How sad it sometimes is that one may spend so much of a day thinking thoughts, or doing things, that do not measure up to the best of his visions, his ideals. Too often, in the hurry and rush of affairs, one may learn that he has wasted precious time in so brief a life.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION ONE

76TH YEAR—NO. 28 | BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1953 | 38 PAGES | SEVEN CENTS

THIS and THAT

By G.R.A.

IN THE NATURE OF THINGS, GOVERNMENT IS A SPENDTHRIFT

It is not unusual, in state and federal government agencies, to find people in high places perfectly willing to spend every cent of the taxpayers' money that they can chisel from a legislative committee.

In both types of government periodic budget hearings are held, at which time heads of various agencies appear and set forth the amount of money they require on which to operate until the next budget hearings are held.

It is axiomatic that a governmental bureau is an organism whose eventual size is never satisfactorily reached. For when you place a public official in a desk this year, next year, when you come back you will find that he and his additional aides have taken over a whole floor . . . the year after an entire building, etc., etc.

Governmental bureaus, staffed by human beings who want jobs, grow as large as the money they can get to feed upon. Yet there is nothing strange about this, when you consider the nature of human nature, is there?

SO WHY should one be surprised to learn that Congressional investigators have found that our State Dept. built some fancy and luxurious apartments and residences for many of its staff in Bonn, Germany? For five high officials were given homes costing from $115,000 to $227,000 each.

Four hundred and fifty-eight one to four-room apartments also were built at American taxpayers' expense, costing an average of $26,000 a unit.

Do you wonder, then, why your federal taxes got and remain so high?

It is but the harvest sown over the past 20 years by the New and Fair Deal spendthrifts who took your money and scattered it about as grains of sand are scattered when a hurricane strikes a sea beach.

Necessary as it is, and because it must be retained, yet never overlook the fact that the State, in and of itself, is your greatest potential robber.

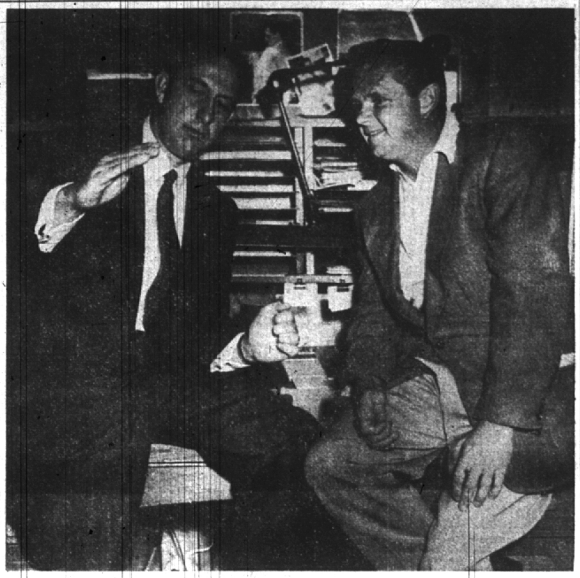
Contrast: still a Communist by admission, Sam Carr has just been released from a Canadian prison for being a mailcog in a Russian-directed atomic spy ring. He served four years and seven months. Had he been so outspoken in favor of capitalism when released from a Russian prison, don't you suppose execution or Siberia would have been his next stop?

An American scientist reveals this he is working on a still undeveloped terrible "atomic dust weapon", which he claims will be more devastating to this earth's flora and fauna than anything yet produced. Any housewife will admit that dust is terrible . . . so did the scientist's wife give him the idea?

Martin Durkin, labor leader, resigned as President Eisenhower's Secretary of Labor because he couldn't get Ike to agree with certain changes in the Taft-Hartley Law. Perhaps Mr. Durkin reacted the same as many outstanding business men in government did to what he was going on during New and Fair Deal days. When will certain segments of capital and labor get together to help preserve the American way of life?

For the fourth time in five years, an Ionia woman has won first prize in the State Fair husband-calling contest. She has seven children. She and her husband also, as perhaps a sideline, make a living raising bees . . . that makes a lotta honey in that family!

