Confidence in one's self . . . ah, how far that can take the righteous person up the long hill toward security and happiness! Coupled with honest humility, the confident person is so good to have around, he is living inspiration, worth emulating.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION ONE

76TH YEAR—NO. 3 | BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1953 | 32 PAGES SEVEN CENTS

THIS and THAT

By C. R. A.

A COURAGEOUS YOUNG WOMAN

One evening, two weeks ago, I sat before my TV set and watched and listened to a portion of a most remarkable program. It was on that one called "Strike It Rich."

I came upon it just as the emcee was talking to a rather wholesome looking young woman, and he was saying: ". . . and I understand that you have only three percent vision."

In a quiet but lovely voice, the woman answered in the affirmative. The emcee then brought out the fact that this young woman was living in Washington, D. C., with a widowed sister, the latter struggling to support three young children.

This young woman on the TV program was about to answer four questions, if she answered all of them, she would receive $300. But all she wanted was $240.00—half of it to pay her tuition in a business school so she could get a government stenographic job, and half to pay her sister for her keep for three months.

THEN SHE admitted that if she got the job she better would be able to help her sister raise and educate the three children.

Her voice, as I have said, was lovely, to hear. Her demeanor on the program was a splendid example of honest and grateful humility. She gave the correct answer to the first question, then the same again—and the TV live audience applauded vigorously.

Her third answer, too, was the right one . . . then came the fourth, and she courageously wagered the total sum she had won . . . and again she was the winner!

Even the emcee appeared mighty happy. And the young woman's face shone with the light of something so wonderful to me that, as I blinked my own eyes, I said to myself: "There, Averill, was a wonderful example of the Good Samaritan . . . a real heroine! She has only three per cent vision, yet already she has dedicated her own life to others . . . so, Averill, when you feel irritated or hurt or any other negative emotion, think of that young woman and quit feeling sorry for yourself."

Congress has decided, along with the Eisenhower administration, that the Reconstruction Finance Corp. must be done away with next year. Originally created by ex-President Hoover, it was used to bring relief to distressed problems of unemployment, to aid legitimate business needing financial help in an emergency.

But, under Roosevelt and Truman, it became a political device. It provided lots of jobs for the party faithful; and it also lost much money that came from the pockets of the taxpayers.

So we join others in agreeing that the RFC has outlived its foreseeable usefulness; let it rest in peace.

LWV Distributing 5,000 Handbooks

The Birmingham League of Women Voters is distributing 5,000 handbooks containing information on candidates and issues facing voters in Monday's biennial spring election.

The pamphlets are being distributed in supermarkets, and banks from booths manned by league workers. League officials point out that only 2,707 of the city's 9,427 registered voters went to the polls in the last spring election. They are aiming at the 90 percent figure that voted in November's presidential election.

the smart house-wife knows . . .

that when cash is short a good way to make up the deficit is by placing something for sale in the

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DEAN G. BEIER

CHARLES W. RENFREW

FOSTER TOOTHACKER

OFFICIALS HINT VOTE MONDAY MAY BE HEAVY

Biographical Data, Election Statements Of City Candidates

Who are the eight candidates seeking the three positions on the Birmingham city commission?

What are their backgrounds—how long have they lived in the city, what groups have they affiliated with, have they ever served or sought public office in the past?

What do they have to say about various city policies and problems, such as parking, recreation, fire protection, etc.?

Following its annual custom, The Birmingham Eccentric in this article seeks to give that information to residents so they may more informatively make up their minds whom they wish to vote for this coming Monday, April 6.

With an assist by the Birmingham League of Women Voters, The Eccentric has contacted the eight candidates for a short biographical history and a pre-election statement.

Seeking election to a three-year term on the city commission are incumbents Dean G. Beier and Charles Renfrew and political newcomers Foster Toothacker. Two will be elected.

Five candidates are in the race for the single one-year vacancy remaining in the term of Frank Rising, who recently resigned.

