

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

AT ONE OF THE NEXT city Birmingham two commission meetings, look for a discussion concerning the cancellation of the city's agreement with Bloomfield Village for treatment of the latter's sanitary wastes. The present agreement carries a one-year's notice to cancel, and Birmingham must by August 1, 1953, have plans into the state water resources commission regarding expansion of local sewage treatment facilities. Some commissioners want to put the city on notice with the Village just in case future plans, when worked out, would require the contract's cancellation.

DURING A PAUSE in the conversation, Ross S. Campbell at his last official meeting as a member of Birmingham's board of education, expressed his regret that the purchase of a portable organ for the new high school had been out of reach. Campbell, with the agreement of other members, said he thought an organ could contribute much to the school during its assemblies, programs and public entertainment. It was finally suggested that perhaps a number of civic groups in town could pool their resources and make such a purchase. While board members left the organ question at that point and returned to the business of the evening, this Wanderer thought it an excellent idea to pass along to the public. How about it, folks?

HAVE YOU RECEIVED A NOTICE from some so-called "clipping service", or "news service", with the request that you remit a small sum of money for which you will receive a newspaper clipping in which your name is mentioned? Sometimes what you get in return is simply a clipping from your home-town newspaper. In other words, the whole transaction borders on being "a gyp". There are, of course, legitimate clipping services, but they seldom circularize private citizens. So this Wanderer suggests that when you get such a notice you either ignore it or find out in advance the nature of the so-called newspaper item in which your name is mentioned.

FROM ONE CONVENTION to another. That's Dr. John P. Wood's activity the past two weeks. First he spent seven days in Chicago at the GOP national convention where he was one of Michigan's delegates-at-large. Then from Chicago to Atlantic City where the American Osteopathic Assn. is holding its 54th annual convention July 14-18. Tuesday he addressed his professional group on the treatment of bone cancer.

YOU HAVE WATCHED the proceedings of the recent Republican National Convention via TV, where every introduction labelled the speakers and candidates as men and women "who are of great personal character, courage, and complete integrity". You will observe, when the Democrats convene next Monday that they, too, will follow the same pattern in introductions. As American taxpayers, no doubt you will wonder how such a wonderful array of saints and angels are unable to fulfill your ideas of how good government should operate. Yet, if you will but stop and remember that all the politicians are only human beings, recruited from the ranks of our citizenship, you will then understand that the ideology of self-government is no better and no worse than the people who constitute it. With all its weaknesses, the American pattern of freedom and liberty is as yet mankind's best hope for an earthly Utopia, and may we each love it enough to work and sacrifice that it may continue and improve!

AN OFFICIAL OBSERVER at the Olympic games at Helsinki will be Lynn B. Russell, 1288 Edgewood. He left Willow Run Saturday, arrived in London Monday, gets to Helsinki today. Assistant general secretary of the Detroit Metropolitan YMCA's adult education program, he is also vice president of the American Society of Physical Educators. He expects to be back home about August 15.

IN ITS PROGRAM of improvements along US-24 (Telegraph Road), the State Highway Department this week awarded a contract which includes the resurfacing of the 1,604 miles between Long Lake and Square Lake roads. Completion date is October 31.

AS CITY COMMISSIONERS took their places at the commission table Monday night, for an instant they thought an interloper was sitting in Dick Patterson's chair. But closer inspection showed it really was Patterson, who had grown a mustache while on vacation up around Petoskey. By way of explanation, Patterson would lead you to believe his new acquisition is the result of being around the Petoskey and Cadillac residents who are growing such facial adornments in order to more properly fit into the historical pageants those two upstate communities planned this summer.

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Persons who appear "to like being wrecked" are, after all, mentally mal-adjusted. For you know, in fact, people. Perhaps you may be able to help them by setting such a personal example of joyousness before them that they thus "catch the lovely infection."



SGT. JOHN E. GIBBS AND TECH. SGT. GLENN SIMPSON kept a sharp lookout for recruits to the National Guard's Postoffice office at the corner of Pierce and Maple Saturday. The team explained the Guard's organization to interested draft-age men and displayed a truck load of light field pieces currently being used in the Korean zone. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

City to Strengthen Shrubbery Ordinance

An amendment is being drafted by City Attorney Forbes S. Hascall to give the city the distinct power to remove private shrubbery which is planted on city property if these shrubs interfere in any way with good traffic visibility.

