

It Happened-As Predicted

To those Birmingham residents who have moved into the city within the past 13 months, the above picture they probably have not seen before.

But those citizens who resided here prior to that time will recall that it ap-

prior to that time will recall that it appeared on the front page of The Birmingham Eccentric in its Feb. 26, 1958, issue, just 12 days after the city suffered the most expensive fire in its history—the \$200,000 loss of a lumberyard on Forest street at Frownell.

The picture shows that the Birmingham fire station on that fateful day—February 14—was empty. All the equipment and manpower was at the lumberyard. There was not another piece of fire apparatus which could have responded to a second alarm elsewhere in the city during a critical 30-minute period.

cal 30-minute period.

That occurrence had been predicted by eity officials more than a year before—
they just couldn't name the exact date it would happen.

THAT WAS WHY, at the city election April 7, 1952; the city commission had the voters indicate their desire regarding additional fire fighting facilities—primarily a new fire station and more equipment. At that election, more than a majority of voters favored the proposal. However,

the city charter required a 60 per cent majority on the issuance of the bonds that would have financed the project.

The plan met defeat by a mere 69 votes.

Then the lumberyard fire .

IN THE PAST YEAR, the fire department has had several close calls—two church fires that if they had occurred min-

church ares that if they had occurred minutes closer, could have been disastrous.

On Jan. 17, 1954, the department had two house fire calls within 11 minutes.

As recent as March 6, firemen responded to two house fires within 18 minutes, and eight other various alarms were answered that day wered that day.

Fortunately, none of these 14 instances

ere serious.
BUT THEY EASILY COULD HAVE

And that is what has been worrying fire and city officials for more than two years. When it happens, they want the department to be able to cope with the situation.

THE MAIN REASON for this concern THE MAIN REASON for this concern is: the city's population has more than doubled since 1942, yet Birmingham has practically the same fire fighting facilities today to cover twice as many residences, twice as many risks, twice as many pos-sible alarms—as it had 14 years ago!

Because of these facts citizens should overwhelmingly approve the proposed \$225,000 bond issue at Monday's election and thus greatly bolster their fire defenses

AT THIS APRIL 5 city election, voters also will elect three city commissioners from the nine candidates in the race. The Eccentric has traditionally re-

The Eccentric has traditionally re-frained from endorsing particular commis-

frained from endorsing particular commission candidates, having found that those citizens who volunteer their services for this important job in practically all instances are qualified for the job. In Monday's election, however, you may find the election material on Page One of Section Four this week of assistance in making your particular selection of the three you wish to vote for.

THE THIRD ASPECT of the election concerns the annexation to Birmingham & the oft-referred to "Porritt Property", a 46-acre part of Troy township on the east ide of Adams road, entirely surrounded

side of Adams road, entirely surrounded by the city.

Developers have worked out with Bir-mingham city officials the residential de-velopment which is proposed for the area, should it be annexed. Entirely surround-ed by the city, it almost is impossible for Troy township to supply it with munici-pal services. This, Troy and Birmingham officials have recognized for many years.

Its annexation to Birmingham should be supported by the voters.

ELECTORS, TOO, SHOULD APPROVE ELECTORS, TOO, SHOULD APPROVE the amendments to the city employees' re-tirement act. Primarily, these changes will increase the city's participation in the system to about 8.5 per cent of the annual contribution. In recent years, this per-centage has slipped below this mark. The amendments will put it back very close to the world it became when the system was to the point it began when the system was initiated about 15 years ago, and provide more adequate benefits for employees and their dependents.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Instead of wanting to use a lie detector Instead of wanting to use a lie detector when he arrays himself against the Army in his fight with them, Sen. Joe McCarthy, we believe, ought to call for a couple of hogsheads of truth serum . . . for some-body in this hassle must need it.

A Michigan Legislator from the Upper Peninsula recently said he may seek a stat-ute limiting the University of Michigan to 20,000 students, and Michigan State College to 18,000. He claims that "big-ness" is harmful to good educational prac-tice. Naturally, officials of both institu-

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tions are not in complete agreement. Howtions are not in complete agreement. How-ever, we go along with those who do be-lieve that too many students on a single campus, like too many people herded up in a metropolis, are just too many people.

considering Birmingham's annual In considering Birmingham's annual budget for local recreational activities, we believe that the city commission should not be too niggardly in its appropriation for that important item. In proportion to the tremendous good recreation does for our youth, every dollar spent for this purpose returns much in the proper development of the next generation. ment of the next generation.