Several ex-Communists have told a Congressional committee that there are no less than 600 Commies in America's ranks of clergymen, plus between three and four thousand "fellow travelers". How can this be proved, or disproved? Certainly many bright people in many of these individual churches ought to be able to spot too much pro-pinkishness in their reverends.



HAL BUERGE
PGA champion hears about 'once-in-a-lifetime' shot.

WALLY BURKEMO
(Eccentric Staff Photo)

Developer to Request Porritt Annexation

Maples, Cranes Clash

Renewing a football rivalry that started in 1928 and was interrupted in 1941, the Birmingham High school football team will face the Cranbrook school eleven Friday under the lights at Pierce field. Game time will be 8 p.m.

The game will pit the veterans of Cranbrook against an almost green Maple squad as both schools open their 1953 season.

Crane Coach Paul Thompson will have the advantage of ten returning lettermen with their entire backfield experienced players.

Using the split T formation Thompson will go against Birmingham with veterans George Glover, Joe Prendergast, Larry Asbury, Dwight Davis, Doug Richman, Howard Nash, Phil Dondero, Sheldon Baum and George Cochran.

Birmingham Coach Vince Seconotine will see a number of new faces under fire when the game gets underway with only five lettermen expected to see any considerable action.

JERRY BECK will lead the team this year after team mates voted him captain Monday night. The 180 pound tackle will have assistance from center Bill Hohmeyer Friday night as Bill was named co-captain for the first game.

Other lettermen in the starting lineup will probably be Jerry Wedge, Bill Watkinson and Chris Christie.

Looking over the records, Birmingham has won seven of the 10 contests held between the schools while Cranbrook has taken three games. The last game played in September of 1941 resulted in a 45-0 win for the Maples.

Birmingham school officials state that uniform numbers were omitted from some of the programs but will be announced over the public address system shortly before the kickoff.

$152,718 Quota For UF Campaign

A 75-man team of business and industry leaders under the direction of William E. Roberts completed plans Tuesday night for the kickoff of the United Foundation appeal to firms in the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin area.

The business group, which launches its phase of the annual Torch Drive October 1, buttoned up its organization work with a training session at the Community House.

Principal speaker was Douglas K. Livy, chapter training chairman, who conducted a conference session on the important chapter plan for UF contribution.

Also participating in the program were Everell E. Fisher, general chairman of the campaign, and Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, campaign director.

FISHER ANNOUNCED a quota of $152,718 as the overall goal of the 1953 campaign in the area, which will run from October 20 through November 12. The metropolitan drive as a whole this year seeks $13,100,000, he said.

Business and industry chairman Roberts named 12 businessmen who will head team units. They are: Miss Dorothy Webster, Ralph Smith, Herman Erke, Jamie Martin, Ed Kirbert, Arthur Blakeslee, Henry Selters, C. Irwin Wilson, Harold Hagan, Hary Smart and Rudy Ranke.

Livy called the chapter plan the "backbone" of the UF contribution program, chiefly because it provides an effective method of giving on a year 'round basis through payroll deduction.

"MAJOR ADVANTAGES of the chapter plan", Livy told the UF salesmen, "include elimination of the waste, annoyance and duplication of solicitations in plants, shops and offices. Employees are given the opportunity to contribute on a planned basis.

"And funds for necessary health and community services are raised at the least cost to companies, to contributors and to the worthy organizations supported".

The group will launch its drive a week from today at a luncheon at Kingsley Inn as guests of the Wabeek State Bank.

Plans call for completion of the business and industry campaign by the time the general appeal is launched throughout the metropolitan area October 20.

City Sets Tentative Zoning

Steps will be taken as fast as possible in requesting Birmingham to annex, and Troy township to release, a 40-acre rectangle on the east side of Adams road, several blocks below E. Maple, it was promised Tuesday afternoon by W. E. Reid, president of the company which will develop the area.

Reid's statement followed Monday night's "gentlemen's agreement", approved by the Birmingham city commission, which in general terms outlined the zoning the area would be given once it was annexed to the city.

"We are going to move as fast as we can regarding annexation and the drawing and recording of a plat for the property," he explained.

Although the agreement merely calls for the city to zone the area for income and single residences, plus a 400-foot deep commercial zone along Adams road, discussions have shown yet more detailed plans for the area.

