

School Voters to Decide Classes and Bond Issues

No Contest In B'ham District

Voters in the school districts of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Troy and Southfield townships will go to the polls Monday, June 8, to vote for candidates and proposals in the annual school elections.

The largest bonding proposal will be found in the Southfield township school ballot where school officials seek a \$1,600,000 bond program to erect a series of new elementary schools, additional elementary schools and the purchase of three school buses. Electors also will vote on the raising of the tax levy 4 1/2 mills to retire the bonds.

Incumbent Lew Larson will face Donald L. Swanson for the one three-year vacancy on the board of education.

In Troy, voters will decide the fate of a \$500,000 bonding issue to construct a new junior high school in Big Beaver, school additions to Troy Union, Colerain and Poppleton schools, and school buses.



MRS. GEORGE McDUGALL, of Walnut Lake was the only survivor of a U. S. Lusitania, sunk in 1914 by a German U-boat, to attend the 1953 reunion of survivors, sponsored by the Cunard line in New York City on May 7. Shown aboard the Queen Elizabeth, Mrs. McDougall was conducted through the huge liner and was the guest of Com. H. Gratitude, OBE, at breakfast aboard the ship.

The commodore in a formal return to England, he is to receive the Freedom of the City of London, an honor she herself shares with only one other woman, the new Queen Elizabeth.

City Seeks Way To Keep Vendors 'On the Move'

City commissioners this week are studying a way to prevent peddlers and hawkers from setting up shop during daylight hours near established business places.

Specifically, city officials will be answering the plea of George Thurman, who runs a neighborhood grocery at 275 E. Frank, across from Barium junior high school.

In a letter to the city commissioner, Thurman claims it is unfair for the city to permit licensed vendors "to park their trucks in the immediate vicinity of a year-around shop."

He pointed to Pontiac and Royal Oak ordinances which require such vendors to keep on the move.

COMMISSIONERS asked the city manager and city attorney to get copies of these other two municipal ordinances to see how the problem is handled there.

Tentatively, City Attorney Hascall said it might be possible to amend the present Birmingham ordinance to stipulate that such vendors be permitted no exclusive or stationary location and prohibited from impeding traffic or inconveniencing the public.

Zoning Amendment OK Expected Next Week

A zoning ordinance amendment prohibiting any future business, profession, trade or occupation in single family, income bungalow and terrace zones is expected to be passed next Monday night by Birmingham city commissioners.

However, such uses may be permitted in multiple family areas provided the business space does not exceed 25 per cent of the first floor area.

This week commissioners were about to approve the new restriction, but decided to continue the hearing till next week to permit a slight change in the amendment as finally approved.

This change in wording will permit such businesses in the multiple family zones to use inconspicuous identification signs not larger than one square foot in area.

Picnic Planned For Troy Hi-Y

The last meeting of the Troy Hi-Y will take place Monday, June 8, with a picnic on the grounds of Camp Ohlyana near Holly, Michigan. The group will leave Troy Township High School at 8 a. m. for a program of boating, canoeing and out-of-door games.

Jim Pouget is president of the group and is in charge of program. The group will be accompanied by Ed Kirbot, Birmingham YMCA Secretary.

STRICTLY FRESH

Ohio State university veterinarians were baffled by a bull with the hiccups. He was probably frightened by the drop in beef prices.

British inheritance taxes gulped \$1,435,000 as a deceased shipowner's estate, leaving heirs only \$1,292,000. Looks like a race between death and taxes.

A federal judge arrived in court with a picnic on his back. Looks like justice will just have to follow the case and choose between the gavel and the green.

Knocked in a New England jail prisoner out a wall section, left to burgle and returned with cigarettes.

Five Quarantined Youngsters Celebrated Days Out of School with an Exclusive Chicken Party in Birmingham, Ala.

Naturally we couldn't invite anybody else. Naturally!

