

The troubles that are upon our world today are not different, basically, from those that have attended mankind's long history upon earth. There may be more of them . . . but only because mankind has temporarily forsaken its knowledge of Truth.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

## Camera Club Plans Final Salon Judging

Final judging of the Box Camera Salon will be held May 3 at 8 p.m. when the Bloomfield Hills camera club meets at Cranbrook Institute of Science. Annual election of officers will take place.

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## Critic Enjoys Birmingham Male Chorus' Annual Spring Concert

By A. SHANLEY ROSSO

The Spring Concert given by the Birmingham Male Chorus Thursday evening at the Community House, was one of the finest I have heard them do.

Membership is composed of men from all walks of life, who sing because they love to sing. . . . Brown, the club's director, knows how he wants each number sung and directs his men accordingly. They follow him from the pianissimos to the double fortes without hesitation, and respond instantly to his interpretations.

**CAESAR FRANCK'S "O Lord Most Holy"** had Carleton Scott as tenor soloist. He always sings from his heart, thereby giving the song just what it needs. Choral background was perfect.

In Sullivan's "The Lost Chord," Robert Erwin was given a fine round of applause for his solo. He sings with determination, his diction is always good.

The final number in the first group, Russell's "The Halls of Ivy" gave the director an opportunity to show off the club a little.

**GUEST SOLOIST** was John Mungall, one of the winners of Horace Heidt's Youth Opportunity Contests. His fine Irish tenor voice picked off high notes with ease and assurance. It was difficult to determine whether some of the tones were falsetto, if they were, the change certainly was not detected.

Mungall was definitely at ease on the stage. His gestures are natural, his diction perfect and he loves to sing.

The chorus opened the second group with Schubert's "Ave Maria." Carleton Scott did a fine job on the solo, with the chorus blending superbly in the background.

In "Sleep, Baby, Sleep," the chorus furnished its own vocal accompaniment while soloist Bob Erwin sang the soft melody. The background music is not easy to get across, but his excellent singing inspired both the director and the men.

**AS A SURPRISE** feature, Don Chaffee, president of the chorus, invited all former members in the audience to come to the stage to join present members in singing the always popular "John Peel". Approximately 15 former members responded.

In the final group, the accompaniment in "Galway Piper" always steals the show, in my estimation and the artistic performance by Oliver Green, Jr., accompanist, was no exception.

## Garbage, Rubbish Authority on Agenda of Southfield Board

On Tuesday's agenda for the Southfield township board will again be consideration of the South Oakland garbage and rubbish collection authority.

This matter was to have been taken up at last week's session but was tabled. Also to be considered is what further action will be taken regarding the township's suit against Stanley Fons, requesting he be stopped from extending his trailer camp.

Township Attorney Julius Berns has been asked for an opinion on whether the suit should be dropped or continued.

## Sculptor to Address Local Kiwanis Club

The May 8 meeting of the Birmingham Kiwanis club will feature a discussion of his field of work by Marshall Fredericks, widely known Birmingham sculptor.

The following week, May 15, the local club will join with the Southfield group to celebrate "Charter Night" of this Metropolitan Kiwanis club. The group meets at noon and is formed under the sponsorship of the Southfield Kiwanis club.

## Another Telephone Rate Increase Sought

The Michigan Bell Telephone Company has joined the parade to abolish the nickel pay station call.

Walter B. Fauser, manager here for the company, announced that 10-cent pay calls will be included in an application to be filed by Michigan Bell with the Public Service Commission May 14 for a rate increase to raise revenues 17 per cent, or \$22,000,000 a year.

He said the rate boost would amount to less than 4 cents a day for most residence telephone users here.

Fauser said the rate increase is "urgently needed to help the company meet the mounting costs of doing business, including higher taxes, wages and costs of materials, and to assist it in providing the service the state will need during the national emergency."

One of the last survivors against the tide of inflation, the 5-cent charge as public telephones has remained undisturbed since the organization of Michigan Bell in 1904.

**IN PROPOSING** to abandon it, the company follows a national trend. Ten-cent charges are in effect in New York, Minnesota, Illinois, and in certain cities in South Dakota and Iowa. Application for higher charge has been made in New Jersey, Idaho, and on the Pacific Coast. Michigan Bell estimated the increased pay station charge would raise revenues \$2,600,000 a year.

