

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM



THAT LITTLE TOUCH of red which outside objects acquired Saturday evening in the Birmingham area and the rest of Southeastern Michigan literally blew in from the area shown on the map at the left. It was a bit of the naive soil of the U.S. Southwest, which has seen the worst dust storm since the Dust Bowl days of the 1930's. Some of the dust was carried to Michigan by winds at a height of several miles, then dropped on the lower part of the state Saturday night. It may have resulted in many stay-up-laters getting some mud in their eyes.

SONGS THAT ARE SUNG at the Rotary district conference in Ypsilanti March 21-22 will be led by the Birmingham club's jovial songleader and tenor, Vic Peck.

THE LADY from Lansing wants to thank the gentleman in the Cadillac but doesn't know his name. It came about last Saturday when she, a new driver, was trying to park her car on East Maple. Finding a minor miracle (two vacant spots) she was preparing to slip into one of them when another car started to pull in ahead of her. A bit confused at this, she came to a momentary stop, only to see the Cadillac come in from the rear and stop in the middle of the two empty places. The first car gave up the attempt to cut the lady off and drove away. Promptly, the man in the Cadillac backed into one of the two places and then offered his assistance should the lady need it, in parking her car. "It was obvious to him that I was flustered, I suppose," she commented, "and he took immediate action to help me out. I certainly do appreciate what he did for me and am quite proud that I was able to do a pretty good job of parking without any further help."

MARCH 1 nearly caught one Birmingham driver with those 1953 plates on. He was observed, late Sunday night, working away in that blinding snowstorm, changing plates so he could drive to work Monday morning.

SPEAKING OF a purple cow, someone once said he hoped to never see one. Speaking of a brown and white dog with a turquoise trim, Mrs. Robert Townend of Lincoln avenue, said she thought she had suddenly lost her mind. "I happened to look out the window the other day and there sat the neighbor's dog, a big brown and white one with floppy ears. That wasn't unusual, but all of a sudden I noticed his whole back was turquoise color and I certainly thought I was seeing things. Apparently he managed to be under a spilled bucket of paint. The rainy weather we're having is slowing bringing him back to his original color, though."

Quick Settlement Between Lathrup, Southfield Seen

Lathrup Village auditors Monday night reported that a property settlement with Southfield township could be completed in the very near future if the two governing bodies can reach a compromise solution on a few differences.

Auditors for both the township and city for two months have been studying assets and obligations of the township in an attempt to arrive at the city's share of township cash and property.

All assets of the township are being figured as of May 22 of last year, the agreed date of Lathrup's separation from Southfield.

OUTSTANDING taxes, miscellaneous revenues and a question of whether the city shares in both the real and personal properties of the township are matters that must be resolved by joint thinking of the two parties, the auditors reported.

City councilmen agreed to meet with township board members as soon as possible to iron out these differences in opinion.

It's Official

May 1-10 has been designated by Birmingham Mayor Ralph A. Main as "Clean Up Days" in support of the campaign sponsored by the local branch of the National Farm and Garden club.

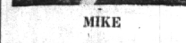
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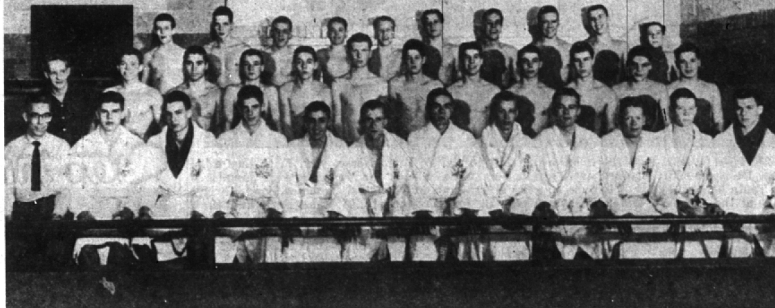


Maurice Thompson
Mike Janis

Phone Midwest 4-1035

There are no actual statistics on the subject... but don't you believe that for every human wrong committed there are many more human good things said and done for others? The answer to the good things that mankind has a tie with the Eternal Divinity.

