

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

MONDAY EVENING VISITORS at the Birmingham city commission meeting were about a dozen girl scouts from the 7th grade at Barnum. They are working on their "My Community" badges, awarded after a familiarization with their city's municipal groups and services.

WHEN YOU ARE TALKING about crime detection and the wonder-machines which the modern detective uses, don't call it a "lie detector." Members of the Birmingham High Twelve had Lee Gregory, investigator for the Court of Last Appeal, as their guest speaker a week ago, and found out that the little black box should rightfully be called "a recording device as a diagnostic aid for scientific investigation." All sounds very impressive but the odds are ten to one that we'll still hear those Hi-12 boys saying "lie detector."

SOFT HEARTED shoppers Friday morning grieved to merriment words of sympathy for the lovely big dollie which lay to all appearances—dead on the walk in front of the Birmingham National bank. Not a muscle so much as twitched as several persons stopped to look at the dog, and say, "What a shame." It took a small fox terrier, about half-way down the block, to change the scene. The cone, without so much as a glance at his sympathizers, leaped to his feet and bolted down the street in hot pursuit of the smaller pooch.

SHADES OF AUTUMN and winter in the springtime! Late Sunday afternoon when those large, wet snowflakes first started coming down, in this Wanderer's neighborhood they fell through a light blue haze created by a resident who was burning some leaves.

ANSWERING The pleas for clothing for Korean war orphans, the girls of Bloomfield Village Scout troop 355, Barnum troop 333, and Bloomfield Brownies 379, are launching their own collection campaign. They will meet Saturday at the R. G. Harris home, 22095 W. 34 Mile, to package the items for shipment to New York City, first step in the journey to Korea.

AMONG THE DELEGATION of 50 who will represent Michigan at a national conference of Republican women, leaders in Washington, D.C., April 23-24, will be Mrs. Harry Henderson of Franklin. An address by President Eisenhower at a luncheon meeting and talks by members of his cabinet and congressional leaders will feature the two-day meeting designed to brief GOP women leaders from all 48 states on the progress of specific objectives of the Republican administration. The conference delegates will be guests of Mrs. Eisenhower at a White House reception April 23.

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY given at the Kingsley Inn recently, honoring Detroit's Barton C. Wilson, Sr., lived things up for the Birmingham Western Union office when more than 50 congratulatory messages were received. Wilson is well known throughout this area as a supplier of car dealer signs. Messages came from all parts of the country and from well known business and political figures.

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It is, indeed, very wonderful to watch the development of little children... for they learn so rapidly in their few years on this wonderful earth. Perhaps the example set for them by parents is most important of all.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

B of E Criticized For Its Lack of Business Courtesies

To the Editor:

Thirty days have now elapsed since we mailed the attached letter to the Birmingham board of education regarding the award of contracts for the construction of an addition to the Quarton elementary school, Birmingham, Mich.

Having received no reply we wish to make the following information public:

The date of the bidding, etc. are as follows:

1. Bids taken on Feb 23
2. Contracts awarded Mar 5
3. The three lowest bids submitted for the architectural work:

1. Gluck Construction Co., Detroit \$233,300
2. Schurrer Construction Co., Detroit \$148,878
3. Yikin-Fordan Const. Co., Detroit \$26,719

The three lowest bids submitted for the mechanical work:

1. Jack Skitch Co., Royal Oak \$1,487,732
2. Conrad Co., Walling Lake \$1,000
3. W. Wilbur White, Detroit \$1,395

The three lowest bids submitted for the electrical work:

1. Peterson Electric Co., \$18,773
2. Northwestern Electric Co., \$15,500
3. Jones Electrical Shop, Inc. \$2,231

CONTRACTS WERE awarded to Schurrer Const. Co., Conrad Co., and Peterson Electric Co.

To this date we have never received an acknowledgment of our bid, nor any explanation or reason for its not having been accepted. It may very well be that the attitude of the board members in this regard has spared the community of Birmingham the pain and travail of relations with an inept and irresponsible contractor. It is more likely, however, that their irretrievable rudeness in the conduct of these awards points up their ignorance of the facts of the bidders' claims.

THE COUPLING of such shabby business manners with the disposition of public funds, I trust, will interest not only the Birmingham community with its financial interest, but other persons and groups who revile the abuse of discretionary powers given all boards of education with the respect to contract awards.

We authorize publication of all or any part of this letter and its attachments.

EDWARD GLUCKLICK
Gluck Const. Co.
Board of Education
Birmingham Public Schools
Martini and Chester Avenues
Birmingham, Michigan
Attn: Dr. Dwight Ireland, Superintendent

Gentlemen: As regards the award of the Quarton elementary school addition contracts for a sum of \$1,649,122 higher than my bid for the architectural work, and a sum of \$6,122 higher than the bid of Jack Skitch Co. for the mechanical work, I wish to express these few thoughts.

Not having received any communication; nor having been telephoned; nor having my references checked; nor having been interviewed; your board of education made the contract awards. (Mr. Skitch indicates an identical circumstance).

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The Birmingham Eccentric



ELDRRED H. SCOTT

Earns Promotion At Detroit Edison

Directors of the Detroit Edison company today announced three promotions from within the company's organization. Among the men honored is Eldred H. Scott of 815 Rivensack, who will assume general responsibility as controller from Charles R. Landrigan. Landrigan will continue as vice president.

Scott is a native of Marine City and a graduate of the University of Michigan. He has been with Detroit Edison since 1924. He is a past president of the American Statistical Association, past chairman of the Edison Institute statistical committee and a member of the American Marketing Society and National Association of Cost Accountants. He is also a member of the Investment Analyst Society of Detroit and a research committee member on the Detroit regional plan commission.

Except where you indicate that release of these copies will injure or malign persons not party to this action, I will post them in short order.

EDWARD GLUCKLICK
Gluck Const. Co.
Detroit, Mich.

Widower Seeking Damages from City

Attorney Carl F. Ingraham, has notified Birmingham city commissioners that he represents Percy Lucas of 789 Pierce in a damage suit filed against the city. Lucas is seeking damages in an unliquidated amount for medical expenses, conscious pain and suffering and the loss of services of his wife, Rachel Ann Lucas, who allegedly suffered fatal injuries when she fell on a city sidewalk on Feb. 24, 1952.

Ingraham claims that uneven slabs of concrete in conjunction with the maintenance of an obstruction in the public right-of-way on the sidewalk caused Mrs. Lucas to fall, suffering head injuries from which she never recovered. The matter already has been referred to the city's insurance company, according to city commissioners.

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