One is required to live quite a number of years before he really realizes that nothing can take the place of actual experience. You may read many books, listen to many voices, but neither of these devices gives you what you learn by doing.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

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THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

The U.S. Army Signal Corps has just completed a railroad car for the Presidential office, containing every known communications gadget possible. It is admitted that the car is fitted up more elaborately than Hitler's private car was—and that's something.

Every electrical and electronics, super-sonics, radar, atomic, and hair-tonic gadgets that can send or receive sight or sound will be available to the occupants of this car. Wonderful!

Now, if only this and other Presidents will develop ideas of enduring value to people and send them out from this scientifically-fitted conveyance, . . . but why ask for "if only . . ."

A nation-wide survey among men and women asked: "Who bosses most — the husband or wife?" The answers about evened up the question. A better question these days would be: "Who bosses most — the government or those governed?" (Naturally, both Republicans and Democrats will not agree on a single answer.)

State Senator George N. Higgins has withdrawn from his plan to run for Congress against Rep. George A. Dondero. It would not surprise us to learn soon, that the Ferndale politico will announce himself Republican candidate for Lieut.-Governor, to succeed William C. Vandenberg, now running for Governor.

Never forget, Mr. and Mrs. American Taxpayer, that it is YOUR MONEY that supports the good and the bad things in government. You may be proud of your schools, libraries, parks, and other necessary and worthwhile government projects—but YOU SHOULD BE ANGRY when you learn about graft and corruption, plush jobs, and similar dirt in high places!

Nineteen million boy scouts have joined that organization since it was launched in the United States Feb. 8, 1910. It is impossible to estimate the great impact for good that this movement has had upon the lives of most of these boys . . . many of them now adult leaders in various affairs in our country.

The tremendous growth of Scouting, among both boys and girls, proves that Divine Providence really intends human beings to be good; else how could the ideals of scouting find so friendly acceptance? So here's "Hats Off" to scouting! to the scouts and their splendid adult leaders.

If Gen. Eisenhower decides that he can serve his country, and the world, best by remaining in Europe and welding together the free nations to fight communism, he will be doing a wonderful thing. Indeed, what he may accomplish in this direction could make him a better servant of mankind than being President of the United States. Only time, and future historians, will write this part of "Ike's" biography.

A Chicago man and wife, having refused to speak to each other for 10 years, entered a court room intent on divorce. Suddenly the man began to cry. Both were taken into the judge's private chambers from which, after a short while, they emerged smiling and speaking.

They didn't get their divorce—apparently Cupid made a last grab at his arrows and, giving them a twist, started both hearts bleeding for each other again. And, isn't that a wonderful thing to happen?

Dog Quarantine in Unincorporated Areas Of Oakland County

Because of the continued outbreaks of rabies, all dogs in unincorporated areas of Oakland county are under quarantine, according to W. D. Aikens, county animal commissioner.

He stated, "This quarantine takes effect immediately in all unincorporated areas, and placards will be posted in all areas affected as soon as they are received from the Department of Agriculture in Lansing."

A soft deal, but a hard way to get money (provided you're covered). Faster surer, simpler is selling the work your arms can do in the Eccentric Want Ads.

PHONE MI 4-1100

Ask for the Want Ad Desk

These Two Are In . . .

RICHARD PATTERSON (left) this week announced that he will run for election to a three-year term as city commissioner at the April 7 election. Last week VINCENT B. WATKINS (right) announced he would "try again" for election to the commission. He ran unsuccessfully last year.

He's Out . . . Undecided . .

MILTON F. MALLENDER (left) has declined to run again. He is completing his third 3-year-term, was mayor from 1946-48. CHARLES RENFREW (right), appointed last August to Chad M. Ritchie's vacancy, said he will make up his mind this weekend whether he will seek election. Another possibility is ROBERT S. OWEN, who also will reveal his decision this week. Owen ran last year, was defeated. Deadline for filing nomination petitions is March 1.

Portion of Roof On Hills Home Damaged by Fire

A small portion of the roof of the Mrs. James A. Goudie residence on North Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, was damaged by fire Sunday afternoon.

Bloomfield Hills Fire Chief Burton Bartholomew said the blaze apparently started from sparks from the chimney. Also answering the alarm was the Cranbrook department.

