It is assumed that when one prays, he seeks Divine guidance for his acts, so that he may attain health and happiness. Sincere prayer does bring to an honest mind good thoughts to apply to living—the test, then, is in being able to apply prayer's answers to one's life.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

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THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

(While GRA is on his annual Florida vacation, his column is being written by his son, George Wm. Averill, managing editor of The Eccentric.)

Don't Tell Them —SHOW Them!

As yet, my Republican ward captain hasn't brought me my copy of the party's new statement of principles, as adopted last week by the GOP's congressional delegation and approved by the Republican National Committee.

So all I have to go on is what I read in the papers. But what I read about it doesn't convince me that the elephant will replace the jackass in the running of our federal affairs, come 1952.

"Liberty vs. Socialism" is the theme. That's nice. Sounds good. A lot of people will agree with this thought. They always have. I'm convinced, even though they have been voting for the Democrats since 1932.

Say these GOP leaders: "The major domestic issue today is liberty against socialism—whether we shall remain in this County a free people in constant control of our Government or whether we shall delegate to an all-powerful Federal Government, with unlimited power to tax and spend, the right to direct and operate our agriculture, industry, labor, and local communities, and the daily lives of our citizens."

Used Too Many Generalities

If the Republicans campaign on generalities like this, they'll be sitting on the sidelines again after the Congressional elections this fall, and the general presidential election in 1952. That's what they went to the voters with in 1940, 1944 and 1948—generalities.

"The good old American way of life must be preserved," they shouted.

"Too much money being wasted!" they cried.

"Let us run this government and we can do it better than the Democrats," they argued.

But these generalities didn't get enough votes to swing the tide.

This type of campaigning won't bring them sufficient votes to gain control of Congress in 1950, nor the White House in 1952.

Voters' Want FACTS

The voters want FACTS today, not generalities. FACTS that can be proved, not those that arise from opinion. Given FACTS, they can be checked by the intelligent American voter, who can then make a decision.

Telling a sales prospect that your product will do wonders for his company results in very few actual sales. He's pretty well satisfied with the item he is presently using and doesn't see any reason to change to a new method.

However, if you SHOW him how your product will save money, increase efficiency, improve working conditions, make more profit at lower costs and prices, then the prospect is interested. If your FACTS are sound and can be proven, more times than not you will have his signature on the order.

You can't just tell people that the United States is heading for socialism and expect them to agree with you. Maybe they think their experience proves the country isn't going down that road. So you haven't made a sale, have you?

SHOW The People

So if the GOP wants to win some elections, they've got to SHOW the people that they are in danger of losing by the process they are now following.

FACTS, presented by charts, maps, pictures, and other visual methods, are made easy to understand. Comparisons are possible. And the voter can see what he will be giving up if he persists in thinking he can get something for nothing.

It looks like the Republican party could use a national chairman who has had considerable sales promotion experience.

Part of the average American's nature is the "you-got-to-show-me" attitude.

If the Republicans want to win, they've got to do some "showing." Otherwise the majority of voters will keep what they have because they aren't sold on anything better.

Commission Race Draws 3rd Entry

Donald Parry, 35, of 975 Madison, became the third candidate for the city commission when his petition was filed Monday with the city clerk. He is the son of James Parry, who was Birmingham village and city manager from 1926 to 1937.

The other two candidates are Dean G. Beier, 1727 Washington blvd., and Chad M. Ritchie, 1150 Puritan.

These three will be seeking one of the two commission vacancies in the April 3 election. Present commissioners Donald S. Bell and G. Theron Van Dusen have announced they will not run for reelection.

Petitions have been taken out for Clyde Collins as city constable, and for the re-election of Mrs. Louis Hascall and Dwight B. Ireland to the library board.

Red Run Cost Reduced by 25 Per Cent

Revised Engineering Plan to Mean Saving of $4,500 for City

Birmingham and other South Oakland communities will pay about 25 per cent less for the Red Run Drain than previously anticipated, according to a revised engineering estimate which has been submitted to the Red Run drainage board.

