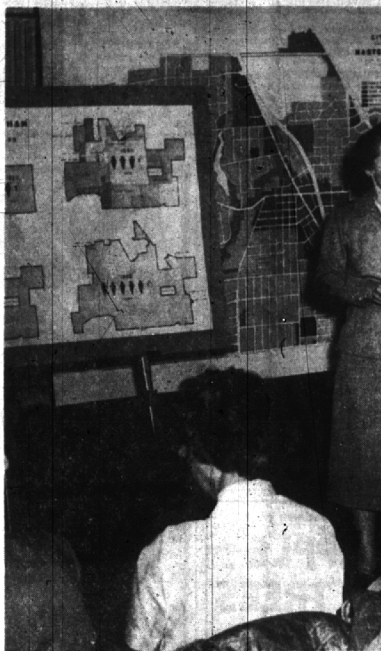


City's Master Plan Presented to Residents



Mrs. Peter B. Loomis, chairman of the city plan commission, presided at a public meeting at Adams school Jan. 25, when the new city master plan maps were shown and explained.

Similar neighborhood meetings will be held at Pierce school on Feb. 1; Quanton school, Feb. 8 and Baldwin library auditorium, Feb. 15. The formal public hearing will be held Feb. 22. (A Joe Wheeler Photo)

Extend City Park Areas, Master Plan Suggests

(Fourth in a series of articles to familiarize citizens with the proposed Master Land Use Plan for the city, now under consideration.)

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Location of schools, playgrounds and parks play an important part in the blueprint for Birmingham's future. In-

See 8-Column Map on Page 2 of This Section

cluded in the Master Land Use Plan now under consideration by the Birmingham plan commission are expansions of park areas and one new school site.

Details of the plan have been provided by the Recreational Board and the Board of Education. The city plan commission is holding a series of meetings at grade schools to outline all proposals made in the plan, which was prepared by Charles W. Barr, planning consultant.

It was emphasized that the plan has not yet been adopted and that when it is, developments under it will not take place immediately but will only be a guide for the plan commission in determining its future actions.

"The present arrangement between the city commission, the school board and the recreation board for a recreational program is to be commended," Barr said in his report on recreational facilities.

"Future school buildings should be designed to permit closing off all parts of the building not needed for the recreation program, he recommends.

"The large school district with its schools strategically located within the city limits places Birmingham in an exceptionally fortunate position," the report states. "As the city population stabilizes and the areas outside the city limits grow, it will be possible to control future overcrowding of the schools by the

building of new schools at proper intervals outside the present limits.

COMPLETION of the Torry School and the new high school will satisfy present school needs. However, it will not be long before there will be a need for grade schools in the area east of the railroad and the area west of the river and south of Maple.

To take care of these needs, the report recommends that the area north of the Graefield Terraces be obtained, and that the northeast corner of the new high school site also be considered as a site for a future grade school.

Barr recommends changes in the playgrounds of two schools. "The Adams School has an insufficient amount of playground space. This limited area is made more inefficient by Oakland Street which crosses the field and became one of the outstanding industrial figures in the state.

He enlisted in 1916 and served in military equipment from 1919 until he had attained the rank of colonel.

After the close of the war he traveled extensively until reentering the business field in 1930.

It was during this time, in 1925, that he organized the Edwin S. George expedition and with Dr. James W. Ince, Col. Sidney D. Waldron and Harold Emmont traveled 6,000 miles from Cairo to Capetown, making motion pictures of animal life.

ALSO ON THIS TRIP Col. George shot an elephant, an incident he always referred to as the biggest thrill of his life.

Col. George was deeply interested in the children of the city and was elected president of the Michigan Children's Aid society, an office he held until 1934.

Boy Scouts were another deep interest in his life and he spent much time with them, organizing them for their future.

More stringent action is necessary, Moxley said. In the future, violation tickets will be issued to all double parkers whether a driver remains in the car or not. Warnings to move on are a thing of the past in Birmingham.

More stringent action also is going to be taken against those motorists who cut across Woodward traffic to reach a parking area on the other side of an street. This has become a general practice in Birmingham, and if we would keep our streets reasonably safe, the department is going to have to become more severe and diligent in its traffic enforcement policy.

"The department has been forced to take these tougher measures to eliminate these two violations which are causing us so much trouble at present. We hope we have the public's cooperation.

"SO FAR, in spite of the frequency of these two violations we have escaped any serious mishaps because of them. That does not mean, however, that the day will never come when double parking or U-turns will be the direct cause of a death on our streets.