Children Collect $9.40 For March of Dimes; Receipts Total $8,661

The Birmingham March of Dimes fund is richer by $9.40 due to the efforts of Jenifer and Dennis Parks, children of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Parks, 646 Puritan.

Jenifer, 8, and Dennis, 11, made their own canisters and put them in prominent places in their home. Friends, relatives and casual visitors were "invited" to contribute.

When the canisters were emptied Saturday morning by Mrs. Howard Rieman, co-chairman of the "March" with Mrs. Wallace Campbell, she found the nine-forty, plus one chocolate bit.

Mrs. Rieman reported Birmingham's total contribution at $8,661.35, with approximately $300 yet to be turned in from other canisters.

Jr. League to Discuss Project at Luncheon

Area newspaper editors will be special guests at a luncheon of the Birmingham Junior League branch Wednesday noon, when the league's plan for vision tests are discussed. For several weeks the group has been preparing the project, which will provide eye tests for pre-school children.

It is estimated that more than 3,000 local children will be eligible for the service.

Next Few Months Most Dangerous; Fire Chief Urges Special Precaution

Fire Chief V. W. Griffith this week issued a double warning about seasonal fire hazards — grass and roof fires.

"If serious roof fires are to be avoided," he said, "householders whose dwellings have wood shingle roofs should be sure flue and chimney screens are in good condition or else refrain from burning paper and other 'light' materials in fireplaces and furnaces," he said.

Griffith said the next three months are among the most dangerous because roofs and vegetation dry out with little snow and only intermittent showers to keep them damp.

Burning paper will float up chimneys and ignite roofs quickly, Griffith warned.

His warning on grass fires was issued because the department responded to four such alarms Thursday.

Sylvan Lake Police Car Involved in Crash Here

Mrs. Mary Kempton, 59, of 19380 Beverly road, picked on the wrong car Feb. 20. She crashed into the rear of a Sylvan Lake police car.

Officers said Mrs. Kempton failed to yield the right-of-way at the Cranbrook-Maple intersection when she ran into the east-bound police car driven by Patrolman Frank L. Stolt.

The impact threw his car into a passing truck driven by Arnold H. Abend of Milford. No one was injured.

Council Date Changed

The Feb. 25 meeting of the Birmingham PTA Council has been postponed until March 3. The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. in the little auditorium of the new high school with members of the Birmingham board of education as guests.

Detroit Boy Hurt Hiking in Ravine

FRANKLIN — Walter Kuptz, 13, son of Mrs. Vera Kupta of 15792 Snowden, Detroit, was found Saturday afternoon in the Franklin river ravine suffering from shock, exposure and leg injuries.

The boy said he had hitchhiked from Detroit and fell as he tried to cross the ravine on an overhanging tree. Unable to walk, he called for help but was not heard until about 2 p.m., three hours after his fall.

Danny Obserchulte, playing some distance away, heard the cries and called for help.

Peter and Dick Greig, sons of Dr. Gordon Greig, 14 Mile, MSC students home for the weekend, went to the boy's aid and after 45 minutes succeeded in getting him out of the ravine.

HE WAS TAKEN to the Greig home for first aid treatment, after which he was removed to St. Joseph Mercy hospital, Pontiac, and later to Brent hospital in Detroit.

Walter, an eighth grade student at Guest school, said although he had visited Franklin many times with his parents, this was his first trip alone.

Oak St. Improvement Due for More Hearings

Planning Board to Discuss Requests For Rezoning

Rezoning requests for two parcels of land will be considered at the city plan board meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 27, according to Chairman Harry Demyes, Jr.

Residents from Pembroke Manor subdivision and the northeast section are expected to attend and discuss their views of the Grand Trunk railway's request to rezone its triangular parcel east of the tracks from single family to either multiple housing or business.

Another matter on the agenda will be Mike Harabedian's request to rezone his property at the northwest corner of Coolidge and Maple from single family to commercial.

District Cage Tourney Starts At Troy March 5

The high school district class B and C basketball tournaments will be held at the new Troy high school gym, March 5-8, according to Athletic Director Boyd Larson, who is serving as tourney manager.

Class B squads competing are Clawson, Utica, Mt. Clemens, St. Mary and Troy. In Class C will be Fraser, New Baltimore, New Haven, Roseville, Eastland, St. Clair Shores, Lakeview and St. Clair Shores Lakeshore.

