

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY JULY 19, 1951

24 PAGES FIVE CENTS

Out of every day's 24 hours, how little the average person gets outside the door and how much time he spends in his car. He spends much of his body, but a little for his soul!

74TH YEAR NO. 18

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Passing of Harry Heilmann

In the recent passing of Harry Heilmann, America's baseball sport has lost its greatest radio voice, and the game has lost one of its most ardent players.

Our Future Water Supply

As Birmingham continues to grow, one of its most pressing municipal problems will be its water supply.

A Resident of Birmingham

As the president of Birmingham for the past 20 years, Minor said he has the utmost confidence in local businessmen as a group, to meet and solve any problem that would be put into their hands.

THIS, obviously, would be a costly venture.

Several years ago Saginaw and Midland joined together in a project to get water from Lake Huron, the intake located near Lawton, Mich.

While this newspaper has never approved the general idea of seeking federal aid for local projects,

we see the practicality of such help in case water from Lake Huron is sought by the community below Fort Huron.

CERTAINLY, from the billions of dollars in federal grants to various areas in the United States,

many of them of less value than federal money to the people human beings, some funds might be made available for a portion of Michigan's State income.

Wonder what Michigan's Congressmen would do if they were petitioned by the officials of south eastern Michigan to look into the pipeline water supply project herein suggested?

Hospital Assets Top Half-Million Audit Discloses

Assets in excess of half million dollars will be received by the Oakland hospital from the Oakland county.

THE OAKLAND hospital will receive all the authority's assets in exchange for erecting the hospital on the authority-owned site at 13 Mile and Woodward.

Clawson said that all monies given the authority for the erection of the proposed Woodward General hospital had been kept intact.

Antiques Are Popular!

Yes, someone may be looking for just the antique you have hidden away in a closet.

PHONE MI 4-1100

Ask for the Want Ad desk

Believes Merchants Can Find Solution to Parking

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Although City Commissioner Lance Minor was born and raised in Arkansas—normally a rock-ribbed Democratic stronghold—he's a solid backer of America's private enterprise system and wants nothing to do with New Deal paternalism.

"That's why I would like to see Birmingham's business men conscientiously try to see if they themselves can solve our local off-street parking problem," Minor said this week.

He believes private enterprise, as exemplified by Birmingham's business and professional men, can provide parking for the needs of the city today and tomorrow more quickly, more efficiently and at less cost to the public than can the city under a municipal program.

"I am not the type in thought or belief who likes to see government in any sort of business belonging to private enterprise, whether government can do it well or not," Minor emphasized.

He feels private enterprise can meet the normal requirements and demands for Birmingham off-street parking facilities, "without putting the city into an unconstitutional private business of a non-governmental character."

A resident of Birmingham for the past 20 years, Minor said he has the utmost confidence in local businessmen as a group, to meet and solve any problem that would be put into their hands.

"Our current parking requirements—not problems—however difficult, present an opportunity to the merchants and professional men to anchor their position in the congested Birmingham business area," the commissioner continued.

"The very existence of a parking problem is evidence of good business conditions," he said. "It is not an emergency problem that requires the city to take care of peak loads."

"CHURCHES cannot be built to accommodate the swollen attendance of the Christmas season at Easter time—but an average or normal demand can be satisfied, wherever government can do it better than private parking facilities," he explains.

"What is Minor's solution? He believes that the professional men and their property owners could form an organization to finance private parking facilities here," he suggests.

"Thus they would retain part of the responsibility for the wealth—land, and the capital invested thereon. Private property and private enterprise thrives on challenges," Minor concluded.

Girl Scouts Reveal Need for Additional Campsite

The call of the wild has been heard by the Birmingham Girl Scouts and has sent leaders scurrying around looking for a new campsite.

For more than 10 years Girl Scouts have used the cabin at Springdale Park, the city club, for their camping activities. Much as it means to them, they are leaving it to the city.

"It was more than 10 years ago when the city built the cabin at Springdale Park. The membership of the Girl Scouts is approximately four times greater than it was when the cabin was built. It means more and larger groups, and our dear old cabin is bursting at the seams."

"FURTHERMORE, the number of persons using the park has increased a great deal and we do not have the privacy that we used to have. At one time we could go there and feel miles from civilization. Now it's not much more remote than any backyard."

"We want to continue using the cabin, of course, but we feel it must have something more to offer the girls. Some place where they can really feel they are Girl Scouts."

Mrs. Miller said the ideal campsite would be about a mile and a half within 25 miles of Birmingham and without any water frontage.

"WE ARE NOT set up to handle water activities," Mrs. Miller said. "The responsibility of taking a group of youngsters to a water-front camp is something we could not possibly take on right now."

"SO FAR WE have not been able to find a site which meets our requirements. Of course, we are trying to find a site which will fit our needs very difficultly."

The move to find a new location got under way about two years ago

Being Mayor Is Expensive

When Chad Ritchie was elected mayor back in April, he didn't figure it would prevent him from moving into his new Bloomfield Village home on schedule.