"We can only hope our drivers will help the department by stopping this hazardous practice and that our new enforcement policy will curb violators."

Edwin S. George, Industrialist, Buried Monday

Services for Col. Edwin S. George who died Jan. 25 at his winter home in Delray Beach, Fla., were held Monday from the Hamilton funeral home in Detroit.

A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Slidington and came to Michigan with his parents shortly after the panic of 1878, locating in Moreland.

In 1890, nearly penniless, the young farmer went to Detroit to make a fortune.

In 1899 he founded the Edwin S. George company of wholesale and retail furriers known as the "House of George".

He continued his phenomenal success in the field and became one of the outstanding industrial figures in the state.

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Parking Plan Rejected by City Commissioners; Cite "Excessive" Costs

Prominent Speakers To Discuss Foreign Policy at Institute

Blair Moody, Detroit News war correspondent and foreign affairs expert, will be the principal speaker at the Community Council Institute at the Community House Feb. 14. His 8 o'clock appearance will be preceded by the annual institute dinner at 6:30.

Moody, now in Washington, specialized in economics and languages while at Brown University where he earned a Ph.D. in 1918. His journalistic career began with the Providence Journal while in college. He came to the News as a sports reporter in 1922.

Over the 30 years in various editorial departments, he became a member of the Detroit News Washington bureau. During the war he served as correspondent in Italy and the Near East. Since the end of the war he has made yearly trips to Western Europe to study political, economic and social conditions.

THE GREAT DEBATE on Foreign Policy—"Your Stake in It," will be Moody's topic and the theme of the evening.

OTHER SPEAKERS include O. W. Cleaver, chairman of the State Republican central committee; Gen. Stanley Reinhardt, U.S. Army (retired); Prof. Robert Ward of the economics department of the University of Michigan; and William B. Ewald, director of governmental information for the U.S. State Department.

William Baldwin, a member of the prosecutor's staff at the Nuremberg trials who will act as moderator.

Allen Koenig, institute chairman, will be the first to bring his yearly salary to \$6,700; City Treasurer Russell T. Berger, up \$274 to \$10,000; City Engineer H. C. Camp, up \$204 to \$7,904; City Clerk Irene Hanley, up \$302 to \$4,082; DPW Superintendent Mary Farnsworth, up \$290 to \$6,890; and Foresty Superintendent William Lebold, up \$186 to \$4,186.

"THE PANEL members will not be asked to make any set speech to introduce his ideas. He will simply be there to give valuable information to our audience upon questioning.

That is one thing we would like to stress about this particular institute: We must have active participation by our audience if we are to have an excellent one.

These in Birmingham who do not wish to attend are requested to write it out and get it to some member of the committee.

Mrs. F. G. Garrison, president of the Community Council, emphasized the fact that U. S. foreign policy has become local business.

"THE COMMUNITY Council, representing all organizations in Birmingham, chose 'The Great Debate on Foreign Policy' as its institute topic because it believes that a presentation of the various aspects of our policy in a concise form will help clarify the thinking of all who hear it," she said.

The youth of Birmingham will be represented by Joseph Bachman, president of the Baldwin High School, and by two other members.

Committee members said dinner reservations could be made by contacting the Community House office.

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By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Branding the total land area and cost "excessive", the Birmingham city commission Monday night flatly rejected the city plan commission's proposed \$84,000 city-street parking program.

This action ended speculation that some sort of parking proposal would be on the April 2 ballot.

It did not, however, close the door to an eventual off-street parking program, although the means by which it would be achieved are clouded.

Commissioner Milton F. Mallerstedt spoke for other commissioners in explaining why the proposal would not appear on the ballot.

"I am sure that certain members went around the table, we would not find unanimity of opinion for the financing of such a program—there probably would be three or four different opinions," he declared.

"THESE PLANS were formulated during a time when we thought a war was being waged but now a lot of things have happened. By the introduction of a wartime economy, we have introduced an 'X' factor not previously considered by the plan commission or the city commission session, that we cannot see where revenues that are all but frozen now will support the plan.

"Since we have not come up with a workable plan, I don't think we should add to the confusion in the minds of city officials, civic officials, civic groups, business groups and the general public.

"With great reluctance and personal disappointment, I still think and firmly believe that the purposes of the city would not be served by sending to the people a plan which they would not readily approve. We should say publicly we do not accept the recommendations of the plan commission's Oct. 30 report.

"WE ALSO SHOULD admit publicly we have not been able to work out an acceptable and workable plan.

