

# The Birmingham Eccentric

1878

Section  
May 1953

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Social and Service Groups and Clubs,  
Organizations serving the public  
interest

1953

## B'ham Group Is Largest Garden Club in Nation

The Birmingham branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, largest in the national organization, was founded at the home of the late Mrs. W. D. Thompson on September 22, 1930.

The first elected officers were Mrs. John T. Edgerly, president; Mrs. W. T. Cushing, vice-president; Mrs. Robert Grindley, recording secretary; Mrs. Harlow Davock, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Harold F. Klein, treasurer.

The late Miss Sarah Sly was given the responsibility of drafting the first constitution. "Brown Gables", the home of Mrs. H. H. Shuart, was the scene of the first regular meeting and shortly thereafter Mrs. Grindley recalls that 93 members gathered at the Community House to hear Edward Laird, local landscape architect, speak on "Putting the Garden to Bed".

During its formative years, the branch received much inspiration from the late Mrs. Henry Ford who for eight years was national president of the organization and, until her death in 1950, was honorary president of the Michigan division.

FROM ITS very beginning, the branch closely followed a program carrying out the purposes of the national association which, in addition to horticulture interest, sponsored cooperation with federal and state agencies for improvement of rural conditions; securing opportunities for marketing farm and garden products; and cooperating with international groups with similar interests.

The Birmingham branch today, with a membership of 360, is the largest unit in the national association, and is proud of its record of 23 years of active participation in state and national projects.

THE AIMS of the association

were first carried out through the establishment of Wayside Markets, designed by Mrs. Ford, and through the annual Greens Markets, originated by her in 1929 and still a yearly event of the Michigan division.

Projects change as the needs arise, and to the list were added conservation scholarships for teachers, horticultural scholarships for 4-H club girls, and fellowships for graduate students of horticulture.

In 1949 the Michigan division became a constituent society of the Associated Country Women of the World, and thus broadened its program to include international aspects. The local branch now contributes to the International Farm Youth Exchange Fund as well as to scholarships for foreign students through An Adventure in World Understanding.

THE FIRST Wayside Market was set up out on Adams road by president, Mrs. John T. Edgerly and her marketing committee, assisted by Mrs. William Elcock and the original 'Dirt Gardeners'. Early reports indicate that Mrs. Craig Richey, in her car with a rumble seat full of youngsters, was the stand's most frequent customer.

During the depression years of 1932-33, President Mrs. F. H. McKinney worked to interest resi-

dents in vegetable gardening with the first Community Garden Contest the result. Prizes were awarded in the Birmingham Theater after the show.

The tea hour custom at each meeting was inaugurated in 1934 by President Mrs. T. F. W. Meyer to increase attendance.

THE FIRST Christmas show was staged during the presidency of Mrs. Charles H. Welch, Jr. (1934-35) and the initial event has grown into an annual affair which attracts national attention.

The 1952 Christmas show and open house, publicized by Gladys Gage Dibble's article, "The Sharing of the Greens" in the December American Home Magazine, attracted 2,500 visitors.

During the presidency of Mrs. Samuel Garber (1936-38) the June Flower show was launched. An award of merit from the Michigan Horticultural Society was presented to the branch for the excellence of the children's exhibits.

Mrs. Aaron H. Webster, president from 1938-40, supervised several civic and roadside improvement projects which included landscaping of public buildings and rural schools, a campaign for weed control, and removal of billboards from the highways.

BIRMINGHAM is known as "The City of the Flowering Crab Apple Tree", as the result of a drive by the Birmingham branch undertaken during the presidency of Mrs. Lawrence Howe, 1940-42.

Through the cooperation of the state highway department, several hundred trees of a special variety were designated for planting along Hunter Boulevard. Some five hundred citizens, the mayor and state representatives, and the entire membership of the Garden Club, gathered at the corner of Woodward and Hunter avenues on April 24, 1941, for the dedication of the project. Over a thousand trees have since been planted throughout the city.

DURING THE war years the Garden Club took an active part in the Victory Garden project. President Mrs. William Howe organized committees to apportion ground, and a "Demonstration Victory Garden" at the corner of Willits and Bates street was the pride of the club.

The most avid workers in the 'model garden' were Mrs. Elmore Wollering, Mrs. William Daeschner and the late Mrs. H. Victor Spike. Oakland County loaned a white picket fence, a local nursery donated evergreens, and high school boys were given class credits for assisting with soil preparation. A fall Harvest Fair netted \$475 for Army and Navy emergency relief funds.

Wartime activities increased under President Mrs. Ewald Schaffer. Almost three thousand vegetable plots, a large portion of which were children's gardens, came under members' supervision.

\$38,000 of bonds were sold through the organization, and other activities included days at the Blood Bank, USO Canteen, planting at Selfridge Field, and benefit parties.

SOON AFTER Mrs. Lewis C. Dibble became president in 1948, peace time projects were resumed and more than three thousand additional crabapple trees were planted. May Garden Week, another Birmingham tradition brought to national attention through Mrs. Dibble's articles in the American

(Continued on Page 15)



MRS. HAROLD SHUART      MRS. F. H. McKINNEY  
MRS. ALBERT CLARK  
Charter members of Birmingham Garden Club

## Dramatic Guild Bears Patron Saint's Name

St. Dunstan's Guild of Cranbrook was founded in February, 1932, by a group of 80 Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills residents who were interested in the encouragement and production of dramatics.

On May 19, the birthday of St. Dunstan, the patron saint of artists and craftsmen, the group held its first annual business meeting and elected a board of directors under the chairmanship of Burt A. McDonald.

For several years one-act plays were staged in the meeting house of Brookside school, with the first three-act play being produced in the auditorium of Cranbrook School in 1936.

Membership increased during the Thirties and by the season of 1939-40, a series of three-act plays was produced. The guild flourished for 14 seasons through the depression and war years in spite of the lack of a permanent stage for performance or a home for meetings and the storage of equipment.

In 1946 the organization was given a new impetus by the generous offer of the Cranbrook Foundation for the lease of a building known as the Cranbrook Pavilion on Lone Pine road.

Seemingly insurmountable difficulties of reorganization, financing, and the construction of a stage finally were overcome in the 1946-47 season and the guild has since then annually presented four or five full-length plays to the public.

1953 FINDS St. Dunstan's Guild established as a non-profit corpo-

ration, a member of the American National Theater and Academy, and the Michigan Community Theater Association.

Its membership, open to residents of Oakland County actively interested in the theater, consists of 247 active, 30 associate, and 8 honorary members.

Current members of the board of directors are Winston T. Kellogg, president; William Crawford, treasurer; Mrs. Muir W. Lind, secretary; Mrs. Rogers I. Marquis, Mrs. Westslau Wright, Miss Marjorie Smith, Richard F. Hintermeister and Marshall Fredericks.

The chronological list of presidents or chairmen of the board contains many names well-known in the Birmingham-Bloomfield community and includes besides McDonald, Capt. H. Ledyard Towle, Frederick C. Pew, Sheldon R. Noble, Vernon Kellett, Rogers I. Marquis, Harry D. Hoey, the late Kenneth Bingham, Mrs. Sheldon R. Noble, David W. Lee, Henry Whiting, Fritz Hyde, John W. Sanders, Mrs. M. W. Cochran,

(Continued on Page 3)

## Variety of Interests Fostered by 4-H Unit

The Bloomfield 4-H club was founded to give boys and girls of the community an opportunity to further a variety of interests, among them dairy farming, sheep, swine, poultry, electricity, handicraft, sewing and canning.

In addition to its practical aspects, the local 4-H movement joins the national organization in furthering leadership and good sportsmanship.

First meeting of Bloomfield unit was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Rhodes in the spring of 1933. Rhodes, the original leader of the group, still is the director.

Cloud Cray, Jr., of Wing Lake, a diligent poultry-raiser whose efforts were rewarded by a scholarship, was the first president of the organization.

PRESENT OFFICERS are Bill Nicholson of Walled Lake, president; Margaret Pickering of Franklin, vice-president; Pat Render and Sharon Brodie, both of Birmingham, secretary and treasurer.

Meetings always have been held at members' homes.

From the five original members, the roster has grown to 17. Actual participation in a 4-H club terminates at the age of 21, but a number of members continue in the County 4-H Service Club which takes members at the age of 16 and continues as long as they wish.

4-H BOYS and girls 'learn by doing'. Handicraft and electricity are taught weekly by project leader Elwin Murray at Bloomfield Hills school.

Project leader Mrs. Russell Pickering of Franklin teaches sewing and cooking, and Karl Rhodes instructs members in gardening and animal husbandry.

Members exhibit their work at the annual local 4-H fair, with winners competing at the state show at Michigan State College and the State Fair in Detroit.

Delegates are selected yearly to attend the "club week" at MSC with special classes and entertainment planned.

The Bloomfield 4-H club, along with the other clubs in the county, has helped to complete buildings at the 4-H Fairgrounds at Perry and Pontiac roads.

## B'ham Shoe Merchant In Rush to Klondike

Thomas L. Hanna, one of the prominent merchants of the village, interrupted his shoe business here to join the Klondike Gold Rush. Following the trail of prospectors to the Klondike, Hanna went to Nome, Alaska where he resided several years before he returned to Birmingham and resumed his shoe business which was located on the northwest corner of Woodward and Maple avenues. He died in 1931 at the age of 76.



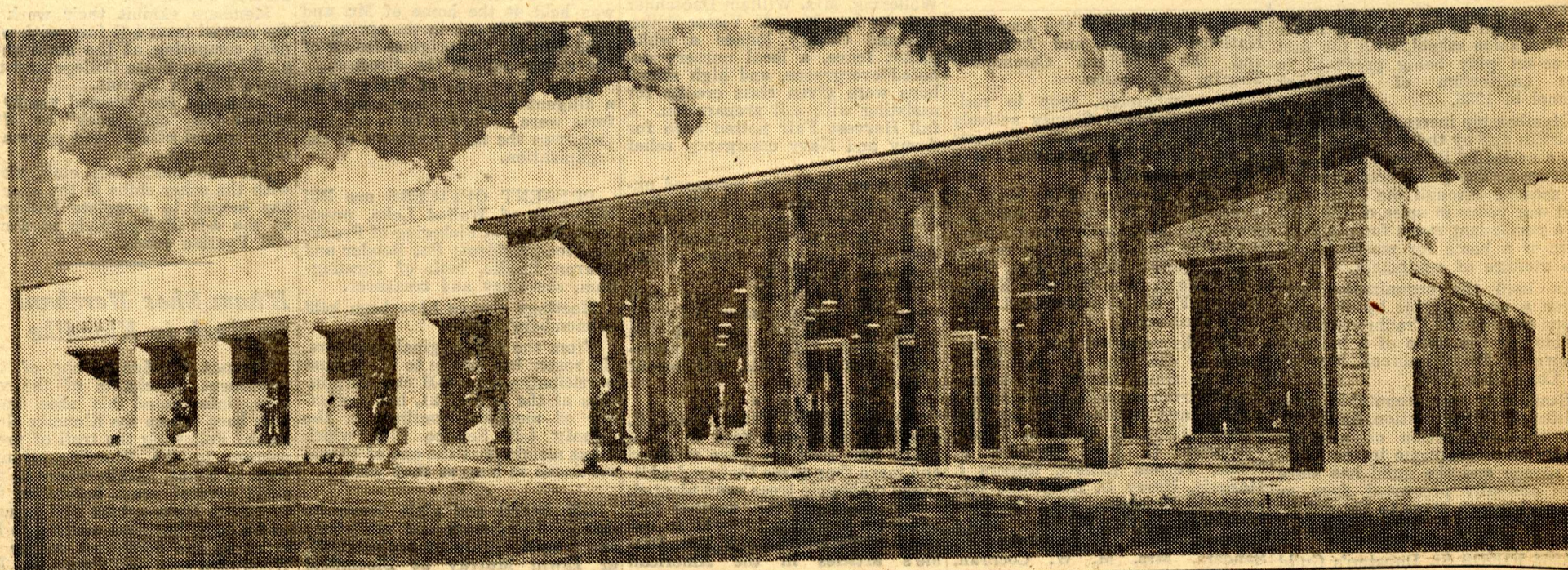
# Jacobson's

Maple at Bates

Birmingham



*Jacobson's—the label  
with a tradition . . .  
serving the fashion  
discriminating women  
of Michigan for  
over eighty-four years.*





## Marine Named 1st Commander of B'ham VFW Post

City of Birmingham Post 2645 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars held its first meeting February 20, 1934, in the Birmingham Community House. At that session, its charter from national headquarters was presented and officers elected.

Raymond C. Spencer, who saw foreign service with the Marine Corps in France, was named first post commander. The original 30 members met twice a month in the old Knights of Pythias Hall at the northeast corner of Maple and Woodward.

Membership has ranged throughout the years from 30 to over a hundred and at present totals 50. Business meetings are held monthly at the Community House and the monthly social meeting takes place at 282 South Woodward avenue.

The post has had 20 commanders, of which 18 still live in or near Birmingham. One has moved out of the state, and one, S. H. 'Buster' Wilkinson, is deceased.

**THE OBJECTS** of the VFW are four-fold: fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational. The local post has carried out the national program by participating in civic projects; dedication of buildings, parks and playgrounds; by taking active part in memorial programs, the decoration of graves, services at Greenwood Cemetery, and parades.

Poppy Day receipts go to help members and their families who are sick or in distress. The VFW honors the dead by helping the living. The post assists in the care and maintenance of the VFW National Home at Eaton Rapids, Mich., providing for VFW widows and orphans.

The post owns land on South Woodward avenue on which it hopes to build suitable quarters, but limited resources have not as yet made it possible.

**WILLIAM J. WATSON, Jr.**, is the present post commander. Gus Mitchell is vice-commander; Arthur Reinbold, quartermaster; and Clare K. Purdy, adjutant.

## Iron-Clad Belief

John Stanley undoubtedly wanted lasting quality in a roof, for in 1878, when the roof of his new wood shop was completed, it was of iron which Stanley believed would "outwear shingles."

## Ancient Oak on 'Piety Hill' Provides Gavel Used During Meetings of DAR

Back in the 1820's, a small Michigan settlement became known as "Piety Hill," later to be called the City of Birmingham. Approximately 60 years later, in 1891, a national organization known as the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized.

When a DAR chapter was formed in Birmingham, the group adopted the name "Piety Hill".

Mrs. William L. Graham, daughter of the late Mrs. Charles F. Bathrick who was an honorary state regent of Michigan and a past vice-president of the national society, was elected regent of a charter group of 12 which met February 15, 1935.

This past February, the chapter, now grown to a membership of 85, celebrated its 18th anniversary. During these years Piety Hill has met monthly at members' homes, with an annual luncheon at the Community House.

Reminding members of their historical heritage is the gavel which opens each meeting. The gavel is of oak, grown on "Piety Hill", and is taken from the sturdy beams of the Benedict homestead, built in 1825 and still standing on the east side of North Woodward avenue in Bloomfield Hills.