In the Interests of Community Service — Birmingham Eccentric

The candidates' histories and their statements follow:

Dean G. Beier

Dean Beier (incumbent), 1737 Washington Blvd.; age 36. Elected to office in 1950 and named mayor by commissioners, in April 1952. Graduate of Denison University, A.B. degree, University of Michigan, LL.B; attorney. He has served as city commissioner for the past three years; served as Appeal Agent, Draft Board No. 65; director and secretary of Boys Club of Pontiac; Birmingham Board of Recreation; member of Hi-12 club and Birmingham Lodge F. & A.M., Lodge No. 44.

In seeking re-election, Beier said, "I enjoy the job of city commissioner. I think I can do more with my experience of a term than I did during the first three years."

In regard to parking, Beier stated that the city must see to it that some off-street parking facilities are furnished this year. He believes the plans are moving along and expects the city to be able to begin work on lots in two locations this summer.

"THESE LOTS will be furnished at a minimum of capital investment on the part of the city," Beier stated, "which I regard as advantageous to the taxpayer."

Beier knows of no city services which can be curtailed but, he said, "We must continue in our effort to render the same service for less money. There has been some progress in our economy program during the past few years."

Certain city services must be increased to meet the needs of the city's population, Beier believes.

"Our fire department needs enlarging," he stated. "Sewage treatment facilities are inadequate and we must keep pressing for early completion dates on our water authority as well as our rubbish and garbage authority."

BEIER WOULD like to see the city have "200 off-street parking spaces in operation before Christmas 1953; meet the deadline set by the Water Resources Commission and have our sewage treatment problem well on the way to solution by January 1954; establish and begin work on a comprehensive fire department program which should include a new station and some new equipment."

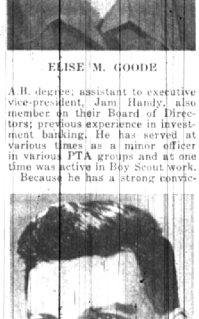
He also would like to be able to "hold the city's top presonnel, despite the competition from private industry even if it means further salary increases and to be able to furnish the city manager a top flight assistant to take some of the detail out of his office so that the city manager can give more time to matters of supervision and policy."

Charles W. Renfrew

Charles W. Renfrew, 319 Henley drive; age 48, (incumbent) was appointed in 1951 to fill a vacancy, and elected to a one-year term in 1952. Graduate of Ogden College

CARL T. INGRAHAM

ELISE M. GOODE



JAMES ALLEN

ROBERT S. OWEN

JOSEPH McCLANATH

tion that it is an obligation and at the same time a rewarding experience for any citizen. Renfrew is seeking re-election.

Regarding parking, Renfrew believes there should be concerted action by the city in conjunction with the merchants to provide more off-street parking, which he feels is needed.

"HOWEVER, he said, "The city should go into it only to the extent of the revenues which they derive from on-street parking."

Revenue from the parking meters is approximately $40,000 a year, he said, and he believes this is enough to support an off-street parking project on the part of the city.

He would start the off-street parking project with the northwest quadrant (area bounded by Maple, Willets, Woodward and Bates) on the top of the priority list as the report from the traffic engineers have found this area most in need of off-street parking.

Renfrew does not believe there are any city services which should or can be curtailed but those which should be expanded are those of fire protection, water, sewage as well as that of parking.

WE NEED to catch up on these services which we were not able to do during the war years," Renfrew stated. "Our water supply, while adequate now, will not take care of future years and we should be ready to obtain water from Detroit when it is available from two to five years from now."

Pointing to several fire emergencies Birmingham has had recently, Renfrew stated that he believes in an expansion of the fire department services.

"Recently for 12 minutes the only equipment we had in the fire station was the old pumper—everything else was out on call. We were lucky that another fire didn't break out," he said. "We may not be so lucky next time."

RENFREW WOULD like to see all basic city services brought up to par for a community of this type and size and still maintain a strong financial position.

"I don't want us to overextend and go beyond our financial ability. No more defaults on bond issues!" he emphasized.

(See CANDIDATES, Page 5)

Give ONE of your THREE votes to Robert W. HODDE for CIRCUIT JUDGE. 2-3

Churches Map Easter Observance

Two Birmingham churches, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and the Congregational church will observe their initial Easter services Sunday while two others, Embury and First Methodist, will hold their first Easter services in the new church edifices.

