

While driving heat in the summer time may bring about temporary discomfort to human beings, it is beneficial to the growth of certain trees and vegetation. Nature, which has her "hot plans" (above mentioned) for the benefit of her pattern, keeps the earth somewhat beautiful.

76TH YEAR—NO. 19

HIS THAT
By G.R.A.

"FREEDOM OF THE PRESS" MEANS YOUR OWN RIGHT TO KNOW

"Freedom of the press" is a phrase known to most Americans. They have heard it used by public speakers, they have read about it from time to time in their newspapers, and they themselves have often used it when discussing various phases of the pattern of American liberty.

Unfortunately, though, too many people erroneously assume that "freedom of the press" refers to absolute freedom of the right of men and women to carelessly invade the publishing business. Nothing could be further from the truth.

People who work on newspapers are able to do so only because millions of Americans buy newspapers. And they find in their newspapers are stories and articles and pictures about the many phases of our life as a government.

What these public servants do, how they spend our taxes, are subjected to the public is entitled to know all about. Most of such information is disseminated to taxpayers through the press.

So when newspaper men and women endeavor to get this information, they are doing it essentially for the general public welfare. When public officials seek to make records and act secret, they are in opposition to a cardinal feature of the democratic system.

This conviction was upheld some years ago when a Justice of our State's Supreme Court, John McDonald, gave this opinion: "Any rule that denies the public the right of access to public records is repugnant to the spirit of our democratic institutions."

IN BIRMINGHAM, the meetings of our city commission and board of public safety are conducted openly. Any request for information may be attended there, and questions may be asked, and suggestions may be made, and the same for our State Legislature.

Every year two important public bodies in Michigan conducted their meetings in private. The Michigan State Board of Agriculture and the Board of Agriculture that operates Michigan's State College.

As the result of persuasion upon them from a special committee representing Michigan's Association of the Board of Agriculture opened their meetings to the press. So from now on all of what goes on at these Lansing may be told to the public.

BUT OVER at Ann Arbor the Board of Regents still refuses to open its meetings to the press. Personally along with other members of the MPA special committee, I have met with President Harlan H. Hatch and the Board, when they refused to open their body of the error of its ways.

Some progress has been made, I know. The Regents admit that they are on their guard by maintaining secrecy in their meetings. They fear that their supporters may be misled by sensational news items, involving the delicate problems that now and then come from the faculty members.

However, our newspaper committee has argued that no responsible newspaper would print sensational news that is harmful to the reputation of a large university. The money that they want to sensationalize news of a comparable nature that arises from their local school systems.

IT IS PRESUMED that principle of openness to the press (which See THIS & THAT, Page 2)

Small Fuse Big Bang
That's the ECCENTRIC WANT ADS

Your little want ad goes out through the explosive demand of thousands of Eccentric readers. So watch out, the results can bowl you over.

PHONE M-4-1100
Ask for the Want Ad Desk

Little League All-Stars In Zone Finals

The Birmingham Little League All-Stars of the American League need only one more win to capture the metropolitan Detroit Little League Championship.

They meet the Hamtramck American League All-Stars Saturday afternoon at 2:30 on the St. James field. The field is located behind the YMCA on Woodward avenue.

If Birmingham defeats Hamtramck and will be a tough job because the Hamtramck pitching ace Wesley Kiewicki will probably start against them, they travel to Bay City to play in the state finals July 31, to August 1.

Birmingham won the right to meet Hamtramck by defeating the Farmington All-Stars 4 to 3 on Friday and the Livonia All-Stars 5 to 0 on Saturday.

Hamtramck won over Lincoln Park Friday 9 to 1 behind the no-hit pitching of Kiewicki and edged out to a 6 to 4 win over the Hamtramck Nationals on Saturday.

THE BIRMINGHAM National League All-Stars were not as fortunate as their American League brothers and suffered defeat at the hands of Jackson Friday by a 5 to 1 score. The loss eliminated them from the tournament.

The Birmingham American League outbats Farmington, 10 hits to 6, with four of the safeties going for extra bases.

Birmingham started its scoring in the first inning when Mike Jackson led off with a single. He was sacrificed along by John Dixon and scored when Phil Isbell doubled.

Two runs tallied in the second when Bob Wood opened the inning with a double, Jay Madonna advanced him to third with a bunt single, Billy Hicks singled, scoring Wood and sending Madonna to second. Jackson was safe on an error and Madonna scored.

Birmingham scored the winning run in the third due to faulty fielding by the Farmington club. Isbell was safe at first on an error and advanced to second on another error. Dick Duncan was safe on an unsuccessful fielder's choice. Then Isbell stole third and Duncan stole second. Isbell scored when Wood grounded out.

"Farmington scored twice in the first inning and once in the third, but Johnny Dixon held them to one hit for the remainder of the game.