Under the application, monthly increases for the various types of service at Birmingham would be: Individual-line, \$1; 2-party, 75 cents.



### BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

**Ed Kibbert, local "Y" secretary,** received quite a shock this spring. In the YMCA sponsored marbles tournament he stated that he has found very few boys who are able to play the game. He said that he's trying his best to instruct the street boys who are a few years ago that most kids knew how to play and also were constantly attempting to negotiate trades for various types of marbles.

**A case of kindness and carelessness** was reported to this wanderer Thursday by a lady who watched the incident. A small squirrel, in front of her home, was slightly injured by a passing car shortly before a big truck came along. "The truck was pulling a trailer," the caller reported, "and went way over to the side of the street to avoid hitting the squirrel. Then three men climbed out of the trailer and went to corner it and, I presume, carry it to a safe place. Before they could get their hands on it a passenger car came through and, without slowing down a bit, passed right over the little animal. It is certainly pointed up, very sharply, the difference in human beings."

**A new and unwelcome idea** has hit Birmingham, as reported to the police over the weekend. A local housewife phoned in that someone, whose humor she did not appreciate, had placed a stink bomb in the milk chute. Police have been unable to locate any clues pointing to the perpetrators.

**Memories of a century** were reviewed on the Ted Mack American Family hour Monday evening when Mrs. Martha of Moxavia, Ia., was his guest. Mrs. Hatt celebrated her 106th birthday on April 26. She is the grandmother of Mrs. Marlin Masters, 1552 Bennaville, a member of the Community House staff.

**At last Thursday's city plan commission meeting,** Mrs. William Burlingame, research analyst for the group, suggested that business places in the city, especially on Hunter and South Woodward could improve the appearance of their places by landscaping in front. She also commended the C. F. Smith Co. for the landscape work which has been done in front of its Hunter avenue store. Mrs. Burlingame pointed out that a worthwhile project for some local group would be to promote the beautifying of areas around business places.

**Last week this Wanderer** asked for the location of the old race track mentioned in the "Happenings" of 1901. So far three have been reported to us. One was at the south end of Bates; one in the Forest and Hazel section and the third on the Cooper Farm on Woodward, south of Charing Cross road. However, none of the persons who reported these locations can recall any fire damage to the properties as referred to in that item of 50 years ago.

**Last Saturday's** participation in the Birmingham business section for the Red Cross fund was due to the initiative of S. L. A. Marshall, Jr., 1755 Staley. After discovering that the local drive fell

## Ex-Rotary Governor To Speak Here May 7

Former Rotary district governor Joseph Brady of Howland will speak on "What Rotary Means to Me" to the local organization at their noon meeting May 7.

Col. H. C. Anderson, Union Pacific railroad's traveling lecturer, Monday described the beautification of national parks in Utah and Arizona.

He was introduced by Maj. Gen. Stanley E. Reinhart (ret.) under whom Anderson served as finance officer during World War I.

**IMPROVEMENTS** in the telephone art, economics and growth in the volume of business have permitted us to fill part of the gap but inflation has moved too rapidly to let us absorb the entire amount of the added expense.


"A fair return to the owners of the business is an essential part of operating the business. It also follows that the company's earnings must be fair to attract new capital from investors."

"In postwar years, Michigan Bell's rate of return for investors has averaged 5 per cent compared with 12 per cent for 1,700 manufacturing companies in the country and nearly 15 per cent for the 36 largest Michigan manufacturers."

**RATES FOR** residence extension telephones would be increased 15 cents. Business extensions would go up 25 cents. Long-distance rates would remain unchanged.

Fauser said that Michigan Bell has been in a "continuous financial squeeze since World War II between inflation and the time lag in obtaining rate relief."

"Unlike most industry, we have had to operate under higher costs for many months before additional revenues could be obtained. Furthermore those revenue increases have never caught up with the postwar rise in our costs."



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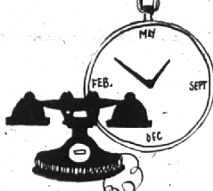
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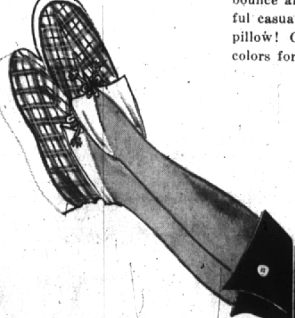
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