It is unwise to envy other people the material wealth they may possess at the moment; you may try to acquire your own competence, of course, and thus satisfy your desire for security. But to confine yourself to mere envy is bad for your mental and physical health.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

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THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

It was nice of President Truman to conduct a television trip through the newly renovated White House. Under such circumstances, where he can enact the role of something akin to neighborliness, Mr. Truman is at his best. So we hope he enjoys his restoration to the status of plain neighbor when he gets back to Independence, Mo., next January.

Postmen are telling Uncle Sam that the big loads of mail they have to carry are "killing us". At least some of the chaps who deliver the nation's letters, newspapers, magazines, direct-mail pieces, gift packages, baby chicks, Sears-Montgomery-Roebuck-Ward items, etc., etc., are complaining that the once-a-day delivery (instead of twice daily) makes their loads too heavy. That could and can be: including the mail that politicians in Congress, bureaucrats, etc., send to the taxpayers at the latter's expense.

The huge tree after which, according to report, our nearby city of Royal Oak was named, has been cut down to make way for an apartment house project. This ancient oak, under which Gen. Lewis Cass is supposed to have camped, was 135 years old. (In the front yard of the editor of The Eccentric stands a white oak reported by experts to be approximately 260 years old.)

President Truman, greatly disturbed by criticism of graft and corruption in his administration, recently said "ethical standards in my administration are higher than those prevailing in the American business community." Apparently he has a low opinion of American business.

Out of every 1951 dollar taken in, General Motors Corporation reveals that 49¾ cents went to various suppliers, 26½ to employees, 15¼ for taxes, 4% to shareholders, 2 to maintain business, 1% for depreciation, and ½ for reconversion. Most important of these items is that of what the tax collector gets. His "take" is more than half of what the employees themselves receive—yet government doesn't contribute two cents' worth to the enterprise. Truly, both labor and management (capital) pay terrific tributes to the governmental spoilsmen!

It is estimated that if all the passenger automobiles in the United States were placed bumper to bumper, they would extend in a line 125,000 miles long. Naturally, you are not to confuse this illustration with the lines of cars that cover southeastern Michigan roads on holidays and Sundays.

STRICTLY FRESH

FRENCH Communist leader Maurice Thorez has been "recuperating" in Russia for almost two years now. The Kremlin boys must have a special "five year plan" for poor Maurice.

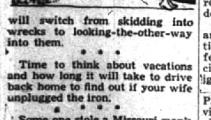
A Chicago woman had the habit of going to different dentists, and as they worked on her molars she picked their pockets. It takes intensive drilling to make a good pickpocket.

With the snow gone and Bikini bathing suits here, male motorists

will switch from skidding into wrecks to looking-the-other-way into them.

Time to think about vacations and how long it will take to drive back home to find out if your wife unplugged the iron.

Some one stole a Missouri man's dog and the young elm tree it was tied to. Doggone!



Look For A Silver Lining

in each and every For Sale Ad in The Eccentric Want Ad page. The thunder of financial squalls is stolen by the mighty For Sale Ad.

Phone MI 4-1100

Ask for the Want Ad Desk

ELK MEMBER DAWSON C. BAER PRESENTS BOOKS TO LIBRARIAN MRS. MURPHY
Student Librarian Margaret Cooper, Bob Luscombe and Principal Ross Wagner look on.
(Eccentric Staff Photo)

City Prepares Welcome For General MacArthur

Will Make 10-Minute Stop Here

Birmingham will pay a brief tribute to General of the Army Douglas MacArthur tomorrow (Friday) afternoon, between 5 and 5:45, when the great military leader passes through this city en route from Detroit to Pontiac.

He will make a ten-minute stop here, during which time he will speak briefly.

Chief of Police Ralph W. Moxley has arranged to prepare a place on N. Woodward, opposite Harmon Park, where the public may gather to see and hear the General.

An honor and color guard will be provided by the local American Legion Post and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Several troops of Birmingham boy and girl scouts will be present, dressed in their uniforms and carrying suitable flags for the occasion.

BIRMINGHAM'S high school band, led by Arnold W. Berndt, will furnish music for the occasion. Merchants are asked to display American flags in honor of MacArthur.

Mayor Dean Beier and Mrs. Beier will, for the community, officially welcome the General and Mrs. MacArthur to the city, and the Mayor will introduce the General to the crowd.

General MacArthur's appearance here is part of the visit he and his official party will make while in Michigan this week. Today at noon he and Mrs. MacArthur will be guests of the Michigan Press Association at a luncheon in Kellogg Center, East Lansing.

THIS EVENING the General will make a speech of national importance to a joint session of the Michigan Legislature. It will go on a national radio and television network, it is reported.

