

# 15,370 Is Official 1950 Census for the City of Birmingham

The city of Birmingham has shown a 37 per cent population gain in the past 10 years, according to official figures released Tuesday morning by the Pontiac district office of the U. S. Census Bureau.

Enumerators this spring counted 15,370 Birmingham residents, or 4,174 more than were tabulated in the 1940 regular census.

In Bloomfield Hills, the official 1950 census listed 1,413 persons, or 132 more than in 1940.

Since the special Oakland county census in 1947, Birmingham gained 2,687 residents, or a 21 per cent increase in three years.

**A NET LOSS OF 13 PERSONS** was shown by Bloomfield Hills in the past three

years. The special 1947 count was 1,433.

The 1950 population figures for Southfield, Bloomfield, West Bloomfield and Troy townships will not be available until sometime in September.

These new township totals will come from Washington, officials at the Pontiac office explained.

However, all four of these unincorporated

areas are expected to show appreciable gains as has Birmingham.

**THE 1947 CENSUS GIVES THESE** population figures for the townships: Southfield—13,912; Bloomfield—3,012; West Bloomfield—9,586; Troy—10,921.

In 1930, Birmingham had a population of 9,539; Bloomfield Hills at that time had 1,127 persons.

Because, in a large sense, education has failed to educate people as to the fundamental nature of the present impoverished status. Above all, it seems to me, education should prove the value and worthwhileness of being educated.

73RD YEAR—NO. 14

## THINGS and THAT

By G. R. A.

### State Fair Problems

For a good many years the Michigan State Fair was a football in the unending game of Michigan politics. Frank D. McKay, Grand Rapids former political boss, held the fair in the hollow of his philanthropic hand.

Members of the board were more often than not put on a reward for political service. The Fair, as a result, broke even—the politicians say to that.

So when Kim Sigler became Governor in 1947 and took me to Lansing as his executive secretary, I had numerous talks with him upon the subject of the Michigan State Fair.

**FINALLY**, when it came time to make four or five annual appointments to that board, due to expiration of terms, Sigler requested me to come up with names for appointees. I did so, resulting in 10 appointments in two years, plus Haten Funk, the new manager.

It was the policy of the Sigler administration to keep hands off the statutory responsibilities of the board. That, I may say, some problems did not reach the executive office—but they were upon the subject of the Michigan State Fair.

I can say, with this vigor, because I felt, in most of the problems, even to having a heart-to-heart, straight-from-the-shoulder talk with the board's chairman, Charles F. Dyer, director of the State Dept. of Agriculture.

**SIGLER STOOD** back of me in my few attempts, and the result was, after a brief period, that the Fair went along without political interference.

I am reminded of this when I recently read about more trouble among members of the State Fair. Whenever "Politics" enters into the affairs of any organization, inside or outside of government, trouble comes along as a Siamese twin. "Was always so" 'twill always be so—indeed, why expect anything different?

**These Things Despoil** If ever the federal government of the United States gets into the business of granting aid to the schools of this nation, you may resign yourself to witnessing the deterioration of our processes of free education.

In the holy name of education, the remote politicians will from us. They will saddle them out on a political basis—and, human nature being what it is, the result will be a mad scramble among otherwise self-sufficient educators "to out-throat" while the getting is good," which means that our public schools will become the means of a gigantic centralization of political systems of financial aids, with attendant controls.

To allow the financial support of public schools to extend beyond state lines is to place them in the hands of that system which, as may be seen in other areas of our society, corrupts and destroys whatever it sets its hands upon.

Out of Paris comes the news (with pictures) of women wearing jewelry that somehow is pestered with atom, nuclear and other dangers. No doubt it will add to the vanity satisfaction of the ladies, also enable them to wear easily to get their claws upon the unsuspecting (1) male.

**WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?** EXTRA CASH? CROWDED CLOSETS? Then sell those "Attic-Stackers" through Eccentric Want Ads.

