

Around The Cracker Barrel . . .

Every once in a while something comes along which seems to knock the cracker barrel right out of a person. Just a couple of weeks ago we were asked to be one of the judges in an editorial writing contest in adjacent schools, the editorials to be on the United Foundation. Now we don't know anything about editorials, but were talked into the job when we were told that the other two judges would be our Mayor and the Publisher of the Eclectic. I figured there ought to be a good deal about editorials, one being a writer of fine editorials and the other often the subject of them. So, we consented.

Last week these editorials, from Birmingham High School, from Cranbrook, from Bloomfield Hills High School, began to pour in. As the pile mounted we began to wonder if there were not about as many editorials as the number of dollars needed for the United Foundation. Not quite, but the many hundreds made quite a stack. Adjusting our glasses, faintly remembering that an editorial differed from an essay in certain precise ways, trying to remember a few basic rules of punctuation, and not even trying to remember rules of grammar, we started in on this tough job. At least it looked tough; it looked formidable, and endless.

We began to read the first one. It was intriguing and interesting to be laid to one side for further consideration, and went on to the next. The second one was clever and unique, so it too was laid aside for more thought. Then came the third, a powerful, dramatic piece of writing. It brought us up short, and we began to wonder just how deep in the pile these editorials would be found. We sort of had a hunch about then that something was afoot. It was top, like the tobaccoist who places his most popular cigar in the front center of his case.

So we tackled the next one, and the next and the next. And always the same, practically no deterioration in quality. And after reading about sixty of them, it suddenly dawned upon us that we were being given a chance to read what our youngsters really thought about a real civic problem.

And as we read, and re-read, and reflected, we felt awfully good inside. These children of ours are wonderful. Their reflections on responsibility, their clarity and logic of thinking, their grasp of a problem, left us sort of bewildered,—and a bit in awe.

About a thousand young people can't write individual editorials on any subject without utter truth shining through. A few might be able to fool you, even a large group, but they all fail. Sincerity, honesty and determination ring through these editorials. We can all be proud of them, and we can stop our worrying about the new generation. After this experience, I'd bet everything I own on them. They won't fail; they're terrific.

Well, this started out to be an advertisement for something else than our children. So bear with me a bit while we get this in. The Village Store has recently employed a young and unusual designer and tailor. He's the young man, an instructor in the ancient art of fitting and tailoring at Wayne University, who recently wrote a series of articles on ladies' tailoring for the Detroit News. His work is outstanding, and we feel very fortunate in having him to serve the needs of this sort of a community. With our fine selection of imported and domestic tweeds, shetlands, cashmeres, worsteds and gabardines, with outstandingly fine fabrics for topcoats, we know that both ladies and gentlemen will wear what fine garments they can obtain. Woollens have recently come down, and we've brought our prices down with them. Many fine suits and topcoats, tailored to your precise measure in any style you like, are available at less than \$100. Or if you have any problems with the fit of apparel you now have, come in and talk it over with Mr. Robert Gwynn.

This young halfback on the Birmingham team, Tom Tracy, seems to be a full 180 pounds of agility, ability and determination. What he's done already this year is something. Brilliant young athletes like Tom don't come along every day. But without taking away any of his well-earned glory, we keep wondering who makes those holes for the fleet back to run through. We remember back in the 20's that there was a chap named Britton who cleared the way for Red Grange. Later there was a fellow named Doc Blanchard who opened up holes for the great Glenn Davis to scamper through. . . . Some one or more players must be helping Tom a bit with the same sort of jolting tactics. Wish we could hear a bit more about them. For it's a great team that Vince Scelintone has, and we know it must be deep in headline material.

We're almost sure to have cool days pretty soon. Now is the time to get that insulated White Stag jacket at the Village Store, now when the selection is large and when matching hats are available. Don't wait, for when cold weather hits you may not find what you wanted.

Sometimes we wish we had just one article to advertise, like an automobile. It would be much easier than trying to convey to you, bit by bit, that the Village Store has hundreds of articles of apparel you never see advertised. Come in and see for yourself. You'll surely be welcome.

Campbell's Village Store

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Come In For a Cup of Coffee on Saturday

the House, but in my memory I can never really leave it.

DURING the years I've been in Birmingham I've been very good fortune to make many wonderful friends and meet many wonderful people. These are a few things that moving to another community cannot remove from a person's mind, especially when they have meant so much happiness.

"I am going to miss Birmingham, and will think of it often. Sure, however, I'm coming back to visit whenever I get the chance."

Mrs. Kline, who was honored by fellow staff members at a luncheon last week, will be making her home in Cadillac, where her husband is employed.

MRS. CAROL KLINE

Community House Executive Leaves

The resignation of Mrs. Carol Plumstead Kline, financial secretary and assistant director of the Birmingham Community House became effective Monday. She has held the position for the past 18 years, coming here shortly after the Community House was organized.

During that time Mrs. Kline (or Mrs. Community House, as some think of her) has seen "The Heart of Birmingham" expand each year to include the added activities which have grown around it. She has had first-hand contact with the many organizations, clubs and classes which have come to use it regularly, as well as those whose visits are not more than once or twice a year.

ON MANY occasions the "bookkeeper" has become the director of the popular center, during times when the person in charge was absent or ill. It has been her job to see that all ran smoothly, both from a financial angle and from the point of service to the community.

"There are a lot of people who have used and still use the Community House," she says, "who still do not have much of an idea what it does. They do not know that it has a schedule that must be watched almost as closely as a radio program in order to have everything function smoothly."

"We may be serving dinner in the auditorium one hour and have a meeting scheduled there for the next. It has meant 18 years of watching dollars and cents and I have loved every minute of it."

"Physically, I shall be leaving

Solution Sought On 14 Mi.-Pierce Traffic Hazard

Birmingham's board of education has become the director of Pierce school children cooperation in solving the traffic problem on the 14 Mile area.

A petition signed by 259 parents was presented by Mrs. Chris Slocum, recently named PTA safety chairman for Pierce, requesting a light, speed control or crossing guard, especially at the Pierce-14 Mile intersection.

On the north side of the street, Birmingham is coming over traffic ends at Edgewood where the city line swings to the north a few feet. This continues to Southfield, and there's a long stretch where our heaviest crossings are that has no protection," Mrs. Slocum told the board.

"WE HAVE PATROL boys there but do not feel that they should be expected to shoulder so much responsibility."

The cars and trucks using this road travel at a high rate of speed. Parents are worried for fear a motorist will run out of control and injure or kill several children as they gather in groups to cross."

She told board members that the PTA had appealed to officials in Southfield township, in which the southern side of 14 Mile is located, and had been able to reach no official. County and state officials have also given no help in the matter.

It was pointed out that the installation of a light by the city would do little good since it could control only one lane of traffic.

RICHARD SAUERBRUN, commenting on the cost of a light, said he felt \$800 was a small sum to consider when a child's life might be at stake. He added that in all probability there was little could be done since the line is outside of Birmingham.

Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent, said he would confer with Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley and Lieut. Henry Timm of the traffic division to see what could be done.

Research Group Studies City to Prepare Plans for School Expansion

A preliminary report on the survey of Birmingham schools will be ready for board of education members in January.

Data is being compiled for the report by Dr. T. C. Holy and members of the educational research staff of Ohio State university.

Spot maps now are being prepared for elementary and Junior and senior high schools, which according to Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, school superintendent, will give a complete picture of school needs for future planning.

The section east of the Grand Trunk railway, Beverly Hills and southeast Birmingham, Franklin, Walnut Lake and Bloomfield Village school areas are cited for special study.

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MRS. PHILLIP ROBB MRS. LEWIS ALEXANDER
Neighborhood UF solicitor receives Mrs. Robb's check. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

New High School Interior Work Gets Under Way

Interior work is progressing on the new high school at a better rate of speed than it has in previous weeks, according to Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, school superintendent.

Ireland told Birmingham school board members Tuesday that painting was being done in some sections of the school, floor tiles and electrical fixtures being installed in others.

"Some of the rooms are beginning to show color and are going to be beautiful," he said.

He presented an estimate from Mrs. Hipsan Swanson of \$39,222.42 for the decorations and equipment for the home-making apartment. The estimate was approved by the board and Mrs. Swanson ordered to go ahead with the work according to her previously approved plans.

IRELAND SAID, in addition to other construction items he had mentioned, concrete work had been done around the swimming pool site, considerable amounts of outside work had been completed, and contractors hoped to have heat in the building this week.

"We need it," he told the board, "for the sake of the furniture now in the school, as well as for the proper drying of paint and plaster."

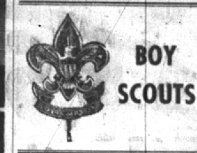
The board is planning another group visit to the school and conference with the contractors and architects in the near future.

Two Draw Sentences

Norris Brown and Luther Bird, both of Detroit, entered pleas of guilty after being charged with removing building materials from the site of the new Methodist church on West Maple. The two were sentenced in circuit court Monday to one to five years in Jackson prison.

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BOY SCOUTS
TROOP B-4
The entire troop will take part in a campout at Highland recreation area this weekend. Assistant Scoutmaster Jack Huntley will be in charge.
Recent Tenderfoot inductees are Ram Hamner, David Chalk, John Gardner, Milford Fuller, Jim Duffield, Clifford Boz and Bob Lamb.

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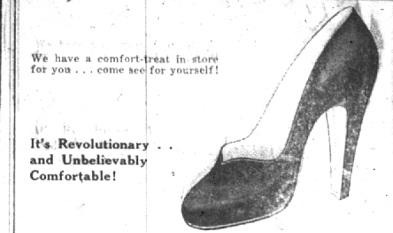
Hills' Police Officers Do Well in Fishing Streams in Upper Mich.

It takes a hardy fisherman to stand the fast waters in the streams of the Upper Peninsula this time of year.

Last week Bloomfield Hills Police Chief I. C. Banks, Sgt. Walter Slitter of the Hills force and Cranbrook police officer John Fazio went steelhead trout fishing and partridge hunting in the Newberry area.

They reported their efforts were very successful—we got our quota. Although trout season is closed, certain areas in the state are still open for steel head trout fishing.

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