

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

OF THE 61 PERSONS who submitted the slogan "Water Wonderland" for Michigan's automobile plates, only one was from the Birmingham area, a check with the Secretary of State's office reveals.

BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY has several extra copies of last week's 75th anniversary edition of The Birmingham Eccentric, and plans to have the pages of each section more securely fastened for easier and safer use as a public reference in years to come.

PERCY K. LOUD of Lone Pine Court, who recently ran an Eccentric want ad for old bicycles, is very pleased with the results of that ad. For the boys and girls of the Trinity Youth Center, Detroit, Loud received four bikes, all in very good condition and a couple of tricycles. He also received four bicycles that had seen their better days, but out of which two very serviceable bikes could be assembled. Needless to say, Loud is very happy over the donations and wants to thank all those who contributed.

THIS WANDERER received a phone call at home the other evening, severely criticizing The Eccentric for inaccuracies in its headlines. After commenting on how a newspaper should always state facts in their true value, the caller got around to the headline in question. Our version read "Pierce St. Paving Deemed Necessary", whereas our caller felt it would have been more to the point to have said "Pierce St. Paving Damned Necessary".

IF ANY FATHER with a son named Billy, and another named Ricky, is having a birthday in the near future, there's a chance for a ready-signed card to be obtained. A local store, in straightening out its card stock last week, ran across a "Happy Birthday to my POP" card, already signed by youngsters bearing these names! How it happened to get back in stock is a mystery. No one knows whether the youngsters put the card back by mistake or changed their minds after signing it and made a second choice.

MOST RECENT ADDITION to the Birmingham water system—the Wakefield well in the southwestern portion of the city—ought to be furnishing water via a temporary connection sometime in June, City Manager D. C. Egbert estimates. A permanent connection to the system will follow, he says.

OVER ON PIERCE street, Mrs. L. H. Stout is doing some baby sitting before the babies arrive. There's a large piece of driftwood used as a lawn ornament at the Stout home. A mother robin decided a curve in the wood was an ideal place for her nest. Now Mrs. Stout is busy defending the bird from the neighborhood cats. "It's gotten to the point," she said, "that the people are even throwing stones at their own cats." She's sticking to the job, but wondering how much longer it will last and how successful a guardian she will be.

AMONG THE 259 students at the University of Michigan to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi, national honor society, is Iris M. Leja of 4105 Beach road, Route 2. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allan G. Leja.

THE RED CROSS, in Oakland county, is still \$32,000 below its \$174,000 quota, according to Gar Sweeney, drive chairman. Sweeney explained that the drive would remain open because of the serious need for money to meet regular expenses plus the added burden of blood for the gamma globulin program against polio. "We feel that persons who were away during our regular drive will still want to contribute," Sweeney said. "They may make checks payable to the county chapter, and send them directly to the Pontiac office."

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FOLLOWING THE WHITE LINE WAS TICKLISH
Rubber balls went bouncing in this test



PARKING PROBLEM WAS A STICKLER FOR MANY
Measurements were taken from curb to wheel



OBSTACLE COURSE IN FORWARD GEAR WAS EASY
Backing around these barrels was the tough part

Jim La Pine, Nannette Hammond Win Road-E-O Driving Honors

Last Saturday 36 Birmingham students competed in the national teen-age Road-e-o sponsored by the Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce and run off in the high school parking lot.

Jim La Pine won first place, taking 376 points of a possible 400. Jim will compete in the state finals, June 20, in Lansing.

A perpetual trophy will be placed in the high school's

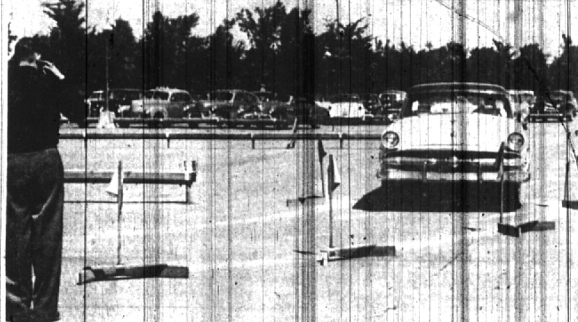
trophy case inscribed each year with the winner's name by the Birmingham Insurance Agents Association.

