

MORE THAN A YEAR AGO, this special 75th Anniversary Edition of The Birmingham Eccentric was in the idea/planning stage. Eight months ago, the editorial and advertising staffs actively began accumulating the facts and writing the copy for the pictures, stories and advertising. Two months ago the mechanical departments began setting the type, making up the forms and printing the 12 special 16-page historical sections for this edition. Yesterday afternoon—Wednesday—the final work was completed.

In today's issue of The Eccentric you will see our completed effort—an historical account of Birmingham and its surrounding area never before accomplished. In fact, we believe no other weekly newspaper anywhere has ever published so comprehensive an edition about its community. Certainly no other weekly—or daily newspaper—ever has included in such an edition a special 4-color section produced with its own printing facilities.

Producing this special 75th Anniversary Edition for our readers has involved much painstaking work—but pleasurable, especially now that we have seen the final result.

We believe you will find our efforts rewarding after you have read through this special anniversary edition. The 220 magazine-tabletop pages of this historical account of the Birmingham area is presented to you upon the occasion of The Eccentric's 75th birthday. This edition is fondly and gratefully dedicated to the community The Eccentric has served for 75 years, and the community which for 75 years has loyally supported The Eccentric.

1878 With the first 75 years now "on the record," The Eccentric looks forward to an equally wonderful 75 years of future community service.

1953

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1953

SECTION ONE

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76TH YEAR—NO. 10

THIS and THAT
By G. R. A.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME

Three-quarters of a century is quite a long time in the history of a community. Likewise, it is a long time for an enterprise to keep on doing business under the same name.

But that is what The Eccentric is doing this week, in commemorating 75 years of un interrupted publication in Birmingham, Michigan. I join other members of our staff in feeling proud about this 75th Anniversary Edition, and trust that you who welcome this publication each week also will feel satisfied with this effort.

It has been lots of work... and now that it is finished we shall cease the job of historians, and become the week-by-week reporters whose dead chronicles will no doubt be used when our 100th Anniversary is celebrated.

I am sure, too, that you carefully preserve your copy, for it may be worthwhile to have around as the years roll along.

Seventy-five years ago most Americans were little concerned with the going-on-abroad; the United States, Michigan, and Birmingham were far removed from the problems of other nations, with their long-standing strikes and intrigues.

How that all has changed, with the development of improved media of communication and transportation. Now what happens in remote places may have, and generally has, an impact upon us.

Two World Wars and the present Korean chaos prove that the nations of the earth have shrunk into mere neighborhood. For along with other processes and technological progress have come bigger and better methods of killing people in international conflict.

As dispatches continue to come from high places in the Eisenhower administration, it is plain to see that business principles and patterns are being established. This most surely ought to result in government being a better job for less of the people's taxes.

A University of Michigan scientist believes that over-population, not the deadly diseases of A and B, may result in mankind's ultimate extinction. He argues that man's annual earth-wide increase in population of 25,000,000 per year requires many new arable acres of land for his subsistence.

Many and many a sin has been committed in the name of freedom. While the western, so-called "free world" is struggling against communism, it must wrestle with this internal problem: what can be done to prevent men and women from saying the wrong thing—saying things that threaten the very freedoms within a nation, which also tend to create cleavages between free nations presumed to be working for survival?

Right now serious differences have occurred between Great Britain's leaders and our own. Churchill appears to be playing the Chamberlain Prime role in the Far East. Former Prime Minister Clement Attlee says he believes certain Americans are opposed to a Korean peace.

Attlee's declaration is a direct and full-throated thrust against the people of this country, who, in two years, came to Britain's rescue. How terrible, indeed, are the vanities and the ignorances of some people!

First Roadoiling Program Includes 49 City Streets

Birmingham city commissioners Monday night approved the hearing of 49 streets in the city in the first roadoiling program of the season.

The program will cover 12 miles of streets at an approximate cost of \$252,250.

Two oil processes will be used. A road surfaced with oil will be scraped, oiled and later rolled to assure a surface for two years. Assessment costs to abating property owners will be 28 cents per foot for this method.

Other streets will merely be graded and oiled at a cost of eight cents per foot.

City officials explained that the program will be ready to start in two weeks and will take between four and six weeks to complete.

Petitions for a second oiling program this summer are being accepted by the city.

Petitioners on Codrington road were told by commissioners that the city could only assess one side of the street because of it being a cul-de-sac. Officials stated that the city would consider oiling Codrington if abating property owners were willing to pay 16 cents per foot.

A petition to oil Park street from Oakland to Hamilton was received, and commissioners decided to include this street in the second program.

More Treatment Due On Quarton Lake

Quarton Lake residents were assured this week that the city shortly will undertake another spraying program in an attempt to control weeds which are choking the lake and giving it an unattractive appearance.

In the past two years, the city has spent about \$3000 on the lake to remove the unpleasant algae and duckweed.



We can't all find a Tutankhamen but digging up a particular item you want, or a buyer for something you have for sale is a discovery in results when using the

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Copies of Anniversary Edition Are Limited

In planning the total press-run of this 75th Anniversary Edition of The Eccentric, every effort was made to determine in advance the required number of copies.

Every paid-in-advance subscriber, of course, will receive a copy through the mails, as usual. Extra copies, too, have been provided, the newsstands for their customers.

Until Saturday noon, May 23, a number of copies also will be on sale at The Eccentric office, but limited to two copies per person, the first at seven cents and the second one at 35 cents. Requests for more than two copies will be recorded at our business office counter, and you will be contacted if and when they become available.

