

A little chap was asked by his teacher what he intended to be when he grew up. He answered, "I don't know, but I'm sure I'll be somebody."

77TH YEAR—NO. 24

## THIS IS AND THAT

By G.R.A.

### "LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT—ESPECIALLY ON OUR HIGHWAYS"

Investing a portion of one's daily quantity of patience when behind the wheel of a motor vehicle always "pays off." While traffic lights operate automatically, and generally perform their job well, it is the human element in motor cars that is unpredictable. I found this out again a few mornings ago at the intersection of Hunter Blvd. and Oakland.

For years I have crossed this intersection, on my way to work. Seldom have I observed other motorists "running the red light." Few accidents have occurred there since the traffic lights were installed some years back.

So, on this recent morning, I approached the intersection with a red light staring at me. I came to a complete stop, was held there for about half a minute, then the red light gave way to green. I was the first car waiting to cross Hunter Blvd., as usual. I glanced toward the northbound traffic and observed a half dozen cars already stopping.

I then started to proceed . . . but at the same time took another glance at the northbound traffic, and then quickly applied my brakes as a car kept on its northbound way. Its driver hesitated at the red light against him.

That car missed me by about 15 feet.

Again I was reminded of a simple fact in motor driving, a good light, in and of itself doesn't guarantee a motorist safety!

Only the care, caution and courtesy exercised by the motorists can offer such a guarantee. You probably know the words of a currently popular song, "Little Things Mean A Lot," like opposing traffic at a highway intersection, as well as watching the lights, "mean a lot!"

How can you expect today's children to be seen and not heard when they are in the home when they are attending at the movies, have to be heard but not seen? (Why doesn't someone invent noiseless popcorn?)

Practical politics in the United States has become a "game" wherein the party not currently in control of government resorts to every type of strategy to prove the "ins" should be supplanted by the "outs." Indeed, there is a party of "constituents" and another party of "constituents" called "statemen."

What this counts needs at traffic intersections, instead of the red, amber and green lights, is an automatic device which "take over" the operating devices of automobiles, steer them across the intersection safely, then turn the controls back to the drivers. One can think of it, in some cases the automatic device should continue to control certain lanes.

Oakland County Clerk Lynn D. recently wrote a letter to Birmingham City Commissioners congratulating Irene Hanley, local City Clerk, for her excellence in handling election duties. She is her responsibility. The Eclectic, too, adds its praise for Miss Hanley's talents as "walking encyclopedia" on matters related to the legal and technical business of voting.

## City May Lose Plan Director, Gain Consultant

Birmingham may lose its plan director and gain a consultant.

City Plan Director Robert Boatman disclosed at a Tuesday night Plan Board meeting his wishes to join the services of Planning Consultant Scott Bagby and serve Birmingham on a part-time basis.

Rather than hire somebody new to Birmingham, the board indicated it would rather have Boatman's services on that basis than to lose his services altogether.

Bagby was asked to present a program to the board indicating how much time Boatman would have to spend with the Birmingham Plan board.

Boatman said he would like to make the change in October or November.

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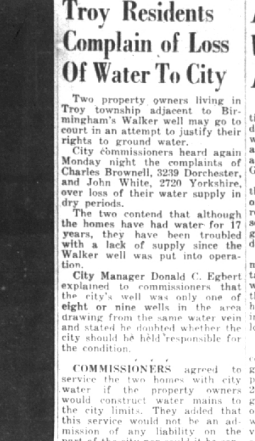
# Oak Street Extension Fused Commission



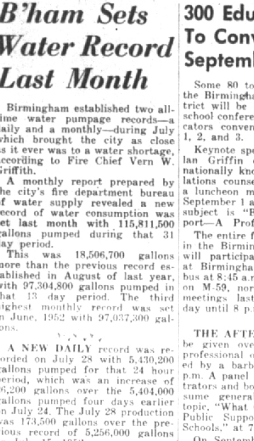
LT. TIMM



SGT. STIERS



SGT. EMMETT



SGT. EMMETT

LT. SERVICE

Mirthfully celebrating 100 Years of Service

(Eccentric Photo)

## Total of 100 Years Service Mark of Four City Officers

By VIRGINIA REINLEY

Looking back over 100 years of accumulated service, four Birmingham police officers this week recalled the days when people had so much respect for the law that they either paid their fines or "dropped dead" with fear.

The four officers of the Birmingham police department, who have celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversaries in policing are Lt. Delyle Service, Lt. Henry W. Timm, Sgt. Leo A. Stiers, and Sgt. Robert Emmett.

