

If We Pay More, We'll Have Good Teachers

Schools of Birmingham are not perfect and we would not pretend that everyone employed in the promotion of education is the best available for his or her particular job.

Nevertheless, we do not hesitate to assert that those who labor with the education of our youth are, as a rule, poorly paid.

The result is that men and women are leaving the teaching profession by the thousands in order to make sufficient money to acquire the things they desire and to lay aside a competence for old age or a rainy day.

ANY SCHOOL SYSTEM gets the type of teachers that its salary scale warrants. Where teachers are adequately paid and where teaching is a profession that offers a reasonable competence to worthy individuals, the best teachers seek positions. To get the best educational results one must engage and retain the best teachers.

We are aware that many citizens have the impression that teachers, as a class, are well paid at the present time.

We are not inclined to agree with this conclusion, but granting for the purpose of discussion that the statement is true, we cannot escape the conclusion that if a more attractive career could be offered to prospective teachers, the profession would attract an increasingly able and intelligent personnel.

IT IS A PAYING PROPOSITION to provide money for education and to provide the cash with which to pay teachers good salaries. We know of no better investment in community-building.

This is why we believe the Birmingham board of education acted wisely in granting its recent five per cent salary

increase to school teachers and employees—after a survey of 11 surrounding communities showed our school system was about at the bottom of the list when salaries and wages were considered.

Our Memories Are Short

Did Monday recall anything of any especial importance to your mind? No, it was not the anniversary of any famous man, dead or alive.

35 years ago on February 19th, a tiny Pacific island forever became a landmark in American history. It was on the morning of February 19th, 1942 that U. S. Marines landed on the tiny Pacific Island of Iwo Jima.

When the Marines first hit the beaches of Iwo Jima, a porch-popped island, shortly after 9 o'clock on D-day morning, they expected to take the island in about 72 hours of hard fighting.

Instead, the campaign waged for 26 days and claimed 19,938 American casualties—killed, wounded and missing. Upwards of 23,000 Japanese were slain.

THE DAWN OF D-Day-plus-four found the Marine lines stretching from the hills at the north of the beachhead, southward to Suribachi and across the island. On the top of Mount Suribachi flew the Stars and Stripes planted there by a group of heroic Marines.

Almost hidden in the memories of Americans after only six years is the terrific struggle for possession of this highly strategic island.

Our memories, as a people, are too short and we often fail to express appreciation for the contributions which others have made to safeguard our heritage of freedom.

Notable But Hardly News

Development of air travel, including the crossing of oceans, has reached the point where record-breaking flights from the American continent to Europe require routine treatment as news.

Captain Charles Blair, in a F-51 Mustang fighter plane, recently made a non-stop solo trip from New York to London in 7 hours and 48 minutes. This was about 450 miles an hour.

History of past progress has indicated that today's records become the commonplace of tomorrow. Consequently, we look forward to the era when flights from the United States to England will be routine in about eight hours.

This is annihilating distance with a vengeance.

Forgot \$50,000 In Gems

Something of a record in absent-mindedness was set by Irving Meyer, a gem dealer, who recently became so engrossed in reading his newspaper that he got off a bus, leaving on the seat a zipper brief-case that contained \$50,000 in unset diamonds.

Meyer, at last reports, had not recovered his diamonds, although he has offered a reward of \$5,000 for their return.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone Midwest 4-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL Business Manager
GEORGE W. AVERILL Managing Editor
HAROLD P. BUERGE Advertising Manager

The Eccentric is a member of the National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association and University Press Club

The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcomed. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be promptly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

HOW ABOUT A DECISION, FIRST?

This leads me to the controversial Birmingham Master Plan law may be an particularly regarding its recording or certification with the county register of deeds.

There presently exists considerable doubt in Birmingham about the effect such recording or certification may or will have on private property.

Your answer depends on whether lawyer you have talked to—or if it appears there are about as many answers as there are lawyers.

These legal opinions have been noted by citizens on the bulletin board at numerous recent city commission and plan commission meetings.

ACCORDING to these expressions of opinion, the effects of recording any proposed master plan under present state law—range from "no effect on private property" to "a very definite effect on private property and its marketability."

By Jove! He Just Made It!



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column. All must be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be limited to 500 words.

To the Editor: I want to thank you for your editorial in the Feb. 8 Eccentric saying the "City's Master Plan May Affect Your Property."

Well, this I did and found this plan was to change two blocks on Hanna street from a private residence street to a zone for two-family residences, and I find none of my neighbors know about it either.

We are all vitally interested and certainly do not want the change. Why should some planners come in and take over in a day what others have worked for and not be consulted?

We moved out here from Detroit 35 years ago. Bates street was a dirt street and chickens were cooped across the road. We built our home.

MY HUSBAND canvassed Bates street to get it paved and later Hanna for paving. It was no easy job to convince people it was needed.

I canvassed Bates street to get people to sign to have gas down Bates street. Several said they preferred to have the old fashioned cook stove. But three families put up the money to get it done, which was later returned by the gas company.

Members of our family built six houses right within these two blocks and the land for the starting of Chalmers street was given free by our family.

So don't feel we should be allowed to retain this two blocks as a private residence district? THANKS AGAIN for your editorial, and we want you to know we are for The Eccentric.

My dear husband left me Sept. 19 for a letter world. If he were here, he would surely be for this street to stay single homes and take for carousing once more.

MRS. HARVEY HOWE, 470 Hanna.

To the Editor: The Washington trip for the June graduating class of Baldwin high school is an experience that will stay with the youth in memory for all time.

One of the object lessons of this trip is self-responsibility, an attribute of great importance in this age of ever-changing conditions.