AS OUTLINED Monday night, the so-called "Porritt Property" would provide 240 new dwelling units. Along the north side of Hazel street would be single residences on 60-foot lots, with the exception of three lots at the east end which would be duplexes.

Duplexes on 80-foot lots would be constructed on the south side of Hazel, with the remainder of the area to have two-family residences on 60-foot lots.

They would be of brick, two stories, five rooms, be of varying designs and staggered setbacks from the sidewalks.

The commercial frontage would be of a character the neighborhood would be proud of, the developers have promised, and contain off-street parking facilities adequately screened by plantings from adjoining residences.

SEVERAL DETAILS have yet to be worked out between the city and the property owners, such as walkways for children attending Torry school to the south and the depth of the screenings.

Monday night, representatives from the adjoining subdivisions attended the informal public hearing. Several protested that the area should be developed entirely in single families. Several other persons defended the proposal as perhaps the best method that can be worked out and mutually agreed upon.

A potential threat to the adjoining residential areas for many years (because as property in the township, it could even be put into industrial use), for more than a year and a half the city and the developers have argued back and forth over how the rectangle should be improved.

JUST HOW and when the remaining details were to be resolved, is still a question. The commission decided to approve in general the type of zoning the area would be given, and await either the annexation petition or the submission and recording of the plat for the solution of the minor items.

According to Reid, the development would begin at the southeast corner—near Haynes and Columbia—with the duplex units, and progress north and westward to the single residence homes on the north side of Hazel.

He predicted it would take two years to complete the project, at a cost estimated at $5,000,000.

TROY TOWNSHIP is expected to agree without argument to the annexation of this 40 acres to Birmingham.

Several months ago, in a joint meeting between Troy and city officials to discuss mutual problems, Troy board members said the most logical one to provide public utilities to the area would be Birmingham.

The area is entirely surrounded by the city.

Off To Defend Ryder Cup

To prove that everyone is ready to listen when a fellow golfer finds a way to get the ball into the hole in fewer strokes, P.G.A. Champion Wally Burkemo, listens intently while Hal Buerge describes how he guided a 140-yard, 7-iron shot into the 16th hole for an Eagle 2 at Sunnybrook Golf club during the Birmingham service club tournament last Wednesday.

"It's a shot that's always welcome" said Burkemo, citing the case of Lew Worsham, veteran Virginia pro who won the "world" title in Chicago last month by employing the same type of shot.

Burkemo, who has been a Birmingham area resident for a number of years, dropped into the Eccentric office last Thursday just prior to taking a plane to Reading, Pa., where he participated in the Ryder Cup challenge matches over the weekend.

HE LEAVES for England with the other nine members of the Ryder Cup team tomorrow on a ROAC Stratocruiser. They will meet the British team at Wentworth, England on October 2 and 3. The Ryder Cuppers also will play in Paris before they return to the States.

Burkemo became a member of this year's Ryder Cup team when he walked off with the PGA title at Birmingham Country Club in July. Since that time he has added more than $6,000 to his prize winnings in the regular summer tournaments.

He was second in the Montreal Open and fourth in the All America tournament in Chicago.

Suggest Sewage Authority

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

Another joint comunity authority may be in the offing, city commisioners learned Monday night.

To add to the already-formed garbage and rubbish and the water authorities, some thinking has been given to the creation of a sewage disposal district to serve Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Southfield and Troy townships.

The possibility of an interceptor sewer running from Detroit facilities north from Eight Mile through Southfield township and as far north possibly as Springdale Park is presently considered by township officials as the best way to abate pollution of the Rouge river as ordered by the state Water Resources Commission.

COMMISSIONERS Monday night authorized City Manager Donald C. Egbert to cooperate with other members of the area to secure legal and financial advice needed to begin planning for such an authority.

Both the City of Bloomfield Hills and the Oakland Hills Country Club have expressed their agreement with such an authority plan to hurdle their sewage disposal problems.

Al Roth, consulting engineer engaged by area municipalities to study possible solutions to the pollution charge, reported that the most economical and efficient method of sewage disposal would be a Detroit interceptor and advised local communities that the initial decision to be made would be to determine the amount of area such an interceptor would serve.