Each of the four nights, tilts are slated to get underway at 7 and 8:30 p.m. Drawing will be held at the high school at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27.

LARSON STATED that the Class B winner will go to the Pontiac regional tourney while the victor in Class C will compete in the regional at Troy.

The manager pointed out that the gym-has a seating capacity of 1300 with standing room for an additional 200.

Other tournament officials are Mildred Hull, secretary; Don Hill, official scorer; Roudaulph Smith, official timer; Bob Nyquist, head usher; and Stuart Baker, treasurer.

The school is located on Livernois, north of Big Beaver road.

New Ordinance to Give Greater Control Over Heavily Loaded Trucks

To permit a more satisfactory control of vehicles which cannot be weighed but whose size is too great for city streets, Birmingham commissioners have adopted a new ordinance.

Suspected violators of the weight code whose loads cannot be checked on the city's present scales, will come under size limitation rules in the future.

Trucks, trailers are limited as to height, length and width and can be barred from city streets, especially during the spring break-up, for violation of these restrictions.

The measure will apply specifically to heavy construction machinery, commonly moved on "low boy" trailers.

FIRST IN a series of five Lenten lectures will be given by Bishop Russell Hubbard of Detroit, at St. James church on Feb. 29. The lectures are sponsored by the women of the parish and are open to all Birmingham church women. Each week the service will be held in the church parlors at 10:30 a.m., and are planned to bring prominent church speakers to Birmingham.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY. PHONE ENterprise 8319.

Duplexes Proposed for Porritt Area

A proposal to construct 133 two-family dwellings, plus a commercial development along Adams road, was presented to the Birmingham city commission Monday evening by the owners of the 44-acre Porritt property.

Commissioners listened to the plan, asked a few questions, then said they would withhold further comment until the project was reviewed by the city plan board.

Wallace E. Reid and H. H. Patterson, who recently purchased the property from the Oakland Hospital trustees, said they would make a similar presentation to the city planners at their regular meeting next Wednesday night at the Municipal building.

ACCORDING TO Reid, their studies indicate the property should be devoted to two-family, or duplex, homes.

This would permit one building on a lot 60 x 137 feet, of two-story, brick veneer construction. Twelve different frontal designs would be used, and dwelling setbacks would be staggered to prevent the streets from having a straight line appearance, Reid explained.

He said if the property was developed as single family, it would mean lots 48 to 50 feet wide by 137 feet in depth, and undoubtedly of frame construction.

"The duplexes would be 25 feet apart, while the homes would be only 15 from one another," he said.

THE PROPOSAL also calls for a commercial development along Adams road "which probably would be used by a doctors' clinic or something similar in character," Reid said.

This would require about 5 acres, would be 440 feet in depth with about 700 feet of Adams frontage. Space would be provided in the rear for off-street parking of 640 cars.

Before petitioning for annexation, Reid and Patterson said they wanted assurance from the city that the plat as proposed would be acceptable to the city, and that they would know in advance what the zoning would be.

The so-called Porritt property now is a part of Troy township, and is zoned agricultural although completely surrounded by the city of Birmingham.

THE DEVELOPERS agreed that all water and sewer services and street paving would be paid for by them and not the city.

They indicated that development of the property might take two years to complete, depending on how fast the new homes sell.

Development would begin at the southeast corner, near Columbia and Haynes, they indicated.

Present plans call for Bowers street to extend west, then curve northward around the proposed commercial development to form the only westerly exit opposite Hazel street.

HAZEL AND HAYNES (at Columbia) would be extended westward, but be curved north (or south) to meet east of the commercial area and form a "U".

"We want the commission and the public to know what is proposed so there will be no misunderstanding," emphasized Reid. "We feel this plan will give Birmingham the kind of construction we have given it in the past, and to which Birmingham expects and is entitled."

Says Ambulance Wait Should Not Exceed 15 Minutes

Birmingham should not have to wait longer than 15 minutes for emergency ambulance service, the branch manager for the ambulance company serving the city told city commissioners Monday evening.

"Our ambulance should arrive within 15 minutes from the time we receive the call," declared Harvey Holcomb of the Dietrich Ambulance Service.