Leaving Detroit Lansing tomorrow morning at seven o'clock, the General's party will make brief stops between there and Detroit, arriving at the Detroit City Hall at noon, and will speak from that building's steps.

Following a luncheon and press conference at the Sheraton-Cadillac, the party will leave for Pontiac, stopping briefly in Highland Park, Ferndale, Royal Oak, Birmingham and Pontiac. From Pontiac the motor caravan will leave for Willow Run Airport for the flight to New York City.

WHEN THE MacArthur party arrives in Birmingham, the General will be in the first car with his aide, General Whitney, and Simon DenUyl, Detroit business man. The second car will contain Mrs. MacArthur and Noble Travis, co-chairman with DenUyl for the General's visit in the Detroit area.

Several other cars containing various nearby public officials will also accompany the General's party. Michigan State Police, assisted by local police on the travel route, will protect the party.

IN CHARGE OF the Birmingham arrangements for the brief stay here are George R. Averill, publisher of The Eccentric, Chief of Police Ralph Moxley, Howard R. Estes, local State Representative, and Charles Mortensen, manager of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce.

Between five and six o'clock tomorrow afternoon N. Woodward avenue, between Oakland and the cross-over north of Oak street will be closed to through traffic, said Chief Moxley. The affair will be held, rain or shine, said MacArthur's tour chairmen.

Assurances Sought By Developers

Another attempt was made by Reid-Paterson, owners of the Porritt property, Monday night to gain some kind of gentleman's agreement with the city commission permitting the firm to develop the property as planned.

The developers seek some assurance from the city that their wishes will be granted should they petition for annexation of the Troy township property to Birmingham.

The city and the developers must iron out three major questions before the matter gets any closer to a decision.

At Monday night's commission meeting Commissioner Charles Renfrew laid out the problems before the developers. Question number one, according to Renfrew, concerns the decision whether the nearly 40 acres will be developed with single residences or duplexes.

SECOND ITEM of importance to the city centered around the land use of the northwest corner of the property near Adams and Villa. The third stumbling block is the city's thinking that restrictive clauses be placed upon the agreement which would control the use of property zoned by the city for commercial usage along Adams road.

Residents in the area have repeatedly fought the duplex housing, complaining that duplexes are not in tune with the rest of the city and that duplexes result in a higher density of population.

Commissioner Frank Rising argued that a marginal type home which the developers say they would be forced to erect on the property would be less desirable than a well-designed duplex pattern the Reid-Paterson firm suggests.

THE NORTHWEST corner of the property has been slated for some type of professional building by the developers. This plan has been attacked by residents, the plan board and commissioners who want more definite restrictions on what can be constructed.

The commercial strip on Adams has also been a constant source of irritation to all interested parties.

Rising upheld the shopping cen-

(See ASSURANCES, Page 2)

Troy Mum on Annexation

Troy township board members refused Monday night to take any stand on the suggested Birmingham annexation of the Porritt property until a formal petition for annexation is submitted to them. Reid-Patterson, owners of the property must petition for the annexation if the city approves plans for their development.

An Editorial

Commissioners Waiting To Hear From You....

Next Monday evening—May 19—the seven Birmingham city commissioners will hold the first public hearing on the proposed 1952-53 city budget.

They will be anxious to hear constructive comments from citizens about how city funds should or should not be spent during the city's next fiscal year.

This proposed budget is for $1,089,425, or about a 5½ per cent increase over the 1951-52 city budget of $1,033,089.74. The proposed tax rate is the same as last year's—$19.50 per $1,000 of assessed valuation.

COMMISSIONERS ARE PRETTY WELL decided on this tentative budget due to intensive consideration they have given it at several special committee sessions, the latest of which was held Tuesday evening.

The budget was comprehensively reported in last week's Eccentric, and copies of the tentative budget have been available for the past 10 days at the city clerk's office.

The commission now is waiting to hear what the citizens think about it—if anyone has given it some thought and believes some additions, corrections, substitutions or deletions should be made.

IF YOU DO HAVE some comments regarding the proposed budget which you would like to have the commission consider, the time to make these comments and suggestions is next Monday night at the commission meeting.

Your silence will be interpreted by the commission to mean you have studied the proposal and found it sound, or that you haven't studied it and don't care what kind of a budget is adopted.

Old-Time Torchlight Rally Planned Here on June 12

Plans are underway for an old-fashioned torchlight political parade and candidate's rally to be held here June 12 and sponsored by the Birmingham League of Women Voters.

Candidates for national, state and county offices have been invited to participate and will be featured in the program which will include all the aspects of an old-time political rally.