A change in plans for three bridges spanning the drain results in an overall reduction of $312,200. Instead of building a new Utica road bridge, the present one will be retained but extended to provide the necessary length.

The Stephenson highway bridge will be built by the state highway department as part of its road building costs, instead of charging it to the cost or the drain.

One Bridge Eliminated

One other bridge will not be erected.

Previous figures called for Birmingham to pay an assessment of $19,612. The new cost to the city will be $15,111.77, the revised report estimates.

The cost of the total project is now reduced from $2,370,600 to $2,058,200. The cost to the drainage district is cut from $1,361,100 to $1,048,700. The federal government will cover the difference in a grant already authorized and approved.

Fire Department Issues Its '49 Activity Report

The annual report of the Birmingham fire department shows an increase in the activities of all divisions, due mainly to the growth of the city. Fire Chief V. W. Griffith said the number of emergency alarms increased 10 per cent over the previous year.

The report shows the department answered 415 alarms during 1949. Of these 281 were silent alarms for fires and fire investigations, 8 general; 3 false, 10 miscellaneous and 10 first aid. Fire losses in the city were set at $24,685 on buildings and contents.

For the first time in several years tragedy struck Birmingham through fire deaths. Five persons, including Fire Marshal Lee Carroll, died on Dec. 11, when a gas explosion and fire destroyed the Mother and Son antique shop on North Woodward avenue. Carroll was the first fireman to die on duty since it was founded in 1913.

The department spent 186 hours in fire fighting and rescue work.

2,423 Inspections

Fire marshals made 2,423 inspections during the year, 91 requiring action by the fire prevention bureau.

During 1949, the water pressure of the city showed a high of 42.9 pounds and a low of 37, as recorded at the department. On fires 155,530 gallons of water were pumped with an additional 508,250 gallons used in equipment and personnel drills.

Woodward, Lincoln and Maple again proved the "danger" spots in the city. The largest number of runs was made to establishments on these streets. Grass fires lead the alarms with 85. Automobile and truck fires accounted for 26, carelessness for 25, defective heating equipment for 26, children playing with matches for 22, rubbish fires in the open, 17.

December averaged about three calls a day, or 90 alarms during the month, with 81 for March. The report shows May, with 15, to be the "safest" month in 1949. The high hour was 3 o'clock, with 40 alarms being entered at this time. The "safest", 7 a.m., saw but two received.

Water Report

As assistant superintendent of the water department, Chief Griffith said a total of 563,247,900 gallons of water was pumped from the city's wells last year. This represents 35,203 gallons per person during the year, or 96 each day.

The report shows that, in spite of the high fire loss during the final month of the year, the per capita loss in Birmingham was $1.54. The national average is $3.00 per person.

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. . . in two easy lessons:
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New Oakland Hospital Picks Birmingham Site

Selection of the Porritt site in Birmingham for the proposed $3,500,000 Oakland Hospital was announced today by President E. A. Tomlinson.

"We spent considerable time in an attempt to utilize the Woodward General location," stated Tomlinson, "but there were so many legal obstacles that it seemed impossible to work it out within the time limits set by the Greater Detroit Hospital fund. Also, the Greater Detroit Hospital group asked for a compromise site rather than the use of either the one on Coolidge road or the one originally selected by the Bloomfield Medical center.

"The Porritt site is in Birmingham and is available to all sections of the county. It consists of 40-odd acres and has plenty of room for expansion in the years ahead.

"Several very competent lawyers devoted considerable time to ascertaining whether the Woodward General site could be made available, but their unanimous conclusions indicated many legal steps would have to be taken and some of the obstacles might not be circumvented at all.

"Hence, we selected this spot in Birmingham. Moreover, this was selected after an exhaustive canvass of other possible locations."

The Porritt site extends from Adams road to Columbia, between Holland and Villa. The hospital would contain 200 beds.

Kiwanis Meeting on Greyhound Bus Has Novelty Touch

The Birmingham Kiwanis club conducted the business meeting of Feb. 14 aboard a Greyhound bus en route to an inter-club meeting with the College Park club of Detroit.

