

How Much Longer Must We Wait? Residents Ask

By ALICE E. MORGAN

"Something should be done about it," was the consensus gathered from residents of Haynes and Holland in the area between Porritt field and Eton road.

"We've put up with that open ditch which drains the Porritt property long enough," one woman said. "It's unsightly, dirty and extremely dangerous after a heavy rain or when snow is melting."

In a neighborhood survey last week Wednesday, residents expressed their opinions. Mrs. Bruce McIntock, 1929 Holland, said the dreared next summer.

"MY LITTLE girl will be two years old then and should be able to play in the yard. I'll dread every minute she is out there. The ditch is directly behind our house; it's deep and a small child could easily drown there."

Mrs. Bruce Reynolds, 1844 Holland said her two-year-old son, Robbie has repeatedly fallen into the water which every fall, winter and spring fills one end of the yard.

"We would like to fix our yard," she said, "but there's not much use doing it while the mess is there. In the early summer, when it starts to dry up, the place is full of mosquitoes and the smell is very bad."

ROBBIE, like all little boys, likes to play outside. Where he sees water, he has to investigate. I have pulled him out when he was up to his armpits. It scares me to think what might happen."

Mrs. Milford Clark, 1885 Holland, said that, although she has no small children, she was constantly in dread of what might happen. Her opinion was backed

by the Thorn Kuhl and Frank Roosen families.

Mrs. Kuhl said the condition had existed since the homes were built about three years ago.

"When we bought here, right after this project was completed, we were told the matter would be taken care of," she said "So far it has been case after case of promises and no action."

"I have helped pull youngsters out of the ditch about three times in the last week. Just last week when the snow began to melt, there were five youngsters in there, hanging on our fence. The children probably thought I'm awfully cross for chasing them away, but at least they are alive yet."

MRS. ROUSEN said that, over and above the danger to children, was the general health hazard such as bad smells and mosquitoes. In addition, the seepage has caused

Start New Petition For Porritt Drain

By RAY DENNIS

Whose responsibility is it for construction of the proposed Porritt drain and what steps are now being taken to start a drainage district?

The Birmingham Eccentric this week asked these questions of city, county and township officials.

For the past three years, residents in the Haynes-Holland area have been alarmed because of the open ditch along the back of the lot between the two streets. This condition is caused from the drain pipe from the Porritt property which has no concealed drain.

LAST WEEK, FOLLOWING the heavy snow and downpours, water in the ditch running from the Porritt property to Eton road

rose to a level in spots as high as three feet. Pieces of wood, branches and cans are also littered in the water.

Last May then Birmingham Mayor Chad Ritchie examined the situation and stated, "It looks like a dump and a child could easily drown in it after a heavy rain."

A spokesman for County Drain (See PETITION, Page 2)



REPORTER RAY DENNIS WADES INTO 'NORMAL' 1-1/2 FOOT DEPTH. Literally a stinking hazard, says neighborhood (Joe Wheeler Photos)



RESIDENTS HAVE LIVED WITH THIS FOR 3 1/2 Years Water reaches dotted white line following heavy rain

Not all the seed a gardener sows ripens into fruit or flower. Not all the good you do for others is appreciated and returned in kind by them. But lack of a full harvest should not prevent one from doing the sowing... for the crop still is fruitful, and good.

74TH YEAR—NO. 36

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1951

20 PAGES FIVE CENTS

THIS and THAT

By G.R.A.

Russian Blackguards

It is a matter of historical documentation that Soviet Russia is in the hands of a bunch of gangsters, blackguards, and human devils. The men in the Kremlin have enslaved millions of war prisoners, plus millions of their own people in forced labor camps. Additional millions have been executed by the force of arms, so-called enemies of Communism.

So long as the Politburo, under Stalin and his associates, runs Russia, that country's war is worth less than the scrap of paper it may be written on. It is time that all Americans realize this: that people in their free nations also understand that the only way to crush the Kremlin is by force of arms, coupled with brave, bold, and intelligent propaganda.

Generous Hearts

The generous hearts of many Michigan people last week came to the aid of Mrs. Albertine Dempiere, of Farmington.

This lady, a widow, used her meagre funds several years ago to start an aviary raising her little home. She raised hundreds of beautiful song birds, and came to be known to thousands of bird lovers. She lost part of her home and most of the birds when an oil stove exploded.

Most certainly, as her friends came to her rescue, she must be warm... and her spirits high as she again resumes her heavenly life with feathered friends.

The U.S. Navy has started a program to rate officers who prove that they can and do conserve men and money entrusted to their custody. It's that wonderful! Perhaps Congress should grant proper medals to them... each medal bearing the slogan: "The men and the money you have saved belong to America; they are America's worth saving... at all costs!"

One thing that President Harry S. Truman: he once lost his shirt (a whole store) in a bank when he went banking as a haberdasher, and by now reports that he's losing his suit as a political renegade to the American voters.

It is absolutely impossible to face tomorrow; for tomorrow is always a day away.

Even some who agree that honesty is the best policy now and then let their premium on it lapse.