But it has, and it is going to cost Ritchie a net \$40,000. It's like this:

Ritchie scheduled the move into his new home at 1234 Covington on or about August 1st. The contractor was on schedule, and Ritchie and his family are spending this week moving into it from their temporary quarters in Grassfield terraces.

But Monday night he was informed that because he was mayor of the town on June 1, he should not resign until about August 15 in order that the city of Birmingham will not have to go through the usual process of the acquisition of \$105,000 in DPW yard improvement bonds, plus a \$29,000 bond issue for the relocation and repaving of W. Maple between Southfield and Lakepark.

RITCHIE PLANNED to submit his resignation from the city commission at its July 30 meeting.

"These bonds are dated June 1. As of that time, if this resignation is effective on the end of July, we could be faced with the proposition of having a new mayor sign the bonds, although the bonds indicate that they were signed as of June 1st, at a time when he was not the mayor."

"On the other hand, if the former mayor signs as of that time he will actually not be mayor as of the date of his signing."

SO RITCHIE said Tuesday afternoon that he will pay an additional half month's rent on his apartment so he will be available for the signing of the bonds, which is costing me \$50, and I get back only \$10 for the two extra commission meetings I will attend," he observed.

No Decision Made By Southfield Bd. On Firehall Bids

No action was taken by Southfield township board members at their special meeting July 13 when bids for the new firehalls were opened.

Mrs. Fannie Adams, township clerk, said the combined bids, for the 9 Mile and 13 Mile buildings, ranged from \$65,138 to \$84,000.

"We simply do not have enough money to accept any of them," she said. "The board has referred the bids back to the architect, Clarence Durbin. While it is not definite at this time, the township may have to re-advertise for bids."

The Streamwood lane special assessment district for road improvement was created. No objections were filed.

City Manager's Salary Is Raised to \$12,000



TENNIS INSTRUCTOR Pat Price gives a few pointers on how to grip a racket to Tom Sweeney, as Ruth Hibbard and Fred Woodworth look on. Each weekday morning from 9 to 12, about 30 youngsters gather at the Hill school courts for tennis instruction, as part of the summer recreation program. Several tournaments among the group members are planned this summer, according to Miss Price. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

Philadelphia Athletics Sign 'Skip' Halpin

Richard 'Skip' Halpin, former Baldwin high school athletic star, was signed by the Philadelphia Athletics Monday night.

Halpin, 20, played baseball and basketball in high school and on the varsity basketball team at Alma college his first year there.

He is at present playing with the Twin Pines team in Royal Oak.

Although the contract is signed, Halpin has no definite information as to when he will be expected to join his team.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Halpin, 1424 Ruffner.

Appointed Drain Comm. For County

New Oakland County drain commissioner is Ralph A. Main, 1819 Fairview, who was appointed last week to serve the remainder of the term of the late Earl L. Clark, who died July 3.

Main has served as deputy drain commissioner since April 30, when he was named by Clark. Appointment was made last week by Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore, County Clerk Lynn D. Allen and Prosecutor Clyde D. Underwood.

THE SNE-hour session, at which questions of the county drainage nominees were investigated, was originally scheduled for Friday night.

AS MONDAY'S short regular session at a special closed meeting, Chad Ritchie hastily surveyed nominations, who indicated they would be just as soon stay on that evening to discuss the composition of the new planning board.

According to the new plan ordinance, all appointees must be registered Birmingham voters and property holders.

It was hot Sunday, but as the evening advanced it became hotter for a group of Detroit and Hamilton boys who decided it was a shame for the pool at Cranbrook to go unused.

The temperature really rose when Police Justice Alva J. Richardson "requested" each to pay a fine of \$10. The charge was trespassing.

WORK on setting the election boundary lines for the new Torry polling district is progressing, according to Paul Carter, elementary school coordinator of Birmingham. The proposed boundaries will be presented to the board of education for its action as soon as completed.

THE new drain commissioner is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, where he majored in civil engineering. He has been engaged in civil engineering, municipal planning and land surveying in an office here.

Main is a former district scout commissioner and past secretary-treasurer of the Birmingham Lions club. In addition, he is a former president of the Oakland county engineering society.

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED The U. S. Senate has confirmed President Truman's appointment of Bernard Fowler as Birmingham postmaster. Fowler has served as acting postmaster since August 1948, following the retirement of Joseph A. Byrne after 15 years service.

All makes of these spring mattresses recommended. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, PHONE ENTERTAINMENT 5111.

Other Dept. Heads Get Merit Hikes

A \$2,400 annual salary boost for City Manager Donald C. Egbert was approved unanimously by the city commission Monday night, along with a \$300 boost for City Assessor Elmer W. Haack and a \$318 hike for City Clerk Irene Hays.

The commission's action pays Egbert's salary \$12,000, Haack's at \$7,000 and Miss Hays' at \$4,400.

In announcing the commission's approval of these increases, Mayor Chad Ritchie emphasized that they were based primarily on merit and length of service.

