

Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1951

38 PAGES FIVE CENTS

Christmas ought to be a season for the regeneration of idealism in the hearts of all who observe it.

74TH YEAR—NO. 39

THS and THAT

Join Up With Little Old Harry... Oh, let's have four more years with Old Harry!

To Ban Smoking In Local Stores

Efforts to control smoking in local stores where heavy volumes of merchandise are sold was taken by the city committee Monday evening as it approved a "no smoking" ordinance.

Masons to Install At Public Rites Monday Evening

Birmingham Lodge, 144, will see Robert C. Crouch installed Monday at 8 p.m. as worshipful master at public ceremony at the local Masonic Temple.

Inmate Prisoner Jams Lock On Cell; Pays Court Fine

Frank G. Syron, 54 owner of the Pontiac county Club, did not like being arrested and made no attempt to resist.

YMCA Committee To Elect Officers

Officers for the next year are scheduled to be elected Monday evening, Dec. 17, when the YMCA Committee of Management meets.

PHONE MI 4-1100 Ask for the Want Ad desk

Wants Subs To Assist Plan Board

Establishment of a chain of command between subdivision groups and the city plan board might enable the city plan board to make and carry out planning proposals which are better understood and accepted by citizens.

DR. DAVID HENRY

Wayne U. President To Speak

Three new directors of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce will be revealed at the annual dinner meeting Dec. 19, at the Community House.

PRIOR to joining the Wayne staff he served at Battle Creek college and Penn State.

Postoffice Lists Special Schedule For Holiday Mail

Postmaster Bernard Fowler announces the schedule of postoffice hours in Birmingham during the holiday season.

Beginning today, Thursday, the postoffice will be open to handle the volume of mail which passes through the local office during the Christmas season.

Others to be installed are Raymond P. Mackay, senior warden; John P. Mackay, junior warden; and Ernest E. Morrow, treasurer.

During this season we use substitute carriers on many routes, he said. "These men cannot possibly know all the people on the route personally, and by simply seeing that the family name is on the box, mail can be delivered promptly."

City Recreation Board To Meet Thursday, Dec. 13

A variety of subjects will be on the city recreation board's agenda when it meets Thursday evening, Dec. 13, according to director Frank Whitely.

Birmingham Boy Unhurt In Accident Thursday

Charles Poole, 14-year-old Emmaha, escaped injury Thursday when his bicycle was struck by a car while he was riding on Eton road.

PHOTO BY THE BIRMINGHAM PHOTO SERVICE

Dies After Car Crash At Lapeer

ROBERT K. MCCLELLAN

A crushed chest and internal injuries received when his car left the highway and crashed into a tree just south of Lapeer about 10 o'clock Tuesday morning proved fatal to Robert K. McClellan, 9633 Knox, Birmingham businessman and county supervisor.

HE SAID six "very necessary projects" must be acted upon very shortly.

Incorporation of Southfield Park Vote Monday

Whether or not Oakland County will have its fifteenth city will be decided Monday, Dec. 17, when voters in the southeast section of Southfield township vote to decide on the proposed incorporation of "The City of Southfield Park."

HE LEFT The University to go to Montana where he spent several years as a rancher. He returned to Birmingham in 1929 to enter the feed business with his father, the late William E. McCallan.

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1952 Roll Call Plans For Community House Final Stages

Final plans are being made for the annual Community House Roll Call, scheduled for Feb. 18-Mar. 3.

Carroll Estate Nears Settlement With Consumers

Way was paved for a \$20,000 settlement between the Consumers Power Co. and the estate of Lee C. Carroll Monday night when the city commission approved a \$1,647.92 settlement from Consumers Power Co. with the estate of Lee C. Carroll.

Carroll Estate Nears Settlement With Consumers

PHOTO BY THE BIRMINGHAM PHOTO SERVICE

City Considers More Traffic Congestion City's Bonded Debt Total Is \$1,609,866

By RAY DENNIS

Total bonded indebtedness of the city as of July 1, 1951, totaled \$1,609,866.25, according to a report which has just been submitted to the city commission by City Treasurer R. T. Berger.

This amount includes annual debt service requirements for General Obligation, Water Revenue and Sewage Disposal plant revenue bonds.