PRELIMINARY studies, he reported, suggested the construction of two branches from the interceptor. One would extend northeast to 16 Mile road terminating at Springdale aPrk, while the second would extend north and west to the City of Bloomfield Hills.

Construction of these sewers would serve practically all of Southfield township, all of Bloomfield township, Bloomfield Hills, and all of Troy township and the City of Birmingham included in the Rouge drainage district.

Should the sewer be brought up Evergreen road, the cost is estimated to be near $1,600,000. An alternate plan may be studied to bring the sewer line up Lahser road.

MEANWHILE all plans to make improvements at the city's present plant have been delayed pending the outcome of the interceptor study. Egbert told commissioners that such an interceptor might close down the plant entirely.

Egbert also commented that an important first to the planning was the determination of an equitable financing program that would assess the member communities for their proportionate share of the costs of the system.

Commissioner Charles Renfrew estimated that such a project would initially cost the city about $50,000 a year and added that the city's plant cost $48,000 to operate last year.

Set Franklin Election

Voters in the Franklin area will vote on incorporation as a village on Tuesday, Nov. 3, the Oakland County Board of Supervisors has decided. Promoters of the election seek to maintain the country atmosphere in their community much the same as did proponents of the Lathrup Village election May 12.

Announce Sale Of Local Church

Sale of the First Presbyterian church building on North Woodward to the Congregational Church of Birmingham has been approved by the trustees of both organizations.

Announcement of the sale was made Sunday by the Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., during the cornerstone ceremonies for the new Presbyterian church on West Maple.

In a joint statement Wednesday morning, W. B. Wakins and William Arlund, chairmen of trustees for the Presbyterian and Congregational churches, said the ratification of both congregations is all that remains to close the transaction. Arlund said that formality would probably take place Oct. 4.

Question Status Of Registrations In Lathrup Vote

Lathrup charter commissioners discovered Tuesday night that their efforts to register all Lathrup residents for the December 7 charter election may have been in vain.

Present at a meeting of the Southfield township board, commissioners were advised that the state Attorney General office's opinion was that such a registration in an area not yet incorporated was not necessary and should not be undertaken.

The opinion was written by Robert M. Montgomery, director of elections, and added that the confusion that would arise in registration rolls should the election not carry made such a move unsatisfactory.

COMMISSIONERS argued that advice from the Michigan Municipal League and from a municipal lawyer called for a special registration of those within the area under consideration.

Meanwhile commissioners have published registration notices and posted a schedule for registration times at the House-in-the-Woods beginning September 30.

Commissioners assured board members that they would check on the advisability of taking registrations before opening books of their own.

2 Youths Hurt In Auto Crash

Thomas Shultz, 14, and Clifford Haas, 19, of 1770 S. Telegraph, were taken to Pontiac General Hospital Saturday noon for treatment of injuries they received when the car in which they were riding skidded into a ditch from Telegraph near Maple Saturday noon.

Driver of the car, Martin Shultz, 38, Thomas' father, was ticketed for not having his operator's license on his person.

He told Bloomfield township police that his car struck something on the road causing it to swerve out of control.

Police said the younger Shultz was treated for head injuries while Haas was treated for lacerations of the right arm.

Seek Annexation Of Troy Triangle On City's Border

The city's attention to a triangular shaped parcel of property almost completely surrounded by the city's western border in Troy township was asked by residents of the Birmingham Estates Association Monday night when they questioned the development of this land on their northern boundary.

Developer Arthur Neckman last week began grading roads in the triangle prior to constructing single homes in the area. It is bounded by Adams, the Grand Trunk railroad and the northern boundary of the Buckingham subdivision.

The question of the city's annexation of the property from Troy was immediately brought out and commissioners authorized City Manager Donald C. Egbert to negotiate with Troy on possible annexation procedures if it is found that the township cannot adequately serve the area.

RESIDENTS OPPOSED the development by stating that the opening of these roads would bring more traffic on Rugby and Cambridge, cause water to run off the property south onto city lots and cause a hazard to health through the installation of septic tanks.