The quartet has served under these four chiefs: James Anderson, Ora J. Tuttle, John P. Hackett and Ralph W. Moxley, who heads the department today.

FIRST of the quartet to join the local force was Lt. Service who came on November 15, 1928. Service is a native of Ortonville, Mich. He lives with his wife at 663 Bloomfield Court.

Lt. Timm joined the force July 16, 1929. He and his wife make their home at 1275 Cedar. They have one grown son.

Sgt. Emmett served a year with the police force at Orchard Lake before he joined the Birmingham staff July 25, 1930. He has one married daughter. He and his wife live at 627 Ave. D.

Sgt. Stiers, formerly of Detroit, joined the force on August 1, 1929. He and his wife live at 1054 Hazel.

Sgt. STIERS who served with the Polar Bears division in World War I, recalled the early days with the force before the advent of radio when the department used "walkie-talkie" lights.

When the green light lighted up, it was the signal for the nearest officer to call in to the station, using the "call box" located on the pole below the light.

THEY THERE were the bleak years of depression when members of the police force went without pay for almost 60 weeks. They lived on beer for meals at the welfare office.

ly are, the old-timers, contend. "They don't know what it is to work a 10-hour day, six days a week, and ride around in an open touring car in winter weather," said one of the four old-timers.

But today's force with a personnel of 35 people and its modern equipment has come a long way from those days in '28 and '29 and as much as the old-timers like to talk about it, they wouldn't trade the world trade these days for those.

Lt. Timm recalled the "big rig" back in 1930 when he and his wife helped evict a mother and her three children. Their residence at Coolidge and Maple burned to the ground.

Sgt. Stiers recalls a "toughie" he and another officer apprehended back in 1946. The bandit carried a 38 revolver belted under his stomach, and declared "no police in the U.S. could take him." After he was disarmed and safely handcuffed in the front seat, the bandit muttered, "I guess you guess think you have Dillinger."

THEN THERE was another time, Stiers recalled when he put eight holes through a Buick about 3:30 a.m. one day back in 1947.

It was another stickup-artist, plenty of it discovered by William Midgley from Franklin. It came up with a rush, filling the 20-foot reservoir full in a very short time. Water will squirt the first of August.

MEMBERS of today's force don't know how well off they really are, the old-timers, contend. "They don't know what it is to work a 10-hour day, six days a week, and ride around in an open touring car in winter weather," said one of the four old-timers.

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## B'ham Sets Water Record Last Month

Birmingham established two all-time water pump records—a daily and a monthly—during July which brought the city as close as it ever was to a water shortage, according to Fire Chief Vern W. Griffith.

A monthly report prepared by the city's fire department bureau of water supply revealed a new record of water consumption was set last month with 115,811,500 gallons pumped during that 31 day period.

This was 18,596,700 gallons more than the previous record established in August of last year, with 97,214,800 gallons pumped in that 31 day period. The third highest monthly record was set in June, 1952 with 97,037,300 gallons.

A NEW DAILY record was recorded on July 28 with 5,430,200 gallons pumped for that 24-hour period, which was an increase of 25,200 gallons over the 5,404,000 gallons pumped four days earlier on July 15, 1954.

Pumpage figures for last month represented an increase of 32,798,000 gallons over the 83,012,700 gallons recorded for the same 31 day period last year.

The city averaged a daily consumption last month of 3,735,854 gallons. The basic power cost for the month was \$2,371,774. However, this figure does not include depreciation of the city's investment in the walls and recording equipment.

THE INCREASED pumpage in city grows and increases in population, Chief Griffith said. "Also more people are sprinkling their lawns during the seasonal dry spell."

July 24 began a five-day period which brought the city as close as it ever has been to a water shortage. The day 5,000,000 gallons were pumped out of the ground. The city was forced to sound the general alarm—12 swells of the fire siren—for the first time in many years to indicate to local residents that unnecessary uses of water should be discontinued for at least a two-hour period.

Pressure in the city mains dropped to 14 pounds July 25. The general alarm was sounded each day following at about 6:20 p.m. Saturday through Thursday.

## 3 B'ham Students

Three Birmingham young people attended the National Music Camp this summer sponsored by the University of Michigan. They are Miss Joan Gasaway of 3545 Woodlake court; Miss Dorothy Rodgers of 1952 Wilminton; and Miss Carolyn Shattuck of 590 Henrietta.

