

# BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

ONCE AGAIN this Wanderer has had the pleasure of attending the spring concert of the Birmingham high school band, and once again was deeply impressed by these young people. For more than an hour they played, almost without pausing, handling selections not commonly associated with a band. When an insistent audience demanded an encore, they swung into it with as much enthusiasm as they had for their opening number. Under the baton of Arnold Berndt, they showed a talent and "personality" which any professional group might envy. Birmingham may well be proud of this organization.

APPARENTLY the friends of the Baldwin Public Library hit the jackpot when they engaged the services of Margaret Bourke-White. Although she spoke here about a month ago, those who heard her still are talking about her most interesting reports of big magazine assignments; the ease with which she spoke and her obvious enjoyment of being here. Those who had the opportunity of meeting her here just as loud in their praise of "Miss Maggie" as a charming, intelligent, friendly person. A great many frankly say they hope she will be back again.

ROLAND REESE, Birmingham recreation board member, was somewhat puzzled Tuesday night last week when he arrived at the municipal building for a meeting of the board and found no other members present. After a few minutes wait, Reese called Board Chairman Mrs. William Jackson to find out where the rest of the board was. Mrs. Jackson informed him that the meeting was not to be held until Thursday night. "But as long as you are dressed up and downtown, why don't you take in a movie?" Mrs. Jackson suggested. Reese had no comment.

WHEN THE judging was ended, the Centric, weekly bulletin of Birmingham High Twelve, found itself perched comfortably in the second place position, topped only by Highland Park. Judging was done last week when the state organization held its convention at St. Clair. The announcement was made by Floyd Franklin, local president, at the Ladies' Night party Monday. Current editor of Centric is Harold Gasser.

THERE IS a common expression in the Far East that a traveller stopping in Hong Kong is sure to meet someone he knows. The former residents now visiting here, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Steelman, feel this isn't too far fetched. While there on a business trip, they entered a tailor shop and were quite surprised to be greeted loudly and happily by Lt. Sam Bruni, visiting there on leave from the USMC Medical corps. Lt. Bruni, now returning to active duty after a brief leave at home, called his mother on Mother's Day from Naples, Italy.

PASSERSBY near St. James Episcopal church Sunday afternoon were a bit perturbed to see the ladder truck of the Birmingham fire department beside the building. This Wanderer is happy to report there was no fire. The firemen were simply lending a helping hand to members of the Civil Defense radio team, who had to have access to the roof to make a few antenna repairs.

## School Problem Review Explains Bond Issue Need

"A review of enrollment figures for the Birmingham public schools indicates the fact that no end is in sight insofar as is school problem is concerned."

With this statement, Birmingham School Supt. Dwight B. Ireland announced his plan to personally contact PTA groups with an explanation of the \$5,500,000 bond issue for school expansion which will be presented to school district voters on June 14.

Discussing the present school conditions, he pointed out that the lowest point in enrollment was reached in 1944-45 with a total of 2,601 children in attendance. In 1947 the enrollment began to increase by leaps and bounds and now approximates 7,656.

Formerly most of the increase in enrollment took place during the summer months. The increase in enrollment now takes place all through the school year.

AS AN EXAMPLE, Ireland chose the week ending Friday, April 30 when 34 new pupils enrolled and 14 pupils were withdrawn, or a net gain of 20 pupils.

"This is almost an additional classroom," Ireland stated.

"A second fact which indicates the future increase one can expect comes from a study of class enrollments. Fewer than three hundred students will be graduated this June. These will be replaced by approximately nine hundred kindergarten pupils.

"Every class is replaced by a larger class through the promotion of pupils. Even if this community were to stop growing and present pupils were promoted, one can easily see graduating classes in excess of eight hundred pupils in a few years," he said.

A STUDY of trends of growth in the secondary school now indicates the fact that the tide of increased enrollment is striking at the secondary level, Ireland continued. "By the promotion of pupils now enrolled in our schools, and with no consideration given to the future growth of this community, the junior high school will have an enrollment of 2,500 students in grades seven, eight, and nine by 1950," he emphasized.

The senior high school also will exceed an enrollment of 1,800 students by 1950 on the basis of present enrollments with no consideration given to the continued growth of the community, he added.

"NO END SEEMS to be in sight," he declared. Development of the Porritt property on Adams road, development of terraces on Derby road, proposed development of the Mercer farm along the west side of Cranbrook road, and many other developments indicate that no relief is in sight.

