoking." CHIEF GRIFFITH also warned against burning the tree in the fireplace or furnace. The needles are dry, he said, and are highly explosive. The small twigs ignite easily and are light enough to fly as burning embers.

There is a three-fold hazard, he pointed out. The danger of sparking lying into the room, the danger of a roof fire and the danger of a chimney fire. He said to remove the tree out of doors. Griffith said, "be sure it is a safe distance from a building and away from the roadway and the children burn it without adult supervision."

Local Men Injured When Car Hits Telegraph Pole

Two Birmingham men were injured Friday when their car was injured in an accident on West Maple near Chevon road, Bloomfield township. The driver, Raymond H. Smith, 1691 North Woodward, sustained facial lacerations. 1951-52 eliminating this revenue source. It will be made up by a proportionate increase in city taxes.

The city commission Tuesday evening, approved the investment of \$65,020 in government bonds. The money to be invested is in cash reserves, which will be expended during the next six months. It is expected the annual interest return to the city will be \$895.50. A total of \$11,100 from the equipment fund will be invested, \$8,000 from the Springdale park fund, \$40,000 in the bonds for water revenue bonds, and \$2,200 from the fund for depreciation in the water department.

City To Invest In Certain Funds In Government Bonds

The city commission Tuesday evening, approved the investment of \$65,020 in government bonds. The money to be invested is in cash reserves, which will be expended during the next six months. It is expected the annual interest return to the city will be \$895.50.

An evaluation and estimate of future population trends, must be carefully checked by the water department to make possible the proper planning of future water demands. Next week, The Eccentric will publish excerpts from the pamphlet which explains the present financial condition of the water department.

Inside The Eccentric

Bowling Classified Ads	Page 8
Beverly Hills	Page 3
Franklin Lathrup	Page 6
Obituaries	Page 4
This & That	Page 1
Walnut Park	Page 6
PART TWO	
Bits of B'ham	Page 1
Community House	Page 2
Calendar	Page 5
Horse Sense	Page 2
Society	Page 2-5
PART THREE	
Church	Page 6
Editorials	Page 2
Looking Ahead	Page 2
Michigan Mirror	Page 2
One Thing or Another	Page 2



Thugs Beat, Rob Gas Station Attendant In Morning Robbery

A 60-year-old gas station attendant was taken to St. Joseph Mercy hospital early Friday morning after being severely beaten during the robbery of a gas station at 1280 South Woodward.

Ray Hicks, 763 Ann street, told police he was called to the station shortly after 1 a. m., when either two or three young men entered. He said as he bent over to get some merchandise they had asked for, one of the men began striking him over the head and continued to do so until he handed over the money. About \$75 in bills and small change was taken.

HICKS SAID he was not sure whether there were two or three in the group and could give only a sketchy description of the man who beat him. He said the heavy cap he wore saved him from more severe injuries. He suffered deep lacerations of the scalp.

The water supply was insufficient for years, and the shortages were emphasized by the serious fire losses where lack of water retarded its substantial losses.

BIRMINGHAM'S WATER supply is taken from formations of approximately 40 feet in thickness lying from 40 to 210 feet underground. (From the 17 year period from 1933 to 1949, these formations have produced nearly nine billion gallons of water, an average of a little more than 500 million gallons each year.)

The local public water supply system began in 1915 when wells in the Baldwin-Cross area attempted to meet the needs of the 2,000 people living in the then square-mile village. Because the village's supply was inadequate, many residents were dependent upon their own wells.

The water supply was insufficient for years, and the shortages were emphasized by the serious fire losses where lack of water retarded its substantial losses.

THE CITY BEGAN to develop larger wells in 1922, and the first gravel well type, the Baldwin, was drilled that year. This was followed by the development of six other wells: the Lincoln, east, west, south, Redding and Walker.

The water supply was insufficient for years, and the shortages were emphasized by the serious fire losses where lack of water retarded its substantial losses.

THE CITY BEGAN to develop larger wells in 1922, and the first gravel well type, the Baldwin, was drilled that year. This was followed by the development of six other wells: the Lincoln, east, west, south, Redding and Walker.

The water supply was insufficient for years, and the shortages were emphasized by the serious fire losses where lack of water retarded its substantial losses.

THE CITY BEGAN to develop larger wells in 1922, and the first gravel well type, the Baldwin, was drilled that year. This was followed by the development of six other wells: the Lincoln, east, west, south, Redding and Walker.

The water supply was insufficient for years, and the shortages were emphasized by the serious fire losses where lack of water retarded its substantial losses.



Don't Worry Mister

Advertise those Attic Stuffers in The Eccentric Want Ads. Some one wants what you no longer need. PHONE MI 4-1100 Ask for the Want Ad desk