THIS LIMITATION on the number of copies per person is required in order to be sure that the maximum number of local families may receive a copy.

On and after Monday, May 25, each complete copy of this 75th Anniversary Edition will be sold for 35 cents.

It is requested, too, that you arrange to mail your own extra copy, or copies, of this Anniversary Edition the local postoffice advises us that the charge per copy will be approximately 21 cents anywhere within the continental United States.

The Eccentric will gladly furnish you, without charge, wrappers for mailing purposes.

Veterans Set Memorial Day Observances

Members of Lathrop's newly elected charter committee will meet tonight at the "House in the Woods," 1900 Forest Hill, to hold their organizational meeting.

After taking the oath of office, members will select officers and begin discussions to adopt a charter for what appears to be Oakland County's newest city.

The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. Meanwhile, conferred steps are being taken by residents within and outside of Southfield township to gain municipal rule.

THE CITY of Oak Park has successfully gained and submitted the required number of signatures to start annexation proceedings on a start between Eight Mile, Southwestern, and Eleven Mile and Greenfield and Southfield.

The petition will be given to the boundary committee of the Oakland county board of supervisors for study.

An incorporation petition which would affect 1-3 in the area also has been submitted to the county by the Southfield citizen's League. The League seeks incorporation of an area bounded by Eight Mile, Inkster, Nine Mile and Greenfield.

BOTH THE Southfield Citizens League's petition and the area annexation proceedings would include the J. L. Hudson's \$22 million Nuchland Center shopping development.

Franklin residents also await word from the Board of Supervisors on incorporation petitions submitted for their area. The board may decide the date of the incorporation election at its June meeting.

Rare 2-Headed Tulip Found



A BIG SURPRISE awaited Mrs. William C. Yohes of 1861 Humphrey when she went out to inspect the tulip bed this spring and found evidence of a double-headed. Two blooms on one stem are the first in the tulip family, but to have the blossoms springing from the very tip as these have done is even more rare. Mrs. Yohes said the bulb was planted a couple of seasons ago and last year had bloomed in the orthodox manner, with only one red bloom.

(Eccentric Staff Photo)

BULLETIN

Bids on the proposed Oakland Hospital at 10 Mile road and Coolidge were opened Tuesday afternoon by the hospital building committee.

Unofficial figures indicate the two low bidders were the Cunningham-Limp Co. and O. W. Burke Co., both of Detroit, at a cost of around \$14 million dollars, and a completion date of about a year and a half.

STRICTLY FRESH

An Ontario small-town council planned a splurge job after boosting an already reduced levy on bachelors. Guess equal rights mean equal bills, eh?

A temporary city fireman was jailed for setting grass fire. He had done so at city expense, his main more work... and a permanent job just shows it doesn't pay to be too ambitious.

A governor of an eastern state signed a bill changing a law



wording from "who" to "whom," which is about as interesting as changing "to" to "thru."

When the Kremlin switched policy and released doctors accused of "murdering" Soviet officials, French Reds didn't have time to call a published denunciation of the move. It caused a lot of Red faces to get radder, if possible.

Worker Is Electrocuted On Kresge Construction

A freak accident claimed the life of a young Tuck truck driver Thursday, May 14, at the site of the new S. S. Kresge store, West Maple and Henrietta.

Accidental electrocution was given as the cause of death by Oakland County Coroner Dr. I. C. Prestette after all efforts of the Birmingham fire department rescue squad failed to revive Harry Lloyd Jackson, 27, the father of two children.

1953-54 City Budget Hearing Is Monday

Monday night, May 25, city commissioners will air the proposed city budget for the 1953-54 fiscal year publicly before acting on what appears to be a record statement for financing city services.

The proposed budget submitted by City Manager Donald C. Eghter to commissioners on May 13, is tentatively called for \$18,838,400 to balance city 1953.

Red Cross to Name 33 New Directors At June 3 Meeting

The annual meeting of Oakland County's American Red Cross chapter has been scheduled for Monday at Christ Church Cranbrook. A dinner is planned for 6:30 p.m., with reservations being accepted until June 1 at either the Red Cross or Royal Oak offices of the Red Cross.

The meeting which will be presided over by Dr. Robert W. Kelso of Highland, Eliza (chapter) chairman, will open a talk by the Rev. Harry R. Whitley, assistant pastor of St. John's church, Royal Oak, on "Am I My Brother's Keeper?"

The business meeting will deal with the election of a new executive committee and 25 new members to the 100-man board of directors. Nominations are in the hands of the committee which includes Mrs. Sheldon R. Noble of Birmingham.

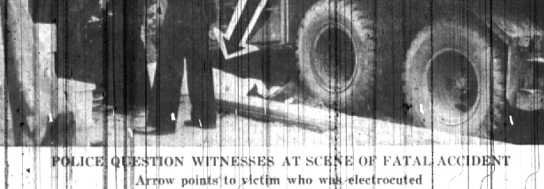
Following the dinner meeting, the new executive committee will meet to select chapter officers for the year.

Will Replace Old Curb

Replacement of about 10 feet of curb in front of 67 Hawthorne will be done at city expense, Birmingham city commissioners have agreed, and will be included in the city's next curb and sidewalk contract.

Fast Action Expected

Birmingham city commissioners' shuffling probably will result in a new council of six members, Bates and Southfield. The seven priority treatment by City Manager Donald C. Eghter. This is the street Eghter's residence is on.



POLICE QUESTION WITNESSES AT SCENE OF FATAL ACCIDENT
Arrow points to victim who was electrocuted

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