So They Say ...

Ramon Magsaysay, Philippine President, deploring "Asia for the Asians" slogan:
"We must not try to fit many and changing needs of national welfare into a straightjacket of a slogan."

Bernard M. Baruch, retired industrialist: "All men cannot be masters, but none need be a slave."

Marjory Douglas, curator, "Cavalcade of Fashion":

"Today's girls all have bigger hands and feet than their mothers. Maybe that's be-cause they got all their vitamins."

He'd Better Hurry



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Many of us still go along with the idea that, come spring, our bodies are lagging a bit and some of that customary pep has gone out of us during dull winter months. We, in

pep has goie out of us during dull winter months. We, in short, go for a spring tonic.

Today, however, we hop in the car and head to the nearest drugs acrow. We hand the clerk a couple a little short in one store, we hand the clerk a couple a little short in one store, we had the clerk a couple a little short in one store, we have to take a pill or capsule.

Not so, in grandma's day. Spring think in shappens, the taker is quite to take a pill or capsule.

Not so, in grandma's day. Spring think in shappens, the taker is quite coinci, "way back when' was some thing to reckon with.

True, a capsule or pill will not go down as it should but will find store take a not go down as it should but will find store. We have to be a couple a little shelf in one story the his happens, the taker is quite to take a pill or recken with the same come from one of grandma's to true the store that the some began to melt, gather will disport was a maxty. vite tasting true the same kept and the same that the same that the same governings of the short was a construction of the same true that the same true the short was the same true to the same true that the same true that the short was the same true that the same true that the same true the same true

BESIDES THESE "spring teas" ade of tansy, burdock, dandelion, randma had another pair of fa-orites for spring—a gooey mes sulphur and molasses or "turkey bubarh".

or suppur and moiasses or "turkey rhubarb."

The latter would be grated and doled out to the victim who was supposed to swallow it manfully. The gritty bits would cling in one's mouth and throat for hours, continuing their bitter flavor to the last.

nave come from one of grandma's kettles.
Grandma, with no knowledge at all of vitamins, advocated 'greens' when the snow began to meit, gathwhen the snow began to meit, gathwhen the farm fields:
Some were wild, some mere cul-ivated vegetables which had remained in the ground all winter, retaining their summer freshness had been some coverings of straw and deep snow.

HOW GRANDMA came by this knowledge of things that were "good for one", we do not know. She probably got it from her mother, who got it from her's and on down the line into the dark realm of the past. However they came by it, we find today's dietitians backing their judgment.

The gritty bits would cling in one's it we find today's dictitiants backmouth and threat for hours, centiling their judgment. Read your vibration in the properties of the pro

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric— The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

So YEARS AGO
April 1, 1994

"Bert Blakeslee run over
Birmingham to see his boy Ruslimingham to see his boy Rusfor two weeks. Mr. Blakeslee
for the past weeks and from
and improvement—and bargains
on the side always. He bought the
M. E. church barn and now has
it adjoining his home transformed
to m m of iou s dwelling—and
pays, too."

15 YEARS AGO

M. L. Church Company of the part of the past week
for more and the pays to the pays to the pays, too."

15 YEARS AGO

M. L. CHURCH COMPANY OF THE PART OF

pays, too."

"No, gentle reader, that is not a synagogue or public edifice or a street fair booth that Brother E. R. Smith is having added to his home on Maple avenue—simply a fine, large, roomy, shady, handsome, Doric veranda."

Miss Belle Ward has returned to her studies at Alma, Mich. She will soon be a graduate in her chosen work (kindergarten) and we predict for her a success-ful future.

30 YEARS AGO
March 28, 1924
Adrian Gibbs of Troy, who has
held various township offices forover 30 yet the last 15 of whichhave been as clerk, oweeks ago
resigned his office previous to
Troy's annual caucus.

15 YEARS AGO March 30, 1939

March 30, 1939
Of widespread interest among friends of the betrothed couple is the engagement of Miss Dorothy Francis Jardine to Franklin Curtis Love.

handsome, Doric verands."

"At their pleasant home in Oad, lather and son teams in Birminghand comply two and one half hand comply two and one half hand so the property of th

A motion requesting the state superintendent of public instruc-tion to declare the Birmingham School District eighble for re-classification as a third class dis-trict on a population basis, was recommended by the state of the state ham League of Women Voters at a meeting held in the Community House.

held various township offices for the control of th

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

Several of the readers of this column Several of the readers of this column have been reminding me that I haven't for some while reprinted more of those interesting typographical mistakes that occasionally are found in newspapers. Said one this week: "Why not give us some more chuckles and get our minds off McCarthy?"
All right, here are some more boners: Washington (D.C.) Post: "The man whose man I shall present enjoys the thrust of our party."