The parade will begin at 7:30 p.m. by Hill school at the corner of Chester and Martin streets. After a route through the downtown area, the parade will end at the play ground area behind Hill school where the candidates will mingle with the crowd and make their speeches.

"WE WANT to make this a community affair," said Mrs. John Rumsey, voters service chairman. "Many other organizations in town besides the League of Women Voters will be taking part. Our purpose is, of course, to stimulate interest in the important primary election which will be held August 5, and to get people registered so they will be able to vote."

General chairman of the event is Mrs. Rumsey, who has named the following committee members: Mrs. Floyd Bunt, Mrs. C. F. Meyer, Mrs. Uri B. Grannis and Mrs. Robert G. Silbar, Program committee; Mrs. B. F. Magruder, Mrs. Robert Wiper, Mrs. Winston T. Kellogg and Mrs. Paul Bowers, Parade committee.

Mrs. James Allen, Mrs. Robert Voss, Mrs. Henry Jackson and Mrs. Robert Baldwin, Publicity; Mrs. Douglas Brown, Mrs. Richard B. Van Dusen, Mrs. William Brooks, Mrs. James H. Washburn, Mrs. Semon Knudsen and Mrs. William Lerchen, Jr. Community co-operation.

On Retirement Board

City Commissioner Charles Renfrew has been named to the city employee retirement board to succeed Lance C. Minor whose term has expired.

High School City Library Given Books

Birmingham High school and the city library have 21 new books to add to their shelves, thanks to Elk Lodge number 810, Pontiac.

The books, selected by the club's book committee and various city libraries, are part of an Elk project to acquaint Americans with the communist story and its methods of operation. The books reveal the subversive activities of the communist idea and histories of countries that have fallen under communist rule.

Eleven books were presented to the Birmingham High school and ten were given the city library.

BOOK TITLES are: "Out of Bondage" by Elizabeth Bentley, "Front Is Everywhere" by William R. Kentner, "This Deception". "The Negro And The Communist Party" by Wilson Record, "China Story" by Freda Utley, "Soviet Russia And The Far East" by David J. Dallin, "Communist Trial In America". "I Choose Freedom" by Victor Kravchenko.

"I Believe". "Forced Labor In Soviet Russia" by Boris I. Nichalaevsky, "The New Soviet Empire", "The Whole Of Their Lives", "American Communism" by James Cheal and G. A. Werner, "Blueprint For World Conquest" by Communist International, "Verdict Of Three Decades", "Eleven Years In Soviet Prison Camps", "Under Two Dictators", "Russian Purge And The Extraction Of Confession."

Suggests Historical View Toward Today's Headlines To Save Wear on Nerves

Only if you have the historical approach to the complex problems of our times can you avoid frustration and confusion, James B. Reston, head of the Washington Bureau of the New York Times, declared in a speech at the Ruth Shain International Class Annual Reunion, held last week Wednesday morning at the Community House.

Reston believes "there is not very much future in the political approach to the news nor in the personal approach to all the anguish and complexity of our times."

The problems we are facing today have been brought upon us by many past events, he observed, such as the defeat of Japan's industrial power in the East, the consequences of two wars, the enormous colonial revolt, and other events of equal importance.

We also are dealing with the nature of decisive power, he said, and the location of this power. This used to rest in the hands of the old nations and the older, experienced politicians, but now the Soviets and the U. S. are the most powerful and also the least experienced.

WE ARE TRYING to deal not with the old idea of isolationism, but a hangover of isolationism and it is not possible to find an easy quick solution to these problems within one generation, Reston remarked.

"The British had five generations to take over the kind of responsibilities we have to deal with today, while we were pitchforked into dealing with these things within the past 10-15 years," Reston said.

There is a view in this country, he stated, that we have failed in the field of foreign policy and that we in this country are divided. These arguments have been profound and serious and he believes, both are quite wrong.

"IN SPITE OF the enormous defeat in China and the complex problems we have before us, we have on the whole succeeded in avoiding the big war."

Our foreign policy now, Reston continued, is to avoid war and we should minimize our frustrations on our failure to settle these things as quickly as we hoped we might.

"Americans," he said, "are an impatient people who want to settle everything right away and succeed at once."

Korea has not been a meaningless and useless war, believes Reston, and "when the history of this era comes to be written, there will be a great deal to say in favor of the U. S. in its support of the rule of law and its sacrifice in Korea in 1950."

RUSSELL BARNES, foreign news analyst of the Detroit News, introduced Reston.

Others at the speakers table included Paul Carter, director of

(See RESTON, Page 2)

United Community Services Group Recommended Here

Community organization to meet the looming problems of a more heavily populated Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin area was the key recommendation of a citizens' meeting at the Baldwin Library May 8.

