

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

Now and then you meet one who, in seasonally or not, plays the part of pretender... pretending to be something he or she is not... making an implied claim to appear familiar... how foolish this all is, when the role is unnecessary.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION 2
Thursday, March 26, 1953

BIRMINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, angered by a letter to the Editor in the March 12 issue of The Eccentric in which facilities at the new high school were attacked, rose almost as one to defend the school board's outfitting of the school. The school's journalism classes prepared a letter in answer to the criticisms and had the letter read over the public address system Tuesday. Of the 1194 students enrolled at the high school, 1050 signed sheets accompanying the letter (see page one, part four) to back the efforts of the journalists. Reasons given for failure to obtain the remainder of the signatures were students' absences and other business that one homeroom was engaged in.

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE in maintaining high standards of safety on construction work during the past season were this week given five Michigan contractors as a part of the annual meeting of the Associated General Contractors of America at Miami, Florida. A second-place scroll was awarded the A & A Asphalt Paving Co. of Birmingham for its efforts in the highway construction class. Among the 82 members of the Michigan highway construction group who received "No Accident Certificates" from the national AGC organization were two Birmingham firms, A & A Asphalt Paving Co. and Taylor Brothers Co., Inc.

IN THIS COLUMN last week one of the Wanderers wrote a paragraph about W. Carleton Scott, local be-whiskered resident, being mistaken for Ernest Hemingway, the author, while vacationing recently in Havana, Cuba. The latter part of the paragraph then changes the name of Scott to Fox... "How come?" asked several members of our staff. Well, the answer is simple (and perhaps stupid, too). It happens that the paragraph writer knows two legal men whose last names are "Carleton". So when he started the paragraph about Carleton Scott, he was confused then, as fingers tripped across the typewriter keyboard and over or under the writer's sub-sub-conscious mind must have taken over and, through association of familiar names, inserted the name of "Fox". Instead of continuing with "Scott's" what's the explanation, folks. Ever have anything like that happen to you?

A **PANEL DISCUSSION** on the relation of architectural designs to maintenance and operation problems in schools will have Norman Wolfe, assistant superintendent of Birmingham schools, as moderator on March 27. The discussion will be one of the many items of interest scheduled for the March 24-25 meeting of Michigan school business officials at Grand Rapids.

PERSONS WHO are planning to be out of town at the spring election, April 6, are reminded by City Clerk Irvin Hamlet that absentee votes are not available. They may be obtained at her office until 2 p.m., April 4, upon the signed application of the person who desires to cast his or her ballot in this manner.



THE BRUSH AND PALETTE, usually the symbol of the artist means very little to these Franklin youngsters, members of the Workshop conducted by Mrs. Edward Elliott. Reading left to right: John Faulkner, Robin Ode and Judy Winchell demonstrate what can be done with a supply of paper, a pair of scissors and a paste pot. A second class is scheduled to start April 11, meeting each Saturday at the Franklin Town Hall. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

Future Library Service Hinges on Amendment, Says Board Treasurer

Revisions in the use of Birmingham public library funds as proposed in the charter amendment to be voted upon April 6, have an important bearing upon the library's future service to the community, Merrill Adams, library board treasurer, said today.

Under the existing charter, major repairs and building improvements must be paid for from the library's annual operating budget. If the proposed amendment is passed by the voters, library repairs and improvements can be made from the city's general fund, as is the case with other city buildings.

"As long as the library fund must be drawn upon for building repairs and improvements, Adams pointed out, such expenditures can only be made by reducing the amounts budgeted for such necessary items as new books and salaries for personnel."

THE BOOK STOCK is well below American Library Association standards for cities of this size, and salaries are below the average of those in eight nearby suburban communities, he explained.

"This situation has been growing more acute every year. For example, two improvements are urgently needed now—additional open shelves for public access to books and better lighting facilities in the reading room."

"And it should be kept in mind that while we are very fortunate in having a structure of ample size, the building now is 35 years old, an age when the need for structural repairs can be expected."

"THE BOUND maintenance," Adams noted, "is underlain by the library's long junior in such time as he is able to find for this work. Passage of the charter amendment would enable the city department of forestry and parks to include the library grounds in its program."

"Although all library funds would be deposited in the city treasury under the proposed new program of operation, they would remain separate from other monies of the city and could be drawn upon by the proper municipal officers upon proper authorization."

Boosts Original Offer by \$2,000, Gets City Land

An additional \$2,000 bought the W. R. Baum Co. a plywood warehouse site on a 1.8-acre triangular parcel of city-owned land at the east end of Lipscomb avenue, along the railroad right-of-way.

Company Vice President C. B. Harman added this amount to his most recent bid of \$10,000, and city commissioners hastened to accept it.