The Rev. Robert M. Frehse, supply pastor for the Congregational Church, Birmingham, will conduct services in the First Presbyterian church from 8-5 p.m., when he speaks on "Victorious Living."

The service will see several persons accepted into membership in this newly formed congregation.

Other ministers are the Rev. Myron R. Burnell, Greenfield Congregational, Dearborn; the Rev. Malcolm K. Barton, First Congregational, Pontiac; the Rev. Philip W. Sarles, Mayflower, Detroit; Dr. Walter E. Cole, First Congregational, Detroit; Dr. Edward W. Willcox, superintendent of the Congregational Association, Detroit and the Rev. Ernest C. Grant, First Congregational, Dearborn.

Frank Ulrich Bishop, director of music for the First Congregational church of Detroit will be the guest organist with Murray N. Foreman, soloist.

AT THE CATHOLIC parish, the Rev. Lucian Hebert will conduct masses at 7 and 8:30 a.m., and at noon. He will lead a solemn high mass at 10 a.m.

Plans for the First Methodist church include three services, with the Rev. Arnold F. Runkel, D.D., preaching duplicate sermons at 9 and 11 a.m.

His topic will be "Thine . . . Forever", bringing to an end a series of sermons on the Lord's Prayer.

At both services, the chancel choir will sing "Hallelujah," from The Mount of Olives", by Beethoven. At the early service the children's choir will sing the traditional Spanish Easter carol, "In Joseph's Lovely Garden," while the Church Boy choir will be heard in "The Holy City" at the 11 o'clock service.

THE FIRST service of the day will be the sunrise service at 7 a.m., followed by breakfast in Fellowship hall. Mrs. Beth Duffy, director of religious education will speak on "A Brighter Tomorrow."

The Rev. Reginald Becker, holding his first Easter service in the new church, will preach duplicate sermons on "He Is Risen". The services at 9:30 and 11 a.m., will feature the choir singing "In Joseph's Lovely Garden" with Mrs. William Lund as soloist. Victor Ulrich will sing Knapp's "Open the Gates".

Soloists Harold Sherman and Maxine Norman will be featured

(See CHURCHES, Page 2)

City Will Pause For Observances Of Good Friday

Good Friday observance in Birmingham will be on a larger scale this year as several neighborhood churches schedule services in addition to the union program sponsored by the Council of Churches.

The customary Tre Ore services will be in the First Baptist church. The three divisions are scheduled to start at 12:05, 2:05 and 2:05 p.m. Each will have a completely different program.

At the opening service the Rev. Emil Kontz, pastor of the host church, whose topic is "The Christian Confronts Pain", will speak. Robert L. Sisser, organist-choirmaster of the First Presbyterian church will have charge of the musical portion of the service. Ruth Killeen and Edward Johns will be featured soloists.

The Rev. Arnold F. Runkel, D.D., of the First Methodist church will speak on "The Christian Confronts Evil," at the second service. Music will be in charge of Mrs. Lund and David Meily, choirmaster and organist at the First Baptist church. The Baptist choir will sing.

THE CONCLUDING speaker will be the Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., of the First Presbyterian church whose topic will be "The Christian Confronts Death". Rodney M. Peterson, organist-choirmaster of First Methodist church has arranged a musical program which will feature Evelyn Bellamy and Mary Beitel.

Through the cooperation of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, plans have been made for the closing of most of the city's business places during the hours of service.

(See GOOD FRIDAY, Page 2)

Birmingham 2nd In Vote Contest

The City of Birmingham, holder of a second place tie in the American Heritage Foundation 1952 November contest for get-out-the-vote campaigns in cities between 15,000 and 20,000 population, looks to Monday's election to continue the city's high interest in public balloting.

The award was received by the city commission Monday night when it was learned that Birmingham ended in a tie with Hibbing, Minn., in the national contest.