The meeting was highlighted by a detailed resume by Paul N. Averill, chairman of a special study committee, of a survey of the area's health, welfare and recreation services. Completed early last year, the survey was financed by the United Foundation and directed by a committee of 36 residents of the area.

The group also was given an analysis of community organization goals and methods by Professor Arthur Dunham, noted sociologist of the University of Michigan's school of social work.

Following the discussions, John P. St. Clair, chairman of the advisory committee of the local division of the United Foundation, who acted as temporary chairman, was asked to appoint a committee to draft plans for the establishment of a united community services organization.

THE AGENCY would serve as the planning counterpart to the fund-raising arm of the community, the United Foundation, and coordinate the employment of area resources for their utmost usefulness.

Averill's analysis cited important changes in the characteristics of the locality. He noted estimates that the area population, already swelling at a record-breaking pace, will reach 40,000 by 1970.

This trend, combined with the northward movement of metropolitan Detroit and the growth of Pontiac, thoroughly entwine the future of the three areas, and call for increased coordination of civic and social efforts.

The findings of the survey, Averill said, lay primary emphasis on impending deficiencies in community services which threaten to become critical with the rapid expansion.

WHILE MOST of the existing agencies are meeting current problems without severe inadequacies, improved organization is needed to meet increasing pressures. He stressed the area concept, as opposed to the strictly local concepts that have been adequate in the past.

From an organizational standpoint, the most important shortcoming, he said, is in the absence of the necessary machinery to coordinate all of the work to be done in the area. It was to lay the foundation of such machinery that the citizens' meeting was held.

Professor Dunham drew on a rich experience to outline community organizational needs and methods. Some of the basic steps he outlined were 1) the discovery and analysis of facts, 2) the correlation of needs and services, 3) increasing the efficiency of agencies, 4) interpreting needs and services, and 5) enlisting support and participation.

IN RECOMMENDING the formation of a broadly-based council for the area, he cited the importance of the widest possible participation.

In effect, he said, an efficient council is a union of agencies and citizens. In order to maintain a community wide view, it is desirable to have representatives of the general public as well as delegates from all agencies. The collaboration of individual citizens is vital, he declared.

1st Large Water Leak Found, Repaired

Until this week the city was losing a bath tub of water every ten minutes into a sewer on Aspen road, south of Maple.

The Pitometer Water Survey company, contracted to find out where 12 million gallons of city water is disappearing monthly, came across the first large leak Wednesday, May 7, with the aid of a giant-size stethoscope.

Discovery of the leak proved to city officials the worth of the survey firm's method of operation.

This particular leak might have gone undetected for years. Possibly the leak has been in existence for years.

The water main was laid directly under the sewer pipe and the water escaped from the tiles and flowed into a hole in the sewer, never reaching the street surface.

Village Street Repairs Being Started This Week

Work was started this week on the Bloomfield Village street improvement program, according to David Anderson, Bloomfield township supervisor.

Anderson said the opening program would be handled by the county and consists of cleaning curbs and grading, ready for the major part of the work. The entire project must be completed by July 15, he said.

Streets will be repaired with a gravel base and covered with a double bituminous treatment. Concrete curb and gutter will be replaced where necessary, he said.

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where it could have been detected by residents or city workers.

AS A PUMP TOOK the excess water out of the hole dug by department of public works employees, a continual stream of water flowed into the excavation from the north end of the sewer.

DPW worker Robert Kenning explained that there was probably another leak in the main nearer Maple where the water was seeping into the sewer.

The leak was first discovered with an accurate hearing aid, the Pitometer. The two large "ears" of the machine are drawn across the surface of streets where there are suspicions of water loss. To a skilled Pitometer technician, there is an answer to every odd vibration recorded by the machine —often this vibration indicates a leak.

FIRM WORKERS pick the middle of the night for their activities while residents are asleep and a minimum of water is being drawn from the mains.

As defects in the main are spotted by the engineers, notations are made for DPW workers who repair the leaks during the day.

HERE'S WHERE THE UNACCOUNTED FOR WATER GOES
Large leak (indicated by arrow) found in Aspen road main

Opening Try-Outs Of Little League Draws 400 Boys

Over 400 boys turned out for the opening try-outs of the Birmingham Little League baseball season—and the turn-out of dads was equally as encouraging, according to Secretary Dan Elliott.

Seventy-five applications were returned to Little League officials from fathers willing to give their time to coach.

Officers now believe that an extensive farm system for Little League is possible with the cooperation of many of these fathers.

There still are three successive Saturday morning try-out sessions for the boys before the player auction and the beginning of the practice session. Any father interested in this project is urged to attend these drills.