Saturday Livonia jumped off to a lead in the first. It was a one-run lead in its half of the first inning against the American League stars, but Birmingham roared back with five runs in the half of the inning and was never behind after that.

Livonia got its run in the first on a single, a wild pitch, a passed ball and an error. Birmingham scored on a sacrifice fly in the second. Eight men went to the plate in Birmingham's big inning.

The parade across home plate began when Dixon walked, Wood walked and Isbell doubled scoring Dixon from second. Wood was knocked out at the plate trying to score from first.

(See ALL-STARs, Page 4)

NAVY LT. Kenneth W. Allinson completed a two-week indoctrination in Naval Administration and applies to a reserve assignment in the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, July 17. Allinson, husband of Mrs. Cecilia Allinson, 4045 Chestnut Hill Drive Birmingham, is a Korean veteran.

Wounded Soldier Sent To Hospital in Japan
Pvt. Frank A. Minto, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Minto of 852 Yermouth, is making a good recovery from wounds received in Korea, according to his mother.

The young man suffered death wounds July 1 and on July 14 was moved to a hospital in Japan. Mrs. Minto said the family has received every reason to anticipate a successful campaign. The bank was in operation from 2-8 p.m., at the Community House.



MRS. MATILDA RUNDELL (seated) AND HER SISTER, MRS. MAE HUPP
Examine photo used on cover of Eccentric's 75th Anniversary Edition
(Eccentric Staff Photo)

75th Anniversary Cover Girl In Birmingham to Visit Sister

Mrs. Matilda Thurlby Rundell, of Huachuca, Arizona, vividly remembers the day when she had her picture taken down by the old mill, 62 years ago.

She was in her early 20's then and little did she dream that she would some day become the "cover girl" for The Birmingham Eccentric's 75th Anniversary Edition.

Mrs. Rundell, now in her sprightly 80's, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Mae Thurlby Hupp, Maple avenue, for several weeks this summer.

"My sister sent me a copy of the Anniversary Edition when it first came out," explained Mrs. Rundell, "and I received it about 10 o'clock in the morning.

"I NEVER was so surprised in my life as when I saw my picture on the cover," she exclaimed. "I had invited several ladies in for lunch that day, but I became so interested in the Anniversary Edition that I couldn't leave it. My guests had a late luncheon.

"It was a beautiful day in the fall of 1891 when the picture was taken," recalled Mrs. Rundell. "Guy Wallace took the pictures with his new camera and we tramped all around old Birmingham—in the grove, by the mill pond, at the culvert by the railroad—and all over.

"It was Guy Wallace's last visit to Birmingham and he wanted the pictures as remembrances of his childhood home."

GUY WALLACE WAS AN orphan, brought up by his grandfather, Andrew SHE WAS MARRIED in 1890 to Morgan W. Rundell, son of Julius Rundell who owned the farm on Maple and Cranbrook roads, now known as the Mercer farm.

Matilda Rundell, familiarly known as "Tillie," was one of the charter members of the Village Improvement Society, a civic-minded group which planted trees, installed street lamps and generally made the town spick and span.

When bicycling became the fashionable sport for ladies, Tillie Rundell was right in with the rest. She was a member of a Ladies Bicycle Club along with her sister, Mae, and Mrs. Stella Parks, Julia Russell, Minnie Jarvis, Tillie Walker, Della Snow and Bertie Hargerman.

After her husband's death in 1930, Mrs. Rundell went to live in Arizona to be near her only son, Capt. Thurlby Rundell, who was stationed at Fort Huachuca. There in the mountains near the Fort she has made her home.

G. Wallace who lived at the northwest corner of Maple and Chester streets.

Guy attended Olivet college and after his grandfather's death in 1890, he went out to the great and promising West to be in business with his uncle, George Wallace.

Mrs. Rundell is the eldest daughter of Thomas Thurlby, village blacksmith, whose shop was on the north side of Maple near the old railroad Depot. (Hunter Blvd. now occupies the former railroad right-of-way.) After graduating from Birmingham high school (Hill school) in 1889, she taught school in Southfield for one year.

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Three Birmingham youngsters last week added energy, super-salesmanship, hot weather and cold drinks and came out with a total of \$231.

Wednesday and Thursday last week, Carol King, 10, of 832 Madison; Wendy Isherwood, 8, of 815 Madison, and Wade Griffard, 9, of 756 Madison, began their plans for beating the heat.

They loaded their bicycles with signs advertising they planned to operate in front of the Isherwood home and began to drum up trade for the four-gallon cooler.

Between their advertising activities, they made all their own purchases—sugar, lemons, etc., and made their plans for the sale.

