

# BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

WHEN MRS. ALEX PARNIE was doing research on the 250th anniversary of Detroit, she came across a copy of a booklet called "Picturesque Detroit and Environs", published in 1893. It was, apparently, the only copy in existence in Detroit and was privately owned. The Burton Historical Library wanted the booklet very much and tried to buy it, but the owner would not give it up. The Baldwin Public Library, it was discovered by this Wanderer, who dimly remembered seeing the booklet while working on The Eccentric Anniversary edition, has a copy. Now knowing of its rarity, the Baldwin Library has sent the booklet off to be rebound and has put it on their list of reference books, which are not for circulation.

THE PRESBYTERIANS of the High 12 club have decided not to be outdone by the Methodists in that organization. When the Rev. Arnold Runke's favorite dessert appeared in The Eccentric, under the heading of "Runke-Dunkel", the Presbyterians decided to get Rev. W. Glen Harris' favorite recipe and dub it "Harris-Karris." Both Rev. Runke and Rev. Harris are members of the High 12. Meanwhile, the society editor of The Eccentric is still awaiting the arrival of "Harris-Karris."

PROOF THAT CITIZENS' REQUESTS to the Birmingham city commission are given attention can be borne out by the experience of residents of Eton road between Lincoln and 14 Mile. Last fall, in order to expedite traffic on the street which was widened at that time, the city installed no parking signs on both sides of the street. A resident, S. J. Pillars, 1608 Eton, protested to the commission that the prohibition on parking worked a hardship on residents in that when friends came to call there was no place for them to park. Subsequently, signs along the east side of the street were taken down in the Thanksgiving season. Apparently the system has worked out very well, for the signs have not been re-installed.

FROST, SLEET, snow or what have you, nothing can convince this Wanderer that spring is not heading this way. There have been crows, high-flying water fowl and mourning doves—but—here, there, any of these—the youngsters around town. During the past week we have seen kites, roller skates, marbles and, just this week, sand-lot baseball. The birds may be fooled and find themselves caught in a blizzard, but when the marbles and baseball bats appear, spring is on its way!

HELEN EDEN of Birmingham, a member of St. Dunstan's Guild and Village Players, has appeared in a production of "You Can't Take It With You" while vacationing in Palm Beach, Fla. The production starred Charles Coburn, was presented by the Palm Beach Playhouse. From information received here, Helen did a fine job and really was "tops."

IN ONE of Birmingham's larger grocery stores last Saturday afternoon, there were quite a few very unhappy customers. Some joker had gone through with a pair of mauls, setting a good share of them which promptly caught several unwary shoppers.

BECAUSE THE FINAL DECISION will be made by the next commission, all nine candidates for the Birmingham City commission's three vacancies are being invited to sit in on the informal public hearing next Monday night. The proposed paving and sewers in the Quanton Lake Estates area.

IT IS TO be a late spring this year. You don't believe that? Well, according to a national bureau which deals in such things, spring will arrive in Birmingham on March 21, but it will be some 6 hours and 40 minutes later than last year. incidentally, if you want to get your directions straight, that is an excellent time to do it. The sun rises in the absolute east and sets in the absolute west.

BACK DURING HER SCHOOL DAYS, Mrs. James M. Smith, 4500 Beech road, used to write quite a bit of poetry. Since then, she has penned very few verses. But on the recent March weather, with its sudden contrasts in temperature, moved her to write the following:  
 "When March blew into the yard to play  
 He brought the sun on his natal day.  
 Then he found the wind  
 And the ice and snow,  
 And played and played  
 Until forced to go,  
 Because bride-like April was coming in  
 And would have nothing to do with the likes of him."

**READY TO REPRESENT YOU on YOUR CITY COMMISSION**

A Young Man With a Background and Record of Community Service

JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—Past President  
 LIONS CLUB—Board of Directors  
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—Member Business Committee and Parking Committee  
 UNITED FOUNDATION—Area Captain  
 HOLY NAME USHERS CLUB—Past Treasurer

for  
**VOTE ON MONDAY, APRIL 5**  
**JAMES COUZENS**  
 FOR CITY COMMISSION MEMBER

**A CIVIC SERVANT WITH A REPUTATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

YMCA—Vice Chairman Management Committee and Co-Chairman Permanent Building Committee  
 LIONS CLUB—Director  
 JR. CHAMBER OF COMM—Man of the Year, 1952  
 UNITED FOUNDATION—Chairman Business Solicitations and Member Local Advisory Committee  
 LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL—Team Manager

Let  
**WM. E. (BILL) ROBERTS**  
 Serve On Your City Commission  
**VOTE FOR HIM — MONDAY, APRIL 5**

In the lives of many grownups there have occurred times when, for brief or longer periods, they have played the part of real heroes and heroines. While most of us are the potentialists of sacrificing for others.



ALFRED LABELLE, 6395 Sheringham, Bloomfield township, member of the Rotary Club of Birmingham, is presented with the traditional Hawaiian lei of friendship by Duke Kahanamoku, Honolulu Rotarian. LaBelle, one of 450 Rotarians from 16 states and 12 foreign countries entertained in a recent month by the Honolulu club, met well-known Island businessmen of this city of a quarter million people at the weekly luncheon of Honolulu Rotary. The LaBelles continued on to California after this February visit to the Hawaiian Islands.