The control of shrubbery on both private and public property has been discussed by the city commission many times and in order to lessen accidents and assure good visibility at corners heavily planted with shrubs, an ordinance regulating this planting was adopted in May, 1951.

The commissioners now feel that the wording of the ordinance does not specifically give the city the right to "remove" but rather states that the city may cut, trim or prune any shrubs that cut down the driver's visibility at corners. The amendment to the ordinance would correct this omission.

Commissioner Frank Rising said Monday night in regards to this problem, "These bushes are beautiful but a lot of them ought to come out. Sorry we have to 'run over' citizens who really have beautified many spots but the shrubs are a hazard and should come out."

Commissioner Lance C. Minor commented that there is a good chance that law suits against the city may someday result for "if these shrubs are on city property, there are accident claims to possible against the city for maintaining a nuisance."

The proposed amendment to the ordinance would provide for City Manager Egbert to direct the forestry and parks department to remove all shrubs from the public right-of-way which interfere with the vision of the drivers of vehicles.

Y Runners Win In Track Events

Members of Birmingham YMCA took several honors in the Field House at Eton on Saturday and Friday when they placed first in track events.

The Robertson of Chesterfield Avenue took first place in the 50 yard dash for 9 year olds. Richard Johnson of Guilford Avenue took second place. Don Davison of West Lake defeated both boys and girls in the 100 yard dash and the overall accuracy throw.

July Sundstrom, 405 of Walnut Lake, was second. Contestants numbered 147 adults and 405 children of which 99 were from Birmingham.

Birmingham Host To District Play

Birmingham will play host to the Little League district tournament of all star teams from Livonia, Farmington and the two leagues here July 24, 25 and 26.

Other district tournaments in the state will be played at Mount Grand Rapids and Port Huron. It was announced by the National headquarters of Little League, Williamsport, Pa.

The state tournament will be held in Midland July 31 to August 1.

Names of Birmingham's all star team will be announced next week.

Residents Want City To Pave Bradford Road

A proposal to have Bradford road paved between Eton and Melton was referred to City Manager D. C. Egbert by the City Commission Monday night.

The residents would like the assessments put on the road if the paving is approved and stated in their proposal that several home owners on Mansfield road would like to see Bradford paved.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Shipman Street Slated In Next Paving Project

Paving of Shipman street from Lincoln to Northlawn, Northlawn from Birmingham to Stanley, and Southlawn from Southfield to Stanley was approved by the city commission Monday night for inclusion in the next paving project, but when the work will begin was undecided.

City Manager D. C. Egbert told commissioners that he "seriously doubted the possibility of securing the construction of this pavement during the present construction season due to commitments already made by the paving contractors".

It was decided that the contract was to be awarded when arrangements could be made to include sufficient paving to assure the city of receiving reasonable bids for the construction of the pavement.

Mayor Beier Insists Reports and Requests Be Turned In Early

Mayor Doan G. Beier suggested to City Manager D. C. Egbert that the city commission Monday night that city department heads should be instructed to turn in written requests and reports by Friday each week in order that commissioners can have enough time to study the prepared agenda.

Beier told the commissioners that he realized that some reports could not be submitted by this time, but in most cases could be.

Commissioner Vincent B. Watkins said that the commission will always listen to the public on whatever they desire to bring before the commission, although some matters may be postponed a week for study.

Street Closing Undecided

A vote on the proposal that the stub end of Osedale avenue be closed south of Ridgedale was deferred by the city commission Monday night until the commission receives a report on the Barton rezoning program.

This section of street will be closed if the rezoning is approved and will remain open if not rezoned, commissioners indicated.

Openings In YMCA Summer Program

Because some Birmingham people have changed their vacation plans, a few openings are available in the Birmingham Y.M.C.A. vacation schedule. The group visit to Detroit, Fireman's school and Twin Pines Dairy tomorrow.

Monday is devoted to swimming; Tuesday to crafts and a special trip; Wednesday the group goes horseback riding and Thursday special classes in pottery are being held. Friday the group is at Greenfield Village and the Thomas Edison Institute.

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons are spent playing checkers, chess, ping-pong, shuffleboard and other table games.

Boys and girls ages eight through 14 may participate by calling the "Y" for full details.

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