Masons to Note 102nd Birthday On April 18

The Birmingham Masonic Lodge No. 44 will observe its 102nd anniversary with a banquet and entertainment at the Birmingham Community House on Saturday evening, April 18.

The committee in charge has arranged an entertaining program which it hopes will appeal to everyone.

Dr. Everett K. Seymour, pastor of St. Marks Methodist Church, Detroit, will be the principal speaker.

The Mimic-Men of Detroit will present novelty comic numbers, Beverly French and his orchestra will provide music for dancing. The Ruth Shain room has been reserved for those who wishing to play cards.

ADMISSION will be by reservation only and no tickets will be sold at the door. Reservations may be made by calling any of the officers of the lodge, or Richard Brereton, chairman of the ticket committee.

All Masons and their friends are cordially invited to this anniversary dinner and party.

Roll Call Meets Quota For 3rd Year

The 1953 Roll Call of the Birmingham Community House has topped its $40,000 goal by $300.64, according to Mrs. George A. Weinhold and Lymon Craig, Jr., co-chairmin of the drive. This is the third consecutive year the goal has been exceeded in 24 years of public solicitation.

"The people of the entire Birmingham area have responded generously," Craig said, "and we wish to thank them all."

He said there is still a possibility that additional monies will be received from residents who were not contacted or have been out of town.

Craig said the $40,000 would be earmarked mostly for operational expenses.

"Any capital improvement funds we are able to set aside for future expansion and the like are derived mainly from the 'surplus' received during the Roll Call," Craig said.

"WE HOPE that residents of Birmingham and surrounding communities which regularly use the House will mail additional contributions promptly.

Walter P. Skinner, chairman of business solicitations, said that field was unusually slow this year, adding that he felt many of the new business establishments were unaware of the important role the House plays in the area.

Mrs. Weinhold congratulated the 500 women who worked on the drive, saying its success depended wholly on their efforts.

Employees' Pay Lost In Berkley

Southfield township employees nearly missed a payday Tuesday when the township payroll, totaling $1,800 was lost somewhere in Berkley.

Mrs. Clara Lane, township treasurer, had stopped at a store in the city after cashing the payroll at the Birmingham National Bank Tuesday. Her mother, Mrs. Joseph Lane, remained in the car while Miss Lane made a purchase in a drug store.

Her mother reported that a car stopped abreast of their car momentarily and a woman got out and picked something from the pavement, returned to the car and it drove off.

Miss Lane theorized to Berkley police that the money may have fallen from the car when she got out.

Employees were paid, however, and the search for the money continues.

Contests, Issues Stir Interest

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

City and township officials look for a heavier than usual vote Monday in the biennial spring election.

Clerks in all communities in the area, with the exception of Bloomfield township, expressed the belief that interest would run higher than average at the polls.

Statewide, apathy towards the little known election is expected to keep ballot booths in limited use.

Here in Birmingham, City Clerk Irene Hanley reports registration rolls have dropped slightly from the September, 1952, high and that nearly 12,400 would be eligible to vote.

Miss Hanley guessed that voting would be heavy and added that over 100 absentee voters ballots had been issued.

A FIVE, candidate race for a one-year term to the city commission and three candidates filed for the two three-year commission seats plus two city charter amendments will give the Birmingham voter ample chance to exercise his franchise.

Candidates for the three year terms are Mayor Dean G. Beier, Commissioner Charles W. Renfrew and Foster Toothacker. Seeking the one-year seat are James C. Allen, Elise M. Goode, Carl F. Ingraham, Joseph W. McClanathan and Robert S. Owen.

The charter amendments concern the city's membership in the Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal District and an increase in millage for public library operations.

Ruth H. Hascall and Dwight B. Ireland are the only entrants in the race for the two seats on the library board. John C. Emery, Jr. is the sole Justice of the Peace candidate.

BLOOMFIELD township, with no contest slated for any post, has only one proposition on the ballot.

The proposal regards the conveyance of 23-acre parcel of land to the Bloomfield School District No. 2 for construction of a high school.

Officers seeking reelection are Supervisor David E. Anderson, City Clerk Robert H. Dudley and Treasurer Arno L. Hulet.