**THE THREEFOLD** aims of the national organization, patriotic, historic and educational, have been met and strongly supported by the Piety Hill chapter.

In 1940 the chapter framed and presented one hundred "American Creeds" and flag codes to the Birmingham public schools. Members have taught in Americanization school and have appeared in Pontiac to present new citizens with the DAR manual for citizenship.

The chapter has encouraged the production and showing of patriotic films in schools, has taken part in Memorial Day parades and decoration of soldiers' graves.

In upper Michigan acres of trees

have been planted by the DAR as part of organization's conservation program.

**WORLD WAR II** saw members devoting hundreds of hours to American Red Cross work, serving on ration boards and registration boards, selling war bonds, helping to furnish a day room at Selfridge Field, buying radios for the Fort Custer hospital, helping with USO parties and providing packages for overseas.

Piety Hill's most ambitious war effort came to completion on February 13, 1944, when Birmingham turned out at the Municipal Building to see the dedication of a blood plasma mobile unit.

In less than three weeks, \$2,664 had been raised and on that Sunday Mrs. Clarence W. Wacker presented the keys of the truck to Harry Hoey, Oakland County chairman of the American Red Cross.

Since that time the mobile unit has been traveling thousands of miles in Oakland county to collect the precious plasma which is as much needed now as it was in 1944. The historical aim of the group has been fulfilled by marking and recording old graves of soldiers buried in the community.

**EDUCATIONALLY**, Piety Hill has supported the DAR-owned schools: Kate Duncan Smith in Grant, Ala., and the Tamasee School in South Carolina. There boys and girls from isolated mountain cabins are able to attend

school, be fed and clothed and encouraged to become better citizens.

In order to do more effective work in community, state and national affairs, Piety Hill members, under the inspiration of Mrs. Thomas E. McDonnell, decided upon an annual antique show to raise money for their welfare work.

So far two such shows have been held at the Community House in the fall, with some of the proceeds going toward scholarships in the DAR schools and Berea College.

**THE MONEY** has helped to educate four Michigan Indian girls in nursing school, and has furnished magazine subscriptions for veterans' hospitals.

Piety Hill is proud of its jersey cow aptly named 'Piety' which was purchased from antique show receipts for the undernourished children of the Kate Smith Mountain School. The children also are using playground equipment and stone sidewalks donated by Piety Hill.

Each year a Birmingham high school senior girl is nominated by her classmates for outstanding qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism, and is elected by the faculty as a "DAR Good Citizenship Pilgrim". Award winners for the last three years are Marilyn Hart, Sandra Puls and this year, Carol Dorman.

**PIETY HILL** is represented on the state DAR board by Mrs. Clarence W. Wacker, state first vice-regent; Mrs. Thomas Navin, state chairman of approved schools; and Mrs. Robert F. Watt and Mrs. C. H. Maurice, state chairmen of press relations. Mrs. Navin is currently national vice-chairman of radio and television.

Mrs. Walter Kleinert is present regent of the Piety Hill chapter, assisted by first vice-regent Mrs. Dale O. Miller.

## Several Groups Aided by Metropolitan Auxiliary

Twenty-four charter members on October 9, 1940 formed the Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills Spirit 9 of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Metropolitan Club of America.

Since that original meeting at the Community House, membership has grown to 74. The auxiliary is an adjunct to the Metropolitan Club which is a national group of policemen, firemen and federal employees.

The auxiliary is a charitable and non-profit organization and the

money raised during its yearly projects is devoted to local and national organizations for charity and relief.

Many meetings are devoted to the making of cancer pads and articles for the Veterans' Hospital in Dearborn. Contributions of drapes, radios and toys have been made to the Pontiac Children's Home.

Monthly meetings are held in members' homes. At the annual meeting in December, officers are nominated and elected. Installation

ceremonies are held the first of the year.

**AUXILIARY 9** membership includes one past national president, Mrs. Fred Kemp of Fairview avenue, who has served at various times as national recording secretary, and national vice-president.

Past presidents of the local group include Mrs. Robert Appell, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Donald Terry, Mrs. Patrick Tobin, and the current president, Mrs. Walter Carr.

## Wing Lake Farms Residents Benefit By Organizing

Wing Lake Farms, Inc., was founded as an association of property owners in the various Sly Farms subdivisions. Both resident and non-resident property owners, drawn together by a number of common interests in community advancement, gathered the last week of August, 1948, in the real-estate office of Howard Keating.

The original group consisted of about 60 persons, largely husbands and wives who had acquired lots for homesites in the area being subdivided by Keating.

At the time of the first meeting, only a few of the group had built on their lots. Among them was Albert C. Carr, the first resident of the Sly Farm subdivision adjoining Wing Lake, and first president of the new organization.

Carr, assisted by Robert Steen, a Birmingham attorney, worked out the framework of the new association which was titled wing Lake Farms, Inc.

Business meetings for the first few years were held at the Carr home. Assisting Carr were officers Leverett E. Carter and Frank Ghesquiere, both residents of the subdivision.

**MEETINGS NOW** are held monthly, except during summer months, at the homes of the 16 directors of the association. Several times a year general sessions are called at the Wing Lake school.

Working toward the goals of the group is a goodly percentage of the eligible property owners who lend their support by paying dues and active cooperation.

One of the association's objectives has been the improvement of the easement to Wing Lake to Franklin road. Recreational facilities for children always have engaged the support of the group which is currently working to obtain nearby lake bathing facilities.

Last year's president, Ghesquiere secured the services of a Red Cross course in swimming instructions at Wing Lake for resident children.

**CURRENT** officers are James L. Gillon, president; Joseph Juett, vice-president; Ira Gosling, secretary; and Harold Dillow, treasurer.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S

Continued from Page One

Jones B. Shannon, Thomas J. King and Lewiis C. Keenan.

**IN THE GUILD'S** early years there was much discussion as to how serious the dramatic organization should be. Some held out for pure drama and theatrical education. Others were likewise insistent on a modicum of fun and entertainment. The passing of time brought both viewpoints into happy combination.

With the small stage at Brookside and the simple early lighting equipment, plays were directed by members and professional directors.

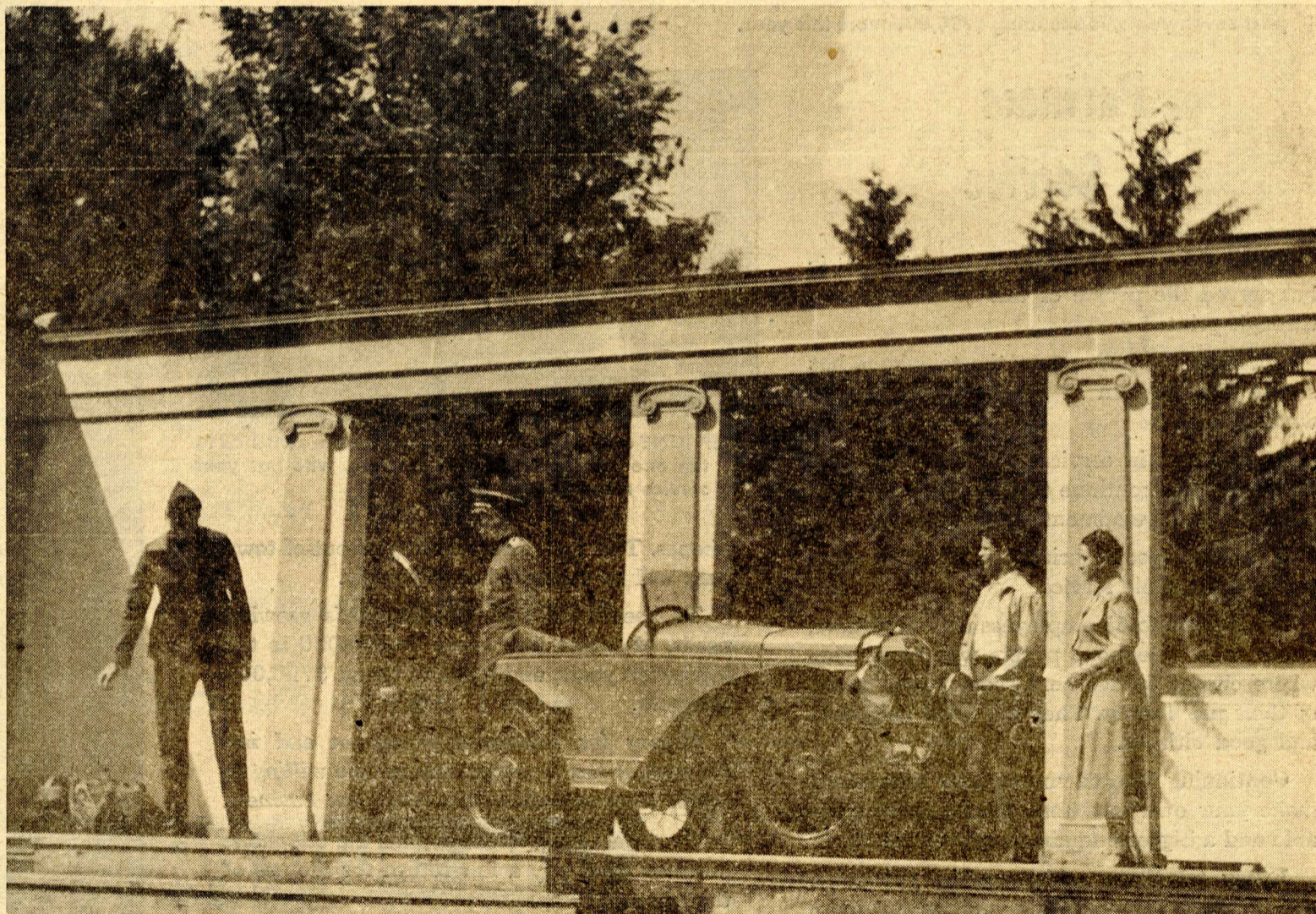
For the first six years an annual contest was conducted for original plays written by the members. After each performance, anonymous criticisms were read, and problems of costuming, lighting, scenery, acting and directing were discussed with an eye to future improvement.

Early members who still are active include Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Hoey, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hitchcock, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Booth, H. H. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Pew, Miss Jessie Winter, Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Marquis, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Broock, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Noble and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whiting.

**AS THE MEMBERSHIP** increased from 80 to 155 in 1946 and a fuller dramatic program was presented, a wider range of talent came into the guild. Periodical lectures, discussions and classes were instituted to develop experience in all phases of production.

Currently all members are assigned to one of 13 committees, designed to spread the work evenly throughout the organization.

The little theater movement of the Twenties and Thirties succeeded in spreading enthusiasm in amateur dramatics all over the United States. St. Dunstan's joined hundreds of other similar groups



CRANBROOK'S GREEK THEATER IS A FAVORITE OF ST. DUNSTAN'S GUILD PLAYERS  
This scene is from the outdoor production of 'Ja cobowsky and the Colonel', staged in June, 1948

in producing the short plays of Percival Wilde, Rachel Field, J. M. Synge, Arthur Schnitzler and J. M. Barrie.

Among the outstanding early plays were outdoor presentations of "Aria da Capo" by Edna St.

Vincent Millay, and "Pelleas and Melisande" by Maeterlinck.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" in 1940 is the only Shakespearean drama which St. Dunstan's Guild has produced.

Climaxing every season for twen-

ty-one years has been the Greek Theater production in June at the amphitheater on the Cranbrook estate.

**ALTHOUGH COMEDIES** are easier to cast and seem to bring

in larger audiences, the Guild has produced an almost evenly balanced program of comedy and serious drama in its 21 seasons.

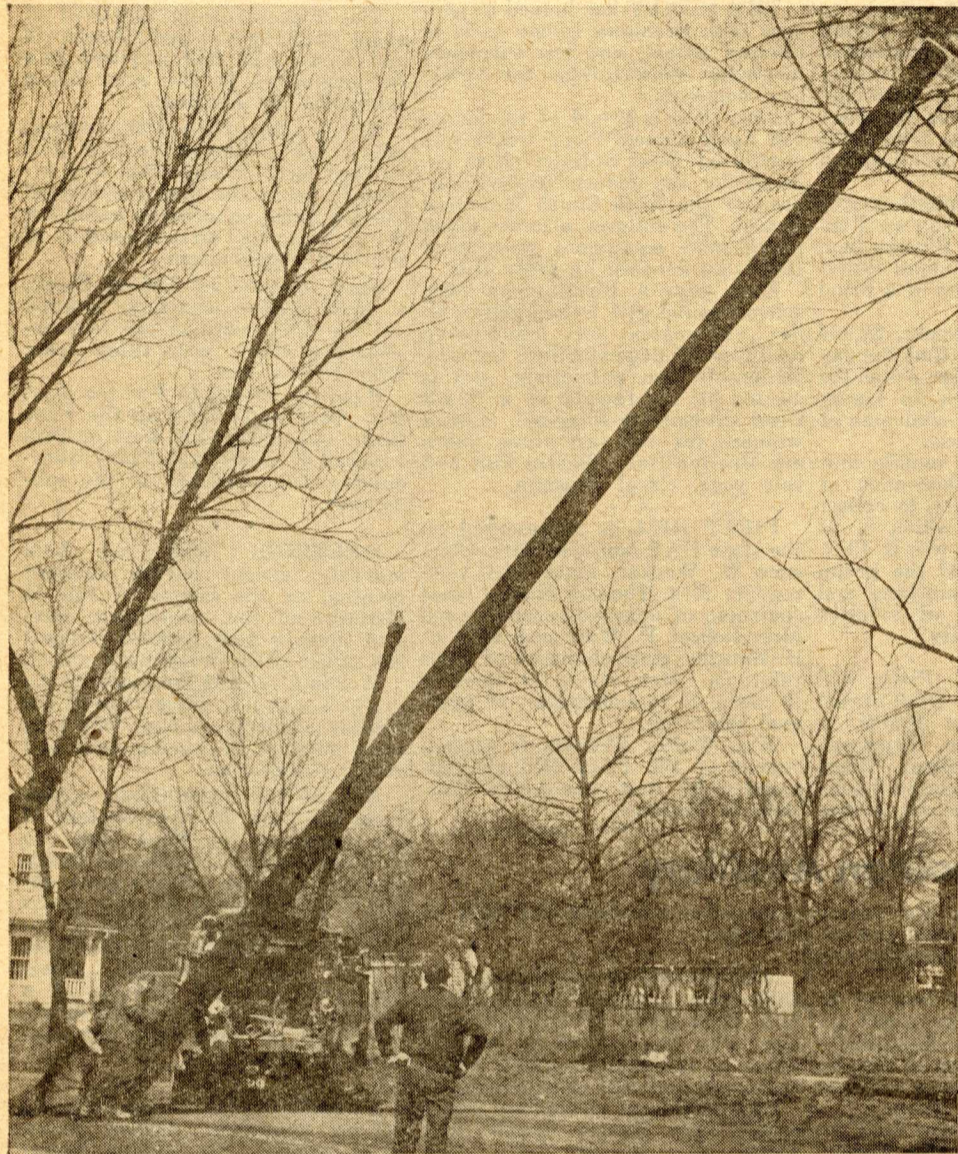
The 1952-53 season has included "Angel Street", "For Love or Money" and "Idiot's Delight".