A couple of weeks ago, commissioners turned down Harman's offer of \$10,000 for the property. City commissioners rejected the bid because it would have required the city to spend \$4,500 for a water main to serve the property, plus \$600 for a 700-foot lower side to serve the tanks.

THESE COSTS, together with the \$5,000 the city had to pay for the property originally, commissioners decided, meant too small a return on its total investment.

Monday night Harman said he would pay \$12,000 for the site if the city would put in the water main and the sewer.

This offer was accepted. The city also will be able to use the water main to serve a block of city lots on the north side of Lincoln. The city attorney has been instructed to take the steps necessary to have the proposed sale of the lots placed on the April 12 ballot for a decision of the voters.

Call Midwest 4-1100 to place an Eccentric Classified Ad.

Want City's Help In Paying Costs Of Memorial Day

High McHugh, commander of Charles Edwards Post, American Legion, represented 10 veterans organizations in Birmingham Monday when he asked city commissioners to acquire financial assistance to a Memorial Day program here.

Commissioners last fall voted to discontinue financial aid with the comment that it was becoming too much of a burden. They said bills were not presented promptly, and the business was dragged out altogether too long.

Asking that this action be rescinded, McHugh said he would prepare a plan for participating groups.

COMMISSIONER Laura Minor asked McHugh to prepare a letter for discussion on March 30 that would include definite plans on how the veterans propose to observe Memorial Day, a guarantee that bills would be submitted promptly and with a top limit of \$100 suggested by McHugh.

Commissioner Richard Patterson said he felt the commission would be willing to participate in the program providing they had some knowledge of what it was about and some idea of the costs.

Among the items which the veterans have listed on expenses was the memorial wreath used at the city hall and rental on a public address system.

NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOUSE? Then locate it by reading or using the Classified Ads in The Eccentric each week.



RADIO AND TV SALES SERVICE

Pick Up & Delivery

- General Electric
- Spartan
- Dumont

HOME RADIO SERVICE

MI 4-3933

162-166 W. Maple

Leonard's

for Beauty that lasts and lasts



PRIVATE SALE ANTIQUES FURNITURE & GLASS

also other household goods

31275 Franklin Rd.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 10 A. M. MARCH 28 & 29

Bontex

WASHABLE WINDOW SHADES

Soiled, dirty window shades? No problem when you change to Bontex—the pre-stained, impregnated fabric shade that scrubs fresh and clean over and over again. No more waiting dollars on shades that won't stand cleaning. No more ugly windows in the home. Bontex washable shades are yours to enjoy in a wide range of live, clear colors. See them—see them soon.

* Phone LI 1-4936

BESSENGER'S

25535 WOODWARD

between 9 and 10 Mile

Pickup and delivery

HAVING FRIENDS IN FOR CARDS!

6 Chairs and 4 Card Tables — \$3.50

BEER'S CHAIR RENTAL

Midwest 6-1339

FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY



YOUR BASEMENT



holds more living room

Before



After

Spring!

THAT ONE WORD MEANS TO ALL... A TIME TO TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR WARDROBE.

YOUNG'S OF BIRMINGHAM

203 PIERCE STREET

IS OPEN THURSDAY & FRIDAY EVENING TILL NINE For Your Shopping Convenience

Snug in the Winter... cool in the Summer. Your basement is the ideal place to start looking for that extra room you've wanted. Most basements are not expensive to fix up. Cover the walls, hide the joists and lay something on the concrete floor and you can have a beautiful extra room.

STOP IN TODAY AND GET OUR BASEMENT REMODELING IDEAS!

We can recommend a qualified contractor, or we will help you do it yourself. Drop in soon, or Phone

MIDWEST 4-3636

BIRMINGHAM LUMBER AND SUPPLY COMPANY, INC.

1025 Haynes, Between Hunter & Adams, 5 Blocks South of Maple

Hours 7:30 to 5:00 Mon. thru Fri.; 7:30 to 1:00 Sat.

DOES EVERYTHING BUT IRON YOUR HUSBAND'S SHIRTS!

NOW! This one miracle invention both washes and completely dries IN ONE CONTINUOUS OPERATION



IT'S THE NEW BENDIX DUOMATIC WASHER-DRYER

The greatest advance in home laundry equipment since the first automatic washer—and, naturally, by the same people! Like magic, the new Bendix Duomatic thoroughly washes and completely dries your clothes in a single, continuous, unattended operation. All you need to do is put in the clothes and set the dials!

DON'T BUY ANY SEPARATE WASHER OR DRYER UNTIL YOU SEE THE DUOMATIC!

BENDIX HOME APPLIANCES, Div. AVCO Manufacturing Corp., South Bend, Indiana

MI 4-3933

Leonard's

162-166 W. Maple