

Spring Downpour Floods River, Streets, Basements



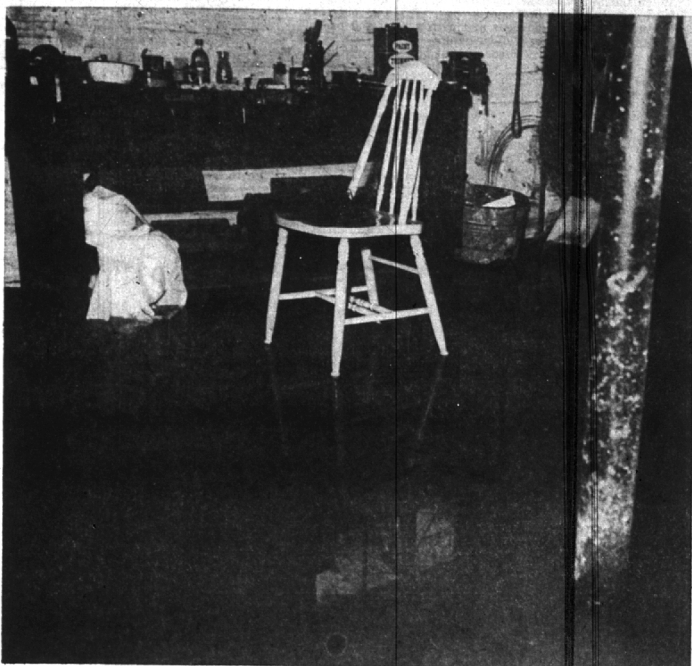
It is unfortunate that too many men and women, when their hair turns to silver, fret about the years behind them; as though to add years to one's life means that one need to deny the inherent youthful yearning for life that lies within!

Phone Calls Swamp DPW

Storm drains and sewers in Birmingham just couldn't handle the intense downpour last Thursday morning that followed Wednesday night's steady rainfall. As a result streets and basements began to flood. Rising water turned the River Rouge into a raging torrent. Phoned complaints jammed the DPW switchboard.

A BRACE OF MALLARDS (circle left) seemed to be in agreement with human beings that Thursday was strictly "a good day for ducks". This pair was found paddling happily in the swollen River Rouge just above the W. Maple bridge. The relative height of the water can be seen by the narrow space between the bottom of the bridge and the river's surface.

FLOODED BASEMENTS were numerous in Birmingham following the Thursday morning splash. Just how many were flooded isn't known, but the number of frantic calls to the DPW indicate there were many. Water had begun to recede in the basement of T. L. Luscombe, 2192 Yorkshire, at noon when the picture at right was taken.



TERRENCE KELLY, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Michael Kelly, 2251 Yorkshire, does his bit to "help" a DPW workman clear water from the intersection of Yorkshire and Edinborough. Terrence carried water from the street, poured it on the sidewalk while the workman cleared a sewer catch basin. (Eccentric Photos)

VOTERS OF BIRMINGHAM and TROY TOWNSHIP

You will be asked on

MONDAY APRIL 5th

TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ANNEXATION:

Shall property in the N.W. ¼ of Section 31, Town 2 N., Range 11 E., Troy Township, Oakland County, Michigan, being a parcel of approximately 46 acres commonly known as the "Porritt Property" excepting therefrom, a parcel in the N. W. corner thereof approximately 1.72 acres, be annexed to the city of Birmingham?

VOTE YES BECAUSE:

This property lies wholly within the corporate boundaries of the City of Birmingham and is entirely surrounded by its built-up areas. Therefore it should be under the jurisdiction of Birmingham.



This property has heretofore been a problem because Troy Township CANNOT service it.

When it is annexed to Birmingham, the City CAN service it so that it may be improved as an asset to all concerned.

When it is annexed to Birmingham, the developers will immediately proceed to install all the improvements in accordance with the City of Birmingham specifications.

Vote YES and change a problem area into an asset to the community.

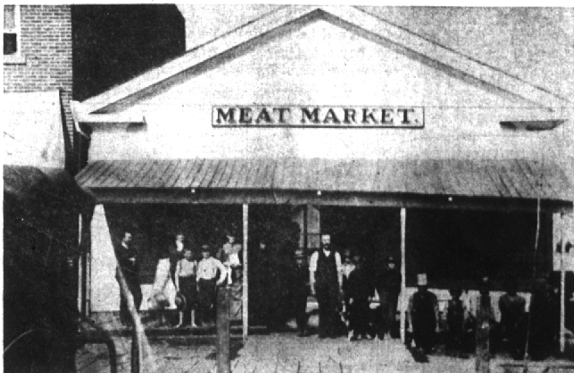
WALLACE E. REID

HAMILTON H. PATERSON

BIRMINGHAM BACKGROUND

Local History in Story and Picture
As Compiled and Written by RUTH ANNE SILBAR

Prior to the Super-Market Era



Sawdust on the floor, Sauerkraut and dill pickles in barrels. The butcher by a big wooden cutting block wearing straw cuffs. Scene: a butcher shop in the days before super-markets.

On the northeast corner of Woodward and Maple stood a small white building that served the village of Birmingham as a meat market for almost 50 years. The building originally was the first church built by the Presbyterians of this community. It was erected in 1844 and according to one account, stood on what now is the southeast corner of Woodward and Maple, but then called Saginaw and Troy streets.

WHEN THE church was outgrown and the congregation built a new church farther east on Troy street, their old church was moved across the street and became a meat market. It was the only one in the village at that time and for many years afterwards.

James R. McLaughlin, as far as can be determined, was the

town's first butcher. Later the business was taken over by Benjamin A. Thorne and a man named Woodburn (1866), then Thorne and Lewis Converse (1868), Converse and McAllister Randall (1869), Converse and Alex Parks (1884), and in 1885 by Parks and John Hanna.

In 1880 when the partnership of Parks and Hanna was dissolved, Alex Parks built the brick building that now stands on the site and the little old meat

market building was moved back from the main street and behind the new business block. IT SERVED for a while as a feed store and a carriage shop and finally was torn down. John Hanna had his picture taken in Sept. 1888 in front of the meat market in which he had half interest. Some of the village children and a few adults gathered around to be included in the picture.

Reading from left to right in the picture above, they are: Guy Wallace, Pearl Lamb, Cora Brown, John Hagerman, Audrey Wilson, Ella Twilliker, a stranger, Willy Fay, John Hanna, Charles Toms, John Merrill, dog Rover, George Aldrich, Will Robinson, Darcy Hoffman, George Blackledge, Bert Gravelin, Howard King and Joe Mead. The picture was loaned by Donald Hanna of Ann Arbor, youngest son of John Hanna.