

So many of us live in the up-and-down cycle of pessimism and optimism, of enthusiasm and apathy... when our real nature and true desires are revealed. You had so much to feel all the year, as we do in the glorious spring-time!

74TH YEAR—NO. 4

S and THAT

No Commission

Personally, we do not blame U. S. Senator Estes Kefauver for wanting to see the crime, the crime investigating committee, since he desires to spend his time on the Senate. Senator Kefauver wants to be closer to his family. His committee, during the eleven months of its existence certainly turned up mighty valuable information. If acted upon by both citizens and law enforcing officials, it should result in a decrease in organized crime in the United States.

We regret, however, that Senator Kefauver has not been more vigorous in his investigations so that a committee should continue — a Senatorial committee, and not a mere politically appointed commission, for the latter could become a white-washing agency. (Indeed what else would it be, sponsored and controlled by Pendergast politics!)

Deferment

While we agree that a nation must develop and preserve the intelligent talents of its youth, it is possible to defer young men whose mental powers are high, thus excluding them from draft service, is open to question. To say the least, it is a discrimination and is not in keeping with our traditional democratic processes. It is, admittedly, a difficult situation for the nation.

Why should a young man whose reason to form an educational opportunity is higher than his who can't quite make the grade, thus be relieved from the necessity and danger of protecting his country in time of war?

The obvious correct answer is, of course, the young man should be kept alive, educated, his talents developed, so that he can become part of the human repository of knowledge, and thus contribute to the scientific, economic, political, and social wealth of his country.

Quite logical reasoning, it appears, but of course, it is not those who risk all on the fields of battle. And incidentally, it is not those who come from those who have a high formal education that the values of a nation are built upon.

Human Gratitude

A fair sample of human ingratitude was revealed last week when UAW-CIO's Walter Reuther and Roy Mazer were denied a raise in salary by President Truman because the latter hasn't pegged correct prices without pegging wages of course.

American labor owes its present straits to Reuther, Mazer and Truman, as we all know. But labor (like other human individuals or organizations) is chiefly in themselves) is capable of turning on its benefactor at any time.

Will, since labor probably feels that Truman won't be a candidate again, they are anxious to lose in lambasting a potential political "has-been." This prompted Mazer to say, "Instead of giving labor a Fair Deal, Truman has given it a raw deal!"

It is a strong statement, Mazer Mazer; little Harry won't like it... if you don't watch out, he may send you a nasty letter!

You Pay For This Isn't it just wonderful, fellow taxpayers, that the United States Printing Office gets out millions of dollars worth of simply gorgeous pamphlets and booklets on so many captivating subjects!

For example, tracts on "Mistakenly Denied Japan," "Recipes for Cooking Muskrat Meat," "The Peruvian Fisheries," and "What-Proofing of Buildings." Just samples, Dear Reader, of what can come forth from an army of bureaucrats.

To be sure, some Gov't stuff is worthwhile, and should be consulted. Yet, even often, we read of printed stuff like the above... stuff that eats up your tax money and does little, if any, good.

Which brings to mind a few subjects I'd like to toss in: "Why Manhole Covers are Round," "Why Worms Crawl and Don't Fly," "Why Fish," "Frustrations Gets That Way," "Frustrations The Life of a Pollywog," "Human Limitations," "Why Folding Chairs Stick," "What Beeds Are Never Round," "The Effect of Fraud on Rocks," etc., etc.

Ah, what sins are committed against movable type, not to overlook the taxpayers!

Judge Drops Case Against RO Woman

A negligent homicide charge against Mrs. Ruth Powell Brede of Eastland was dropped Monday by County Judge Frank Doty after she made restitution of \$9,600.

Three women were arrested against Mrs. Brede Sept. 30, after she was involved in an accident at Southland and Crown in which Alan McGill, 28445 Evergreen, Southfield township, was killed.

The Birmingham Freeman

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1951

PART FOUR
24 PAGES FIVE CENTS

Method of Capital Improvement Financing Suggested by Egbert

Urge Businessmen To Give Ideas on Off-Street Parking

How can the city get its businessmen to attend the April 30 hearing on the proposed off-street parking ordinance? City commissioners spent considerable time Monday evening trying to find the answer to that question.

New city commissioner Frank Ritchie came up with this suggestion: "If the press will tell them three Chambers of Commerce letters (from President Warren S. Sumner) is utterly unintelligible, we'll have to hire a man to take care of the crowd."

Ritchie cited Sumner's statement that while the C of C would "do whatever is possible to aid in satisfactory manner" in the solving of the downtown parking problems, "the proposed ordinance would not accomplish this purpose if it does not seem practical and its provisions seem impossible to carry out over a period of time."

COMMISSIONER Milton F. Mallerud emphasized that the proposed ordinance would not be passed at the first hearing.

"We just want to get some information on the subject, and want the businessmen's ideas," Mallerud explained.

The proposed ordinance would require new, remodeled or altered business places to provide off-street parking according to business use.

Observers Study Plane Types Prior To Weekend Tests

Preparing for the state-wide plane spotting test Saturday and Sunday, local air observers will meet at the American Legion home at 8 p.m. Thursday.

The coming test will be slightly different from those in the past," Birmingham's supervisor, Richard Dewey, said.

Real Estate Board To Consider Float For Detroit Parade

Directors of the Birmingham Real Estate board, at their April 11 meeting, will discuss the invitation for Detroit's 25th Birthday Festival committee to participate in the "Motorcade" on July 28.