Midwest 4-1100

## Birmingham's New Exchange In Operation

### Ceremony Attends Cutover; No Service Trouble, Says Fauser

Climaxing a 40-minute ceremony heralding the advent of dial service here Sunday morning, State Representative Howard R. Estes and Mayor Bruce G. Booth signaled the cutover from the old manual system to the new dial facilities at exactly 12:01 a.m.

James F. Healy, division commercial superintendent for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company and principal speaker at the cutover, proceeded to the new office on Martin street, hailed the new plant as one of the finest in the country and cited it as a reflection of the company's faith in the future of Birmingham.

Approximately 110 persons were invited to the special cutover ceremony.

They began arriving at 10:30 p.m. and were taken on a guided tour of the upstairs basement telephone exchange.

At 11:20 Walter B. Fauser, local exchange manager, greeted the guests and introduced Herbert N. Bampus of the company's public relations office, who described briefly how a modern dial exchange functions.

Estes then praised the inventive genius of Alexander Graham Bell and thanked Michigan Bell officials for providing Birmingham with a public utility service "second to none."

On behalf of the company, Healy presented the new \$2,400,000 installation to Birmingham customers.

"This is a tangible evidence of our faith in the future of this area," Healy declared. Fauser called Estes and Booth to the front of the group and asked them to signal the cutover.

**ESTES PRESSED** a special push button which signified to the office that it was to witness the deterioration of our processes of free education.

A split second later, Booth signaled that the new equipment upstairs should be cut into operation.

The company then served the guests a buffet luncheon. Birmingham's new metropolitan telephone permits users here to dial directly to Royal Oak, Mt. Clemens, Mayfield, Southfield, Pontiac, Centerline, and Detroit, is made possible through the installation of automatic message accounting equipment in the new plant.

"Call our customers become thoroughly familiar with dial operation," Fauser said. "They should check their new directory carefully to make sure they have the correct number of the party they are calling and then wait."

(See CUTOVER, Page 2)

## LaBelle Undergoes Critical Operation

Condition of Alfred J. LaBelle, veteran Birmingham businessman, improved after a critical operation to correct an internal hemorrhage, Ford Hospital authorities report.

LaBelle collapsed at his Wing Lake home Friday evening, and was successfully operated on a Monday afternoon.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1950

26 PAGES FIVE CENTS

## Ring Out the Old and Ring in the New!



REP. HOWARD ESTES (LEFT) AND MAYOR BRUCE BOOTH They signaled old, new exchanges when they made cutover



MAYOR BOOTH CALLS WIFE TO TALK TO HIS WIFE Theirs was the first call over new dial system

## Junior Olympic Track Meet Set For Saturday

The local summer recreational program will get underway at Pierce field Saturday afternoon at 1:30 when the 6th annual Junior Olympic track meet sponsored by the Birmingham Athletic Club will be held.

The largest valuation was for the construction of the new \$2,090,000 high school. Total for the first five months is \$1,352,036.

Events for class "C" are limited to ages 10-11, class "B", 12-13; class "A", 14-15; and "open" class for ages 16 to 40.

Entries will be accepted at all local schools. Strop's market, Craig's sport shop and Mortimers. Late entries can also be made on the day of the meet.

## May Sets Record for 1950 Building

The monthly report of Barkley G. Omans, building inspector, shows a total of 165 permits issued in May, the highest monthly total for the year.

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(See TRACK MEET, Page 2)

## Action to Extend Park St. Begun By Commission

Two steps in the opening of Park street from Hamilton to E. Maple were taken by the city commission Monday night when it approved the purchase of three pieces of property needed for the right-of-way and set July 17 as the date of a hearing on an easement district to pay for the cost of the project.

A payment of \$16,000 to Sam Brunt, 292 Park, for more than half of the right-of-way was authorized by commissioners. The amount will be advanced immediately by the city and reimbursed by the assessment district.