The Birmingham Eccentric



FOR THE SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR, Birmingham high school's swimming team has won the Eastern Michigan League championship. This year the Maple Tankers were undefeated in league play as they rolled over all comers and swam to a record score in winning the league swimming tourney held last week in Ferris. Seniors on the squad who have been competing for three years have tasted defeat only twice in 32 meets. One of these defeats came last Saturday in a non-league tilt with East Grand Rapids at Michigan State College. Shown above is the team and coach. First

row (left to right), J. J. Myers, coach; Jo Sloane, Russ Hibbard, Bruce Terry, Dick Schwarz, Jim Kelley, George Stinnett, Howard Knorr, Marty DeHaan, Roger Hood, Thor Halvorson, Jim Sturges. Second row—Dave Schutte, manager; Terry Adlong, Dave Allen, Jay Lewis, Bob Libby, Jim Taup, Bob Terry, Pete Hubert, Frank Mabley, Pete Schwenk, Bob Bannard, Bob Emde. Third row—Douglas Lewis, Tom Hizar, Bucky Sellnor, Dick Pease, Alan Dybvig, Donie Thalacker, Algy Pew, Phil Berger, Fred Bleakley, Dick Hubbard. Team member Wayne Geggie is not in the picture.

Lathrup Voters To Have Machines

Lathrup Village will continue balloting by voting machines, city councilmen decided Monday night. The council instructed City Administrator Leonard Watchowski to obtain bids from at least two manufacturers on three machines.

Meanwhile, city officials will continue to negotiate with the township to keep in Lathrup the three township machines used previous to incorporation. Councilmen believe that the machines should either become a part of the city in the settlement of township property or the city reimbursed for their present value.

Lathrup Agrees On Road Program

A limited road repair program will be undertaken this spring by the city of Lathrup Village, city councilmen determined Monday night.

City administrator Leonard Watchowski was instructed to get bids from contractors on purchase and laying of some 2,600 square yards of gravel on critical city streets. Councilmen asked that bids be received by the March 15 city council meeting so work can be started as soon as weather permits.

The program was recommended by Mayor William H. Harvie and argued by Councilman John G. Campbell who suggested the city use slag to top the roads instead of gravel.

General news deadline is 4:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Informal Hearing Set for Streets In Quarton Area

Whether to improve the five streets in the Quarton Lake Estates subdivision may be decided March 22 at an informal hearing between residents and the Birmingham city commission.

That date was set this week by commissioners who want to talk with property owners before taking any official action.

But before the discussion takes place, residents will receive a city manager's report outlining several problems such as improvement will involve.

The city contends it is interested in every street drainage, widths, and surfacing, a program which will "involve substantial expenditures," according to City Manager D. C. Egbert.

COMMISSIONERS now have before them a petition containing 121 signatures, calling upon the city to preserve existing street surfaces until a survey can be completed outlining minimum improvements the city can make.

Streets involved are Lakepark, Puritan, Pilgrim, Fairfax and Suffolk, all between Maple and Oak. They now consist of slab pavements without curbs or proper drainage, according to the city engineering department, and were installed about 30 years ago.

Commissioners have emphasized that they want to determine the area's interest in better streets and drainage, and a willingness to pay for them, since several previous proposals by the city met with such resident opposition that the plans were abandoned.

Lathrup Votes \$1,000, Letters For Tree Care

Lathrup Village city councilmen Monday night appropriated \$1,000 to be used in a tree-trimming program as the first step in combating the dreaded Dutch Elm disease.

The city also ordered that a letter of information concerning the disease and methods of control be sent to every city resident.

The action was taken on recommendations of William N. Gilmore, 32055 Waltham, chairman of the newly-appointed city tree committee.

PRUNING THIS spring will be limited to those six areas in which the disease was found in last year's investigations. The city is not expected to start a spray program this year. Only trees on city property will be included in the program.

The Davey Tree Expert company, Royal Oak, will do the work this year.

Gilmore added that he hoped the council would continue to make annual contributions to a forestry fund so that the program can be continued to include the entire city.

Early copy for church activities makes it better for us and better for you. Don't wait until the deadline, please.

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