

The Birmingham Eccentric

An idealist is inclined to rebel at the barbarism he knows is evident within the human family. He is irritated because Utopia doesn't come about more rapidly. But barbarians aren't easily tamed, and kept so.

"White Cane Week" Noted by Lions Club

White Cane week is being noted by the Birmingham Lions club, along with fellow members throughout the state. During this week, designated by the governor at "White Cane Week", an intensive campaign is under way by the Lions to remind citizens of the special consideration which should be given the bearer of a white cane.

Persons have become a symbol of their handicap and warning to motorists that extra care is needed, and that the right of way should be granted the bearer. As a part of their annual campaign, literature has been distributed through the public schools, with additional information coming to the public through the press and radio. News copy submitted early necessarily is given preference over late items. The "early bird" usually gets the space.

Apple Blossom Time!!!



near Quarton School

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Bits of Birmingham

They were really flying around the Harmon-Woodward playground Saturday morning. A crew of boys from Holy Name school, along with members of the snail's club, all under the direction of City Forester John J. Bonnot, began the task of cleaning the ground, ready for leveling. Stones, bottles, old cans, ashes and bushes fell before the onslaught and were carried away to the dump. With cooperative energy like this, it will not be long before the area is a healthy spot instead of an eye sore, and the youngsters can use their energy in sports rather than manual labor.

These traffic lessons the police department is conducting in local schools, with Sgt. Henry Timm in charge, are paying off. This Wanderer was greatly amused to hear a lad of about 10 tell a lady who was crossing Maple against the light, just how foolish she was. He told her, among other things, that it was about the most senseless thing she could do and wasn't at all fair to drivers. "They can't stop in a minute, Lady," she was informed, "and you're big enough to know that!" For shades of red, the lady's face could easily have replaced the light she ignored.

Youngsters of the lower grades who live on South Glenhurst Sunday morning surprised the residents of the street with May baskets, attaching one to each front door. Because of unseasonable weather, the small fry had to postpone the gesture from May 1, but the thought, residents in that area tell this Wanderer, was just as effective. The baskets were made and filled early in the morning and delivered before the Sunday school hour. It would be nice if more neighborhoods showed the spirit and warmth as evidenced by the youngsters on South Glenhurst.

A bunch of twigs and three small eggs meant a detour for a number of high school seniors who participated in a fire drill at Hill school Monday morning. The fire gong sounded and the class started down the outside fire escape. But the first few girls noticed a bird's nest, containing three small eggs, at the top of the escape. To prevent the vibra-

tion from possibly killing the unborn chicks, the class was instructed to reverse its path and go out of the building by way of the main stairs.

Another sure sign of spring appeared in Bloomfield Hills last Wednesday as two run-away Detroit boys were picked up by police. The youths, one 18 and the other 14, were returned to their parents.

An elderly lady who lives on one of Birmingham's rural routes made a suggestion to this Wanderer the other day for summer employment for some youth who doesn't want to be tied down to definite hours, wants to work outside and would like to be his own boss. "I think a boy could make quite a bit of extra money painting mail boxes on rural routes. He'd have to have two kinds of paint, white and black, and be able to print fairly well, and of course, have transportation of some sort. I wouldn't have to charge a great deal to get paint and brushes around to get a small job. The boy wouldn't have to charge a great deal to make his expenses and some profit. It would be a big help to the postal carriers, too, if the boxes were all nice and white with the names on them in clear black. It's a job that would be of real value. It would help the box holder, the post office and the young man. I may even try it myself!"

Members of the Waterline Hi-Y chapter are continuing their paper drive, making pickups Saturday for the balance of the month. They report \$30 received for their initial efforts and many calls for collection which they were unable to handle at that time. These will be taken care of as rapidly as possible, they said.

If Birmingham Rotarians don't know much about Birmingham, it's not Clarence Vliet's fault. Former Birmingham school superintendent and long-time resident here, Vliet conducted a "Know Your Birmingham" quiz program for fellow Rotarians at their Monday noon luncheon. As Vliet called out the names of the club mem-

bers, they stood and tried to answer Vliet's questions. "I want to see how much you really know about Birmingham," Vliet prefaced his program with. Some of his questions included, "How many streets in Birmingham?" (187), he said. "By what other two names has Birmingham been known in past years?" (Hunters and Piety Hill). "Where are Wallace, Fairview Abbey and Catalpa streets?" At the conclusion of the meeting, Charles Mortensen and Jack Ball stood at the door and handed out copies of "Facts Regarding the City of Birmingham", a small booklet put out by the city and the Chamber of Commerce.

This is the kind of news the editorial department likes to hear! Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vin who moved from Birmingham all of four years ago to make their home in Sierra Madre, Calif., write to say that they still subscribe to The Eccentric. Here's hoping many others who leave the city keep in touch with the "home town", too.

Railroad Official to Retire May 16

PAUL GARLICK

R. L. Gainer, 62, general agent in charge of the Detroit office of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad for more than 24 years, will retire on May 16, the C&E I announced this week.

Gainer, who lives at 38 Manor road, Birmingham, will be succeeded by C. A. Ernst, present general agent at Buffalo, New York. Ernst has been with the C&E I since 1939. Gainer started in 1925.

Member of Wayne Musical's Cast

Howard Littleton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray B. Littleton, 728 Emmons, will take part in the annual Wayne University Mackenzie Union Men's show May 12 and 13.

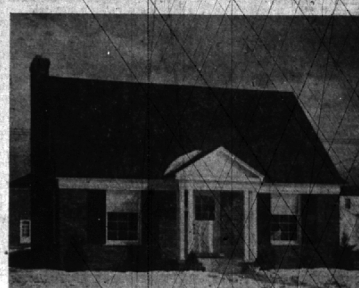
Littleton, who graduated from Baldwin high school in 1944, is an executive committee member and will take a part in the prologue. He also appeared on WJTV when part of the all-men's show was telecast last night.

This year's show will be a musical. Littleton had a part in the men's production last year. He is a junior in accounting.

PATROL BOY of the Week

(The Birmingham Eccentric, in cooperation with the Birmingham police department is presenting a series on the "Patrol Boy of the Week". The boy selected writes his own story of his job at his school. He is chosen by the school safety division of the police department on the basis of outstanding contributions to the safety of his schoolmates. Selected for this week is Paul Garlick of Quarton school.

NO SPRING CLEANING TO DO



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Township Reminded of Improvement of Cemeteries, Graves

SOUTHFIELD—Township residents have been reminded by Supervisor D. P. Frame that a Michigan public act sets aside May 25 as a "Memory Day" to provide for the improvement in care of cemeteries and graves throughout the state.

Frame said, "At this time of year it is appropriate that we should be reminded that the Michigan statutes provide for better care of our cemeteries and graves. A set of Public Acts of 1905 proclaimed that May 25 and Sept. 30 of each year be set apart and designated as "Memory Days." The act states that the "day should be used to show appropriate acts of love and tender remembrance of the dead."

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