The Birmingham Eccentric, in offering the youth of the graduating class an opportunity to help themselves through the sale of subscriptions, has contributed a very worthwhile service and is to be most highly commended for their extremely generous contribution.

THE MONETARY GAIN received by the class members for their efforts, while of appreciative value, (there are those who would be unable to take the trip had this money not been forthcoming) is overshadowed by the experiences gained of self-control, responsibility, the opportunity to meet people, and the task of fitting into an already over-

crowded school program! This extra work, all combine to make the project sponsored by The Eccentric a very profitable undertaking in more ways than would appear on the surface.

As the parents of one of the participating members of the Washington group, we extend to The Birmingham Eccentric our sincere thanks for their generous project to help our young people help themselves.

MRS. AND MRS. HAROLD PHILLIPS, 998 Hazel

50 YEARS AGO February 22, 1901

Three beautiful red roses, grown by Mrs. Ernest Abell, were brought into Whitehead & Mitchell's store on Wednesday last and were greatly and widely admired. They were not only very beautiful but delightfully fragrant also.

There will be a sleigh ride party to Wm. Park's on Tuesday evening, Feb. 26. Sleighs will leave Geo. H. Mitchell's at 7:30 and the bill for the evening will be 20c.

Miss Alice Mastard, the Reader who will appear at the Methodist church Wednesday evening, besides being a talented elocutionist, is a fine soprano and never fails to please her audiences.

Several sleighs of people from this vicinity visited Herman Henderson and wife in Clawson Feb. 14, to remind them that on that day they had been married one year. Refreshments were served during the evening and a most enjoyable time was experienced by all.

W. Claire Aldrich made a flying visit to Battle Creek over Sunday to be the guest of his brother. He was not feeling very well before he left and immediately went to bed upon coming home where he still remains.

50 YEARS AGO February 26, 1931 Deputy sheriffs captured two area men after a wild chase yesterday, along with some 75 stolen chickens. Taken before the county prosecutor, the men were released to appear for sentence on Mar. 2.

William Colt Allee notified village commissioners Monday night that he would accept their appointment to the village plan commission. Allee will replace John A. Wendrop who resigned recently.

Commission granted the Ann Arbor Construction company permission to remove one limb from a tree on London, when it was found

that it blocked the passage of a house the company is moving.

An organizational meeting of the Progressive Citizens League of the Real Estate board will be held Mar. 10. Herbert O'Brien will be in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. R. Margaret Thomas, Bloomfield township treasurer, yesterday reported that there is every indication of a Saturday rush to pay taxes before the deadline. She said payments had been increasing steadily during the week and expected the peak load to come then.

5 YEARS AGO February 25, 1946 Only one petition has so far been filed by prospective candidate for the office of city commissioner. This was revealed by officials at the city hall today who added two petitions had been filed by those seeking nominations to the library board.

A wide-open discussion is expected to be heard Mar. 5 when parents meet to consider the sorority-fraternity situation in Baldwin high school. This has been a sore question in Birmingham for several years and is expected to draw in large crowds to the hearing Tuesday.

Birmingham churches will unite in the observance of World Day of Prayer on March 8. A special service will be held in St. James Episcopal church. The Rev. Harold E. Towne will speak on "The Things That Make for Our Peace."

City Manager Donald C. Egbert has received a petition from Norman Johnson and Charles Young, both of Birmingham, for a license to operate a taxicab company here. They propose to start with two cabs under the name of the Veterans Taxi Cab company.

City commissioners have authorized the raising of the old gasoline station at the corner of Harmon and Woodward, which is now city property. The station has been unoccupied for some time.

LIBERTY CLEANERS for better dry cleaning PICK UP & DELIVERY SERVICE MI 4-0222 PHONE MI 4-9700 Haynes At Hunter Blvd. We are also located on Overland

MOVE WITH POTTER And the ALLIED VAN LINES POTTER MOVING AND STORAGE CO. 136 Brownell Phone MI 4-4612

Notice to Taxpayers of the City of Birmingham, Michigan City taxes due July 1, 1950, and County and School taxes due December 1, 1950, may be paid at the office of the City Treasurer in the Municipal Building until February 28, 1951. Personal property taxes must be paid in full by this time. After February 28, 1951, real estate taxes are payable at the office of the Oakland County Treasurer in Pontiac. If paid between March 1, 1951 and April 15, 1951, a tax certificate of 1950 taxes due must first be secured at the office of the City Treasurer.

Alice Upward, Dep. City Treasurer February 15, 1951 Use Eccentric Classified Ads For Best Results

Winner of Fashion Academy Gold Medal Award America's MOST HONORED Gas Range! THE FIRST AND ONLY RANGE TO RECEIVE THIS HONOR WINNER OF THE FIRST GOLD MEDAL AWARD EVER BESTOWED UPON A COOKING APPLIANCE by THE FASHION ACADEMY of NEW YORK FOR DISTINCTIVE DESIGN AND SUPERIOR STYLING The designers of the new 1951 Detroit Jewel gas range combined over-all design to include utility, beauty and gracefulness of line. It was on these points along with the hidden quality of construction that won for them this outstanding award. The homemakers knows better than anyone else how much a range incorporating these features means to her. It is more useful, more convenient, more dependable and it will beautify her kitchen. In many time and labor-saving features will also thrill you... simmer-look top burners, indirect light and timer, smokeless broiler, large capacity ovens and useful roomy drawer-type utensil compartment. SEE IT TODAY. FOR CARE-FREE COOKING AT ITS BEST... *SEE THE Beautiful New DETROIT JEWEL GAS RANGES Now On Display At Our Stores. AG-2584-36 CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY