

Home is more than a mere place in which to eat and sleep. It can be a cherished place where a man and his wife love a family; where memories of happy childhood and friends linger on into the last day.

74TH YEAR—NO. 48

# The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1952

PART ONE  
24 PAGES FIVE CENTS

## Schools to Ask for Another Special 5-Mil Levy

### 1 Definite, 4 undecided Commission Candidates

#### Minimum Budget Is \$1,453,541

### YOU—and Your City!

Approximately 20,000 men and women, boys and girls, now live within the boundaries of Birmingham. With few exceptions, they are healthy, happy, forward-looking, intelligent human beings.

They like their city. They want to keep it clean, progressive, a community of good homes, good schools, good places of business, good neighbors . . . and good government.

Much of the goodness expected by our citizens will depend upon the personnel and policies of our own local government. Birmingham's current and ultimate position does and will depend upon the vision, the wisdom, and the leadership of our locally elected and appointed officials. To this, of course, must be added the degree of citizen interest and cooperation produced as time goes on.

**BIRMINGHAM WILL BE,** and become, as large or as small, as efficient or as inefficient, as good or as bad as its people make it!

A community, like an individual, thrives and grows, or weakens and decays. There is no more security and progress guaranteed for a town than there is for any individual in it.

Understanding this, then, what other course can Birmingham adopt and follow, both now and in the years to come, than by having its citizens work hard at the job of citizenship? There is no other easy solution.

Perhaps, in the next few years, Birmingham will face some of its greatest problems and challenges. This will be so due to the phenomenal growth of the past few years, and the years ahead.

**NEW IMPROVEMENTS** will become necessary. Old concepts of our community's ultimate requirements will have to be revised. In the course of these and other changes, millions of dollars of your taxes will be collected and expended.

Thus, it can be seen easily, the quality and character of this city's government bears tremendously upon the amount of your current and future taxes. It bears equally upon the values of local residential and business properties.

Fortunately, within Birmingham are many citizens whose talents and time, if made available to meet our civic problems, will offer insurance against unnecessary municipal mistakes and extravagances.

Annually, within the spirit and framework of the processes of self-government, elections are held here for city commissioners. The same is true for the Board of Education, although the latter's jurisdiction and responsibilities extend beyond Birmingham's city boundaries.

**BIRMINGHAM HOLDS** its annual elections in April. This year three vacancies are to be filled on the city commission. Present incumbents may or may not seek re-election. This newspaper will keep you posted on this subject.

The purpose of this editorial is simply to remind you, as good citizens in a good community, of your civic responsibility in making self-government work at its best level.

In the last analysis, of course, **YOU are the government**—and the type of government you support reflects the people who pay taxes to support it.

### Assign Garbage Pickup

Assignment of the city's garbage collection contract to William R. Love and Robert Thompson was approved by the city commission Monday evening.

These contractors will carry on the original contract signed by T. G. Stewart who was awarded the job the first of the year.

Two weeks ago Stewart notified the city he was unable to perform under normal conditions. At that time the commission agreed to both advertise for bids for a contractor to collect garbage and for equipment for the city to use in the collection.

**DURING THE PAST** two weeks, Love and Thompson have performed the work with the equipment owned by Stewart and Lewis R. Naugle.

According to City Manager Donald C. Egbert, they have attempted to carry on the contract

### Library Lighting Inadequate

Believing that capital improvements for the Baldwin Public Library is the responsibility of the Library Board, the officers and directors of the Friends of the Library declined to shoulder the project of relighting the local library.

Graham Shinnick, Friends director, and several members of the Friends of the Library recently visited libraries in the greater Detroit area, built about the same time as the local library and which recently installed new lighting.

The results have been very satisfactory, he reported, and added to the efficiency and attractiveness of the buildings.

"We have known for a long time that the lights in our library are inadequate," said Miss Jeanne Lloyd, local librarian. "We had the Detroit Edison check on our lighting with their light meter and our brightest lights registered down to a point where the light didn't even register on the light meter."

**THE BOARD** of the Friends of the Library expressed a willingness to help the Library Board with this problem should they wish it.

Mrs. Harry Gruber, membership chairman, said that the Library Friends now total 397 members. Mrs. Coit Allee, Mrs. Richard Sneed, Mrs. Syver Thinsgard, Mrs. Lawton Taber and Mrs. E. C. Coil are on the membership committee. James Tobin, program chairman, reported that three more programs are being planned for the organization this year. He named Mr. and Mrs. Berrien Ketchum, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Shelham, Mr. and Mrs. William Burlingame and Mr. and Mrs. Allan Lutz to the program committee.

Next board meeting of the Friends of the Library will be held Tuesday, April 1.

### Detroit Is Speaker At Red Cross '52 Fund Kickoff Dinner Feb. 20

Dr. Benedict Glaser, of Temple Beth El, Detroit, will be the speaker when the American Red Cross holds its kickoff dinner for the 1952 fund drive Feb. 20. It will be held at Christ Church Cranbrook, beginning at 6:15 p.m.

The meeting will include business of the regular quarterly session and reports the executive board meeting formerly planned for Feb. 19.

Campaign chairman will instruct workers and distribute supplies.

### Rules Discussed For Intermediate Baseball League

Eligibility rules for the new Birmingham Intermediate Baseball League were discussed at a meeting of the organization Thursday evening.

This new league will be for boys between the ages of 13 and 15, with one league asked to sponsor each of the four teams.

According to present plans, each of the four teams must have a specified number of players from each age group. This ruling will give the younger players a better chance to participate.

Another ruling favored by the organization is that no player may participate who will reach his 16th birthday before July 31 of each season.

**TEAM TRYOUTS** will be conducted in a manner similar to that used by the Little League baseball group last year. These sessions will be held in May and managers will be allowed a specified number of points to bid for players.

The city recreation department is cooperating in this program and will assist in maintenance of fields. In addition, players will be outfitted with uniforms.

Chairman of the group is Don Chaffer, 1029 Glenhurst; secretary, Dr. Ed Deer, 1082 Midland; and treasurer, James O'Connor, 521 Oakland.

### \$12,000 Turned In Week Before '52 Roll Call Begins

With a week remaining before the official opening of the 1952 Community House Roll Call, donations totaling \$12,000 were announced by co-chairman Frederic Pew Monday evening. Pew said 1,100 people had already mailed checks.

The nearly 600 workers will be the official drive Feb. 18, following a series of coffee sessions at the homes of 50 area captains.

The Roll Call will continue through March 3, during which time a house to house canvass will be made throughout the entire Birmingham area.

**LYMAN J. CRAIG, JR.**, has named 10 captains for the business area who will be assisted by several volunteer helpers.

Pew said Monday that in view of the early receipts, he felt there was no trouble in completing the \$35,000 goal set for this year.

"From these receipts there is an indication of larger individual gifts," he said. "We are already more than one-third of the way to the goal with the drive still a week away."

### Speaks on Narcotics

Mrs. N. Chamberlain, a member of Mayor Albert Cobo's Detroit Narcotic committee, will speak at the Birmingham High Twelve meeting in the Community House Monday evening.

### March 1 Deadline For Filing

Vincent B. Watkins, 587 Henley, will run for election to one of the two three-year city commission vacancies, he told The Birmingham Eccentric Monday evening.

"I'm going to try again," he said.

Watkins was an unsuccessful candidate for a one-year term in the April, 1951 election.

Two city commissioners, whose terms expire this April, have not decided yet whether to stand for re-election.

They are Richard M. Patterson and Charles Renfrew, city Commissioner Milton P. Mallender, now completing his third term, some weeks ago announced he would not seek re-election.

**CANDIDATES'** petitions must be filed by March 1.

"I will make my decision this week," Patterson told The Eccentric Tuesday morning.

Renfrew also is expected to announce his plans within the next few days. He now is evaluating his future business schedule to see whether he will be able to attend enough Monday meetings to be of considerable and consistent value to the city.

Watkins at the April 7 election will elect two persons to three-year terms, one person to a one-year term (which is the unexpired portion of former Mayor Chad M. Ritchie's term. Renfrew was appointed to Ritchie's vacancy last August.)

**PATTERSON** was appointed in late 1950 to the vacancy resulting from John S. O'Gorman's resignation, ran in 1951 for the remaining year of O'Gorman's term and was elected.

Roy W. McLooney, 1380 Maryland, Tuesday morning denied reports that he was considering running again for the city commission.

"There's absolutely nothing to it," he emphasized. "I've taken on some additional business responsibilities which prevent me from even considering it."

McLooney ran for election in April 1951, but was not successful.

### Water Authority Bill Approved by City

Approval was given by the city commission Monday evening to a bill now pending before the state legislature that would expedite the formation of an authority to provide a water supply system to serve South Oakland County.

The bill would permit two or more municipalities to incorporate an authority to own and operate a water supply system.

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### Promotion to Sgt. Received By Local Man

**WITH THE 45TH INFANTRY DIV.** IN KOREA—Robert Sergeant, whose parents live at 550 Wilbur rd., Birmingham, Mich., Tuesday was promoted to sergeant while serving in Korea with the 45th Infantry Division.

The Oklahoma National Guard unit, now filled with men from all sections of the United States, is on the Korean battlefield late in 1951 after extensive training at Hockliss, Japan.

**SGT. SERGEON** is an assistant section leader in the 120th Medical Battalion's Clearing Company. He entered the Army in September 1950 and joined the 45th division Oct. 5, 1950.

Sergeant is a graduate of Mt. Lebanon High school, Pittsburgh, Pa., and received a BBA degree in June 1949 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He was formerly employed as a distributor for Chrysler Corp. in Detroit.

### Apparently Frightened Thieves Get No 'Loot'

After breaking three windows to gain entry to the Monahan service station, 14 Mile and 10th streets, Thursday night, thieves were forced to leave the premises empty-handed.

The thief, who described the break in as "sloppy," said they felt the men were frightened away by the appearance of a car, possibly the police patrol.

### Village Firemen Answer False Alarm Monday

Two trucks from the Bloomfield Village fire department and one from Bloomfield township answered a general alarm Monday morning when a neighbor sighted flames in the living room of a home under construction on Cornington road in Bloomfield Village.

When firemen arrived, they found that workmen had built a supervised fire in the house to keep warm.

Bloomfield Village Fire Chief Charles Higgins stated, "Even if this particular call is a false alarm, it is a false alarm, still we encourage residents to notify us whenever they see a fire. In this case, the neighbor didn't see any auto around the home and thought that no workmen were there."

**Breaks Wrist in Fall**  
Harry M. Denyes, Jr., 554 Wilbur, chairman of the Birmingham plan board, suffered a broken wrist in a fall at his home Sunday.

### THAT and THAT

By G.R.A.

**Symbols of Love and Respect**  
England's beloved King George VI has gone to his eternal reward. Somewhere, amidst the passed-on good souls of this earth, he is going about his death having left behind him many millions of mourners, many millions of admiring human beings.

His place of symbolic leadership has been assumed by his elder daughter Elizabeth, who, with her consort husband Philip, will lead the support of their historic effort to England's need for stability, peace and plenty.

While Britain's own people, and those of the Commonwealth of Nations, loved and respected George VI, no doubt the basis of this affection is contained in the normal human desire to want to respect and revere a symbol of leadership.

**ENGLAND'S Kings and Queens** of many generations have occupied such places in the hearts and minds of their subjects.

The place of the modern sovereign is one of moral, rather than civil, power.

For example, the President of the United States, England's King or Queen is not required to be a partisan politician to serve the office. Thus he can more easily be a gentleman or a lady, winning and holding popular favor and respect.

But our President is always the head of a political party—try as he may to represent the whole people.

A similar place in England's governmental life is that of Prime Minister. He, and his dominating party, are the politicians.

The King or Queen is dead . . . long live his new queen!

**Having made a sale of horse collars since 1946**, A. St. Louis, Mo., man has gone into another business. Hence, call on you may remember, were invented and used to allow horses to breathe more freely. These collars were pulled, internal combustion engines were used to pull in most of the U.S.A. Just think what has happened to millions of horses in the last century!

James J. Morrow served as first deputy fire commissioner under New York's ex-Mayor Sawyer (now Ambassador to Mexico) has been convicted as the mastermind of a \$500,000 per year racket. Morrow was sentenced to 10 years in the state prison. He was the Kefauver committee that did effective work against the \$100,000,000 per-year-for-life job. O'Dwyer, Harry Truman's political pal, has been indicted for the same racket. How do you like to pay taxes to support Truman's cronies, folks?

**A Detroit Democrat**, and member of Michigan's House of Representatives, wants a State law passed that will give all voters four days off with pay, so they can vote on election days. What a travesty upon the sacredness of the ballot box! As though freedom-loving human beings should be charged for the privilege of exercising their rights. Besides, what proof will be asked that people so proud of their votes did not get employed? What's the point for the four days off? Get paid!

### Church Women Plan World Prayer Day

Plans for Birmingham's observance of the World Day of Prayer were made at a recent meeting at the home of Mrs. R. A. Morrow, 409 Merrill.

Under the sponsorship of the Council of Church Women, the international program will be held Feb. 29. Representatives from the several participating churches are serving on the committee. A local public prayer service is scheduled for 1 p.m. at the Baptist church.

**The Day's program** opens first just west of the International Hotel in the Fiji Islands and following the run circles the globe with a chain of prayer.

The 1952 theme is "Christ, Our Hope."



### Well I'll Be Doggoned!

"Never did see so much come out of so little. Closest thing to this mighty miracle is a want ad on The Eccentric's Want Ad page."

**Phone MI 4-1100**  
Ask for the Want Ad Desk

**JACK G. SEMANN**      **WILLIS BREWER**      **MRS. JOHN RUMSEY**  
County political chairman, League chairman discuss forum's final details. (See Wheeler Photo)

**Radar Cuts Speeding**  
Radar arrests, between Feb. 4 through Feb. 10, totaled 66 or daily average of six and one-third persons, according to Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley. The first 16 persons were arrested. Moxley said no driver had contested the speeding charge after the mechanics of the radar unit were explained.

**Breaks Wrist in Fall**  
Harry M. Denyes, Jr., 554 Wilbur, chairman of the Birmingham plan board, suffered a broken wrist in a fall at his home Sunday.

**SOME OF THE** questions the League will ask them to answer are: "What is meant by the 'free press'?" "How can a national newspaper be run as the AP, press radically different papers at the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago (Forum, Page 2)