City officials deem this street opening necessary to provide better traffic circulation in the Hamilton area.

PLANS FOR the opening of 16 mile road from Adams to Woodward are progressing rapidly, City Manager Donald C. Egbert informed the commission.

"The county has secured about half of the necessary right-of-way from Woodward east," he said.

# 142 Baldwin Seniors To Get Diplomas at Commencement Today

## Local Woman In Race for Legislature

### Mrs. Garrison Seeks Dem. Nomination for Third District

Petitions for the nomination of Mrs. Anne Garrison of 3970 W. Maple, Bloomfield township, for Democratic representative to the State Legislature, in the Sept. 12 primary election, are being circulated in the 3rd district by a committee of Mrs. Garrison's friends and supporters organized as the Garrison for Representative Committee.

The petitions are circulating in the townships of Milford, Commerce, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield, Troy, Lyons, Novi and Farmington, and in Third district cities of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, South Lyon and Sylvan Lake. They carry the slogan "For real representation in Legislature."

Republican Howard R. Estes of Birmingham now represents the third district. He is seeking reelection to his post in 1950. Mrs. Garrison must file her candidacy for the primary election by July 4. The wife of F. G. Garrison, a Detroit industrial engineer, Mrs. Garrison has been active in Fauser called Estes and Booth to the front of the group and asked them to signal the cutover.

"It is the first time she has sought a political office. Most of her organizational activity has been with the non-partisan League of Women Voters and with the Foreign Policy Association, which she also serves as vice-president, in Detroit."

SHE GIVES as her reason for seeking election to the legislature: "For several years I have been intensely interested in local, state and national problems connected with such programs. I have been trying to put my interest to practical use in a political way, I said that two boys and the non-partisan character of the League of Women Voters, which has been a major interest for the past six years, made it unwise for me to engage in politics."

"I am still anxious to do what I can for my community and state and particularly to help in building the state mental hospital which is so badly needed, and in strengthening education in Michigan. When local Democrats asked me to consider being a candidate and many friends offered their support and insisted that I accept, I decided to do so."

"If I win the primary nomination, and I understand that I am unopposed at this time, I intend to do everything I can to win the Third District seat in the Legislature."

Mrs. Garrison served as vice-president of the Michigan League of Women Voters in 1946-47 and was president of the Detroit Foreign Policy Association for the past two years and is a member of the Birmingham Community Council.

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## Ohio Editor To Speak to June Class

### Rev. Kontz Gives Baccalaureate for Original Speaker

Grove Patterson, editor-in-chief of the Toledo Blade and one of the country's foremost authorities on international affairs, will deliver the commencement address at the Birmingham theatre this morning.

Patterson has traveled extensively throughout foreign countries and has interviewed some of the great leaders in the world. In addition to this he has done work among the young people of Toledo through his association with the YMCA and the Ohio Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

He will bring a message to the graduates concerning the problems of the world today which will eventually come into their hands for solution.

**ALSO FEATURED** on the program will be the presentation of the senior class gift by the president, Robert Ervin. This will be accepted for the school by Joseph Bachman, president of the student body.

The Rev. Emil Kontz, pastor of the First Baptist church, delivered the baccalaureate sermon Sunday evening, replacing the Rev. Harold E. Fowler, who is ill.

He chose the International Date Line as an example of what life of the 20th century will be. "Some years ago," said Richard E. Byrd and his pilot attempted to fly as north as possible along the International Date Line," he told the class. "Constant crossing back and forth across the line so that actually they were changing moment by moment. They flew in yesterday and tomorrow."

"THIS IS WHAT you must be prepared to do. You must draw upon yesterday and its heritage in order to equip yourselves to face tomorrow. The experiences of the past are the controlling factors of the education you have received in school and in your lives."

"While you must not dwell too long upon yesterday, you still need the heritage it offers (See GRADUATES, Page 2)

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