"We should start anew to attempt to solve the problem. I believe we should begin by talking by temporizing and trying to work over present plans."

In Commission Room 10, Beier, Chad M. Ritchie and Ralph A. Main pointed out they voted last October to put some plan on the ballot in order to get some decision on present parking plans.

"Since we have not been able to work out a plan which is suitable, I think it foolish to put anything on the ballot," Beier commented.

FOR THE FIRST time in any public meeting, three commissioners voted to bring against any plan which would put the city in the parking business.

Mayor Bruce G. Booth, Main and Ritchie said they were opposed to municipalities engaging in operation of a private enterprise nature.

In moving that the parking plan be rejected, Mallerstedt said the move is a retreat, not a surrender. I think we still need off-street parking, but whether municipal or otherwise, especially after the present emergency is over.

"As a member of the commission, I will attempt to find some solution to this problem."

COMMISSIONERS also referred all previous parking plans to the city manager and city engineer with the idea that further study by them or other groups might eventually result in a more acceptable solution.

The commission also asked the manager and city engineer to re-examine the city's parking plan. (See PARKING, Page 3)

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TO BE SERVED, to strut on the fragile state of vanity, is to invite a harvest of empty and ungrateful. After all, who would we be so super-arrogant, so super-greedy, so super-super, that he can afford to forsake root humanity?

President Truman refuses to require that reporters, in advance, write the questions they ask him at formal press conferences. We certainly admire his courage to stand up against a reportorial barrage twice a week—even though we know the newspapers and radio and women like that manner of getting information—for they now said that Mister President out on the limelight of sensational stories. Harry says if Roosevelt could do the job, too, but results tell a different story, as every newspaper reader knows.

For the past two years, Birmingham has witnessed its most rapid growth. More than 900 dwelling units were constructed in 1950.

Such growth always brings with it new municipal problems; these problems demand your taxes. Upon city commissions—your elected representatives—all final decisions on how much these taxes will be.

More city employees will be needed, too. Required are men of firemen and policemen must be filled, of course.

Every city department, however, that currently takes much of your taxes is the Dept. of Public Works. Practical measures to curb growth is necessary... for here is one agency of local government that can, under an unwarrantably ambitious program, get out of hand. Already its annual cost is more than \$10 million, the luxury stage, many local citizens believe.

"Why is it that so many of this country's people are said to stand on their own feet?" asks Oakland Okie. "Don't they know that they are being pushed around by a slight push by the bureaucrats will set them backward on their civic rear ends?"

We'd like to witness a radio and television debate between Senator Truman and Senator Taft. It would be the verbal battle of the century. They probably could get enough cash from the networks to make a considerable payment on the current national debt. It's a pity that they don't do it... what if Mr. Taft were to sign up for the air waves.

Come to think of it, why should a chap who loves to play the piano, thus proving himself a devotee of harmony, create such a national discord in affairs of government? What Harry really needs, apparently, is some one to give him a slight push to tune his thinking apparatus in harmony with today's public opinion on current issues.

A study commission has reported to the Michigan Legislature that a bridge can be constructed over the Straits of Mackinac, at a cost of \$87,000,000. Federal funds will be sought to help finance it, too.

Proposals for the bridge argue that, if the Saute Ste. Marie locks are destroyed in a war, the bridge would be a big help in a defense program. True, no money unless some one else decided to drop a nice bomb on it.

Such as I love the Upper Peninsula and many of its people, I think eighty seven million Mills would do more for all of Michigan, if, for example, it went into needed highway repairs and expansion.

Once again a capital punishment bill has been introduced in the Michigan Legislature, intended to execute premeditated murderers.

Why pamper such brutal people by paying for their keep in prison for the rest of their lives? It is an argument of course.

But to expect a capital punishment law to reduce the number of capital crimes, is a myth. This can be proved by looking at the records in all states that have had such laws for many years.

Michigan outlawed capital punishment over 100 years ago, and it progressed sufficiently toward "civilization" since to restore this form of social barbarism?

IT MAKES THE GRADE

PHILIP A. HART

Philip A. Hart, local attorney, Saturday was named price administrator for the state by Michele DiSalle, federal price administrator.

Hart, who is already serving as state corporation and securities commission director, a full he would accept the office on a temporary basis until the said job of the work can be determined.

Scout Anniversary

Mayor Bruce G. Booth has proclaimed Feb. 8-12 as Boy Scout week in Birmingham which will be marked with several special programs, including courts of honor and church services.

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