To fill the two vacant trustee seats are Albert A. Clark and Henry G. Corbet. Karl E. Rhodes, Russell W. C. Pickering, William R. Rudell and Jamie M. Martin seek the four constable posts.

Township Clerk is seeking the highway commissioner position.

A proposal to establish a planning commission ordinance and create a nine-member planning commission has aroused a great deal of interest in Southfield township.

A DROP of over 500 voters from the registration rolls brings a total of about 12,700 eligible voters. Township Clerk Fannie Adams also looks for a heavy vote.

Republican candidates seeking re-election are Supervisor William Roeser, Clerk Fannie Adams, Treasurer Clara Lane.

Roeser is opposed by Democrat Maurice H. Granger.

Republican aspirants for the four trustee posts are James M. Campbell, Margaret C. Bradbury, Bernard A. Chapman and Eugene Sawa. Democrats John I. Lampi, John Dzendzel and Howard Coleman are listed for trustees.

In the justice of the peace race, Stanley M. Brown; Republican, will oppose Democrat Wesley Skowron.

IN TROY township, about 5,470 will be eligible to vote.

Township Clerk Clifton Truesdell said officials hope for a heavy vote but have received no indications of just how heavy the vote would be.

(See VOTE, Page 2)

Last Minute Answers To Charter Questions

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

If John Brennan, 988 Floyd, had any chip on his shoulder Monday night in his discussion with Birmingham city commissioners regarding proposed solutions to the city's sewage disposal problem, that chip was still there two hours later because no city official accepted the veiled challenge to knock it off.

With a calm but positive attitude, Brennan, at the city commission's special invitation, presented what he believed to be the arguments against the city's joining of the Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal District.

After his 20-minute presentation, city officials including City Manager D. C. Egbert, Mayor Dean G. Beier and Commissioner Ralph A. Main (who also is county drain commissioner), attempted to answer Brennan's claims and predictions with facts the city has accumulated and cautious estimates the city has arrived at.

ALTHOUGH the commission room was crowded and several people had to remain standing, less than a dozen persons arose to ask specific questions of city officials regarding the city's proposed partial answer to the sewage disposal problem.

Most of these questions sought to obtain clarification of certain details of the SOCSDD proposal which the questioners did not completely understand.

At the end of the two-hour discussion when no one else arose to ask further information, commissioners assumed the questions had been answered satisfactorily and Mayor Beier recessed the meeting for five minutes.

BUT SHORTLY before the recess, Brennan indicated he still was not convinced of the wisdom of the proposed city charter amendment which would permit the city to join the SOCSDD and thus solve a large share of the community's sewage problem.

The state water resources commission several months ago ordered Birmingham to cease its pollution of the River Rouge. City officials publicly have admitted the present disposal plant's inadequacy to properly handle the present sewage volumes, and have determined that joining the SOCSDD is part of the most economical, efficient and ultimate solution.

BRENNAN AND any other local citizens who were opposed to this method of meeting the problem last week were specifically invited to meet with the commission in a last-minute attempt to learn first hand why the city was attempting to join the SOCSDD.

Last fall voters turned down a similar proposition, and city officials are anxious that all phases of the problem be explained to the public as completely as possible prior to the April 6 balloting.

That Brennan may have had a chip on his shoulder when he en-

(See CHARTER, Page 4)

STRICTLY FRESH

Holyoke, Mass., police paw-printed a dog jailed with its master who was charged with drunkenness. It sure is a sad day when a dog has to lend a man's life.

An 11-year-old Ohio youngster learned wrestling watching TV and broke his mother's arms showing her a stranglehold. Now he's sitting out the time till her casts are removed. It's a cinch he won't sic much after that.

The English spell it: Labour. Americans write: Labor, leaving out the U. What's the difference? It's still work!

An annoyed Cleveland bus driver left his loaded vehicle at the curb and went to Florida because passengers refused to "move to the rear." That sounds like a tempest at a bus stop!

The British House of Commons wants to pass legislation simplifying spelling of English words. A lot of writers would have done that a long time ago except for a slot of very observant proofreaders with dictionaries.

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