Commissioners agreed that the lots were too small for septic tanks and asked that the city go on record as opposing the development because of the health and safety factor.

Earlier this year in a joint meeting of the city commission, city plan board and Troy township board, the discussion of annexation of this property was felt to be one that should be raised when the property was about to be developed. Troy board members at that time agreed that the property would be difficult to serve with Troy facilities.

The developer is said to be in favor of such a move.

The township board will receive a letter regarding the matter at its Monday night meeting when it is expected that they will study whether or not the property can be successfully served by the township.

Oil Done

The city's 1953 roadoiling program has been completed, Birmingham City Engineer L. R. Gare said Monday.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY. Dial "O" and ask for ENterprise 6319.

2 'Nameless' Journeys

One of those "stranger than fiction" events took place a few days ago, involving a Birmingham family which prefers to remain nameless.

The story started two years ago, with the main characters nameless at that time, too.

En route by train to Florida a Birmingham man, then a dental student at the University of Michigan, found that his seat-mate came from Ypsilanti. Naturally, since Florida is quite a distance from Michigan, the two spent quite a bit of time in conversation.

THROUGHOUT the whole trip, while they discussed their home towns, the young man's profession and future and whatever wayside topics came to mind, no names were exchanged.

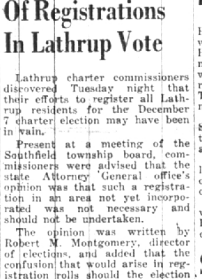
One evening last week the young man's father boarded a bus for Birmingham. His seat-mate, bound for Royal Oak, learned his destination and recalled her trip to Sarnia two years ago.

By comparing notes, it was determined that the Ypsilanti lady had made the Michigan-Florida trip along side the Birmingham dental student.

Not once, during either of these experiences, were names exchanged.

GROVE PATTERSON

MARGARET BOURKE-WHITE



KENNETH A. MEADE

Notables to Speak at Library

Three outstanding speakers, a noted motion picture and a panel discussion on "The Library in an Expanding Community" will make up the current programs sponsored by Friends of the Baldwin Public Library.

The opening program on Oct. 20 will feature a talk by Kenneth A. Meade of Franklin.

Successive programs will be Nov. 24, when Grove Patterson, editor-in-chief of the Toledo Blade; Jan. 13, 1954, "Tight Little Island," a motion picture of England; Feb. 24, the panel discussion and April 20, a talk by Margaret Bourke-White, noted photographer.

Meade, a native of Nashville, Mich., is in the educational field of the public relations department for General he has been placement of college trained technicians in the company.

A FORMER teacher of science and mathematics, Meade also is the author of numerous articles of the part the college-trained technician has in the field of industry.

Patterson, holder of the Golden Cross of Merit from Poland, is a native of Rochester, Minn. He has held editorial positions on several papers including the Detroit Journal and for the past several years has been associated with the Blade, becoming editor-in-chief through a series of promotions.

The January program will show the hilarious film produced by J. Arthur Rank, leading motion picture magnate of Great Britain. The picture is based on the novel of the same name written by Compton Mackenzie.

THE CLOSING program will bring to Birmingham one of the top photographers in the world, Margaret Bourke-White has been sent to all corners of the earth on photographic assignments and during the years since 1927 her pictures have been called "a document of history."

The Jan. 13 and April 20 programs will be for members only. All others are open to the public and are held in the library auditorium.

$2,500 Worth of Fun with a BB Gun

Bloomfield township police report that a 10-year-old boy confessed last week to shooting the glass out of 37 thermopane windows on a new home under construction in the Eastover Farms subdivision on East Long Lake road.

Police Chief Clark Green said that workmen had installed the windows on Sept. 11 and that after they had gone home, the boy circled the house with a BB gun and knocked out every window.

The boy could give no reason for his destructive act which R. F. Ackerman, owner of the house, said would cost from $2,500 to $3,000 to repair.

STRICTLY FRESH

It's no use trying to see yourself as others see you. You wouldn't believe it, anyway.

What with all the loafing, it's a wonder how some people manage to keep their self-winding watch going.

A doctor a day takes your money away.

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