

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

NEW CARS, with their glare-proof glass, are fine for driving, but it has been discovered they do have their drawbacks. The group of men judging the home decorations contest for the Junior Chamber of Commerce were impressed with the number of lights used on some of the homes, but not all pleased with the small amount of light they gave. As one of the judges opened a window to toss away a cigarette, "light dawned" . . . they had been trying to judge bright lights through a plate of glare-proof glass!

WHEN CITY COMMISSIONERS held their Jan. 8 Committee session, one of the discussion subjects will be whom to appoint as associate justice of the peace to succeed John W. Gailli, who last week resigned after having served since August, 1943. If the appointment is made, the new associate justice will serve only till the April, 1953, city election. Then a justice will be elected to fill the remaining 2 years of Gailli's unexpired term. One of the possible appointees who will be considered at tonight's meeting will be young John C. Emory, Jr., 424 Baldwin.

SHOULD THE PICTURE of a B'ham city commissioner or mayor be placed on the wall of the commission room while he still is on the commission? Commissioners Frank Rising and Lance Minor agree the mayor's picture should go up. But only Minor suggests that the commissioner's picture be hung. "After he's served six months, he's certainly entitled to it," Minor argues. He also suggests putting the "mayor's gallery" out in the second floor hallway so more visiting dignitaries and citizens can see it.

BIRMINGHAM POLICE are mystified about the accident at the corner of Pierce and West Maple sometime last Wednesday morning. Officer Harold Hatt noticed that two parking meters had been knocked down and stopped to investigate. Tire marks and dirt from the underside of the car told the story. The vehicle, apparently traveling on the wrong side of the street, jumped the curb, knocked over the meter stands and ran into a half only inches from the front of the Kay Baum shop. When Hatt made his discovery, about 3:55 a.m., both car and driver had vanished.

CATHERINE KASON, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Kason, 24915 Thirteen Mile road, Franklin, will be one of 650 high school students who will perform at the annual Midwestern Music Conference at the University of Michigan, January 9-10. A Birmingham high school student, Miss Kason will play trumpet in the 123-piece orchestra.

RIGHT AFTER General Motors' big auto show at the Waldorf Astoria Jan. 16-19, MacManus, John & Adams' president Jim Adams will be on the way to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to take another good look at his new winter home on San Marco blvd. Adams has just received word that this Florida house of his has been named "Tropical House of the Year" by the Florida Architectural Assn. Completed only last winter, so far he has been able to spend only two weeks enjoying the features of his new southern residence.

IT WAS INCORRECTLY STATED in the December 31 issue of The Eccentric that Mrs. Geneva Lane, candidate for the treasurer's post in Bloomfield township's February 16 primary election, was a Democrat. Mrs. Lane, who lives at 375 Wattles, has assured us that she is a Republican and added that her statement would have astounded her father, who is still living, because of his personal friendship with Teddy Roosevelt. Taking her first excursion into politics, Mrs. Lane believes that she can devote adequate time to government now that her children have grown up.

CLAWSON SCHOOL OFFICIALS are studying Birmingham School Superintendent Dwight B. Ireland's method of informing school district voters of school needs. Paul A. Schalm, superintendent of Clawson schools, is reviewing the series of 11 articles written by Dr. Ireland and published in cooperation with The Birmingham Eccentric prior to the recent Birmingham school district's successful bid for \$3,300,000 school expansion bond issue. Clawson voters will go to the polls January 29 to approve or reject an \$820,000 bond issue to finance the construction of a new high school and a three-room addition to the Kenwood elementary school. The new high would be built across from the present school on John M.

HARRY W. RAINLEY, 424 W. Maple, long will remember that the weather during the 1952 season was not a total loss for the growing of a crop of grass. He reports that, on Christmas day, he got out his lawn mower and trimmed off some of the grass that had come to crop in the reasonably warm weather. This Wanderer also hears that a lady on Ritenook discovered two pots of tulip bulbs had shown the green tops of the plants, even though they had been left out on the back porch.

AN UNEXPECTED CHRISTMAS GIFT for 12-year-old Gary Woods, 16173 Marguerite, Beverly Hills, was a new \$10 bill from Mrs. J. C. Leland, 916 Safford. On the Saturday following Christmas, Gary found a woman's purse on the sidewalk on S. Woodward, just below Maple avenue. Among the purse's contents was a \$100 bill, folded up in a coin purse. When Gary returned the purse to Mrs. Leland, she gave him the \$10 reward and praised him for his honesty. What's Gary going to do with the \$10? "Well, he hasn't decided yet. Meanwhile, it's in the bank," said Gary's father, Edward J. Woods.

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PEOPLE'S COLUMN **Close Friend Pays Final Tribute to Albert G. Sloo**

To the Editor:
In the death of Albert Sloo I feel I have lost one of my best friends.

My acquaintance with him began back in the summer of 1908, when I went to the Hupp Stock Farm as office man. I was a bunk-mate of Albert for around a year and a half, and from then until the last we were (I hope) close friends.

From my acquaintance with him back in those earlier days, I feel that I possibly know more about his activities than almost anybody else outside of his immediate family.