It is believed that this is the first time that a Kiwanis meeting was ever held aboard a bus. It was a mystery meeting. None of the members knew where they were going until the bus arrived at its destination.

A public address system permitted the meeting to be carried off in good fashion. Music for singing was provided by recordings.

Development of Eton Park Is Considered

Builder Asks City, Residents to Join Him in Financing

If the residents in the vicinity of the city's park property bounded by Eton, Windemere, Buckingham, and Manchester will contribute $500 toward its development, the city may be able to find funds to add to the contribution.

This was revealed at Monday night's commission meeting as commissioners discussed a proposition offered by Frederick Graef, owner of the Graefield terrace project.

In discussions with City Manager Donald C. Egbert, Graef said he would donate $500 toward this park development if nearby residents would also contribute $500, the whole sum to be matched by the city.

Commissioner Milton F. Mallender said, "I think this proposition is worth investigating. We will also find out how the residents actually feel about this development."

Egbert to Contact Residents

Several weeks ago a few residents asked the commission to consider improvement of the park. They said residents would probably be willing to donate labor if the city could provide the equipment to grade the property.

Mallender also pointed out that this method was the way in which St. James and Howarth parks have been improved.

"Private contributions were matched with city funds," he said.

Egbert was directed to contact a number of residents to find out how they felt regarding their financial contribution. He will report his findings back to the commission.

The manager advised the commission, "The procedure outlined by Graef would appear to me to have many advantages . . . in that the surrounding area would have a real interest in the park, which would result in better care and attention of the park area."

Manly D. Davis Dies in Florida on Vacation Trip

Manly D. Davis, 70 of Oak Knoll, Bloomfield Hills, died suddenly at Naples, Fla., Sunday at the home of Mrs. R. L. Polk. Mr. and Mrs. Davis had arrived there Wednesday to spend some time vacationing in Florida.

Memorial services were held yesterday morning at the William R. Hamilton funeral home with interment in Evergreen cemetery.

Mr. Davis, a well known real estate man, was responsible for the development of Sherwood Forest and other areas on the north side. He was also president of Davis Investment company.

Born in Pontiac, he attended Ferris Institute and the University of Michigan where he was graduated with a law degree in 1901. He practiced law in Pontiac for several years before joining his father in forming the Evergreen cemetery association, of which he was president at the time of his death.

A former president of the Bloomfield Hills savings bank, Mr. Davis was at one time mayor of that community. He was a member of the Detroit club and president of the Bloomfield Hills country club and Pine Lake country club.

He is survived by his widow, Ella, and two daughters, Mrs. John W. Blanchard and Mrs. John L. Lovett, Jr.

Damage Here Low as Storm Blankets Area for Two Days

The weatherman brought to Birmingham Monday and Tuesday some out-of-order telephones, an unexpected blackout and a few flooded basements.

Michigan Bell said the telephone trouble was scattered over the city, with a crew working all night Tuesday in an effort to get the North Woodward section back in service.

Detroit Edison crews found very little trouble in the city. The Pierce, Bates, Brown and Frank street area was without power for a short time.

Franklin Village and the area east of Woodward on Long Lake road were also without electricity.

The DPW reported remarkably few basements were flooded.

$32,000 Set As Goal for 1950 Roll Call

Kitchen Equipment, Heating Plant Needs Cited by CH Board

A goal of $32,000 has been set by the Community House budget committee and approved by the board, for the annual Roll Call drive beginning March 17.

The committee arrived at this figure after a study of House finances, based on past experience and future needs.

Members of the budget committee are: Mrs. Velma Isley, director of the House, Mrs. Carol Plumstead, assistant director in charge of finances, Charles B. Kass, Clyde C. Bennett, and Arthur S. McCall.

New Stage Curtain Needed

Among the major repairs and additions to the House during the past year are a new roof, new stairway to the basement, new coffee urns, a kitchen ventilation fan, new rugs, draperies, dishes and pans.