COMPETITION WAS DIVIDED into two groups one for girls and one for boys.

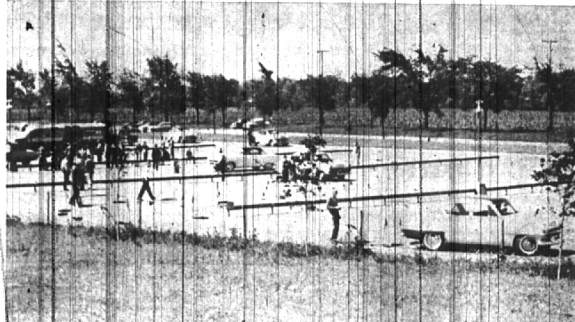
Nannette Hammond took girls' driving honors with 316 points. Margaret Davis placed second, and Jane Fisher third.

In the boys' division Allen Bumpus took second and Don Hite third.

Judges for the Road-e-o were William Conrad, special agent of the Century Indemnity Insurance company; Richard Yost, special agent of Citizens Mutual Insurance company; and Elliott Irwin, special agent of the Phoenix-London group.



A CONSTANT SPEED THROUGH TWO TURNS PROVED DIFFICULT
Turning problem one of many road tests



JUDGES WERE KEPT BUSY AT THE HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT
Five cars were separately judged at the same time

Fear Holiday Just First of Bad Weekends

The Michigan state police have forecast the grim warning that if the present trend continues, the Memorial holiday weekend will mark the beginning of a three-month summer season during which every weekend will record an average of 25 persons killed on the highways.

"Holiday weekends, which are bad enough, will be no worse than other weekends for the same time period," said Commissioner Joseph A. Childs. "Memorial day weekends usually are the forerunner of what is to follow and last year there were 25 persons killed during this period."

But this was a four-day stretch, and on the basis of what has been happening on the highways we can expect an average of 25 deaths each three-day weekend, whether it's a holiday or not."

Flight Leader at MSC

Harold G. Helgeson, son of Harold R. Helgeson, 711 Colonial, has been appointed Flight Commander and assigned the rank of Captain in the 19th Officers Training Wing at Michigan State College. Cadet Helgeson is a senior in Geology at M.S.C.

FIGURING FRIDAY, Saturday and Sunday as the weekend, records show that in 1949 an average of 6.5 persons were killed each of these days during June, July and August. This increased to 8.1 in 1950, 6.9 in 1951 and 7.4 in 1952. The average number killed on the remaining days of the week was 2.6 in 1949, 3.6 in 1950, 3.8 in

Cranbrook Opens Theater School For 12th Season

A new advanced course in theater technique and direction will be offered to older students of Cranbrook summer school of the theater when it opens its 12th season June 22, in the Cranbrook Greek theater.

Planned primarily for college student and high school graduates, the course offers advanced instruction which could lead to special arrangements for credit toward college courses. Or, for students of three-year duration, an instructorship at the theater school of 1954.

Members of the theater school staff of 26, nearly half of which has been part of the student body, will direct the program. Alumni-instructors include Alice Shaw, Elizabeth Byrne, Mary Baxendale, Barbara Hamul, Nancy Allee Womberger, Robert Whitlatch, Eugene Moore, Robert Sprague, Barbara Aitens, Camille Sink.

Change Meeting Date

For convenience of its members the Birmingham recreation board has changed its regular meeting date from the third Thursday to the first Tuesday of the month. The next regular meeting of the board will be held June 2 in the commission room of the Birmingham municipal building.

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