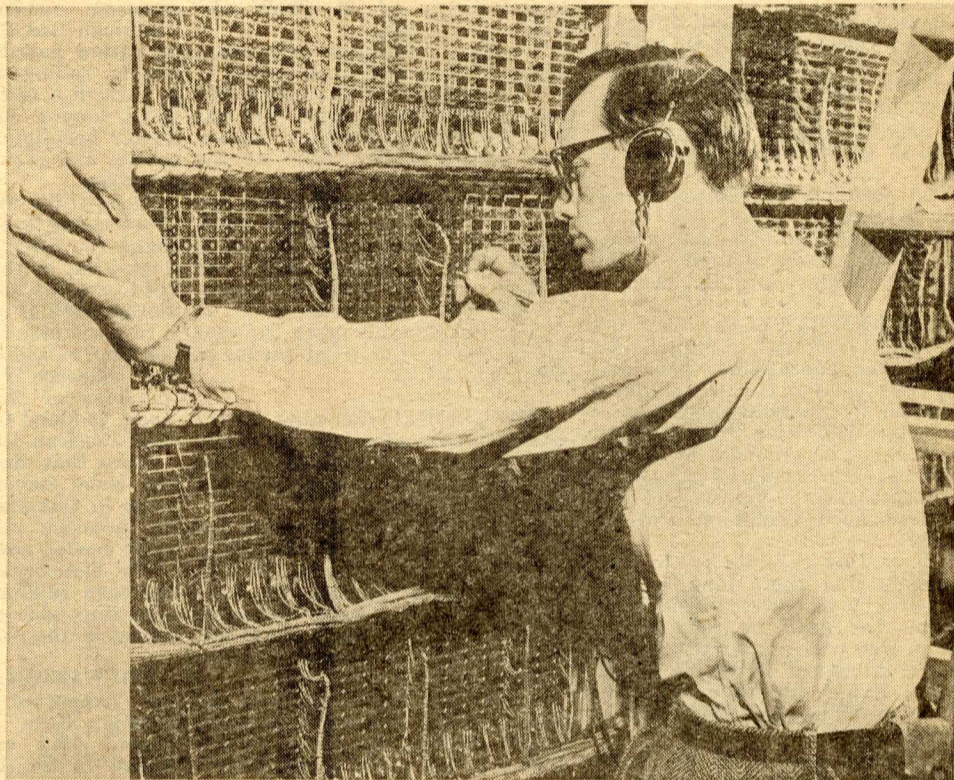
# KEEPING PACE

## With Growing Birmingham

In seven years, Birmingham's telephone system has more than doubled. More than twice as many calls are being made. That amazing growth continues. Michigan Bell is adding more lines and equipment to meet your needs for more and better telephone service.



A 45-FOOT telephone pole being hoisted near Vinewood and Woodward. Michigan Bell spent \$4,300,000 to expand and improve your service in the past seven years, is spending \$790,000 more this year.



INTRICATE switching equipment is needed to connect your telephone with any other telephone as you wish and to expand your direct dialing to other communities.

ONE OF SIX aisles of intricate equipment used to switch your calls is pictured, right. Men often work on ladders. Note the worker silhouetted, rear.

## Partners In Service

For 75 years, The Birmingham Eccentric has served the people of this community . . . through printed words.

For most of those years, the telephone has served Birmingham . . . transmitting spoken words.

As partners in service, The Eccentric and Michigan Bell continue to keep pace with the growth and development of Birmingham.

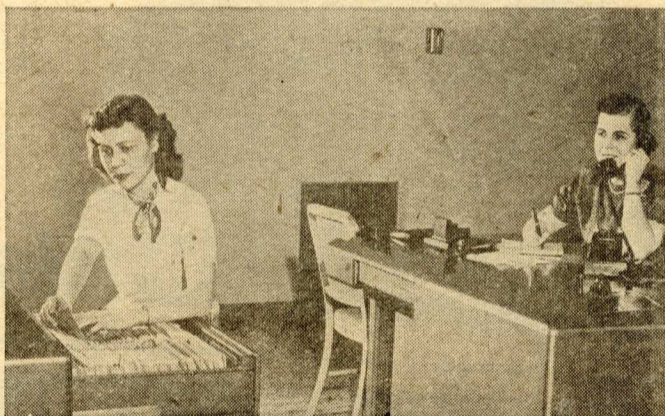
Telephone people bring you friendly, courteous, dependable service.

In addition to 65 employees who work here, many other telephone people who work elsewhere choose to live here. They spend much of their pay locally. They are good neighbors and good citizens.

Continuing improvements and expansions make your own telephone service more valuable and a bigger bargain than ever before.

Every telephone added makes your own service more valuable—for you can call more people and more can call you.

By dialing direct you are able now to reach 25 other communities with 1,200,000 tele-



TELEPHONE calls to us about your service are switched to the one particular girl, out of eight, who has your service records in her desk.

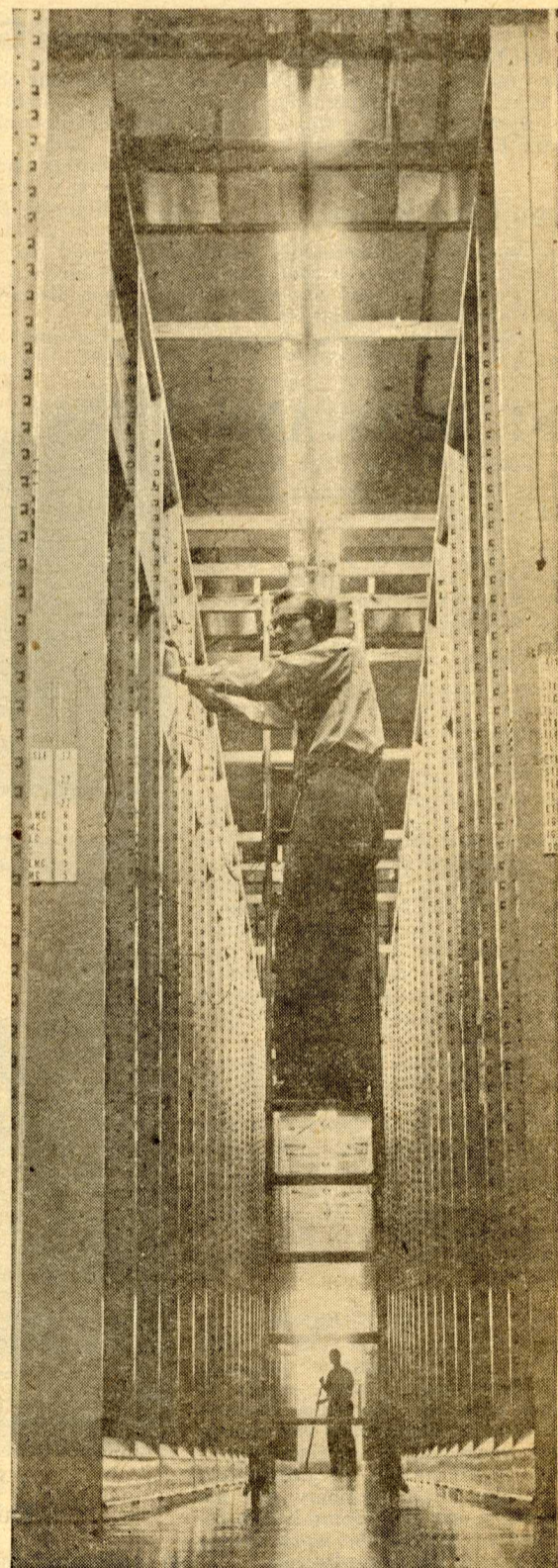
phones. This fast, direct dialing of out-of-town calls will be expanded considerably.

To keep pace with Birmingham's growing needs, Michigan Bell spent \$4,300,000 in the last seven years, and plans to spend \$790,000 this year.

*Money for telephone expansion and improvement has to come from people willing to invest their savings in the telephone business.*

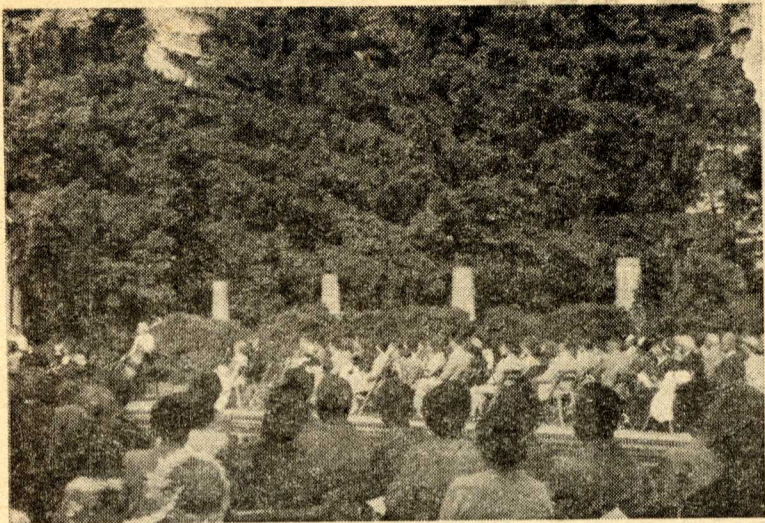
To attract investment dollars, the telephone business must pay a fair return for the use of that money.

It's good for you and your town to have Michigan Bell make a fair profit.



**MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY**





GREEK THEATER PROVIDES NATURAL SETTING  
Over 400 persons have joined Cranbrook Music Guild.

## Music Guild Makes Use Of Cranbrook Settings

The Cranbrook Music Guild, formally organized February 11, 1952, was the result of a full year of painstaking planning on the part of a small group living in the Cranbrook area which visualized the benefits to the community by the formation of such an organization.

For the earliest beginnings of the guild, one must go back to a supper party early in 1951 at the home of Mrs. David Ballentine, now Mrs. John Coulter.

Among the musicians present was Dr. Maurice Garabrant who had come to Christ Church Cranbrook as organist and choir-master only a short time previously.

In discussing the annual Berkshire Music Festivals, Dr. Garabrant and Mrs. Benjamin Brewster agreed that the unusual beauty of the Cranbrook properties offered a similar setting, and presently the idea of a "miniature Tanglewood", to be created in the local area, began to take form.

SOME MONTHS later, Mrs. Brewster joined with Dr. Garabrant in working on a concert to be given at the Cranbrook Greek Theater.

Dr. Garabrant undertook the musical training of a suitable chorus and Mrs. Brewster began to gather a working committee to raise the necessary funds and to handle the many details of staging the affair.

Mrs. Brewster was named chairman; W. A. Andraea, treasurer; and Mrs. Tilton and H. S. Booth, advisors.

This group comprised the central committee that shaped the plans for the first Cranbrook Festival Concert at the Greek Theater on June 10, 1951. The Cranbrook Festival Chorus and the Christ Church Cranbrook Choir performed, supported by six members of the Detroit Symphony. Robert Bates accompanied and Dr. Garabrant conducted.

The success of the concert gave rise to the hope for a sustained effort to bring fine music to the area.

SINCE THE initial venture appealed to many music-lovers in the area, the original patrons and patronesses were termed 'charter members', and in the fall of 1951 the Cranbrook Music Guild was formed by members of the June committee at the instigation of advisor Henry S. Booth.

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Brewster the augmented committee shaped, planned and proposed, the draft of what finally became the constitution and by-laws of the Cranbrook Music Guild, which were finally adopted at a February 11, 1952, dinner at the home of the Graham John Grahams.

THE FRAMEWORK of the newly created guild made possible the presentation of programs of high musical caliber within the unique settings of Cranbrook. Henry S. Booth's interest and support, the constitutional clause that assures a Cranbrook Foundation representative on the board of directors of the Guild, plus the contributive character of the Guild, have combined to provide entree to Cranbrook House, the Greek Theater and the Cranbrook School auditorium as concert settings.

The Guild attempts to discharge its debt to the Foundation for these facilities by scheduling several concerts a year to which are invited all members of the Foundation

family, the schools, the art academy and Foundation personnel.

WITH A FULL concert series to its credit, the young Guild is now completing its first full year of activity, during which it has attained a membership of over four hundred, and financed eight concerts, offering an extensive range of professional talent.

The Guild aims to present youthful talent, talented local musicians, to program newly-composed music, to vary the concert series by offering unique musical programs not to be found on the large concert stage, and to combine several of the arts.

The fourteen board members meet monthly to consider policy, finance, musical programming, membership, publications and publicity. Current president, Mrs. Benjamin Brewster, is assisted by LeRoy W. Dahlberg, vice-president.

The Cranbrook Music Guild is not a 'closed corporation'. Membership however, is limited to persons having a true love of the musical arts.

## Community Assn. Grows Out of 'Brotherhood Club'

The Franklin Community Association was organized in 1937 by a group of men whose idea it was to found a "brotherhood club" in conjunction with the Franklin Community Church.

Early gatherings were held at the home of James Bowden, and the group continued to function in an informal manner for several years.

However, the rapid growth of the community along with pressing civic and social problems caused the transition of the organization into a civic-minded community association, through whose medium property owners were able to express their social and political needs.

A constitution was drafted and the present Community Association was created under the leadership of Walter Ladendorff, first president.

COMMUNITY problems were tackled at the monthly meetings held at the present Community Hall purchased by the association. In 1952, under president Harry Rot-tiers, the membership set up a schedule of yearly business meetings and monthly social and civic programs.

Typical events sponsored by the association during the past year include attendance at a Detroit Lions football game, a President's Ball, square dance, men's smoker night, and a children's Halloween party. Scheduled for the summer months is a "Cheyenne Roundup".

Membership has reached an all-time high of 210 men, dedicated to the proposition of "Making Franklin a Better Place in Which To Live."