His statement came as city commissioners again discussed the quality of service being rendered the city since last July when the two local funeral homes discontinued emergency ambulance service.

HOLCOMB SAID one of his ambulances already is equipped with two-way radio, and the other two vehicles are expected to be furnished this equipment this week.

"This radio system should permit us to give much faster service," said Holcomb.

The Birmingham police department has agreed to alert his company as soon as an accident call is reported. Then when the police arrive at the scene and ambulance service is indicated, the ambulance drivers will be ready to start out about three minutes earlier, Holcomb advised.

However, City Commissioner Charles Renfrew asked City Manager Egbert to submit next week a review of the latter's September report which suggested the city might find it advisable to establish emergency ambulance service as part of the function of the police and/or fire departments.

Survey Authorized by Hills School Board

The Bloomfield Hills school board Monday evening directed Superintendent John Jacobs to engage the University of Michigan bureau of school services to aid in a school district survey on immediate and future building needs.

Kiwanis to Entertain Wives at Feb. 26 Meet

Wives of Birmingham Kiwanis club members will be guests when the club observes "Ladies Night" next Tuesday evening.

Red Jones, former American league umpire, will be the guest speaker at the 6:30 dinner meeting in the Community House.

Fire Damages Here Drop Below December Figure

Although December and January both saw 45 calls made to the Birmingham fire department, property damage dropped from $9,215 to $845, for both buildings and contents.

The January alarms were listed as 20 for fire and fire investigation; 19 for gas investigations; 2 miscellaneous runs and 4 first aid calls.

St. Clair Elected Chairman of UF Advisory Group

John P. St. Clair, 1045 Fairfax, will head the advisory committee of the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin Division of the United Foundation during the coming year.

St. Clair, elected unanimously this week at a reorganization meeting of the committee at the Community House, took office immediately. The advisory committee has been without a chairman since the resignation of Donald S. Bell.

CAMPAIGN Director Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn congratulated St. Clair on the outstanding job he did as a division chairman for the recent Torch Drive.

Tuesday, March 18, was set as the committee's next meeting date.

In the meantime, preliminary details will be worked out by St. Clair for enlarging the membership of the committee and the delegation of responsibilities to various members.

House Passes Gas Explosion Bill, 75-1

By a vote of 75 to 1, the Michigan House of Representatives Tuesday afternoon approved an amendment to the Michigan Public Service Commission Act making it mandatory for the public service commission to set up safety rules and enforcement procedure regarding installation of natural gas transmission lines.

This "gas explosion bill", submitted by an interim legislative study committee chairmaned by Birmingham Rep. Howard R. Estes, now goes to the Senate for its approval.

"This provision stems from the December, 1949, gas explosion and fire in Birmingham which claimed five lives.

It will require about $11,000 a year to provide the engineer, secretarial work and travel expenses to enforce this new amendment, according to Estes.

HE SAID an attempt was made early Tuesday morning to have the bill referred to the ways and means committee for further study on the appropriation.

"But when it was pointed out that $11,000 was a very small sum to spend to save the lives of possibly many persons in the state, the motion to refer was defeated and the bill passed," Estes explained.

He said the lone dissenter was Rep. Lewis Christman of Ann Arbor.

Flight from Hawaii Includes Soldier From Walnut Lake

Among the 38 Detroit area soldiers who arrived home Tuesday from the much publicized chartered plane flight from Hawaii was Pvt. Bob Delancy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Delaney, 5385 Putnam, Walnut Lake.

Mrs. Delaney stated, "Bob is so excited about being home, he has all but forgotten his bad experiences. So many of his friends have been over here to see him since he arrived."

Also home on a furlough from Fort Bragg, N.C. is Bob's brother, Jerard, who is with a military police battalion.

Registration Deadline In Hills March 10

Final day for registration for the April 7 election in Bloomfield Hills will be Monday, March 10, according to City Clerk Robert Stadler.

The Hills municipal building offices will be open from 8 to 8 p.m. for registrations Saturday, March 8 and from 8 to 5, March 10.

Last day for filing petitions for offices is Saturday, March 15, at 4 p.m.

New United States District Attorney

Choice of a Birmingham attorney as United States district attorney in Detroit was made last week by Sen. Blair Moody.