A new stage curtain for the auditorium is considered an immediate need. Mrs. Isley is getting estimates on the cost of a new curtain, the last estimate being $740. The heating system will have to be repaired, modernized, or possibly replaced in the near future, and the board feels that painting the outside trim of the House is a "must."

"We need additional kitchen equipment," Mrs. Isley said, "if we continue to serve as many meals as in the past year. There is also a very definite need for kitchen expansion to relieve congestion during rush hours."

"A goal of $32,000 may sound like a formidable sum," Harold Turner, chairman of the Roll Call said. "but from the interest already shown by our community in the undertaking, I think we'll reach our goal this year."

MOMS Tag Day

The Birmingham MOMS club will stage its annual tag day April 29. Approval was granted Monday night by the city commission.

Business Property Assessments Being Revised Upward

A more balanced tax assessment roll, particularly concerning business property, is in its final stages and will be reported to the city commission by the first Monday in March, City Assessor Elmer Haack reported this week.

State legislative changes have set Jan. 1 as the tax date, with the roll reported by the first Monday in March. The board of review will meet March 13 and 14 to review the roll.

"Property is being assessed at 40 per cent of current value," Haack explained. "Land sales in business is being assessed higher this year as current sales in this type of property show it has been assessed somewhat lower than other types of property."

Southfield Family to Spend Some Time in Korea With ECA

SOUTHFIELD—Vincent Madison left last week by plane for Seoul, Korea, where he will be connected with the ECA power division. Madison has been in the power sales division of Detroit Edison.

Mrs. Madison and their four children, Gayle, who is only 20 months old, Nancy and twin sons, Gary and Stanley, expect to join him there in a month or six weeks. They also, will make the trip by plane.

In speaking of the change, Mrs. Madison said "I'm looking forward to it with a great deal of excitement. Now that we have official backing of Uncle Sam in Korea, I feel a great deal can be done there and am personally thrilled with the chance to go down.

"It's the only Asiatic country, so far, to be aided by the Marshall plan, and our only toe-hold in the East against Communism. It is going to be a wonderful experience for all of us, including the three older children."

Mortensen Warns Drivers: License Deadline Is Near

With only about 15 days left in which to purchase 1950 license plates, Birmingham motorists are urged to attend to this matter at once.

Charles Mortensen, secretary of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, said last Thursday that approximately one-third of the expected number of plates had been sold here.

For their own convenience he urged motorists to get plates during the week whenever possible. "Weekdays aren't so bad, but Saturday morning is quite crowded."

He explained that office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week and from 9 to 1 on Saturdays until further notice.

"Persons who have moved here from out of state and are not yet using Michigan plates should not delay," Mortensen said. "This is a more complicated procedure and has a longer delay before the new plates are received. They should come in at once so they will be sure to have 1950 plates by midnight of Feb. 28.

Scooters and Trucks

"Commercial vehicle owners are also advised that they must have, in addition to the title of the vehicle and 1950 application blank, their 1949 registration or an official weight slip. We cannot issue a license unless we know what the official weight is. It will save time if these papers are brought in with the application.

"Another group effected this year are the owners of motor scooters. For the first time in several years they are required to have a title and license plates in order to legally use them after March 1.

"We have been busy," Mortensen said, "but not nearly as busy as we will have to be for the balance of the month if everyone is to have a licensed vehicle."

An On-the-Spot European Interview

British Doctor Favors State Medicine

By Robert Ball

Special Correspondent for The Eccentric

LONDON—"I may as well tell you right off that I'm in favor of it," said Dr. Edward Burton, as he offered me a chair in his office.

Dr. Burton has been a general practitioner in the middle-class London suburb of Kingston-on-Thames both before and after the inauguration of the National Health Insurance Program, under which every Britisher, whether wage-earner or self-employed, pays a small weekly sum to the government and receives in return the right free medical care.

I had asked Dr. Burton to explain how the program had affected his relationship with his patients.

"The program fits in with my philosophy that a doctor shouldn't have to depend on the existence of sickness. As you probably know, we receive a flat sum per patient per year from the government. This means that for the first time, not only our conscience but our natural instincts as well favor the cutting out of all unnecessary treatment. It's a declaration of independence from well-to-do hypochondriacs."