# THE CLYDE E. HORNING HOBBY



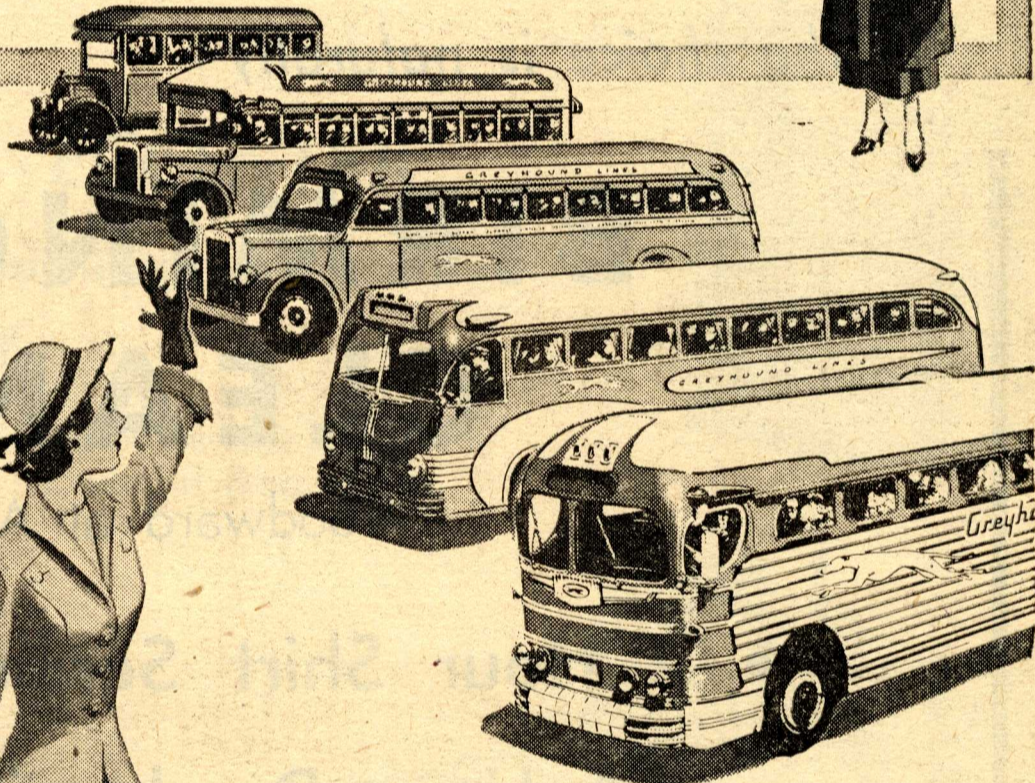
• BETTER SHOES  
• BETTER FITTING  
for all children

## CLYDE E. HORNING

FISHER BLDG. DETROIT 245 PIERCE, BIRMINGHAM

## GREYHOUND'S

*Parade of Progress*



*... Moves Ahead!*

Sometimes, particularly at anniversary time, it's good to glance back—in order to look ahead more confidently.

A parade of the buses used by Greyhound in serving America during the past 39 years points with convincing promise to the future. Greyhound's progress has been amazingly rapid. Coaches have become progressively more comfortable. Service is better. New terminals and station facilities have been built.

And today Greyhound is continuing to move forward more rapidly than ever before. Revolutionary new coaches are being engineered to Greyhound specifications by General Motors and will be on the highways this year. More convenient "through" and "express" schedules are being planned. Additional depots and post houses are being designed and will be building soon.

As in the past, Greyhound will continue to play a vital part in the development and growth of Birmingham. It will steadily contribute, more and more, to the business and social life of Michigan communities—bringing their trade and recreational centers within the reach of all Americans, and making the public highways available to all the people.

### GREYHOUND TERMINAL

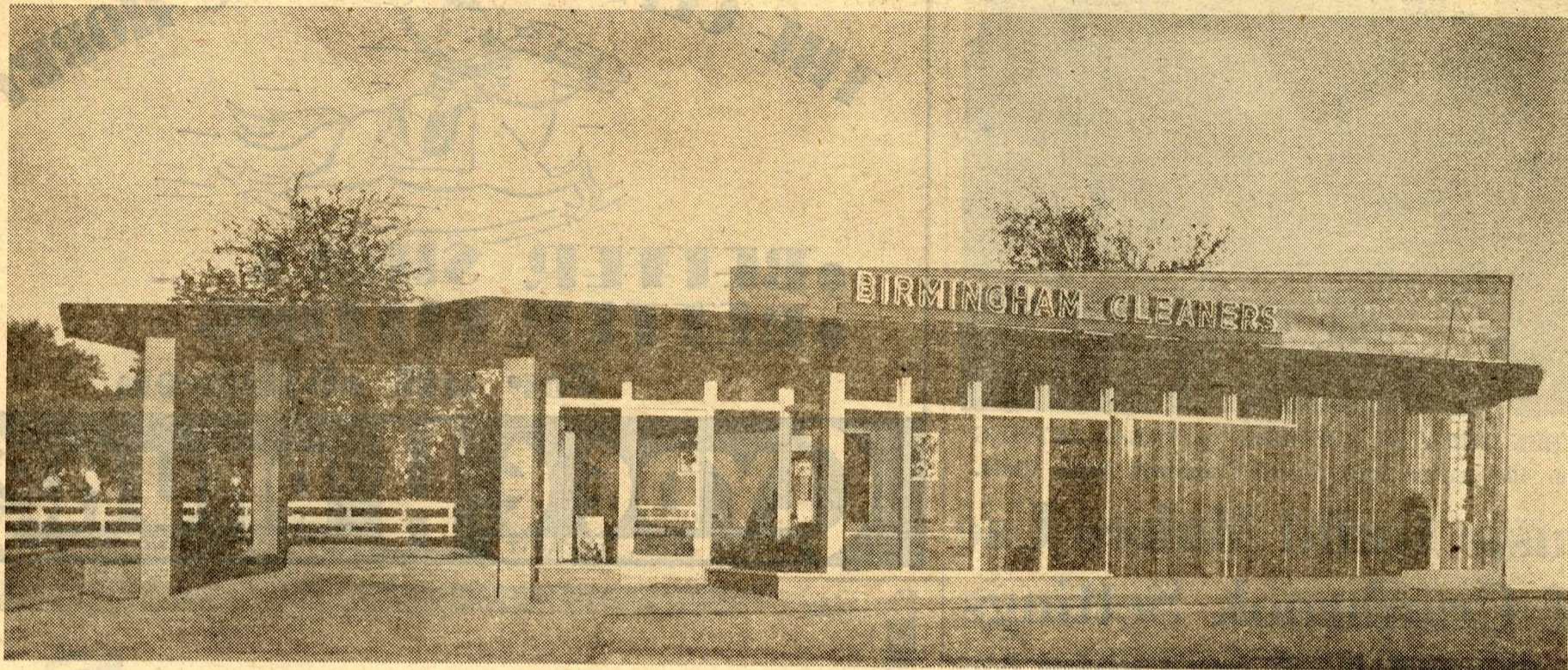
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- *all work is done in our  
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for 75 years—and a job  
well done, congratulations  
to The Birmingham Eccentric



## B'ham Community Council Now Is Inactive Group

In the fall of 1939, twenty Birmingham organizations were invited to meet together to share a program devoted to the study of city problems and the betterment of Birmingham.

Originators of the idea were members of the American Association of University Women, who felt that without some sort of system many efforts were being needlessly duplicated while problems went unsolved because there was no time to tackle them. From this first meeting came the Community Institute which, oddly enough, was swallowed by its "child" organization, the Birmingham Community Council.

THE INSTITUTE was run on the principle of several small discussion groups which, meeting separately, would consider a number of projects. The several groups then would meet as a whole, making reports of their findings to the over-all membership.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Cleveland Walcutt, first Institute president, the organization devoted itself to problems of education, civic government, juvenile delinquency, religion and recreation for the city.

Members met four or five times a year at the Community House for discussions. Between meetings, committees were named to compile as much data as possible on the subjects under discussion.

FROM ITS inception, the Institute, or Council, has been made up of representatives of member organizations. The original 20 has increased to 45, showing the rapid expansion of the city during the past decade.

Through its programs, the group has brought many prominent speakers to Birmingham as it sought constantly to secure men and women experts on the subjects being considered.

It has broadened the scope of its programs to go beyond the limits of the city taking on items of state and national importance which had their reflections here.

Probably the greatest undertaking of the organization came in 1948 when the Community Council Institute devoted its time to show the importance of world trade to Birmingham people.

AT THAT TIME the group not only prepared a program of several outstanding speakers, but also arranged for one edition of The Birmingham Eccentric to be keyed as the "World Trade Edition." Special articles and an advertising campaign brought out the part this comparatively small community has in the commercial and industrial life of the world.

During its lifetime the organization has used several methods of reaching people.

There have been day-time meetings, dinner meetings and evening programs. There have been discussion groups for an afternoon, followed by a dinner program. The method of contact has been varied in the Council's constant effort to meet all types of demands for such programs.

TODAY THE Community Council is inactive, due mainly to the heavy demands on the time of its various organizational representatives.

"There are no immediate actions underway and no definite plans for any," Mrs. Walcutt said recently. "However, the need for the Council does exist in Birmingham, and I firmly believe that it will become active again. I also believe that when it does, it will be a bigger and stronger organization than it was before."

### Roadoiling Programs Date Back to 1912

Birmingham's streets and roads have long been under discussion or criticism as an item in The Birmingham Eccentric of 1912 proves. At that time an appeal was made to the president of the village "to please give our streets another dose of oil, especially on Woodward avenue."

On one September afternoon, it was stated, during a four-hour period, by actual count, "400 autos and 38 street cars passed over Woodward avenue, rolling up clouds of dust oil right."



EXCHANGE CLUB CHARTER MEMBERS gathered shortly after the club's formation in 1924 for this photo. From left to right, front row, are Dr. Otto O. Beck, Cleve Moore, James Wooster\*, Ralph Moulthrop, Luther Allen\*. Second row—Frank Schlaack\*, E. W. Osborne, Ralph A. Wilson, Charles Bingham\*, James Hassberger\*, Robert Moore. Third row—Robert Carson, Robert Chissus, Harry McBride, George Fields\*, Walter Stanley, James Taylor, James Briggs, Scott Hersey, Harry Starr\*. (\* Deceased.)

## 'Unity for Service' Aim of Exchangites

Founded on the general theme of "Unity for Service", the Birmingham Exchange club held its first formal meeting Feb. 18, 1924. The charter was presented to the club by the late Horatio (Good Roads) Earle on April 15 at a meeting held in the Birmingham Masonic Temple.

Founding records of the club show there were 11 charter members at the first meeting, with that number increased to 25 at the charter presentation. Three of those members, Dr. O. O. Beck, Ralph A. Wilson, and Robert Chissus still are active in the club and all have served as presidents of the organization.

Officers who guided the first year's affairs were C. A. Bingham, president; "Cy" Osborne, vice president; Ralph A. Wilson, secretary and James Hassberger, treasurer.

Early club records have been lost or destroyed. However, all are aware that, through the years, the "Unity for Service" theme has been followed closely.

THE CLUB is made up of business and professional men who are serious in living up to the standards state and national organizations of which they are a part.

They meet weekly at the Birmingham Community House for an exchange of ideas, methods, information and business courtesies. They keep in mind how these meet-

ings can be of assistance to their own membership and thus to the community as a whole.

Exchange club members are proud of the work they do in their communities and subsequently larger areas.

In Birmingham these men are deeply concerned about their own town, its welfare, and its position in the county and state. What they consider good for Birmingham or any large cross-section of its residents, they will support and work for to the best of their ability.

AN OFFICER of the club was once heard to remark, "There isn't much news to print about the Exchange club. We feel that many of the things we do should be done quietly and without fanfare."

"Surely, no man should go about shouting that he just helped someone who was temporarily down and out. Nor should we as a club do that."

"When we find a case of need we give our help in any way possible. There is no call for publicity on such things. What we do is be-

tween us and the person or persons we are able to help."

With this code there are many, many acts of kindness which have gone out from the Birmingham Exchangites which never have and never will become public. They have, though, extended a helping hand to area persons and families in need and because of it, the club enjoys a place of high esteem among many who have no affiliation with it.

AMONG THE things which have been publicized was the dental clinic the club organized and supported here about 1934.

Knowing that dental care was needed by many local children whose parents had suffered depression hardship, the Exchange sought a means to help them.

They enlisted the services of local dentists, after the need for this work had been established. Through the cooperation of the school board, a clinical office was established in Barnum junior high school.

Funds to maintain the project were raised through donations of club members and other residents, and a program presented by the Orpheus club. Hundreds of Birmingham school children were able to receive much-needed dental care through this Exchange club program.

A SECOND publicized project of the club was the contribution of \$500 toward the construction costs of the new Pierce fieldhouse.

They also have been active supporters of the Birmingham YMCA, helping in its membership and fund raising campaigns and aiding in many ways when the new Y home was built.

The Community House, where their weekly luncheon meetings are held, has also been materially assisted by Exchange club contributions during the annual Roll Call.

Since 1947 the club has sponsored the "Junior Exchange" club members—two Birmingham high school boys who are guests at the weekly meetings and luncheons. Two new boys are selected each month.

THEY ALSO sponsor two Birmingham boys' attendance at Boys State in Lansing each summer, where the basic principles of state government are taught by actual participation in governmental programs.

For many years the National Exchange club has held a deep interest in the affairs of boys interested in model airplanes. The Birmingham club has joined others in the state in sponsoring a model plane

## Local PEO Sisterhood Comprises Four Units

The PEO Sisterhood, founded in 1869 as a sorority in Mt. Pleasant, Ia., is comparatively new in Birmingham. The first Birmingham chapter, AX, was chartered in 1942 with fourteen members. There are now four local units, AX, BQ, CF, and CG, with a combined membership of over a hundred.

Mrs. E. H. Fletcher, now a resident of Santa Barbara, Calif., was the first president of AX. Current presidents of the four local chapters are Mrs. V. B. Watkins of Henley drive, AX; Mrs. Carleton H. Isley of Stanley boulevard, BQ; Mrs. Phillipp Satterthwaite of Yorkshire road, CF; and Mrs. Ben Lancashire of Kennesaw avenue, CG.

PEO, a philanthropic, educational organization, endeavors to promote higher education among women. Toward this end the national organization maintains an educational loan fund of over \$800,000, and an international peace scholarship fund which is

given to foreign students to study here and return to their native lands equipped to spread ideals of the democratic way of life.

The organization owns an accredited junior college in Nevada, Mo., and has an accredited representative at the United Nations. A monthly magazine is sent to members in 27 countries. Over a 100,000 members are working constantly with the handicapped and distressed.

MEMBERS in the Birmingham area currently are working at the Kenny Polio Center, and support a scholarship fund on which a local girl is completing her senior year at the University of Michigan.

At the recent state convention in Detroit, Mrs. Loren M. Jenks of chapter AX was elected to serve as state treasurer on the board which represents the over 2000 PEO members in Michigan.