### Judge Picard Cancels Speaking Date Here; Successor Announced

Because of illness, Federal Judge Frank Picard has been forced to cancel his speaking engagement here on March 25. The judge, guest of the Presbyterian Men's club, was to have spoken on the legal aspects of the trial of Christ. Robert Fisher announced Tuesday, that speaking in his place, would be Edward R. Powell, pro-consul at the British Consulate in Detroit. Powell, a native of London, will talk about Anglo-American relations and the rebuilding program in England. His theme will be "Britain Today."

### City to Purchase Voting Machines

Purchase of three additional voting machines was approved by Birmingham city commissioners, Monday night. Addition of these machines will bring the city's total to 23 machines. City Manager Donald C. Egbert reported that the city was near a stable voting pattern but added that proposed annexation of the Porritt property might shift some voting populations in that area. Cost of the equipment was set at \$4,200.

### Truck Weight Limits Remain

Truck weight restrictions remain in effect this week for Birmingham's 31 miles of oil mat and gravel streets, according to G. R. Serenbetz, assistant city engineer. Restrictions were imposed last week by City Engineer L. R. Gare who said unreasonably warm weather was threatening to cause a break-up on some streets. During the first week of restrictions, no violators were arrested, Serenbetz said. He added that it is expected that streets will dry up without serious damage, but that the engineering department is watching them carefully and will impose more rigid restrictions if the need arises.

SERENBETZ SAID the cooperation of truckers has been admirable. "We don't have the problems of arresting violators that we had when the existing weight restrictions four years ago," said Serenbetz.

He added that the volume of trucking has also decreased in the city during the past two years because home building lots are getting scarcer and building activity is slackening off. During this season when the frost is working its way out of the ground, single trucks are not permitted to carry more than 11,700 pounds gross weight, and tandem trucks are held to a maximum 16,500 gross pounds. Normal restrictions allow about 60 per cent heavier weights Serenbetz said.

### Ask Traffic Ordinance

City attorney William A. Ewart was instructed to draft a traffic ordinance for the city of Lathrup Village by city councilmen Monday night. The ordinance will precede the creation of a justice court and would enable Lathrup officials to enforce traffic regulations.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

## Jaycees Sponsor May Day Pray Day

A new significance will be given to the Communist holiday, May Day, when the Junior Chamber of Commerce leads the observance of a day of special prayer for world peace on Saturday, May 1. "On May Day the members of the Jaycee organization will pray that God bring together in spirit the Communist leaders and the leaders of our nation so they may hand-in-hand conduct a zealous search for lasting peace," explains Jim Edwards, local Jaycee president. "By so doing, we will not only exert the most powerful force at our command—prayer—toward the search for world peace, but we also will give new, lofty significance to May Day," he adds.

## School Papers Win National Ratings

Publications of two area schools have won national recognition in competition with more than 1,000 schools. The Highlander, Birmingham high school newspaper, won first place in its class of lithographed newspapers in senior high schools of 1,001 to 1,500 students. The Crane, published by Cranbrook school, placed second in its class of printed newspapers of boys' private secondary schools. The contest was under the sponsorship of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and awards were announced at the association's annual convention last week at Columbia University.

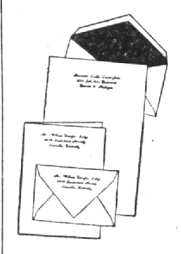
## Set \$3,000 Goal For Easter Seals

Members of the Rotary club have been active in this program for several years with Cammereri chairman of the campaign. Junior League members in Birmingham have been working this week on preparations to mail seals throughout the area. Gar A. Swezey of Royal Oak, county chairman, said some 11,000 seals and letters would go into the mails this week, opening the drive which ends Easter Sunday.

## WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

MISS IRENE M. HANLEY, Birmingham city clerk, has discovered that pretty soon after they move into the city, most new residents are coming into city office to register for voting.

## SAVE 135



March Sale  
**RYTEX FLIGHT**  
 Printed Stationery  
 Double the Usual Quantity

- 200 SINGLE SHEETS
- 100 ENVELOPES
- or
- 100 DOUBLE SHEETS
- 100 ENVELOPES
- or
- 100 LARGE FLAT SHEETS
- 100 ENVELOPES

A \$4 VALUE FOR \$2.65

Fine quality medium weight paper in White or Blue with Blue lined envelopes. Name and Address printed on sheets and envelopes in choice of Block or Script lettering style in Blue ink.

*La Belles*  
 137 W. Maple

## THEY KEEP THEM In Their Desks

Have you ever wondered on special occasions at the promptness with which some persons send Greeting Cards? They remember, and send them to you so immediately that it seems hardly possible they could have selected an appropriate Greeting Card so quickly.

They didn't! They keep them in their desks. Many of our customers choose Greeting Cards for different occasions, doing so at their leisure, and then already have them on hand when the opportunity arises to wish a happy birthday, to send congratulations to proud young parents, to cheer a friend who is ill—or the many other occasions which call for the prompt thoughtfulness of Greeting Cards.

The completeness of our Greeting Card section makes it a pleasure to choose a "home assortment" that is just right!

SEND NORCROSS CARDS

*La Belles*  
 137 WEST MAPLE  
 Birmingham's Shop of Books, Gifts & Stationery

## ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

For the added convenience of our customers we now have two new stands. One at 14 Mile and Woodward Ave. and the other at Oak St. and Woodward Ave.—These two Stands (plus our regular A & P Stand) will give more efficient service, and more reasonable rates to outlying points.

Sincerely  
**The Birmingham Cab Co.**  
 Phone MI. 4-1035 Phone MI. 4-1036