## Paving To Resume Here After Strike

Widening and paving of W. Maple between Linden and Glenhurst may be started the first of next week, according to City Engineer L. R. Gare.

A strike at the Haron Portland cement company's Bedford yard which has delayed the Maple paving, came to a close Monday morning and this work was resumed.

The Oak Construction company, reported to have three more days work on Royal Oak streets and then will move into the Birmingham job.

## City Waterworks' First User Was Mattie Baldwin

By RUTH ANNE SILBAR

Those who had worked so hard toward the establishment of a municipal water works system, saw their goal realized in July, 1910.

"Water," cried The Eccentric, "plenty of it discovered by William Midgley from Franklin. It came up with a rush, filling the 20-foot reservoir full in a very short time. Water will squirt the first of August."

Jim Shain, a year later, was set to work by the village board before for more water. It wasn't really necessary—just a precautionary measure.

THEY STARTED running and kept on until they ran into Royal Oak township, stopping in a farm yard. They didn't do a cent's worth of damage.

Mattie Baldwin, who was the first person to suggest the water-works and who quietly and persistently worked for this municipal enterprise, was the first to apply for a village water permit.

First users of the water, applying in the order named were: Mattie Baldwin, James O. Beattie, Mrs. M. L. Noble, Frank Hagerman, Almeron Whitehead, George Mitchell, Whitehead & Mitchell (store), W. K. Taber, Mrs. Esther M. Leonard, Thomas Langley, J. F. Sunder, ERK USES, Pages 2, 3.

## 300 Educators To Convene Here September 1-3

Some 80 to 90 new teachers to the Birmingham public school district will be introduced at a pre-school conference here September 1, 2 and 3.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Alan Griffin of Ohio University, nationally known school public relations counsel, who will address a luncheon meeting of the group September 1 at Walden Woods. His subject is "Building Public Support—A Professional Challenge."

The entire faculties of 12 schools in the Birmingham school system will participate. They will meet at Birmingham high school by bus at 8:45 a.m. for Walden Woods, on M-50, north of Highland, for meetings lasting throughout the day until 8 p.m.

THE AFTERNOON session will be given over to discussions of professional organizations, following by a barbecue supper at 5:30 p.m. A panel of teachers, administrators and board members will discuss general education of the topic, "What Can We Do to Build Public Support For Birmingham Schools?" at 7 p.m.

On September 2 the conference will convene at Quorton school building at 9 a.m. for grade level meetings with group leaders at 11:15 a.m. with the afternoon session given over to building faculty meetings for elementary teachers and departmental meetings for secondary teachers.

On September 3 teachers will meet at their respective schools working with their respective principals.

## Here August 31 To Fete Teachers

Several Birmingham groups are collaborating on an acclamation program for the 80 to 90 new teachers in the Birmingham school system Tuesday, August 31.

Members of the housing committee will be at the head of education office starting at 9 a.m. to help place teachers in area homes. A general convention is scheduled at 10 a.m. at the high school with a luncheon by Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, city schools superintendent.

New teachers will be feted with a luncheon given by the education committee of the American Association of University Women at the Redeemer Lutheran church on West Maple.

Starting at 1:30 p.m. the new teachers will be taken on a school bus tour of the Birmingham area to acquaint them with community facilities.

The tour will be concluded with a stop-over at the Cranbrook Institute of Science where refreshments will be served at 3:30 p.m. by members of the Birmingham Junior League.

THE STATE's share of the cost would be limited to the construction of the 10-foot wide lane in the crossover that will serve the city paying all cost of extending Oak Street.

Egbert was instructed to continue negotiations with the county road commission and to gain some financial aid towards the project.

During the past few years, several fatal automobile accidents as well as numerous injury accidents have been reported at the corner. In each instance Birmingham police have rushed to the scene only to find that the culprits took place outside of the city limits.

## STRICTLY FRESH

After the recent confusion by an attendant in planning for outdoor basing, Birmingham's city manager, seems as if his name should be spelled: "Whistler."

A deluded male motorist who knows says "Whistler" who signal their intentions "aren't."

County Fair judges who take a task of determining whose best will soon be announced.

Sun-bathing organization in convention at the Cranbrook. Mrs. Sun-bathing organization in convention at the Cranbrook. Mrs. Sun-bathing organization in convention at the Cranbrook. Mrs. Sun-bathing organization in convention at the Cranbrook.

The fallow-up called "the comic" page must have a real sense of humor.

(Eccentric Photo)