He had the Hupp Berksheires on the fair circuit to some extent (Albert doing the work others going along for the ride) in 1907, showing at state fairs of Tennessee, Kentucky and Michigan, I believe.

The next year under his handling, the Hupp Guernseys were the champions of Michigan.

A few days after the shows the male of the herd showed his gratitude by nearly killing Albert.

In 1913 I went to White Horse Farm, Pa., one of the leading swine farms in the east, owned by T. DeWitt Cuyler, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railway, president of the National Trust Co., and eastern regional director of railroads under government management.

I had charge of their Berkshires, the finest and costliest swine barn in the east. I tried to persuade Albert to go along with me then, but he held out until late in 1914. A few months later I resigned to take a better position in New Jersey and went to Albert go with me, but he thought he would like to stay there, although I warned him against letting the farm manager put too much work on him.

He was a fine one of being too willing a worker, until he had an almost fatal attack of heat exhaustion in the summer of 1915. When he came with me to Hamilton Farms, Gladstone, N. J., owned by James Cox, he was all right. Wall Street financier, largest owner of stock in the old Maxwell auto concern, and chairman of the board. Here I also had another friend Birmingham man, Malcolm (Mell) Harlow, now also dead.

At HP we developed one of the leading Berkshire herds of the U. S. I took the herd to Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, National Swine Show at Omaha, then down to Atlanta Fair and back to home.

Then Albert and I took the herd over to the big Chicago International Live Stock Show. A total trip of 7,000 miles, and our herd had the grand champion sow of the year defeated. We sold her later for \$1,000.

THE FOLLOWING year (1917) we again went to the International. We did well in showing, but when some of the stock boys told us we were informed by the railroad officials that, due to the big blizzards, the railroads had closed. We were informed by the railroad officials that, due to the big blizzards, the railroads had closed. We were informed by the railroad officials that, due to the big blizzards, the railroads had closed.

THE SECOND morning of my trip back I wired home from Buffalo that I would be rolling in that evening and for someone to meet me at the station. I arrived there at midnight and no one else being there, I phoned to the livery man (Auto). His wife answered that her husband was in bed with pneumonia, but anybody could get through there as your road two weeks later.

SO I WALLOWED home carrying two heavy suitcases, over two miles of New Jersey hills. My telegram from Buffalo arrived the day after I got home, and Albert two days later.

In 1920 Albert and I took out the noted Berkshire herd of Gosard breeding Estates, Martinsville, Ind. The superintendent of the estates at the time was Prof. O. E. Reed, who came to Michigan the next year as professor of dairying at MSC. He now is head of the U. S. Department of Dairying in Washington.

We showed at state fairs of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, New York, the Eastern States Exposition at Springfield, Mass., and then back to Des Moines for National Swine Show.

A short time later I received a letter from Mr. Gosard saying that with his herd he had made world's show record with strength of competition and importance of results concerned.

I FULLY AGREED with the remarks of Albert's pastor at the funeral services.

Along the live stock lines, in which he was in contact with him the greater part of our acquaintance, I found him absolutely honest and trustworthy. I don't believe he ever knowingly told an untruth or did a dishonest deed in his life.

The Birmingham Eccentric

'52 Fire Losses Kept Very Low

In a preliminary report of the activities of the Birmingham fire department for the year just ended, Chief V. W. Griffith said a total of 466 alarms were answered. He pointed out that although this was the busiest year in some time, the per capita loss of 37 cents is the lowest since 1934, when losses averaged 31 cents per person. "We can credit this low per capita loss to constant checking for the prevention of fires, to printed warnings taken seriously by our citizens and to the fact that the department has kept every blaze from spreading," Griffith said.

"A GREAT DEAL of credit goes to the people who discovered the fires and reported them promptly and accurately, saving the department a great deal of time in getting to the scene."

Griffith said estimated damages for the year amounted to \$7,708, most of which was covered by insurance.

YMCA Announces Activity Program

The Birmingham Y.M.C.A. announces the resumption of its regular Winter Activity Schedule now that special Christmas and holiday events are past.

Thursday, Jan. 8, the Volleyball group will reconvene at Baldwin Elementary from 7 to 9 p.m. At 9 p.m. Coach Cecil Nickle's Birmingham Y.M.C.A. Men's Varsity Basketball Team will mark Western 'Y' Birmingham's 8 p.m. game will be striving for its fourth consecutive victory without defeat.

In the Y.M.C.A. Church Basketball League, Kirk-in-the-Hills meets Christ Church "Crabrook" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 8, on the Baptist church gym floor. Southfield United Presbyterian takes on St. James Episcopal at 8 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran church opposes First Methodist at 9 p.m.

THE FIRST chapter of the new 16 mm movie serial "Adventures of Treasure Hunter" will be shown at the 'Y' movie on Friday, Jan. 9. The 'Y' Rinkydinks will have a gym and game program on Saturday morning at the Baptist Green Gym at 1 p.m. Fisher Y.M.C.A. Junior Boys' team opposes Birmingham Y.M.C.A. on the home floor.

Reservations for the Couples Square Dance January 17, with Mark Simons calling, are being taken at the 'Y'. Only 20 couples can be accommodated so it is advisable to call early. Reservations may attend but a reservation is necessary.

The 'Y' Family Night program will be held January 23.

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