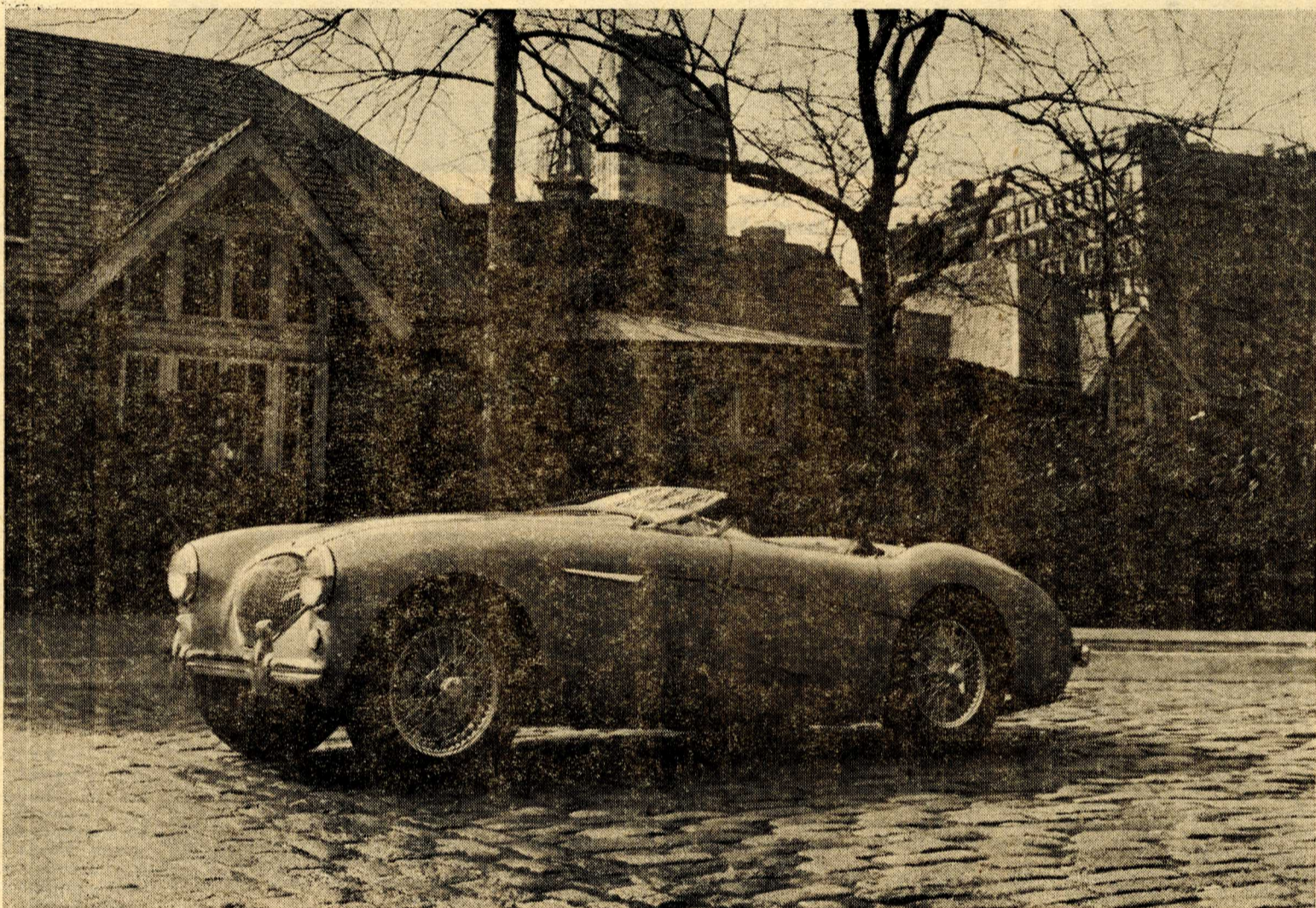
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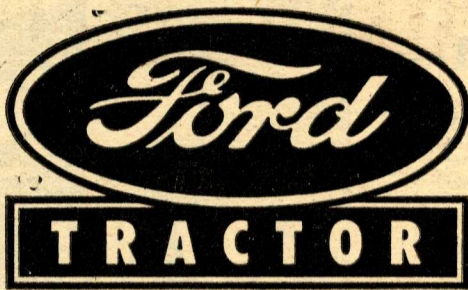
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## What's in a name?

Three hundred and fifty years ago a man named William Shakespeare asked that now-famous question: "What's in a name?" And ever since then, manufacturers of a thousand and one different products have tried to answer it—to the *buying satisfaction* of their prospects.

Yes, since then billions of dollars have been spent in developing—merchandising—and advertising different products—to give them a name that would not only become a household word, but one that would also stand splendidly as an accepted symbol of *lasting value*.

Some few products have attained that high place in the business hall of fame.

That's partly the reason the franchise held by Ford Tractor and Dearborn Farm Equipment is so valuable. And if ever a name came out of business to become a symbol of value to every walk of life, that name is *Ford*. For over three generations it has held the confidence of the American people—and particularly the American farmer. By itself—without further identification or explanation—it paints a vivid picture of lasting value.

Now, how did this come about? Well, the *obvious* reason is manufacturing genius—and that's something to think about in terms of the tractor you sell. For the same materials—the same engineering skill—the same production know-how—the same precision standards go into the building of all the world-renowned Ford products.

For all, the symbol of value is the same: the name "Ford." And the name "Dearborn" on the diamond farm equipment emblem is the trademark of Dearborn Motors, the national marketing organization for the Ford Tractor and Dearborn Farm Equipment. It is the major objective of Dearborn Motors to offer farm equipment built especially for use with the Ford Tractor.

If any products were ever designed to answer William Shakespeare's age-old question to the buying satisfaction of prospects, they are the products marked by the oval and the diamond—the products whose names are *accepted* as symbols of value.

## DEARBORN MOTORS CORPORATION

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

National Marketing Organization for the Ford Tractor and Dearborn Farm Equipment





# Altrusa Club Attracts City's Business Women

Altrusa International is the oldest service club for women in the United States—but it wasn't until 1952 that a local chapter was organized in Birmingham.

Taking its name from word "altruism", the first Altrusa Club was organized in Nashville, Tenn., in 1917, preceding woman suffrage by two years.

Altrusa became international in 1935. Chicago is the head office of the 359 clubs across the United States, Canada and Mexico.

The Birmingham club received its charter and dedicated itself to community service at a dinner at the Birmingham Community House on March 24, 1952.

VELMA ISLEY was named first president, with Muriel Brusie, vice-president; Ruth Graff, recording secretary; Gladys Etzold, corresponding secretary; and Edith Crandall Peck, treasurer.

Board members are the Misses Jeanne Lloyd, Helen Hartman and Marion Goodale.

Other charter members are Helene Chaput, Barbara Martin, Myrl Oehm, Elizabeth Thomas, Louise Pratt, Jeannette Deaver, Ruth Haigh and Gloria McCasin.

Business and professional women are eligible for membership and the Birmingham roster which began at 15 is rapidly growing.

THE LOCAL unit joins in the national program of "consideration and devotion toward the interests of others", with vocational guidance the principal service activity.

The Birmingham club participates in the national organization's "grants-in-Aid-fund" which contributes to the support of Latin American women doing graduate work in the United States and Canada.

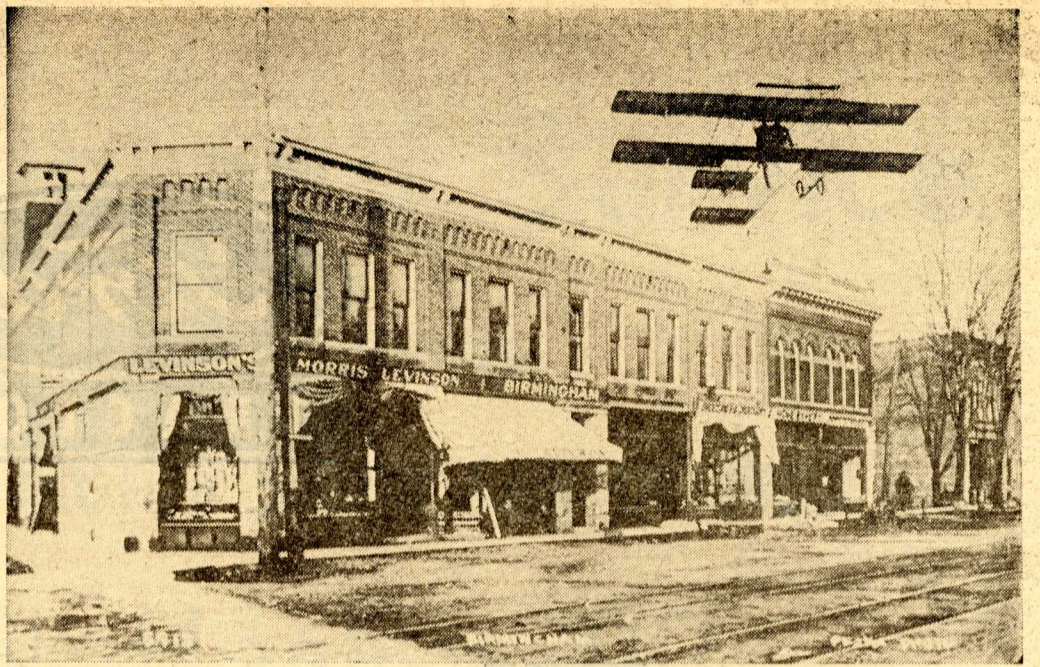
Another local project is supplying transportation for the Senior Activities Group at the Community House.

## Lent His Assistance

Through the kindness and assistance of Hugh Irving, local hardware dealer, the Ladies Library Association in 1881 was able to complete its arrangements for the addition on the old Library Hall which once stood on the corner of Merrill and Bates streets. The addition was 16 x 25 feet, and was paid for by money raised from plays, parties and other entertainments.

## Voters' Choices

Alanson Partridge and John Boline were re-elected to the school board, July 1880.



WHY THAT ANCIENT AIRPLANE is in this photo we can't figure out, other than perhaps it was superimposed to lend a "modern" aspect to this view of the northwest corner of Woodward and Maple back in about 1910. Morris Levinson established his "Birmingham Department Store" on this corner in 1897 after opening his business first on E. Maple, about where the B'ham Chamber of Commerce is now. Levinson remained in this location until 1916 when he moved to the west side of Woodward, midway between Maple and Merrill. The state savings bank had bought the corner. To the north of Levinson's store was a grocery, and a bakery. The building at the far right now is occupied by the Huston Hardware Co.

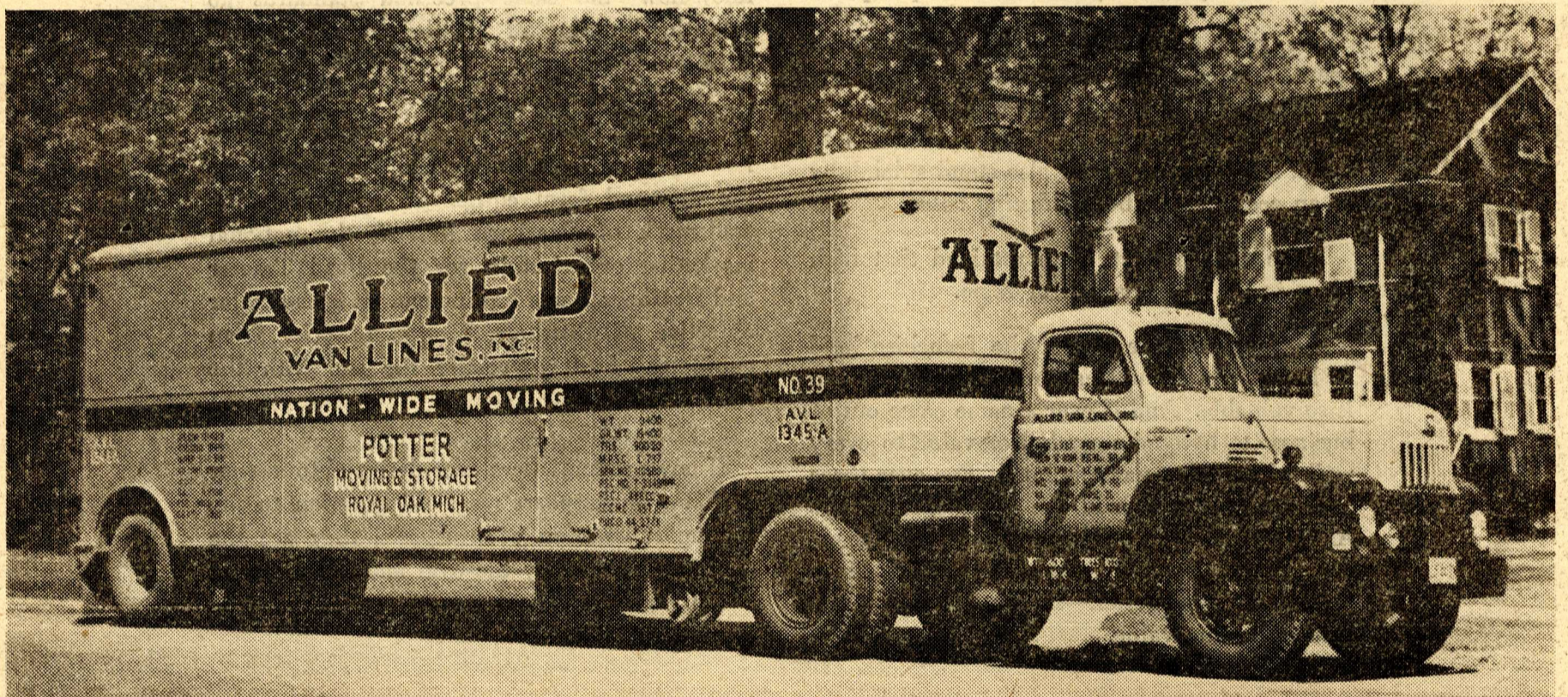
## 'I Remember,'

Recalls W. Knox Poppleton, 1389 Pilgrim, "The popcorn stand that stood by the northwest corner of Woodward and Maple. One Fourth of July someone dropped a giant

fire cracker in it—popcorn all over the place! The popcorn stand was run by a man named Frank Sherman that we used to call "Corney"—short for popcorn.

Recalls W. Knox Poppleton, 1389 Pilgrim, "Dandy Hoffman who

worked in O'Neal's Harness shop. He had a bay race horse that was very good and used to run in county and the state fair races. Dandy's father was Charlie Hoffman, whom I believe, although I am not sure, was a printer who worked in Detroit on the old Detroit Tribune."



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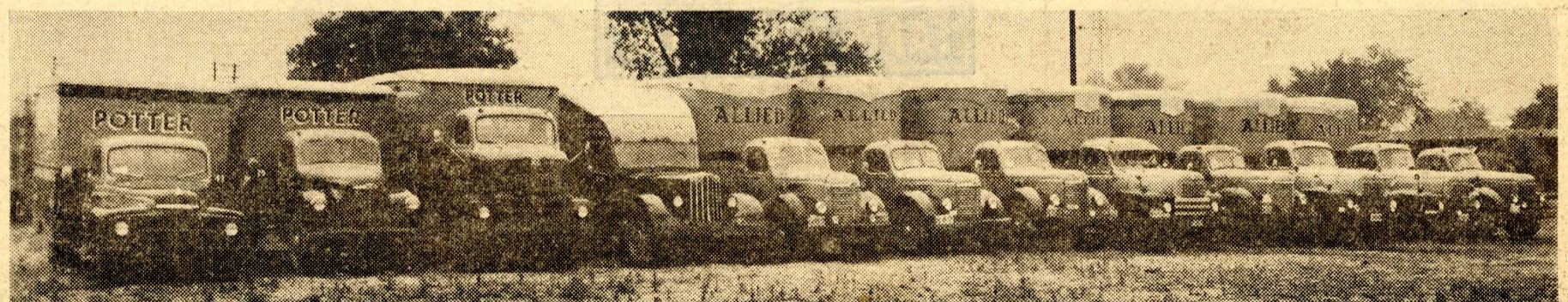
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## Men Find Musical Outlet in Chorus

The Birmingham Male Chorus, first called the Birmingham Men's Glee Club, was organized in 1936 with A. Shanley Rosso the first director.