About 100 Private Patients

Dr. Burton explained that his practice, which numbers about 3000, is nearly the same as before, since most of his old patients signed up with him under the program. He still has about 100 private patients, who are willing to pay their doctor bills twice.

Like doctors everywhere, Dr. Burton has a full schedule: Consultation hours 9-10 a.m. and 6-7 p.m., morning calls and afternoon appointments. One afternoon a week he operates at Victoria Hospital.

On a busy day, he may have a line of 15 or 20 people for each consultation hour.

"It's a question of sifting the wheat from the chaff," he said. "About half a dozen of the patients in the line really need a doctor. Naturally I can't treat them during the consultation hour, so I give them an appointment later. There is no hurried or haphazard treatment for those who are really sick."

Situation Is Improving

The biggest problem, according to Dr. Burton, is educating people not to make unnecessary calls.

Some of them are persons who like to stop by frequently because it's free, but perhaps more significant is the carryover from the times when people didn't mind botbering the doctor because they were paying him for it, Dr. Burton pointed out.

"I tell my patients that the doctor is like the fire brigade now," he smiled. "You're entitled to it whenever you need it, but you wouldn't call it out just for excitement, and you wouldn't call it out every time a hot coal dropped. I notice already that the situation is improving.

Under the program, the patient has perfect freedom of choice, Dr. Burton continued. At the initial registration patients could sign up with any doctor they wished, and at any time a patient who is

(See DOCTOR, Page 2)

State Department Official to Speak at Public Meeting

Arrangements have been completed to have James F. Green speak at Cranbrook school auditorium on the evening of March 2, under the joint sponsorship of the Birmingham League of Women Voters and the Cranbrook institutions.

Green is deputy director of the office of United Nations Economic and Social Affairs, Department of State. His topic will be "Action for Peace".

Associated with the department of state since 1942, Green is the author of "The British Empire Under Fire", 12 issues of foreign policy reports and numerous book reviews and articles including "The Dumbarton Oaks Conversations", and the Department of State Bulletin of October, 1944.

The public is invited and there is no admission charge.

Harry C. Bigler, GM Executive, Dies Suddenly

Harry C. Bigler, 46, of 18750 Glenwood, Lathrup, died suddenly Monday afternoon at Ames, Iowa. Mr. Bigler, manager of the General Motors college placement bureau, was interviewing engineering students of Iowa State college when he collapsed.

Mr. Bigler was born Sept. 14, 1903, at Coatesville, Pa., and on Sept. 4, 1926, married the former Juanita Siferd at Dayton, Ohio.

He began his General Motors career in that city in 1922, and four years later came to the Detroit office.

A member of the board of deacons of the First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, he also held membership in Wolverine Lodge, F. & A. M., and Detroit Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar.

Surviving besides his widow are two daughters, Mrs. Allison W. Repetto of Largo, Fla., and Miss Doris Jean Bigler, a student at Lakeland, Fla. The following brothers and sisters also survive, John Bigler, Detroit; Ellwood Bigler, Pontiac; Mrs. Robert Twoomey, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Mrs. Alfred Hall, Highspire, Pa.; Mrs. Theodore Forester, Pheonixville, Pa.; Mrs. Chet Kordack and Mrs. Louis Spindt, Norristown, Pa.; Mrs. Robert Hoopes, West Chester, Pa.

Detroit Commandery will have charge of the services being held this afternoon at 2:30 from the Joseph Dryer funeral home, with the Rev. Dr. W. Glen Harris preaching. Burial will be in Roseland Park cementery.

To Lead Suburbs

WILLIAM H. BREECH

William H. Breech has accepted the chairmanship of the allied communities division in the spring campaign of the $19,720,000 Greater Detroit Hospital Fund.

Breech will head teams to be enlisted to solicit contributions for the Hospital Fund from business and professional firms in communities throughout the metropolitan area outside the city limits of Detroit.