Los Angeles (Calif.) Herald Express quote of a convention speech: "The men and women who follow us will be our children."

dren."

Associated Press quote: "The Republicans behaved like jackasses—but we're going to try to do better."

Report in the Waterbury (Conn.) American: "Public whipping, a holdover from Colonial days, is permitted only in Delaware and Maryland and ordered only in

ware and Maryland and orucles rear instances."

Ad in Stroudsburg (Pa.) Daily Record:

Shop — Featuring "Wishbone Poultry Shop Fresh Cut-Up Children."

Political story in the Buffalo (N.Y.) Courier-Express: "Eisenhower said he hoped a foreign policy blank can be written acceptable to both . . . Eisenhower wrote the seech himself, spent some time memo-ribing essential passages."

Geography explained by the Ithaca (N. Y.) Journal: "The Yalu separates Korea from Korea."

Fire Report in the El Paso (Tex.) Herald-Post: "The high schoool and a bar at the State Orphans' Home were destroyed

Story about alcoholics using a library, as reported by the Corpus Christi (Tex.) Caller: "They pick a lot of fiction and pour over magazine". over magazines

Wedding Bells in the Houston (Texas) Press: "She got worried over the end and left on a honeymoon."

More bells, described by the Goldenale (Wash.) Sentinel: "Wedding bills will ring for Orville Blank and Miss Mary By George Wm. Averill

Helpful hint in the Indianapolis (Ind.) Star: "If Mrs. Blank of Kokomo will con-tact me, I will send recipe for hand loca-tion."

News note in the Colorado Springs (Colo.) Gazette-Telegraph: "Miss Ruth Blank rended vocal and plano selections in one of the mental wards." More music, described by the San Pedro (Calif.) News-Pilot: "The program closed with the sinking of 'America'."

Mrs. Mary Celestine Priem, 14714 Glenfield, was driving south on Queen in the family car after having spent Thursday evening howling with her husband.—Detroit News.

Autos killing 110 a day; let's resolve to do better.—Boston Globe headline.

The council's statument deplored the sensational "playing up" of Christmas girls to union officials by the Crime Commission.—New York Herald Tribune.

New York night dub merriment will contrast with watch servicesh.—Los Angeles Times.

geles Times.

Eddie turned up for practice Wednesday. He was not able to more as fast as usual.— Detroit Free Press.

Shortly before he retired as president of the University of Michigan, Dr. Alexander Ruthven addressed a woman's club in Muskegon on the benefits and boons of higher learning. Next morning the Muskegon Chronicle covered his speech under this headline:

headline: RUTHVEN SHOWS NEED OF COLLEGE EDUCATION

Jamaica, N.Y. Long Island Press: Esther Williams wants to shed her bathing suit and start acting.

Calgary, Alta., Herald: Care of Canada's aged is grave problem

Paris Herald Tribune: French girl chosen by Legion to inaugurate U.S. pappy drive.

Washington, Pa., Observer: Feeble-minded school dean has resigned.

HEARING AIDS BATTERIES

ALL MAKES Make Inquiry at Our Store and Get All of the Details

SHAIN'S



"SPRING HAS SPRUNG"

Remember to have your Elm Tress checked now! (DISEASES DIAGNOSED) Phone LI 2-8132 Door or Evenings

JOHONNOT

Tree Service

My recipe for BOSTON BROWN BREAD...



BOSTON BROWN BREAD 1 cup seeded muscat raisins ra

a cups nour, sitted 1 egs. beaten

Bool raisins and water together 5 minutes. Add branSet saids to cool. Sitt flours sods and sait together.

Cream field sitted the set of together, and together, and sitted the set of together set of to

SEE YOUR DEALER or Detroit Edison

Mrs. Wm. Caverly love music
—she's junior chair director at
church and a member of the
Howell Music Club. But her
primary interest is homemaking
... and what wooderful smalls
come out of her kitchen. Her
Boston Brown Bread's a treat
... quick and saay to prepare
in her modern elbetric range.

What's one of the secrets of baking success? A modern electric rangel and here's why. Moist, controlled heat bakes goodles to picture-perfection—without watching or wait-ing. You'll love cooking with an electric ratige.

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