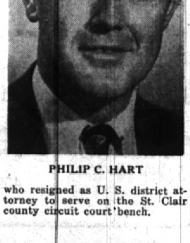
Philip C. Hart, 39, of 577 Westwood, former director of the Detroit Office of Price Stabilization, was recommended to President Truman after approval by the Department of Justice, Moody reported.

He added that he felt certain of United States Senate confirmation on Hart's appointment.

Hart is a graduate of Georgetown university and the University of Michigan law school. He was named corporations and securities commissioner by Gov. Williams in 1949 and OPS director for the state in 1951.

A VETERAN of World War II, Hart served in the European theater and was discharged with the rank of lieutenant-colonel with the 4th Infantry Division.

He succeeds Edward T. Kane, who resigned as U. S. district attorney to serve on the St. Clair county circuit court bench.



PHILIP C. HART

Recreation Board to Discuss Skating, Poppleton Park

The city recreation board will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Feb. 21, and items on the agenda include a discussion of the development of Poppleton park, ice skating and presentation of a preliminary operating budget for the next year.

Director Frank Whitney said the board will discuss the future extens of the ice skating program this winter. He pointed out that uncertain weather conditions make it difficult to plan how long skating will be available.

The board has a model for the proposed setup for Poppleton park, and the director stated that members wish to plan a development which is pleasing in appearance and satisfactory to the neighboring residents.

5-Yr.-Old Plan Being Reviewed

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Depending on which side of the bridge you live, it was "good news" or "bad news" that came out of Monday night's city commission meeting.

The "bad news" was for those Oak street residents east of the River rouge bridge at the head of Quarton Lake.

The "good news" will be welcomed by those residents who live in the area west of the bridge, yet must use Oak street to get to Woodward avenue or Hunter blvd.

For the city commission Monday night set March 10 as the date of a preliminary hearing on the proposed improvement of the two-fifths of a mile of Oak from Woodward to the bridge.

IT MARKS the second attempt in five years by the city to widen and pave the remaining portion of Oak street.

During the early months of 1947, a number of hearings were held on the improvement, but the project was voted down, 4-3, when it could not be decided how the special assessment costs should be spread.

Monday night commissioners heard City Engineer L. R. Gare report that it would cost approximately $35,000 to put in a 24-ft. pavement with rolled curbs from Woodward to the bridge.

He said another $15,000 would have to be spent on a storm sewer to drain the area.

IF THE CITY merely widened the present bridge, it would involve an additional expenditure of approximately $20,000 he said.

Should the city decide the bridge needs widening, this would cost another $30,000 to $35,000, he said.

He emphasized that his cost estimates might be slightly on the high side.

This proposed 24-ft. pavement closely parallels one of the several plans advanced by the city in 1947. However, on today's construction costs, the project would be half again as expensive as it would have been four years ago.

Several trees will have to come down if the paving is 24 feet wide.

A NUMBER of Oak street residents attended Monday's meeting and again objected to the proposed improvement as being unnecessary. They suggested that Redding road be improved first, then determine whether traffic volumes still warranted improvement of Oak.

They agreed to meet with Gare prior to March 10 to see if the area of disagreement can be narrowed.

A traffic count also will be taken, the results of which will be presented at the preliminary hearing March 10.

"Improvement of Redding road also must be done in the near future, but the city still must improve Oak, too, commented Commissioner Milton F. Mallender.

HE CLEARLY indicated that he would be one commissioner who voted for the project.

"I've been on this commission nine years, and for nine years I've been trying to have this portion of Oak street improved," he emphasized.

Commissioner Frank Rising, who uses Oak street every day to get to and from work, said he could, if it were necessary, turn out enough people who want the improvement "not only to pack the commission room but every other room in the Municipal Building."

Gare suggested the city some time in the future might want to make a three lane traffic artery out of Oak street.

This could be accomplished, he said, by installing as the first step the two southerly lanes from Woodward to the west line of Greenwood cemetery, then three lanes to and over the bridge.

SUBSEQUENTLY the rest of the third lane on the north could be paved, but would require the removal of practically all of the trees on the north side.

He also said such a third lane might involve the city to the extent of $20,000 or more in relocating up to 130 graves. The extra paving would cost about $12,000, he said.

Commissioners indicated they did not think a third lane would be necessary for "a generation or two."

The proposed 24-ft. pavement would involve removing some trees, but most of them would be left standing.