



Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO July 3, 1903 A very pretty wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Smallman when their daughter, Anna and Warren B. Spaulding were united in marriage.

50 YEARS AGO June 30, 1903 Members of the Bloomfield township board have been asked to build a footbridge over the River Rouge alongside of the present bridge on West Maple avenue next to the waterworks station.

50 YEARS AGO June 30, 1903 Two men driving an old car, forced John Smetz of 727 Purdy street off the pavement on Telegraph road Sunday night and robbed him of \$85. Smetz reported to the sheriff's office. The holdup occurred about 10:30 p.m.

50 YEARS AGO June 29, 1903 The Birmingham Tennis Club, Lincoln and Pierce streets, will hold a club tournament for members only on July 31. Seniors and juniors singles and doubles will be played beginning at 9:30 a.m. and there will be prizes donated by Birmingham merchants.

50 YEARS AGO June 29, 1903 Several hundred interested spectators last Saturday afternoon witnessed the swimming races staged at Quanton lake under the direction of Guy Lyman, a local resident. Lyman was also responsible for the skating races held there last winter.

50 YEARS AGO June 29, 1903 George B. Jackson, president of the Wabek Slate, Bank of Birmingham, since its opening here several years ago, yesterday assumed direction of the new Wabek State Bank of Detroit, located in the Fisher building.

50 YEARS AGO June 29, 1903 Uncle Abner's wondering if the crying of the kids who missed the ice cream wagon won't be more disturbing to the neighborhood in general than the mere or less muted jingle of his little bells.

50 YEARS AGO June 29, 1903 Uncle Abner wiped his fingers and beard and reached for his pipe, muttering something about tobacco keeping mosquitoes away.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Certain of Birmingham's city commissioners may find themselves voted "the meanest men of the year" if a certain item is held for that purpose.

Already the dog-owning residents are lining up and protesting the newly revised regulations controlling the behavior of "man's best friend" and the spooones.

Particularly objectionable to these "poop proprietors" according to comments are the provisions that 1) make it almost impossible for a dog to stick his nose over the lot line unless he has his master's hand on the collar, and 2) an owner has to pay \$1.50 a day board for the animal even if it isn't taken to the dog pound.

AT THE May 11 Commission meeting, when the new provisions were adopted, all seven of the city commissioners voted in favor of the amendment.

However, since then Commissioner Lance Minor has changed his mind and voted against the provisions as "smelly and in need of changing."

It is one of the victims of the measures he originally voted for when his aged cohort, Tobey, venturing a brief distance from the Minor homestead on Pleasant street.

The other matter which should bring local youngsters to vote in a solid block against four of the commissioners is last week's commission action in banning the use of "noisemaking devices" by pedestrians.

THIS AMENDMENT is aimed primarily at the little bells the ice cream vendors use to let the kids know he is in the neighborhood.

This silence will not be golden, either to the peddlers or the kids. Commissioners Ralph Main, Richard Patterson, Dean Bester and James Allen voted to have silence on the city streets.

Commissioners Minor, Charles Renfrew and V. B. Watkins decided the bells still should ring so the kids won't have to camp on the curbs until the ice cream comes quietly to their doorsteps.

About the one kind word one can say about money-grubbers is that they aren't always as greedy as they usually are.

If the government could only extract the rubber that is in today's dollar bills, the IRS of A could probably stockpile enough of it to see us through the next long world war.

Private utilities have yet to tap that great source of natural gas to be found in our legislative chambers.

It seems that automobile thieves in the western part of the United States have invented a device for breaking trunk and door locks from their moorings. They use steel pliers, with hardened steel jaws to grip the lock.

Police officials in the Eastern States warn that the device may soon appear in their section of the country, and advise motorists to fortify the danger of successful burglaries by installing automatic alarm systems. These systems would be connected with windows and doors, as well as the trunk.

more time for this...

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SEE YOUR DEALER or DETROIT EDISON

PECK'S Cash and Carry

Troy Twp. Officially By-Passed in Seeking Answer to Problem

Both the Birmingham city commission and the Birmingham board of education have worked themselves into positions regarding extension of certain city utilities, positions which we believe could have been headed off originally.

Each group's position is different, yet bears on the same common problem... the servicing of the just proposed Pembroke elementary school just north of Derby against of Eton roads.

Officially before the city commission is the school board's request for aid in the form of city sewer and water services to the proposed school site. This site, although only a few hundred feet in the city's northern limits, nevertheless is in Troy township.

COMMISSIONERS LAST WEEK with Lange Minor and James Allen dissenting voted to send the matter to city department heads to see what can be worked out to the best interests of the city and the board of education.

The school board has the money to pay for the sanitary sewer and the water connections between the school site and corresponding lines within the city.

THE CITY HAS OFFERED to supply these services to the school.