New Facts Seen Only Reason for Postponement

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Only two things conceivably will prevent the Birmingham city commission, by a 6-to-1 or 7-to-0 vote, from enacting an amendment to the city's zoning ordinance to require all new or expanded businesses to provide a square foot of off-street parking space for each square foot of new or expanded floor area devoted primarily to use by the public.

First, presentation to the commission of a proposed amendment which is better than the one which will be considered at a public hearing next Monday night.

Second, concrete facts which prove to the commission's satisfaction that the proposed amendment would be legally unsound.

WHEN CONTACTED By The Birmingham Eccentric Friday and Saturday concerning their opinions on the tentative ordinance, six commissioners freely admitted they favor immediate passage of the amendment unless at Monday's hearing some individual or group proves one or both of the points just outlined.

These six are Mayor Ralph A. Abernethy, Commissioner Dean Beier, Charles Kerfoot, James A. Linn, Richard Patterson and Vincent Watkins.

Only Commissioner Laurence Minor said he was not definitely certain how he would vote.

IN THEIR statements to The Eccentric, all commissioners made it clear that their minds were not closed to constructive suggestions that develop as a result of the public hearings.

However, they did emphasize that to date there has been too much talk about parking and little or no action. They believe that on the basis of information they so far have been able to accumulate or that has been given them by individuals or groups, the proposed ordinance is at least the first step in meeting the city's parking requirements.

Although the commission will be in session to enact the amendment at its hearing Monday night, there is likelihood that the hearing will be postponed for a week or two on the request of one or more businessmen that the commission not take any action that evening. The Eccentric also has learned.

IT WILL BE suggested to the commission that it take a bit more time to consider a decision which will have a far-reaching effect on the city's business property.

One of the main groups which will protest the enactment of the parking ordinance will be the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce's special off-street parking committee composed of six local businessmen and headed by Victor Koch.

Three weeks ago, when the city commission set July 27 as the public hearing date, Koch said his committee "has several reasons why we think (the proposed ordinance) is unworkable."

AT THE commission's request, he agreed to submit the reasons in writing to the commission prior to the hearing.

Koch and his special committee, as well as several other Birmingham businessmen, have maintained for some time that the proposal, if adopted, would stifle business expansion in the central area.

He has made the claim to the commission that it would have a definitely adverse effect on the so-called "Wabek-Jacobson" parking plan for the southwest corner of Willetts and Woodward.

The "Wabek-Jacobson" plan calls for these two local business interests to invest close to a half million dollars in property north of Willetts and west of Woodward for an eventual 1,000-car parking facility.

THE CITY would be offered the right to an initial lease of the 4½-acre site, with an option to buy at the original investment cost.

(See PARKING, Page 2)

Very Important Decision May Be Made Monday

One of the most important decisions this community has made in many years may come out next Monday night's Birmingham city commission meeting.

For on that evening—July 27 at 8 p.m.—city commissioners will hold a public hearing regarding an off-street parking amendment to the city zoning ordinance.

If any proper off-street parking measure admittedly would benefit the entire community, the ordinance which will be under discussion Monday night is of particular concern to Birmingham's businessmen and business property owners.

FOR THE TENTATIVE AMENDMENT would place the burden of obtaining off-street parking on the owner of business property. It would be up to him to determine the site, the amount of space required, and how he would be able to finance its purchase.

Monday's hearing is of great importance to any local business which at some future date may find it necessary or advisable to expand its facilities.

It is of great concern to a lessee who some day may want his landlord to construct an addition to his building.

It is of prime importance to the landlord who would have to provide more floor space for his tenant.

AND IT IS OF EQUAL importance to the owner of vacant business property who some day would like to resell it, build on it for himself or for a tenant.

Some local businessmen have characterized the proposed amendment as amounting to confiscation of property in that it would prevent a landowner from building on more than half of his property.

On the other hand, certain city officials believe that without some sort of off-street parking ordinance, the present business section will be at the mercy of more enterprising merchants who build up around the edge of the city and provide plenty of parking space.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS hearing cannot be over-emphasized!

For, The Eccentric has learned, the city commission is of a mind to pass an off-street parking ordinance—that fact in and of itself will impact tremendously on the usage and values of all local business property.

The commission will welcome comments and constructive criticism at its public hearing next Monday night. If you have any thoughts or reactions to the proposed amendment, it is your civic duty to convey it to the city commission.

Copies of the proposed off-street parking amendment are available at the Chamber of Commerce office on East Maple, or at the city clerk's office in the Municipal Building.

STRICTLY FRESH

A Chicago drink walked home, went to bed unaware he was shot in a nation fight. Guess he had too many liquid shots to notice a few lead ones.

A feline banded just in a laundry bar, was freed before getting MEROX



a sub-dunking. Wonder how many lives the cat left behind when let out of the bag?

'Heat' Money Goes For Polio Benefit

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All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS REPAIRING. 1010 1/2 St. and 10th for ENTERTAINMENT.