The chorus was formed to give area men an opportunity to meet together once a week and sing sacred and secular numbers.

Interest held the group together until the earliest years of World War II when the national emergency took too many men from the chorus and its activities were suspended.

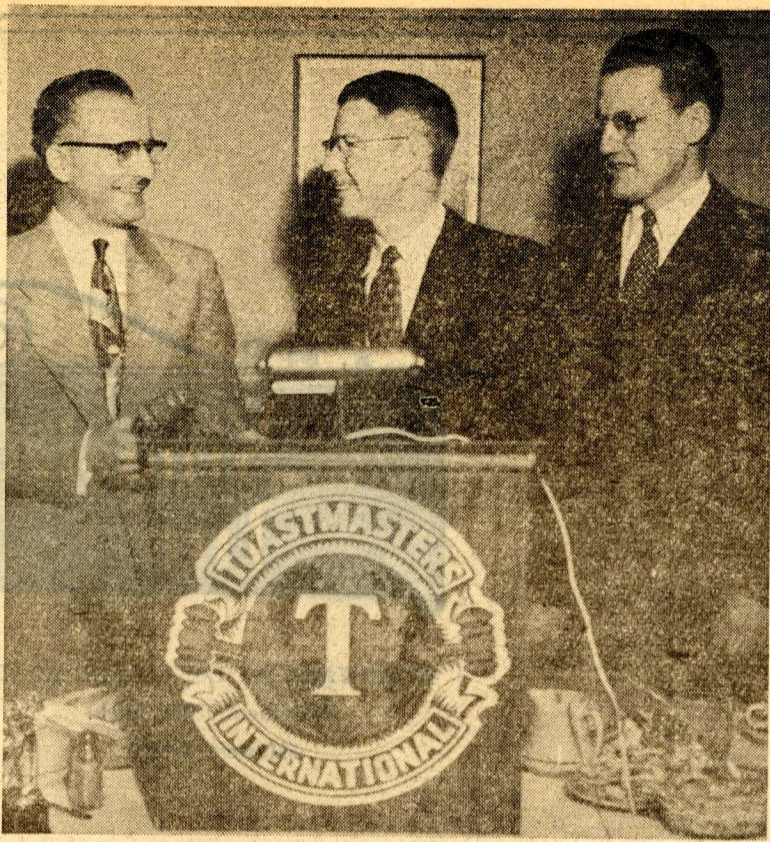
In 1946 the chorus was reorganized with George Thurman as president. Rosso again acting as director.

Otto Brown, Ferndale board of education musical instructor, was hired to direct the group in 1949. Over the years the chorus ranged from 30-50 voices.

The group gives two concerts a year and also performs for other groups and hospitals during the Christmas holidays.

## 'I Remember.'

Says W. Knox Poppleton, 1389 Pilgrim, "Mattie Baldwin. She was short and thick set and when she walked, she toed in like an Indian. Mattie was an old maid and she had very definite ideas, but I have to give her credit—she did a lot for this town. She was a very public spirited woman. Jack Baldwin was her brother. Mattie Baldwin lived on West Maple across from where Baldwin school now is located.



**THE BIRMINGHAM TOASTMASTERS CLUB**, organized here on July 19, 1951, has the sole aim of helping business men gain confidence and become effective speakers before business and social organizations. The club's first president was James Ford and the first roster listed 28 members. Other officers of the club during its first year were Richard Bailey and Russell Haeger. The organization meets weekly on Tuesday evenings in the Birmingham YMCA building. Present president is Robert McKenzie. Pictured here in a recent speech elimination held by the club are (left to right), A. John Nelli, McKenzie and John J. Arbour.

## Peace, Freedom League Interests B'ham Women

Founded in 1915 at The Hague by Jane Addams and a group of internationally minded women, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is an international and inter-racial organization "whose aim is to establish by democratic non-violent methods those political, economic and psychological conditions both at home and abroad which will assure the inherent rights of man and bring peace among nations."

The only two American women to have received the Nobel Peace award were each an international president of the League, Jane Addams who served a twenty-year term, and Emily Greene Balch, current honorary international president who spoke at the Birmingham Community House in 1941 at a state meeting of the Women's International League.

AT THE time the Oakland County branch of the League was organized 30 years ago, most of the members were from Pontiac with Mrs. A. H. Crowell of Pontiac serving as president.

Local members included Mrs. W. Nelson Whittemore, Mrs. John J. Gaffill, Mrs. J. N. Hadjisky, Mrs. George Hendrie, Mrs. T. W. Parker, Mrs. Alex Diack, and Mrs. Frederick Holt, who was one of the earliest national board members of the American section.

Mrs. Holt also was president of the Michigan branch and was one of those who went on the Ford Peace Ship.

THROUGH THE many years, as various WIL gatherings were held in Birmingham, the Hilltop Lane home of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Gaffill was opened on many occasions to members from Detroit and other Michigan branches.

Kathleen Lowrie, who for many years was Jane Addams' secretary at Hull House in Chicago, told Deborah Gaffill at one of these sessions that "If you ever decide to sell this place, let me know".

When the Gaffills decided to move to smaller quarters in 1950 they remembered Mrs. Lowrie's interest in their hilltop home and 1953 finds Dr. and Mrs. Lowrie residents of Hilltop lane and Mrs. Lowrie an active member of the Oakland branch of the WIL.

OTHER CURRENT Birmingham members are the Mesdames Paul Baker, Harold Chalk, Wallace Frost, John Gaffill, J. N. Hadjisky, George Hendrie, A. D. McLay, John Ormond, Roy Reuther, Lynn Russell, T. S. Parker, Glen C. Mellinger, Arthur Raisch, Harry J. Wood, Caroline Burlingame and Dotti Thurman Button.

Meetings are held twice monthly. Mrs. Otto Enoch is the 1953 president.

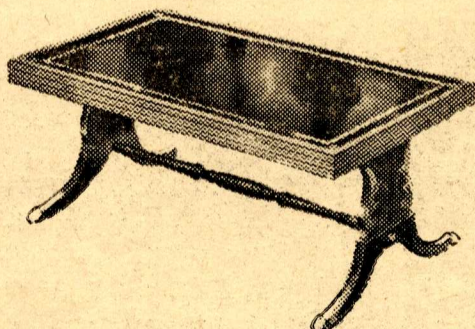
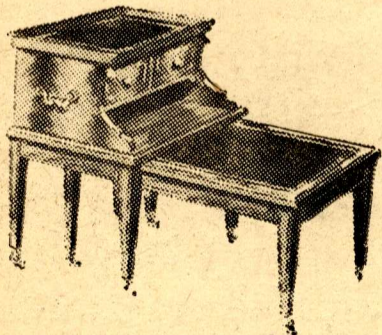
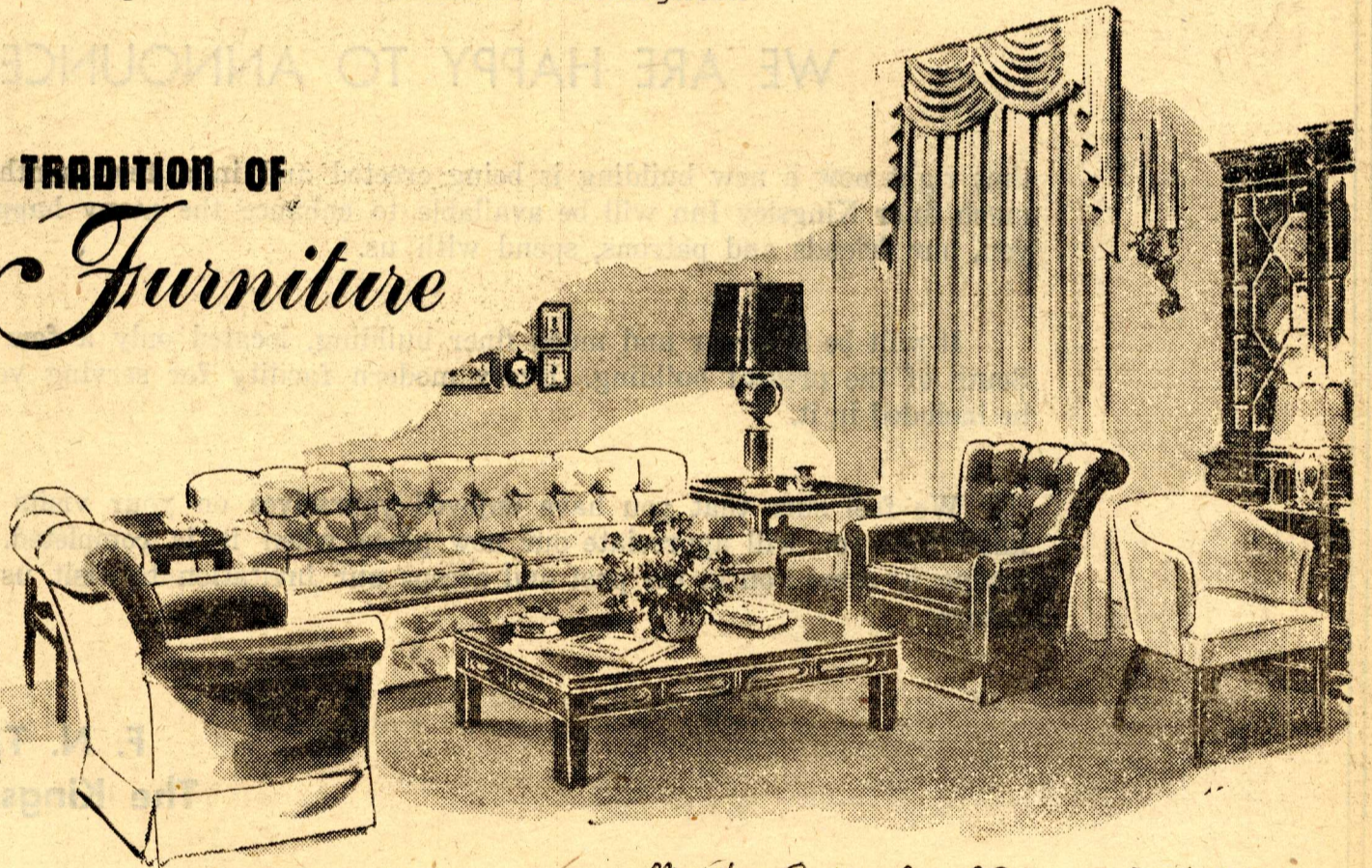
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# The Kingsley Inn

is another of the many institutions of the Birmingham - Bloomfield area that has been around long enough to become established as a real oldtimer.

Growing in public esteem for many years, we have reached the time when our present building and facilities have become inadequate.

## WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE

that right now a new building is being erected and in a few months a new and much finer Kingsley Inn will be available to enhance the many happy hours that you, our friends and patrons, spend with us.

It will be a larger and much finer building, located only a few hundred feet South of the present building. Every modern facility for serving you better will be included in it.

We feel sure that you have enjoyed yourselves on your visits here and we know that you will appreciate our new place when it is completed. Thanks for letting us serve you in the past and accept our invitation to visit us often in the future.

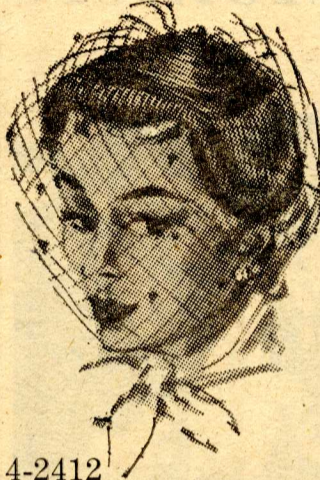
**F. N. TAKIS**  
**The Kingsley Inn**



# Pretty Fashion Habit...



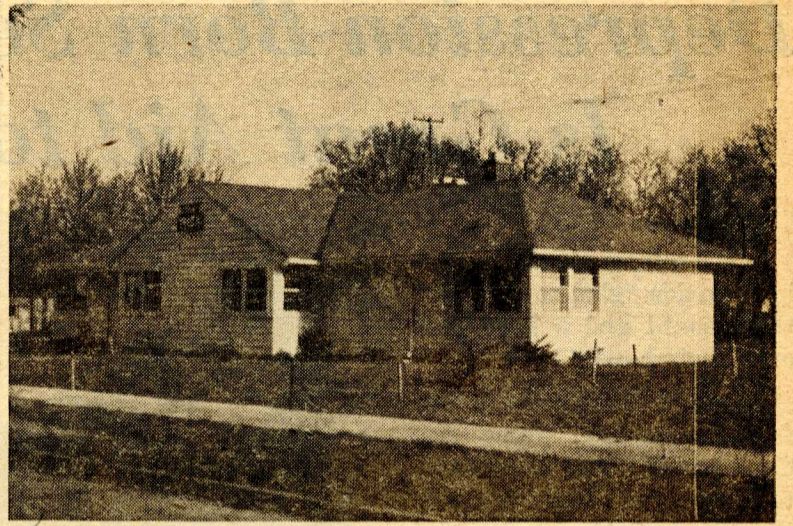
So much to see, so much to choose from. Select a bright new hat for the coming season, from a wealth of colors and materials at



## NAN'S HAT SHOPPE

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RANCH HOUSE IS TEMPORARY 'Y' QUARTERS  
Permanent 'home' now is in planning stage.

## Local Men Provided Nucleus of County 'Y'

Birmingham has the distinction of providing the nucleus around which the Oakland County organization of the present YMCA was built.

Back in 1912 several men in Birmingham met and subscribed funds with which to hire a secretary for a Young Men's Christian Association to be formed "among the boys of the schools." Some of the original committee were George Brady, Charles R. Peck, Rev. F. F. Kraft, and John Hanna.

At the same time groups of boys were meeting and setting up organizations in the various schools and out of these original groups have since been recruited many of the men who took leadership in the YMCA development.

First secretary was Martin Verburt who served for five years. He was succeeded by Walter Turpening for one year and George Kimball followed.

The late Robert "Bob" Lynd was next, and he took over the Birmingham territory—exclusively in 1927.

Lynd first came into the work of the YMCA shortly after World War I as an assistant to George Kimball when the work became too great for one man. For two years, Lynd and Kimball worked together in Birmingham; and in 1920, Kimball took over the secretaryship of the "Town and Country" in the northwestern part of the county.

FIVE YEARS later, an industrial secretary was established in Pontiac, Royal Oak and Bloomfield Townships were then left under Lynd's direction until 1927 when the membership grew so large it was decided to divide the groups. George Carhart of Pontiac, long experienced in the YMCA, was appointed to take office in Royal Oak. On October 18, 1920, the Birmingham YMCA was organized with the late Charles Shain as its president.

In 1930 the "Y" was incorporated as a non-profit organization with G. A. Ziegler as president.