Although the assessor and the city clerk have benefited from previous cost-of-living adjustments, the most recent of which was granted in April, nothing had been done for these commission appointees for several years from the standpoint of merit and service.

EGBERT HAS had no salary adjustment since 1949.

Following Monday night, Egbert announced that he had given merit and/or length of service increases to three other department heads: Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley, Fire Chief Vern W. Griffith and City Engineer R. G. Gare.

Moxley's salary was raised from \$6,110 up to \$6,500, Griffith's from \$6,890 to \$7,000, and Gare's from \$7,904 to \$8,000.

THESE RAISES do not conflict with the Wage Stabilization Board regulations, according to City Attorney Forbes S. Hascall.

Hascall was asked by the commission to re-check this angle last April, at the time the city commission unanimously agreed to these increases in setting up its 1951-52 city budget.

Members of Plan Board Determined

The seven members of Birmingham's new planning board will be voted on formally Monday night by the city commission.

The Executive Board learned the new board will be composed of two engineers, a newspaperman, two architects, a lawyer and a dentist.

City commissioners sought to place on the board a representative from the local merchants, but each person approached would not permit his name to be considered, it was also learned.

All seven members were agreed upon at a special closed meeting held Monday night by the entire city commission. The informal vote on the final seven was unanimous.

Police Put Heat On Hot Octet At Cranbrook Pool

It was hot Sunday, but as the evening advanced it became hotter for a group of Detroit and Hamilton boys who decided it was a shame for the pool at Cranbrook to go unused.

The temperature really rose when Police Justice Alva J. Richardson "requested" each to pay a fine of \$10. The charge was trespassing.

WORK on setting the election boundary lines for the new Torry polling district is progressing, according to Paul Carter, elementary school coordinator of Birmingham. The proposed boundaries will be presented to the board of education for its action as soon as completed.

THE new drain commissioner is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, where he majored in civil engineering. He has been engaged in civil engineering, municipal planning and land surveying in an office here.

Main is a former district scout commissioner and past secretary-treasurer of the Birmingham Lions club. In addition, he is a former president of the Oakland county engineering society.

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED The U. S. Senate has confirmed President Truman's appointment of Bernard Fowler as Birmingham postmaster. Fowler has served as acting postmaster since August 1948, following the retirement of Joseph A. Byrne after 15 years service.

All makes of these spring mattresses recommended. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, PHONE ENTERTAINMENT 5111.

Eight Games-Eight Wins for Red Sox

With the first month of play concluded in Birmingham's Little League baseball organization, the league leading Red Sox nine has yet to taste defeat.

By consistent pitching performances by Doug Wuggager and Terry O'Connor, the Sox have taken eight straight games. A total of only 22 runs has been allowed by the two hurlers.

TWO LATEST RED SOX wins were posted last week as the Tigers were downed Tuesday 6-2, and the Yanks lost Thursday 10-3.

By a hard-hitting Terry O'Connor combined to pitch a no-hit game, although the former gave up 11 walks. Mike Tolk, on the mound for the Tigers allowed six hits.

Last Thursday, the Yanks were downed by the hard-hitting Red Sox as O'Connor gave up but one hit, and the Pate Jackson with the bases loaded.

In other games last week, the Indians downed the Tigers 13 to 4 Wednesday, and the Yanks defeated the Indians Monday evening 6-2.

The Indian-Tiger tilt saw the winners rack up 12 hits, while Tom Blum made his first pitching start gave up but three hits. He struck out seven and walked five.

Leading the hitting attack were Dick Speed with three singles in three times at bat, and Larry Hower with two doubles.

STANDINGS AS of Friday, July 13, show the Red Sox leading with eight wins and no losses; Yanks, second with five victories and three defeats; Indians, three wins and five setbacks; and Tigers, no wins and eight losses.

Although the Tigers have yet to post a victory, the team is showing improvement with each game. Games for the next week are Thursday, July 19, Red Sox-Indians; Friday, July 20, Tigers-Red Sox; Tuesday, July 24, Yanks-Indians; and Wednesday, July 25, Red Sox-Yanks.

All games are at the Lutheran Church field at Chesterfield and West Maple, and get underway 8:00.

New league treasurer is J. C. O'Connor, 851 Oakland, who succeeds Jerry Walcott, who is moving from the city.

Did you know you could buy a new V-8 Studebaker, tax and license included, \$122.00 at Carlier Motor Sales, 606 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

Due to the hold over and extended run of THE GREAT CARNEY in the Adams Theatre, Detroit, the Birmingham show is being extended to starting Sunday, 7/23 for 7 days only. Danny Kaye-Tony Martin-Carolee Cabot.

FOR ONE OF THE BEST "MRS. HOYLE" with Spritely Brynston.

Did you know you could buy a new V-8 Studebaker, tax and license included, \$122.00 at Carlier Motor Sales, 606 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

TERRY O'CONNOR SWINGS OVER BALL

Star Red Sox pitcher also plays 2nd base (Joe Wheeler Photo)