But the commission also wants the school board to provide a sewer which will carry the ground water away from the school.

This sewer is estimated to cost \$15,000 and would extend along Derby road between Eton and Coolidge. The school board said it hasn't the money to pay for the storm sewer, but the real estate developer has offered to provide it at his own expense if the city will permit his develop-

ment to have sanitary sewer connections and temporary water connections. The city commission is not inclined to provide the water, but is considering the possibility of extending sewer services.

COMMISSIONERS, WANTING to aid the school district, think that trading sanitary services for a free storm sewer will be of benefit both to the school district and the city.

Why the city commission accepted the original responsibility for the solution to this problem has not been determined. Neither why the school board didn't take its requests for sewer and water to Troy township officials in the first place.

Last week B. E. President Ernest W. Seaholm, speaking for his board, admitted that "we took a calculated risk and assured the city would aid in getting water and sewers to us."

IT IS NO SECRET that the need for the Pembroke school is urgent. But what we can't understand is why the board of education didn't "go through channels," as the Army puts it, and ask Troy officials to solve the problem. The site is in Troy, not Birmingham, and purely from a conservative standpoint, township officials should have officially been requested to take first crack at the solution.

Since that wasn't the way the school board handled it, but came to Birmingham first, then it seems to us that the city commission should have immediately asked the B. E. of Troy.

We recall several months ago when Birmingham and Troy officials sat around the table and mutually decided that when it came to their own individual affairs, they wanted to and would like to handle their own affairs and take care of their own problems.

IN VIEW OF THIS agreement, it seems only the courteous thing to do was to let Troy run with the ball.

It still is not too late for Birmingham city officials to send the problem to Troy for its solution, with an apology for apparently barging in out of turn.

Thurston's Devoted to Cause of Good Education

In the recent appointment of Michigan's Supr. of Public Instruction, Dr. Lee M. Thurston, as U.S. Commissioner of Education, President Eisenhower has selected a man who essentially is not a mere politician.

Dr. Thurston personally is devoted to the cause of good education. For many years he was deputy Supr. of Public Instruction in this State, and only accepted

the top (for which one is elected) job as the result of "persuasive pressure" when Kim Sigler was Governor in 1948.

We got to know Lee Thurston pretty well several years back, and learned to respect and like him. (Besides, folks, he is a good trout fisherman... a quality of good repute for any person... as all loyal troutsters know!)

Under the traditions of congressional seniority, the oldest members of the reigning political party get the chairmanships of committees. Whether or not they are able to add to the responsibility is not questioned—they simply get it. After getting it they practically control, single-handed, the activities of that committee.

A chairman can "bottle up" needed legislation, and many of them do. Toleration of this age-old procedure suggests that, on the whole, a legislation body is a bit cowardly... or would you call it mere venial selfishness?

South Korea's President Syngman Rhee is putting up a valiant fight to preserve the integrity and security of his people. One can better understand his plight when it is recalled that his fellow-citizens have not only borne the physical human brunt of the fighting casualties, but most of their property and resources have been sacked, too. Apparently, Rhee feels that "we might as well keep on fighting and dying

quickly, as to accept a truce that means eventual decay and death by Communistic conquest."

President Eisenhower has said he wants to take Congress set up a commission that shall draw the taxing lines between the federal, state and local governments. Doesn't the U.S. Constitution, plus intelligent decency, already put these lines?

Wonder what some high school teachers think when one or more of their athletically developed students is given thousands of dollars for signing up with a baseball team? Or does the credit all go to the coach?

Just who reached the top of Mt. Everest first will probably be argued about for a long time. Perhaps the more important phase of the world's greatest mountain ascent is: "What value does this accomplishment bring to the human family?"

After thousands of years of operating under a monarchy, Egypt has just voted to become a republic. Now its troubles really will start... for this business of a free self-government is the most difficult of all types of rulership to operate successfully.

So They Say . . .

Dr. Mary Macaulay, British marriage expert: "People good with their minds are not always good with their emotions."

Dwight D. Eisenhower, signing Offshore Oil Bill: "I deplore and will always resist Federal encroachments on the rights and affairs of the states."

WHEN THE aromatic cloud was suddenly thick he leaned back in his chair, puffing slowly. "Yes sir, it's got to be tough on the kids to have to play ball with one eye and keep the other one skinned for the ice cream wagon."

"Didn't have to do it that way in my day—you knew right where you were thick when it came to that."

"Called it frozen custard when I was a boy and it sure was a lot better than the stuff they sell now."

"Gran'ma or Ma would cook a big pan of custard and you couldn't give the kids out with the thick stuff, even Gran'ma's 'goin' fashin' would get us away from the woodshed door."

"When the custard was cool enough, there always happened to be a big sack of cracked ice handy

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