THE YMCA has been a community-centered operation almost entirely since its origin in Birmingham, utilizing available facilities for its program. There was an exception in 1930 when the organization leased the St. James Episcopal building after the Community House moved to its present quarters.

However, after three years, the depression plus the wish of the city to use the property caused the "Y" to withdraw from the building and accept the invitation of the Community House board to a space in the basement of its building, where the "Y" remained until 1945.

The program of the YMCA remained dormant from the fall of 1945 until October 1946 when the local committee approached the Detroit YMCA and asked it to establish a Birmingham branch.

THE BIRMINGHAM YMCA as a non-profit organization in the state of Michigan was dissolved and all of the assets and liabilities were taken over by the provisional committee of the new Birmingham Branch of the Detroit YMCA under the chairmanship of Dr. John K. Ormond.

In November 1946, Edwin F. Kirbert became executive secretary. He was formerly program director at Northeastern Branch in Detroit. Offices were established on the

second floor of the Community House for an interim period.

In February 1947, the "Y" moved to offices at 139 West Maple above LaBelle's store. A reorganization of membership rolls and activities took place and the "Y" finished its provisional period with 547 members and 22 club groups.

IN 1948, Y. C. Smith succeeded Dr. Ormond as chairman of the Birmingham branch and guided it in its expansion program which saw many club groups formed and a summer program established.

The "Y" moved to the Quarton Building on W. Maple—almost across the street from its previous location—in the summer of 1949 and continued to expand in membership and program with a total of 106 different groups enrolling 1,579 people. In 1950, due to lack of space and equipment, the "Y" dropped to 86 groups but had 1,606 people enrolled in its activities.

A permanent building site, 240 x 278 feet, on Lincoln bordered by Floyd, St. James Park and Edgewood was purchased.

Harold M. Kalbfleisch succeeded Young C. Smith as chairman of the committee of management at the end of 1950 at which time the "Y" had a membership of 1,923.

IN 1951 a committee approached the North Woodward Builder's Association and asked it to build a frame building as a headquarters for the local YMCA. This it accepted to do with the help of its sub-contractors and suppliers.

On June 15, 1952, the ranch type building, 30 x 70 feet was dedicated and the keys turned over to the board of directors of the Detroit YMCA.

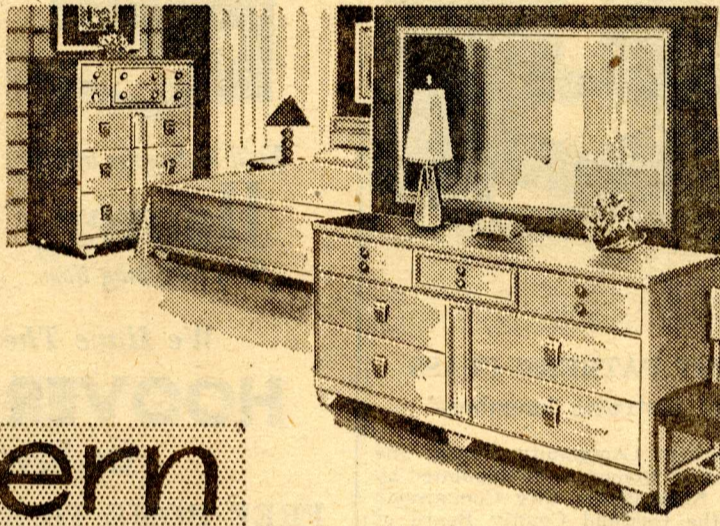
Celebrating 100 years of service, the YMCA in the greater Detroit area had a notable year in 1952 in which the local branch enrolled the highest number of members in its history—1468—in March. It closed its year with 1,379 members who found social outlets, religious values, mental stimulation and physical activity in 132 groups.

THE "Y" has continued to expand its facilities with the erection of a 20x20 garage which will be used for craft classes when completed.

Present members of the Committee of Management include Harold M. Kalbfleisch, chairman; William C. Gordon, vice chairman; Thomas Ward, Webster Owen, Everett W. Allen, Ross Wagner, Mrs. Harvey B. Greene, Colin Campbell, Thomas W. Kimmerly, The Rev. Emil Kontz, William E. Roberts, Wayne Stettbacher, Charles Thurston, Frank Hardy, Wayne Mortimer, Mrs. Leslie Schaefer, Dr. Sam Bruni, Malcolm T. Murray.

Carl J. Nepper, Arthur F. Blakeslee, A. John Nelli, The Rev. Robert E. Graham, James P. Baldwin, Jr., Cecil Nickel, Ralph T. Cowan, William Basse, Nicholas Martin, Jr., John Slater and Young C. Smith.

17 Years  
At This  
Location



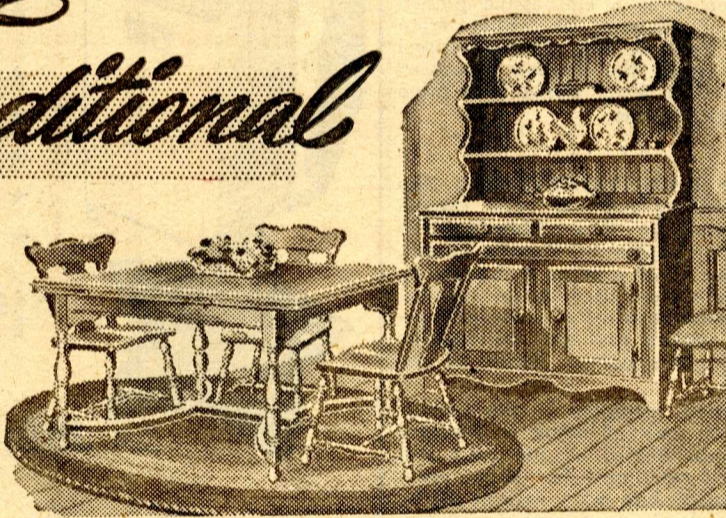
# Modern

Stimulating freshness, designed for practicality, these best describe modern furniture. From formal simplicity to eye catching combinations of curves and planes, there is beauty and durability in every piece. Here you will find an exciting array of bedroom, dining room and living room suites styled in most tasteful modern by leading manufacturers—and as usual at the lowest possible prices.

OR

# Traditional

Quiet dignity is the hallmark of traditional. An air of welcome and friendliness surrounds these tried and accepted designs. A home furnished in traditional will ever be in good taste. Here you will discover a tasteful selection of traditional patterns for bedroom, dining room, and living room furniture, both suites and occasional pieces by most of the nationally known makers of quality furniture. Our prices prove that "Every Day is Sale Day" at Har-Trom Hi-Way Furniture Mart.



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# Depression-Born Service Is Great Aid to Mothers

Remember 1934?

Apple selling—bread lines—housemaids “glad to work for their board and a good roof over their heads”?

Along with others in our fair community, Hope and Cyril Lewis found it desirable to recoup the family fortunes through individual enterprise in that year of depression.

Diaper service was then an unknown quantity in this area. Readers of Fortune Magazine had heard of this novel venture being established in Philadelphia.

The Lewises decided it was a fine idea, and set about providing such a service for a somewhat less than enthusiastic public in the Detroit area.

The combination of a degree in engineering from the male side of the Lewis family with a teacher's diploma from the distaff member assured at least an academic approach to the problem, of establishing a scientifically sound method of providing soft, snowy, sterilized diapers on a rental basis for home use.

IT IS THE proud boast of Dy-Dee Wash, Inc., the firm established by the Lewises, that the best copy writer in the United States gave him all for the original descriptive brochure.

W. A. P. John, well known to all of Birmingham as the “John” of MacManus, John and Adams, was so enthusiastic about this project of the Lewises that his sister-in-law's 1934 anniversary party was thoroughly disorganized by a jam session in advertising ideas for the promotion of Dy-Dee Wash diaper service.

On the floor of the A. A. Clark's living room, W. A. P. dictated the deathless prose which announced to a waiting world that “Babies Belong to the Future—Washing Diapers at Home, to the Past.” “Dy-Dee Wash Offers Mothers:

“An adequate supply of clean, fresh, scientifically sterilized diapers, which will protect baby from infection, skin irritation and rashes.

“An economy in time, effort and money. Diaper washing at home takes hours of labor and quantities of hot water, to say nothing of soap, gas and electricity.

“Convenient deliveries, prompt and regular.

“Additional time for Baby.

“A luxury service at necessity cost.”

WE NOTE with nostalgia that the average service in those good old pre tax days, cost only \$1.35 per week. Today the same service costs \$2.45 per week; not too bad an increase compared with the overall increase in the cost of living.

TO A MOTOR-MINDED community like Birmingham, there was nothing incongruous in the appearance of the Lewis family at all local functions in the snappy little sedan delivery which was their first item in an ever growing fleet of diaper service trucks. The young sons of the family were entranced when a musical horn that played “Rock-a-bye-Baby” was added to the truck.

The gradual spread of the diaper service idea meant more trucks, more equipment and more diapers to be processed in the Detroit plant.

A national association of quality minded diaper service operators was organized in the late thirties to pool ideas and know-how. Dy-Dee Wash became a charter member, and its president, Cyril B. Lewis was soon elected to the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Diaper Services.

STANDARDS OF performance were evolved so that now a diaper service must meet rigid requirements in sanitation and bacteriological testing of diapers in order to remain a member of the National Institute.

Dy-Dee Wash is the only service



FIRM SPONSORS 'EXPECTANT FATHERS' CLASS  
Hope Lewis (sitting at right) instructs 'members'

in the Detroit area which has the right to display the seal of N.I.D.S. Dy-Dee Wash has always maintained high scores in the laboratory testing program and is very proud of its record.

IT WAS THE National Institute which dreamed up the “Expectant Fathers Club” which, in Detroit, is sponsored by Dy-Dee Wash.

A unique membership pin is awarded that forgotten man, the father-to-be. The certificate of membership says in part that a member of the E.F.C. is permitted to wear his Paternity Pin in recognition of his delicate condition and need for sympathy and understanding, and concludes an eight point platform with the statement that any E.F.C. member will be permitted to deduct 10% from the bill of any doctor who remarks, “I've never lost a father yet.”

An outgrowth of the E.F.C has been a continuing series of classes for expectant parents, called “Mother and Baby Care” given at Red Cross headquarters and taught by registered nurses. Dy-Dee Wash has sponsored these classes as a service to the community

THROUGH THE war years, Dy-Dee Wash was fortunate in being declared essential to the health and welfare of babies, so was able to make a real contribution to the war effort by relieving working mothers of an ever present duty.

In 1948 Mrs. Lewis was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Diaper Services and became the first woman to be elected national president of the diaper service association.

This is her latest in a long list of “firsts”. She was the first woman elected to the Birmingham Village Commission, the first woman to be executive director of the new Bir-

mingham Community House, and the first woman to be appointed by the Birmingham City Commission to the Oakland County Board of Supervisors.

DY-DEE WASH today, under the management of the same Birmingham residents, is supplying diapers to the homes of the entire metropolitan area of Detroit, including of course, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Pontiac.

In the first year's operation, Dy-Dee Wash didn't quite accomplish the goal of washing one million diapers. However, as the years have passed, impressive totals of diapers processed have been attained.

In 1952 for example, if the mind can visualize a clothesline pinned full of diapers stretching from New York to San Francisco and back again, the diapers processed at Dy-Dee Wash would have filled that clothesline.

AS A CONTRIBUTION to the magnificent political rally staged last year by Birmingham's prize winning League of Women Voters, Dy-Dee Wash entered a bi-partisan set of posters on a truck, selected its prettiest office girls for cheesecake appeal, and put the regular Birmingham driver, Eddie, at the wheel.

Eddie's progress in the parade was by way of being a personal triumph. Scores of his past and present customers for diaper service hailed him with delight as he drove slowly past with his “Candidates—see us for kissable babies” banner.

Dy-Dee Wash, Inc. is proud to be able to tell its story in the pages of the 75th Anniversary Number of The Birmingham Eccentric. Now in its twentieth year, this unique service is more than ever the service that keeps baby socially acceptable.

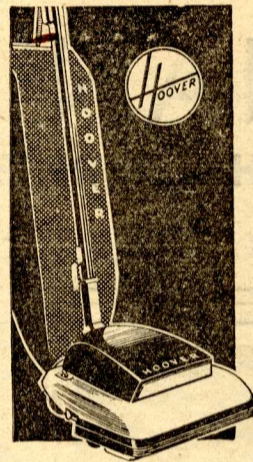


DY-DEE'S ENTRY IN 1952 POLITICAL RALLY  
Parade route familiar to firm's local driver

Some of the Other Nationally Advertised Products in Addition to **FRIGIDAIRE** that We are Proud to Offer

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World's most modern vacuum cleaner!



You'll be happier with a  
**Hoover**<sup>®</sup>  
for a long, long time



NO DUST BAG TO EMPTY

We Are the Exclusive Dealer for LEWYT in Birmingham  
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...the completely Automatic  
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FREE 5-Day Home Trial and Demonstration

- ★ World's Finest Automatic Dishwasher!
- ★ No Installation Cost whatsoever!
- ★ Largest Capacity of All Makes!
- ★ Lowest Price in the Entire Industry!
- ★ Fastest, Cleanest Washing Action!
- ★ Moves Anywhere—Room to Room, House to House!

**\$199<sup>95</sup> to \$269<sup>95</sup>**

Easy Monthly Payments

See **JAMES** Try **JAMES** Today!

★ ★ ★

- EUREKA Vacuum Cleaners
- GENERAL ELECTRIC Vacuum Cleaners—Steam Irons
- HOOVER Dustettes—Floor Polishers Steam Irons
- HOOVER Factory Rebuilt Cleaners
- REGINA Floor Polishers and Electric Brooms
- SUNBEAM Appliances
- TOASTMASTER Appliances
- AMERICAN FLYER Trains and Accessories
- THERMADOR Ranges and Oven Units
- GENEVA Kitchens
- AMANA Upright Freezers
- DISHMASTER
- GENERAL DETROIT Fire Extinguishers

## CRAIG APPLIANCES, Inc.

112 S. Woodward

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## Metropolitan Club Leader Is B'ham Fireman

The Birmingham chapter of the Metropolitan Club of America, Inc., was granted its charter on Nov. 9, 1939. The club has spirits, or chapters, in three states—Michigan, Ohio and Illinois. The Detroit chapter was chartered Dec. 7, 1912.

The Birmingham Metropolitan club now is headed by Stanley Pepperell of the Birmingham fire department.

Other officers include Stanley Church, also of the Birmingham fire department, vice-president; Chris Bailey of the Birmingham post office, recording secretary; Howard Foote of the fire department, financial secretary; Lyle Serre of the Birmingham police department, treasurer; and Dominic Vetrano of the Bloomfield Hills fire department, sergeant at arms.

ALVA RICHARDSON of the Bloomfield Hills police department, Charles Fredericks of the Birmingham post office and Robert Schaule of the Birmingham police department, are trustees.

The club meets on the second Monday of every month at the club rooms of the Royal Oak-Berkley Metropolitan Club, Spirit 22, in Berkley. There are 133 members.