Pass City Budget, Tax Rate

The 1953-54 fiscal year's budget of \$1,171,405 was passed swiftly and quietly Monday night by Birmingham city commissioners who also approved the city's tax rate of \$19 per thousand dollars of assessed valuations, a 50-cent reduction from last year's rate.

No one in the audience questioned the items in the budget.

The tax in the rate while, at the same time, financing a record budget, was made possible by holding down expenditures by including a \$14,000 surplus from the present fiscal year, and by figuring on large miscellaneous revenues next year.

City Manager Donald C. Egbert cut \$34,015 from the budget amount to be collected by the tax levy, bringing this to \$854,000. Revised miscellaneous figures are up \$22,080, bringing this total to \$317,405.

Ask Tennis Court, Water Facility Bids For Eton Park

With a \$12,000 park improvement budget approved by Birmingham city commissioners, plus a balance of \$3,650, additional work at Eton Park will get underway shortly.

Bids for the construction of two and possibly three tennis courts will be sought, by the recreation board, along with a contract for the installation of water facilities for the park.

Tennis court costs are estimated at slightly more than \$4,000 each, with the water supply being installed for another \$4,000.

Water will include lines into the park and a fountain available for those using the diamonds and tennis courts.

Vets Reunion At Kingsley Inn A Happy Affair

After 12 years, 18 Birmingham men gathered at the Kingsley Inn Friday night, May 31, to celebrate their safe return from action in World War II.

Twelve years ago the 18 were headed for service and their families were left in Birmingham. The men then left for the four corners of the world, serving in such far-off points as the South Pacific, Alaska, Germany and Italy.

Friday night's affair was a happy one for the veterans who all escaped serious injury. Nick Takis, owner of the Kingsley, staged the dinner as a reunion for the boys.

Among the partying vets were Bob Savage, Jack Sitta, Tim Walton, Perry Vaughan, Malcolm Cameron, Bob Goode and Neil and Harry Stark.

THIS and THAT By G.R.A.

THIS TRIBUTE IS DESERVED BY OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY

A newspaper has but one Diamond Anniversary, and The Eccentric has just commemorated its first 75 years of continuous publication. Its readers, we again gratefully relate, are practically unanimous in their appreciation of this May 21 issue of 252 pages. Always we have published many local comments about it—but another letter has come in to our office which we believe has interest you.

It was written by Lee A. White, of 652 Brookside. Mr. White himself is a distinguished newspaperman, having spent most of his adult life in the business.

For a time he taught journalism at the University of Washington, but during most of his working life he was associated with The Detroit News. At the moment, following his retirement from the News, he is Director of Public Relations for the Society Cranbrook Institutions.

WHILE MR. WHITE'S letter and some of his comments directed to me, I in turn want to emphasize that no little portion of his praise is deserved by our entire staff. My brother Paul, who is a partner with me in this business, also must come for his share of credit for aiding in developing the policies that motivate The Eccentric as a community service institution.

And perhaps as important as anything is the fact that you who comprise our community, whose various activities have made it outstanding as a metropolitan center, as Mr. White's letter emphasizes, are "old-time" friends to think of (The Eccentric) as our newspaper, rather than yours.

Anyway, here is Mr. White's letter:

DAYS HAVE PASSED since your magnificent 75th anniversary edition appeared, but I have not yet completed the reading of it—a pleasant and enjoyable task which I have imposed on myself out of interest in the community and out of admiration for your accomplishment as editor and publisher of The Birmingham Eccentric.

So I have to thank you for benefits yet to be derived from this voluminous repository of news at the same time I voice the congratulations that are on everyone's lips.

For many, the current issue of The Eccentric will be a simple, readable history of a lovely suburban city and its countryside. For me it represents that more, it is witness to the good journalist's pride in his community and his industry in its presentation of the facts, to whose development his paper is a glad contributor.

I SHALL BE surprised and disappointed if what you and your staff have achieved does not win wide praise. Of those, The Eccentric has had a disproportionate but not undeserved share, locally and nationally.