"Wide-spread support in these communities is necessary and anticipated," Breech said, "because a major feature of the Hospital Fund program is the construction of new or enlarged hospital facilities to bring urgently needed service close to inadequately protected neighborhoods outside Detroit proper."

Breech is president of Great Lakes Tractor and Equipment Co. here. He was chairman of the 1948 Community Chest drive in Dearborn and of the 1949 Torch Drive in Birmingham.

Ice Carnival Will Be Held Saturday, Weather Permitting

Weather permitting, the postponed ice carnival will be held at Quarton Lake Saturday. Preliminary events will be held in the morning, beginning at 9 o'clock, with the finals scheduled for 1 p.m.

Mrs. Kenneth Whitlock said, announcements will be made tomorrow in all schools on ice conditions and whether or not the carnival will be held.

Some 200 local children between the ages of 10 and 17 were registered for the event last week.

Water for Air Conditioning Is Restricted

City Also Concerned About Amount Used for Refrigeration

By limiting future air conditioning installations to the use of 6,000 gallons of water in any 24-hour period, the city commission believes it has made a large step forward in conserving the city's underground water supply.

Commissioners Monday night amended the water ordinance by inserting the 6,000-gallon-per-day limitation to make it more restrictive. Formerly, the ordinance permitted the use of no more than 10 gallons per minute. This would enable anyone to use as much as 24,000 gallons a day. The 10 gpm restriction still remains part of the ordinance.

As another means of water supply conservation, the city commission instructed City Manager Donald C. Egbert to study the advisability of "reverse wells" or a revised water rate schedule that would prevent the excessive use of water for commercial refrigeration purposes.

1,000,000-Gallon User

Egbert said city water records showed that during the first quarter of 1949, a large local independent grocer used 1,000,000 gallons of water for refrigeration of meat and dairy products.

"That's 1/100th of all the water the city sold last year," emphasized Commissioner John O'Gorman. "If we had a few more big customers like that, it wouldn't be long before the water supply problem here would be serious."

Agreeing that this use of water by markets might become a serious problem, they brought out the possibility of having the water put back in the ground.

Will Act as Deterrent

Egbert said if the water never touched the air, it could be returned to the ground in a "reverse well" and thus maintain the water level.

"However we still have the problem of peak demand and shorts have small control the total amount of water needed at any one time," he advised.

Said Commissioner C. Theron Van Dusen, "For our own protection and to see that the water problem doesn't get out of hand, perhaps we can adjust the rates so they will be a deterrent on using too much water."

Mallender remarked, "New York City admits its present water shortage is due primarily to the unrestricted use of air conditioning and refrigerating units in the city."

Legal 'Side Shows' Foster Crime, Says State Police Head

By Jo Nichols

Franklin Correspondent

FRANKLIN — "The inherent dislike of American people to be dictated to is one of the chief causes of crime", Donald S. Leonard commissioner of Michigan State police, told members of the Franklin men's association Monday night.

"The vast area of this country, with its overlapping law enforcing agencies, affords the criminal loopholes through which he escapes", Commissioner Leonard stated.

He said legal tendencies to make "side shows" of criminal trials, in the past, have contributed to the continuance of crime. However, due to recent rulings of the Michigan state bar association, the commissioner looks for future improvement in the handling of trials.

Monuments to Youth

He suggested that more citizens make themselves available for public office and jury duty along with exercising their voting franchise.

"Our greatest penitentiaries are monuments to our neglected youth as twenty per cent of all crimes committed are by those under 21 years of age", he said.

Commissioner Leonard also spoke on the Communists using our American freedoms as a shield to spread their propaganda of destruction and revolution of our American way of life.

"Let's quit coddling the Communists", he asked.

The annual men's meeting was attended by 100 members, and new officers elected were Glen Shoemaker, president; Charles Baker, vice-president; Emil Bates, secretary and Eamon Rutledge, treasurer. Directors for the coming year are, in addition to the above officers, Winfield Hinman, Thomas Risk, Walter Rodgers, Edwin Green and Wendell Smith.

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