

Envy, when accompanied by emulation, is a spur to one's own improvement and progress. Envy, alone, is depressing, and tends to build up within one insurmountable barriers. Envy is discontent and discontent is destructive.

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Bits of Birmingham

For the first time in many years, Oakland county municipalities will be able to devote considerably more money to streets and highways. Lee Brooks, county road commissioner, says that all the old covert roads bonds are paid off, or money is in escrow for the remaining small portions. "The money we will get, starting with the April quarter, from our share of the state gas and weight tax, can now go for road improvements instead of bonds," Brooks informed this Wanderer. "Last year the entire county could only use for roads \$207,017.52 of the state money received. This year we will get \$276,095.52. Birmingham's share will jump from \$12,326.11 to \$34,301.54, Bloomfield Hills from \$1,392.71 to \$3,875.69, according to estimates of state revenue to be received."

You may have uttered a few naughty words when you saw the rain coming down Monday and making the roads more soupy than they were. But according to City Manager Donald C. Egbert, that warm rain was one of the best things that could have happened. "It dissolves the frost in the ground and permits the water to soak into the earth, instead of accumulating on top," he explained. If the frost is what's making such a mess of things, particularly our roads, let's hope the rain did a real thorough job so we can get on solid ground once again.

A "new look" is evident at the city clerk's office. Making a routine call Monday afternoon, this Wanderer saw that the furniture had been shifted around. Too, instead of the former wooden counter that had little storage space, there are some nice new filing cabinets arranged as a new counter.

The spring edition of the Michigan State Highway Department's official 1950 road map will be available for distribution about April 15. Highway Commissioner Charles M. Ziegler reports. A total of 600,000 maps will be printed during the year, 325,000 copies on April 15 and 275,000 copies on July 1. Road revisions are brought up to date in both of these editions. Birmingham persons desiring copies of the new maps should send their requests to the Highway Department's Public Relations Division office in Lansing. New maps will also be available at the Department's district offices, including Newberry, Cadillac, Alpena, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Kalamazoo and Redford.

Saturday morning with the sun struggling hard to show and doing a fairly good job, Miss Lillie Patterson of West Frank, called this Wanderer to report that the old fashioned English snow drops were blooming in his backyard. That was all we needed. Spring has come, weird weather or no.

An interesting feature highlighted the midweek services at the First Baptist Church, March 22, when one of the active laymen of the church bought a large supply of Bibles for congregational use. The Bibles were formally dedicated by the pastor, the Rev. Emil Kuntz, and presented for use.

Apparently, this Wanderer learns at least a few long-time local Republicans are going to be quite particular in selecting their candidate for Governor next November. They all say: "If Harry Kelly, former two-time Governor and the Republican nomination in September, we'll not vote for him in November. Much as we dislike 'Spe' Dealers and Fair Dealers, we'll even vote for the reelection of Williams. While Governor, Kelly did nothing much for Michigan. Williams may even do a bit better, so long as the Legislature itself remains dominantly Republican."

It was an interesting luncheon discussion this Wanderer overheard the other day, as John Lusk and Leon de St. Nicholas were reminiscing on the value of outdoor recreation. Both agreed that city living tends to suppress the development of man's best inner nature; that so many folks go through life without keen day-to-day enjoyment of living. To which

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Street Improvement Hearing on April 17

A hearing on the permanent improvement of Bird and Smith, from Grant to Edgewood, and Edgewood between Bird and Smith has been set by the city commission for April 17.

This Wanderer gave vigorous assent. To which most of you who read this, too, probably would nod approval.

Les Judkins has written this Wanderer from Anoka, Minn., to tell of a fire which struck his service station a short time ago. Overflowing gasoline running through a drain pipe was ignited by the heat from a stove, resulting in the loss of the station and living quarters. Formerly in business at the corner of Hurst and Maple, Judkins now operates a fleet of seven school buses, two gas transport trailers and a wholesale petroleum business. Judkins said the loss was partially covered by insurance, and no one was injured in the fire.