You add I have seen, and you have recorded, vast changes in your city of intelligent inhabitants over the years. I have been a resident of the village of Birmingham since its first four years of its life, became the proprietor of what we "old timers" like to think of as our newspaper, rather than your own. I have few recollections more agreeable than those of your frequent discussions of the multiple problems of our profession; and the steps you were taking toward the solution of those with which you were confronted.

THAT YOU were far-sighted and wise is evidenced not by this anniversary edition alone (though in itself it is a tour de force), but by the weekly output of your newspaper and the daily production of your "job shop."

May you, and the younger generations whom you are rearing to a full appreciation of their opportunities and responsibilities as editors and publishers in a democracy, continue your work with joy and satisfaction.

LEE A. WHITE



DR. HATT PREPARES LAMPREY DINNER Suggests casserole for finicky eaters

Royal Appetites Require Strong Digestive Tracts

While Dr. Robert T. Hatt, Cranbrook Institute of Science Director, was not able to attend Tuesday's Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, he was able to enjoy one dish on the royal menu.

Lampreys, the scourge of the Great Lakes, are listed on coronation menus in England this year along with roast peacock, royal sturgeon, and roast swan.

During his travels in remote corners of the world, Dr. Hatt, who is director of Cranbrook Institute of Science, has found that strange foods often fit into a standard American diet, if properly cooked.

thinking lampreys look like eels and that eels look like snakes, the casserole may be best.

Lamprey Casserole

Prepare six medium sized lampreys by removing the head and intestines. Boil about 30 minutes in water to which a little vinegar has been added. Drain. Skin the lampreys and dry them with a cloth. Remove backbone and fins, then shred the meat or slice it into thin strips.

Prepare two pounds of mashed potatoes and beat in two tablespoons of butter, a little cream and four ounces of dry chery. Place half the potatoes in a casserole, lay on the lampreys, blanket them with the other half of the potatoes, garnish with slices of hard boiled eggs and paprika, cover, reheat in oven, and serve.

ONE PLEASANT thought

admittedly slow, method of dealing with the local lamprey menace, he observes, is to eat the lampreys. Every one claims they never will. Therefore, The Eccentric emphasizes that it assumes no responsibility whatsoever for any digestive upsets which may possibly occur as the result of any daredevil housewife's preparation and serving of lampreys to her family in plain language, you're on your own.

While the Italians prefer their lampreys with tomato and onion sauce, the French favor them smoked and the English like them potted. Dr. Hatt suggests several approaches:

BOILED FOR about half an hour

with salt, pepper and onions served hot with butter.

Baked in a hot oven for three or four hours, after being dipped in boiling water, scraped clean, dried, and rubbed with salt and pepper.

Fried in a combination of butter and olive oil after being rolled in what germ.

But for people who persist in eating them.

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Police, Humane Society Investigating Shooting Of Bloomfield Top Dog

Oakland county humane society officers and Bloomfield township police are investigating last Thursday evening's shooting of a year-old dog owned by Mrs. Paul R. Baker, Quanton road.

Mrs. Baker said the pellet, the type used in mixed-guns, was removed by a veterinarian who said it had traveled about 10 inches behind her shoulder.

"We have asked an investigation, not only for the sake of our dog," Mrs. Baker said, "but more for the sake of the several children in the immediate neighborhood."

"This type of gun is silent and the idea that someone is using one secretly in the section is causing considerable alarm among parents."

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OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS, on Pierce street just below 14 Mile, and the community's most recently completed edifice, was blessed May 23 in a ceremony presided over by His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney of Detroit, assisted by 120 area priests. Pictured at the left, the

Cardinal (arrow) blesses the exterior of the church following a brief prayer at the altar. He then proceeded to the blessing of the church's several rooms. At right, the Cardinal leaves the church at the conclusion of the ceremonies. (Eccentric staff photo.)