Parents Asked to Evaluate Hills' School Methods

A four-page questionnaire is being sent to homes in the Bloomfield Hills school district this week, according to Superintendent William Jacobs.

Maple-Woodward Left Turns Barred

In an attempt to solve some of the downtown traffic problems, Birmingham police are testing the advisability of prohibiting left turns at the Woodward-Maple intersection during heavy traffic hours.

Questions Include the Comparison of Today's Schools with Those of 20 or 30 Years Ago

Parents are also asked whether teachers are able to make older youth understand such problems as taxes, thrift and how to make a living.

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TOTAL BONDED indebtedness less reserves includes: Refunding for improvements before 1935, \$494,835.56; 1938 sewer, \$61,203.27; 1949 bridge, \$47,866.32; 1949 sewer, \$96,765.96; DPW improvements, \$100,000; and West Main improvements, \$69,000.

The city will be paying for these debts until 1970. Amounts to be received on principal and interest requirements are: 1952, \$76,285.96; 1953, \$82,207.25; 1954, \$86,650.50; 1955, \$88,747.50; 1956, \$87,865; 1957, \$87,887.50; 1958, \$77,865.

However, a total amount of \$13,349.09 in reserves gives a net bonded debt of \$901,650.91. Because of water department contributions of \$18,519.98 from its share of refunding bonds, the net debt is \$883,130.93 for general obligation debt service requirements for principal. An additional amount of \$176,956.84 will be levied for general obligation requirements for interest.

Total to be levied for both principal and interest is \$1,060,087.77.

BERGER STATED in the report, "The city charter provides that the general obligation bonded indebtedness of the city shall not exceed 10% of the assessed valuation. However, it has been city policy not to exceed 5%.

At July 1, 1951, city general obligation bonded indebtedness less reserves was \$901,650.91 or 2.538% of \$35,503,820 assessed valuation.

BERGER EXPLAINED that in 1935, all city bonds in the principal amount of \$1,291,507.94 were refunded as general obligation bonds of the city, and all unpaid bond interest in the amount of \$119,972.05 was refunded by the issuance of general obligation certificates of indebtedness.

Since 1935 all certificates of indebtedness have been retired and all refunding bond issues have been refunded at least once again to produce lower interest costs to the city. Present interest rates vary from 1 1/4% to 4% per annum.

Of the \$1,411,479.99 originally refunded in 1935, there is still outstanding \$505,000.

These bonds were for general city, civic center, municipal building, library, water and special assessments.

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Just what can be done about Birmingham's present and future traffic problems in the downtown area will be the subject of a special meeting between the city commission, the city plan board and the city's consulting traffic engineers some Saturday morning in January.

The reluctant decision to take immediate action toward a solution of the growing congestion in the downtown area would up more than an hour's discussion by the city commission Monday evening which was innocently enough overruled by City Manager D. C. Hester's recommendation for better signposting.

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley said Monday that the turns had been barred for the past two weeks, and had eased the flow of traffic considerably.

Moxley also stated that the timing cycle on the intersection through light had been altered to permit a more even flow of traffic for north and south and east and west.

Subsequent strategy by Commissioner Lance Minor that the commission "was just picking at the problem—not trying to solve it" apparently moved other commissioners to agree to this special meeting.

WIFE ELABORATE drawings in foot colors, police Chief Ralph W. Moxley led off with an explanation of proposed "two-way" and "three-way" signal installations at this intersection.

"Two-way" permit the movement of Woodward traffic at one time, then Oakland and Willets traffic on the signals changed.

The "three-way" would allow Woodward traffic to move into Willets and Oakland traffic was halted when Willets traffic would proceed while Woodward and Oakland was waiting, and finally Oakland motorists would move forward while Woodward and Willets vehicles were stopped.

THE FIRST plan, which is practically the same as now occurs at this three-way intersection, would (See TRAFFIC, Page 2)

COMMISSIONERS also passed a resolution Monday night when the city commission approved a \$1,647.92 settlement from Consumers Power Co. with the estate of Lee C. Carroll.

These benefits provide Mrs. Carroll with \$1,928.57 annually and her daughter \$771.11 each year until she reaches 18, when the daughter's benefits are discontinued and Mrs. Carroll's allowance increased to \$1,260 a year.

The actual value of the two pensions is \$28,459.56.

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