Engineering Department Has Heavy Construction Program

A report outlining over \$900,000 in construction work for 1951 was submitted to the city commission Monday evening by City Engineer L. R. Gare.

Gare reported that the department has already awarded contracts and taken bids on work totaling \$688,503.30. These are water mains and tanks, \$324,113.91; pavement (Taylor contract), \$12,639.94; additional paving project, \$192,838.45; and sidewalks (Barney contract), \$19,211.

Future Plans Of City Also Outlined

Two Reports Given By City Manager Total 21 Pages

A six-point program designed to keep Birmingham as close to a "pay-as-you-go basis" as possible in financing capital improvements necessitated by its rapid growth, was recommended to the city commission Monday evening by City Manager Donald C. Egbert.

In addition to this capital improvement report, Egbert submitted a summary of past accomplishments, problems and future plans of the city. Altogether the two reports totaled 21 pages.

Board Considers Wage Revisions

A revision of the wage schedule for non-contractual employees of the Southfield school system was considered at the township school board meeting Monday evening.

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Art Fairbanks Wins Johnson Memorial

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Letter Campaign To Solicit Funds

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Sponsor City-Wide First Aid Classes

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City Reappoints County Supervisors

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Blood Bank

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Rent controls in Bloomfield township were officially lifted last week by Federal Housing Expediter Clyde W. Tamm.

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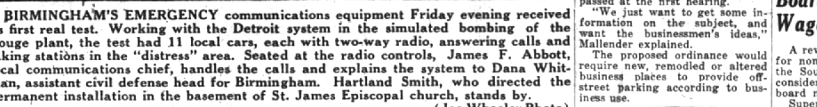
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BIRMINGHAM'S EMERGENCY communications equipment Friday evening received its first real test. Working with the Detroit system in the simulated bombing of the Rouge plant, the test had 11 local cars, each with two-way radio, answering calls and sending messages. Seated at the radio controls are James G. Abbott, local communications chief, handles the calls and explains the system to Dana Whitman, assistant civil defense head for Birmingham. Hartland Smith, who directed the permanent installation in the basement of St. James Episcopal church, stands by. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

Ex-Mayor Booth Turns In Report To Commission

Periodic reports from the city manager concerning operations of the city were submitted by outgoing Mayor Bruce G. Booth to the city commission Monday evening.

Both also outlined his ideas concerning functions of the city commission and offered other suggestions.

He stated that the commission application has many drawbacks. Booth also mentioned that such a report be prepared each month, and that a regular meeting in addition to the Monday evening meetings be scheduled each month to consider this report, and give him guidance on policy.

BOOTH ALSO recommended that the commission act as a committee of the whole, together with the manager and the clerk, to conduct its business in a deliberative body of procedure for the review of its business in order to favor the waste of time which is more and more evident at commission meetings.

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Budget Requests Considered by City Commission

Members of the city recreation board, planning commission and Police Chief Ralph Moxley met in executive session with city commissioners Wednesday evening to discuss budget requests.

The recreation board requests an \$8,160 appropriation from the city, or \$1,300 more than the amount in City Manager Donald C. Egbert's recommendation to the city commission.

The plan commission asks \$7,500 to meet its needs for the year. A total of \$6,000 was recommended to the city by the Recreation Board.

The plan commission listed as its expenses: engineering services, consultation with Charles Barr and others, supplies, printing and maps in connection with new zoning ordinance and special studies.

FINDINGS of the three sessions will be presented to city commissioners for their consideration.

Mrs. Henry M. Jackson, speaking for the league, said three meetings were planned to, if possible, give Birmingham residents a clear understanding of the plan and its operation.

League members believe Birmingham need guide for its "increasingly rapid growth," she said.

"They believe a master plan is of vital importance to every person and cultural welfare. They have pledged themselves to work toward the adoption of a plan which is agreeable to, and in the best interests of, a majority of the people of Birmingham."

"Since the adoption or rejection of the proposed master plan is of vital importance to every person living in Birmingham, all meetings will be open to the public."

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LWV Sponsors 3 Master Plan Discussions

Three meetings are scheduled next week by League of Women Voters members for a concerted study of the city's proposed master plan.

The first meeting April 16 is at the home of Mrs. Joseph Wright, 515 Pilgrim when Mrs. Covert Robertson will lead the discussion.

The second meeting will be Tuesday over the second meeting at the home of Mrs. Fred Robinson, 1869 Melbourne. Both are scheduled for 8 p.m.

The third meeting will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday in the library. Mrs. W. W. Williams will lead the discussion.

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Chad M. Ritchie Elected Mayor; New Members Sworn In

Chad M. Ritchie was elected mayor Monday night at the city commissioner's reorganizational meeting.

Dean Peter was named mayor pro tem.

Members Ralph A. Main and Richard W. Patterson, together with new commissioners Lance C. Minor and Frank Rising were sworn in by City Clerk Irene Hanley.

Prior to the vote on the new mayor, commissioners considered the advisability of electing Ritchie, who made it plain he would only be able to serve until July 15 or Aug. 1, when he moves to his new home in Bloomfield Village.

BOTH MAIN and Milton F. Mallerud, who have previously served as mayor, declined any consideration of themselves for the mayor's office.

"Our policy has been to pass it around so that everyone can get a touch of the job," said Main by way of explanation.

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