The Metropolitan club is composed of policemen, firemen and mailmen. Its object is to increase the efficiency of the fire and police departments and of mail service, and to better the working conditions of the employees of these departments.

ANOTHER AIM is to promote social relations among the firemen, policemen and mailmen.

The club also strives to foster the spirit of charity and of athletics in the community.

## Association's Activities Aid Neighborhood

Walnut Lake Estates, Inc., is the association formed by the property owners of Subdivision 2 of the development between Inkster Rd. and Walnut Lake.

The organizational meeting was called Sept. 7, 1947, by Everett Hayes and Anthony Schultz, trustees of the Schultz estate, so that the lot owners could act together to maintain and improve the clubhouse and beach property set aside for their use.

First officers were John C. Gibson, president; John Hoffman, vice president; Frank A. Banyai, secretary; Mrs. Amos B. Caldwell, treasurer and Henry J. Heinzman, sergeant-at-arms.

IN THE FIRST years of the association's existence, members organized frequent neighborhood gatherings. Some were social, others were money-raising projects to provide funds for the many improvements made on the beach property and to the clubhouse.

Besides maintaining the clubhouse and beach, the association has been watchful to see that building restrictions are enforced within the subdivision, and has worked for better roads.

Until last year, when the cooperation of other groups was asked, the association organized, financed and supervised the annual Halloween party for children in the Walnut Lake area.

Present officers are James Roberts, president; Emmet Delaney, vice president; Mrs. James Sanborn, secretary; Gayle Chesterfield, treasurer, and Claybourne McClelland, sergeant-at-arms.

## Stamp Club Observes Its 15th Anniversary

The Birmingham Stamp Club celebrated its 15th anniversary in April, with a special program at the Community House, scene of the group's monthly meetings.

Appealing to a comparatively small group, the Stamp Club is not an organization which has taken any great part in civic affairs, but it has made its mark among other regional philatelists.

The Birmingham organization has held many affairs at the Community House, drawing young and old exhibitors from the entire area. In addition, its members have taken part in exhibits and exchanges in Ferndale, Royal Oak, Pontiac and Detroit.

## Desire to Control Park Results in Lot Owners Assn.

The Walnut Lake Lot Owner's association was organized in 1937, encouraged by Claude Whitmer.

Its purpose was to enable the property owners of Subdivision 1 of Walnut Lake Estates to undertake the care and control of their park at the lake.

The first president was Joseph McCormick. Serving with him as secretary-treasurer was Fred Beavis. Other early office holders were Amos Bertram and Thomas Kirby.

Although organized to care for the park, the association has worked to improve conditions throughout the neighborhood. It was instrumental in obtaining building restrictions and zoning laws.

MEMBERS HAVE worked with other organizations toward the improvement of Inkster and Walnut Lake roads, and the association has given its attention to the stocking of Walnut Lake with fish.

Present officers are Gordon Hemingway, president; Michael Opria, vice president; Donald Shank, secretary; Mrs. Fred Hamilton, corresponding secretary; Clayton La Motte, treasurer, and Don Brown, assistant treasurer.

## Garden Club

(Continued from Page One)

Home Magazine, was originated at that time.

Mrs. William McCallum, president from 1948-50, increased the club's interest in scholarships, the conservation school for teachers, and scholarships for rural women to Farm Women's Week at Michigan State College. A gift of \$100 was made to city for the planting of flowering crab apple trees at the approach to the new bridge on West Maple avenue.

THE TWO YEARS of Mrs. Derwood Gable's presidency may well be termed anniversaries, for in October of 1950 the branch marked its twentieth birthday with a presentation of its history, written and presented by Mrs. Lloyd Linton.

Among those on hand were charter members the Mesdames Draper Allen, W. Coit Allee, R. D. Baker, S. O. Wylie Bell, R. W. Chissus, Ralph I. Coryell, F. B. Etter, Robert Grindley, Herbert Gardner, Fred Keller, John Horton, F. H. McKinney, William McCallum, Craig Richey, Harold Shuart, and H. D. Wise, all having given the branch twenty years of continuous service.

Approaching that mark are the Mesdames C. C. Hood, W. A. P. John, B. M. McMecham, A. J. Scriven and Clarence Vliet.

IN JUNE 1952 the Birmingham branch hosted the Michigan division's silver anniversary meeting. The two-day celebration included teas, garden tours, flower exhibits, and a banquet and birthday luncheon at Oakland Hills Country Club.

Mrs. Frank Webb is current president of the club. Branch members on the national executive board are Mrs. A. H. Webster, Mrs. M. S. Rosevear, and Mrs. J. C. Roberts, who is also president of the Michigan division.

Members of the Michigan executive board are Mrs. F. H. McKinney, Mrs. Lloyd Linton, Mrs. C. Frank Hubble, Mrs. William S. Howell, Mrs. William McCallum, Mrs. Nevin Barnes, Mrs. H. R. Chapel and Mrs. A. H. Knorr.

Current activities include the horticultural therapy program whereby flowers for use in treatment of mentally ill are delivered each week to the state hospital. The speakers' bureau provides speakers on various phases of gardening for smaller organizations in the area.

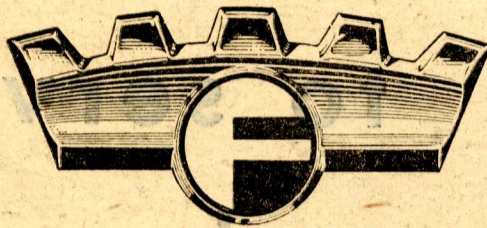
The junior gardening committee instructs the local girl scout troops in nature study, arranging, ceramics, gardening, herb culture and cookery.

## Now Washington Gets It

Alanson Partridge, Oakland County treasurer in 1879, reported that the amount of taxes received from the sale of liquor in Oakland county was \$7,623.88.

## A Ticklish Business

Need feathers for a feather bed? Live goose feathers for sale at 68c a pound at Ira Slade's produce shed next to the railroad depot—in 1878.



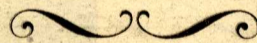
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When it comes to pioneers, and the saluting of other firms who have attained a ripe old age, we feel a certain kinship in that our products have also stood the test of time and are respected for quality and superior service the world over.

We are proud to have the exclusive dealership for Frigidaire appliances in Birmingham, a city that is magnificent in its 134th year as a municipality.

We take the opportunity of this, The Eccentric's 75th Anniversary, to express our appreciation.



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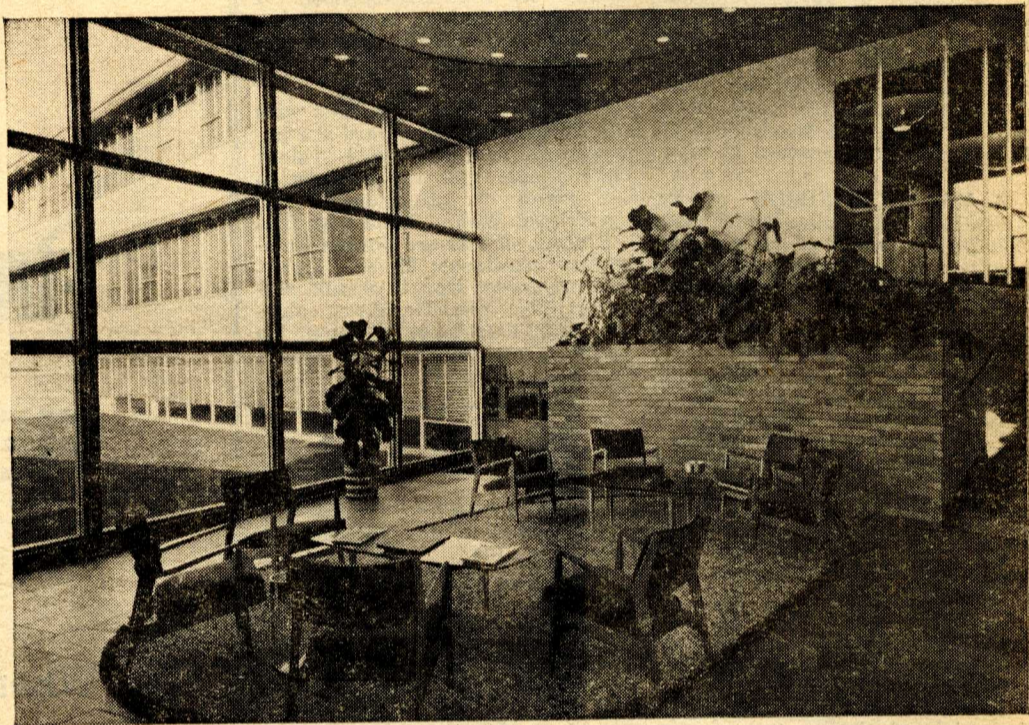
Midwest 4-2525



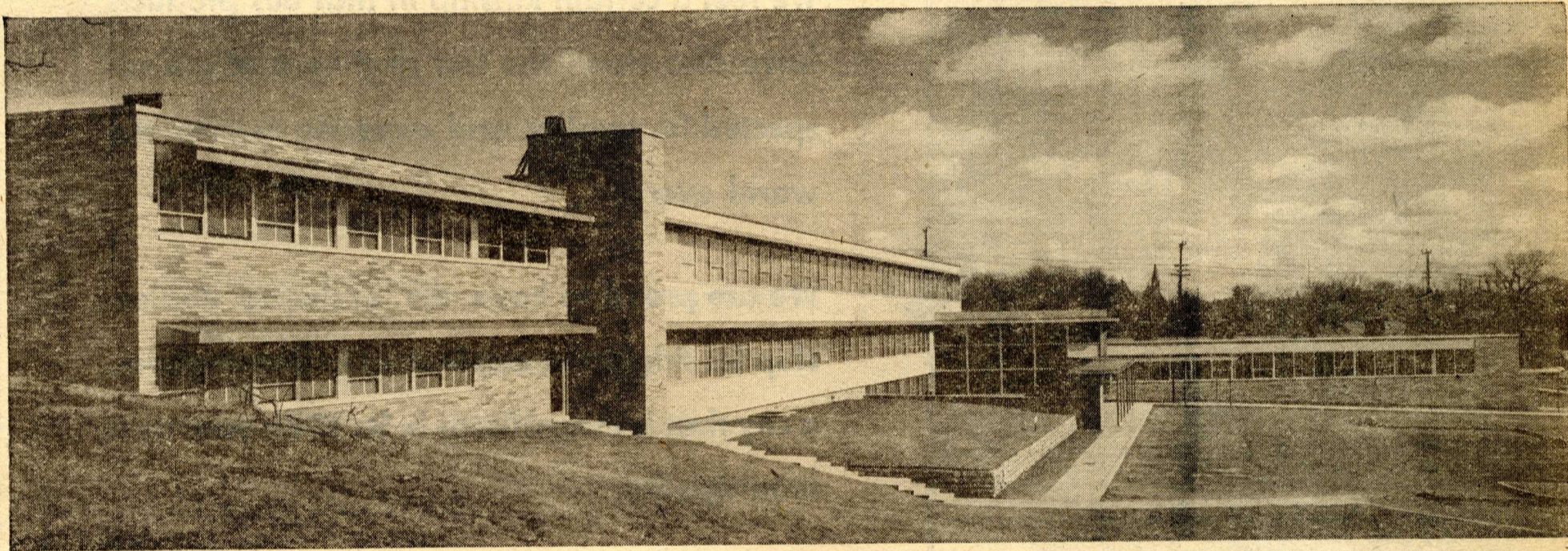
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Here is the newest advertising agency building in America—designed and created for a single purpose: To serve our clients better. Every inch of it and every facility it contains is carefully tailored to the needs of creating fine advertising. We are particularly proud of the fact that the advertisements created here are signed by some of the most respected names in American business. Most have been our valued clients for a long, long time; some are relatively new; tomorrow other great names will join them. For this unique building, like the philosophy of this agency, was built with the future definitely in mind.

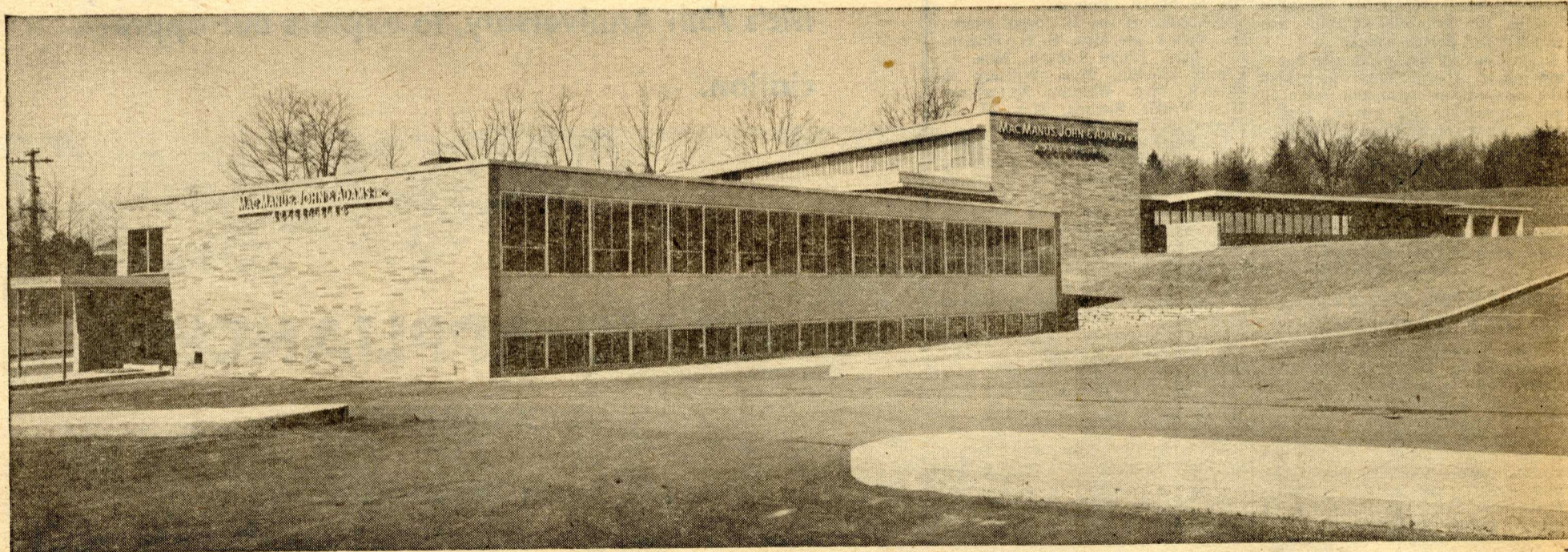


Main Lobby. Stairway at right leads to Executive and Creative Staff offices.



(Above) South facade looking east toward Woodward Avenue. Main wing houses Creative and Production Staffs; low wing in background houses Administrative Departments.

(Below) General view looking northwest from the corner of Long Lake Road and Woodward Avenue.



**MACMANUS, JOHN & ADAMS, Inc.**

Bloomfield Hills,  
Michigan