A bird in the hand may be worth two in the bush—but a steak on the table certainly is worth more to you than a steer in the hands of your butcher.

Schools Close For Thanksgiving Holiday

Birmingham schools will be closed Thursday and Friday for the annual Thanksgiving recess.

All market prices matriculated centrally. ROYAL HOTEL, 1250 13th Street, N.E. PHONE EXTENSION 6318.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Maples Seek 2nd Straight RO Win

13 Local Seniors in Final Game

By STU SCHEIFELE

Remember the oldest high school rivalry in the state, the Birmingham Football team takes on Royal Oak Phriday at 10:50 A.M. for the final game of what can be the best season since 1933.

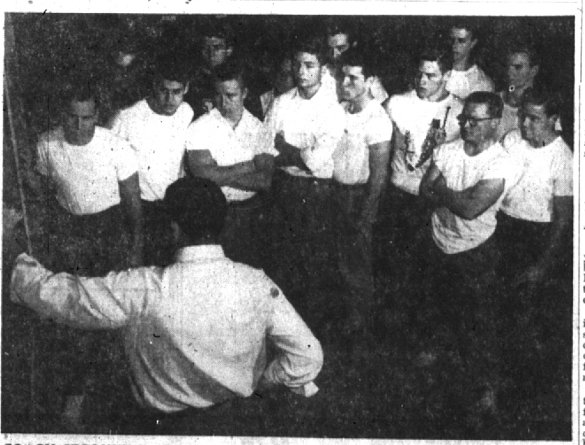
This football series started in 1898 with wildcat games between the two villages. The schools first sponsored the contests in 1913, and since then the teams have met in all but three years. Royal Oak holds a definite edge, with 19 victories against 13 losses and seven ties.

IF THE MAPLES win, it will be the first time since 1933 for any Birmingham team to take two in a row. Last year, they ground out a 17-6 victory in the mud at Pierpont Field.

Under the guidance of Coach Vincent Scoutingne, the Maples have established a 7-1 record this year, losing only to unbeaten Port Huron and finishing second in the piled-up 192 points to their opponents' 50.

The Aces have not had such a prosperous season. They have won two, lost five, and tied one, showing a strong defense but all-

(See FOOTBALL, Page 2)



COACH SCOUTINGNE (BACK TO CAMERA) DISCUSSES PRE-GAME STRATEGY. These 13 seniors will play last high school game Thursday. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

It Was a 6-Minute Deer Season for Eric Berghshagen

Sometimes it happens fast. Other times a man has to wait and wait—and wait—several months.

Award Garbage Contract to Pontiac Firm

The city's garbage collection and disposal contract for 1952 was awarded Monday evening by the city commission to T. G. Stewart of Pontiac.

City Hunter Finds Woods Not Bare

Jack Geyman, 805 Harmon, local real estate man, found the woods were not bare up around Barton City last weekend.

Three Are Injured in Crash Friday

Injuries to three persons and \$1,200 damage to two cars resulted from a traffic crash at Southfield and 14 Mile Friday.

High Twelve Club Hears Talk On Oil Industry

A representative of the Shell Oil corporation spoke at the High Twelve dinner meeting Monday night. Members were shown the film, "Man on the Land."

Union Services Of Thanksgiving

Royal Oak Pair Seeks Damages For Mishap Here

Harold Howell, Pontiac attorney, met with school board members Tuesday night to discuss his findings on the \$300,000 suit which has been filed in Pontiac circuit court against the board by two Royal Oak persons injured in a bleacher collapse here Nov. 25, 1948.

Shain Park Tree Will Soon Wear Gay Holiday Garb

Birmingham's old landmark, the tall Christmas tree in the center of Shain Memorial Park, again will be decorated with Christmas lights.

Sermons, Music To Be Featured

The First Presbyterian church will be the scene of union Thanksgiving services under the sponsorship of the Birmingham Council of Churches. The service will be held at 8 a.m., with the Rev. Robert A. Lawson of the First Methodist church presiding.

Officials Have New Special Assessment Plan

A modification of policy regarding special assessment districts may be all that is necessary to enable the city to confirm assessments, award contracts, and have the construction done during the same year, city commissioners believe.

Hope to Have Most Ice Rinks Lighted This Year

It is hoped to have lights at most of the city ice skating rinks this winter, Recreation Director Frank Whitney said this week.

Two Detroit Boys Admit Theft of Car and Money in Birmingham Friday

Two Detroit boys, 12 and 13 years old, have confessed to the breaking and entering of the First Baptist church here Friday and the theft of a car parked on Bowers street.

Detroit Sentenced For Theft of Car Here

The \$25 theft of a car from a gas station on North Woodward caught a 2 1/2 to 15 year teen in Jackson prison to John Lee Vakeries of Detroit. Sentence was passed by Judge Russell Holland Monday morning.

Vakeries was arrested last week in Pennsylvania for investigation of ownership of the car he was driving and was returned to Birmingham by Lt. William Green and Merlin Holmquist of the Birmingham detective bureau.

PART ONE