There's no accounting for the taste of thieves—petty or otherwise, and the things they steal runs the scale from the sublime to the ridiculous. Not too long ago the whole area was "nestered" with the theft of manhole covers and the populace was amazed. It is again, at least one part of it, for only last week Martin Rummel of 1168 Lyovist had an iron dog, used as a foot scraper, stolen from his front porch. He set the value at about \$25.

Brother! It's wet outside! Tuesday a lady called to rent wild ducks, a male and female, swimming around in a backyard pond in the vicinity of Oak and Hesterfield. She reported that the ground is low and usually wet, but that ducks swimming there is not the usual course of events. "They seemed to be having a wonderful time," she told this Wanderer. "Swimming all around on the puddle-pond."

New Art Exhibition Opened This Week At Cranbrook Museum

"Work in Progress in Michigan" opens Tuesday at the lower galleries of the museum of the Cranbrook academy of art. This is one of a series of little shows of national, textiles, sculpture and ceramics assembled by the Detroit Institute of Arts and shown in museums throughout the state to show current trends in the work of Michigan artists.

A Birmingham resident, Lydia Winston, has several ceramics in the exhibit. Mrs. Winston has won prizes in national exhibitions of contemporary ceramics and is represented in the permanent collection of Cranbrook where she studied with Majin Grotel, and the Syracuse N. Y. museum of art.

Fabrics by Ruth Adler show this Detroit artist's bold and colorful hand-printed designs on materials for interior decoration.

The paintings on exhibit are the work of Gertrude Kramlinger, Charles Culver. Now teaching at the University of Michigan, Kramlinger has 12 oil paintings, all of which present variations in his current interest in labyrinthine abstractions. Charles Culver's work is represented by a group of 12 watercolors of small animals, insects and birds.

Eight pieces of sculpture in terra cotta, plaster and wood by Walter Midener round out this exhibition.

Museum hours are 2 to 6 daily except Monday. This exhibition will be at the galleries through Sunday, April 23. The museum will be closed Good Friday.

Found Qualified as Army Specialist

WITH THE EIGHTH ARMY IN YOKOHAMA, Japan—Cpl. George L. Smith, Special Troops, Yokohama Command, has been found qualified in the military occupational specialties of administrative clerk and classification specialist.

Acquired largely through his Army training and experience, the qualifications will aid Smith to obtain advancement under the new career plan which is to govern all promotions in enlisted and warrant grades.

He formerly served overseas with the 322nd Engineers in Germany and with the 11th Transportation Medium Port in Korea. He arrived in Japan in January 1949. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon W. Smith, 6768 Cooldidge Hwy., Birmingham, Mich.

New Paint Store to Emphasize Color Harmony

A new modern paint store, the T. E. Hogan Co., 2845 Woodward, Brickley will emphasize color schemes and harmony for home commercial decorating.

The store will carry a complete line of Acme Quality paints and feature the new Acme product, "Fashion-Tone" which also provides a library of 200 interior colors. The library is designed to provide co-ordination of painted areas in a decorating scheme to match, harmonize or contrast with draperies, rugs, upholstery and furniture.

This color shop will also carry a complete line of Armstrong linoleum and tile, window shades, latest patterns in wall papers and associated decorating items.

Gets Commission



LT. R. W. WRONS

FORT RILEY, KANSAS, March 24—Second Lieutenant Richard W. Wrons, son of Mrs. J. S. Klier, Yucapa, Calif., graduated today with Class No. 19, Army Officer Candidate School, Ft. Riley, Kan. Lt. Wrons received his commission in the Organized Reserve Corp after 6 months of intensive training here. Commissioned in the ordnance he will now attend the basic course at the Ordnance School, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.

New Patrol Cars for City Police

For a net cost of \$462.70, the police department is going to get two new patrol cars, the city commission decided Monday evening. Commissioners instructed the department to trade in two present cars, with the money to come from the city's equipment fund. The cars will be purchased from the North Chevrolet Co., low bidder.

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