There is no better reason for eating and enjoying a good meal than having an appetite for it. He who develops an appetite for a better, for mental, spiritual growth will grow into the stature of "the fullness of man". Such a hunger grows mankind's Destiny.

## Plan Expansion Of Police, Fire In Troy Township

Ways and means to secure public approval for an expansion of police and fire facilities in Troy Township will be the special project of a committee appointed Monday night by Troy township board.

The board has until May 25 to adopt a proposal for an August election in which it hopes to ask township voters to approve a plan of financing the expansion.

Appointed to study the problem of drafting the proper proposal are Township Supervisor Norman Barnard, Fire Chief E. M. Schroeder, Police Chief David Granger, and Township Attorney Malcolm Heber.

BOARD MEMBERS indicated that some proposal will be adopted at the board's meeting May 24.

"We have been financially on a police and fire departments from state tax monies in the past, but now our needs are growing beyond the ability of these funds to meet them. If we are going to expand our police and fire, we will have to find some other means to pay for it," said Barnard.

Monday night the board studied specifications for a new fire truck as approved by Schroeder. Cost of the equipment is estimated at \$20,000. Board members agreed a definite need exists for more fire fighting facilities.

Barnard said that before long, there will be a need for possibly two new fire stations, one for the east side and one for the west side of the township.

Board Treasurer Fred W. Hildebrandt said industrial establishments and homes that are springing up in the township are entitled to greater protection than present equipment affords.

## Parking District B Asked for 5 Lots

First petitions asking a rezoning to parking district B were submitted last week.

They concern five lots on the east side of Bates street, north of Little, where Wabek Corp. and Jacobson's, Inc. plan to provide off-street parking for several hundred cars.

Presently zoned multiple dwelling, the five lots would be changed to a new parking classification adopted by the Birmingham city commission last week.

If approved at a public hearing June 7, such parking facilities would have to be adequately screened from abutting residential property.

## Kegel Heads Slate For B'ham PTA

William Kegel was elected president to head the Birmingham high school PTA for the ensuing year.

Other new officers include Mrs. Covert Robertson, mother vice president; Norman Weston, father vice president; Miss Charlotte Will, teacher vice president; Donald Bevis, treasurer; Mrs. Stanley Gilen, corresponding secretary; Mrs. A. M. Browne, recording secretary; and Mrs. Rollin Gish, historian.

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## Adams PTA Has Mrs. Belle Murray As Guest Speaker

Mrs. Belle Farley Murray of the University of Michigan extension service was guest speaker of Adams PTA Monday evening at the school. "Family and Child Relationships" was her topic for this last meeting of the school year.

Mrs. H. D. Lester, newly elected president of the PTA, has announced the following chairmen to assist her next term: Mrs. R. O. Elmerby, ways and means; Heber Hiss, program; Mrs. C. C. Abdo, hospital; Mrs. Ted Moranda, magazines; Mrs. W. M. Hebblewhite, adult education and Mrs. E. Walsh, library.

Others are Herb Snelling, recreation; Mrs. Dick Jacobs, publicity; Mrs. B. B. Kelley, health; B. A. Elmes, membership; Mrs. C. B. Johnson, service; Mrs. L. E. Quinn and Mrs. J. G. Dingle, PTA Council; Bruce Minturn, Cub Scouts and Mrs. R. L. Garrison, Girl Scouts.

## Honor Hills Couple At Barbecue Party

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil King entertained the couple at a steak barbecue at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Murrin C. Betts of Stoneleigh, Bloomfield Hills. The Kings are moving to Defiance, O. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Edward Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bailey, the Rev. and Mrs. Emil Kral, and Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn Bonner.

Mrs. Betts and Mrs. King grew up together in Alabama and came to Bloomfield Hills three years ago.

## Visits Daughter

William Morrison has returned to his home at Manquette after a month's visit with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Paul William Dutton of Park street.

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# The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION 6

Thursday, May 13, 1954



ENGAGEMENT of Marlene Cutler to Lawrence J. Schrader is announced by her mother, Mrs. Glen Weldon of Detroit. Lawrence's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schrader, 1962 Sheffield. A candle-light wedding is being planned for June 25 at Our Saviour Lutheran church, Detroit.

## Ladies' Golf Season Officially Opens At Pine Lake CC

Ladies' opening golf breakfast was held last week to advise golfers and would-be-golfers of plans for the season at Pine Lake Country club. Golfing will begin today.

Chairman of the group will be Mrs. Stewart Nunneley. Assisting her will be Mrs. Joseph Brennan, vice chairman; Mrs. Ray Eppert, district representative; Mrs. Edward M. Stout, Jr., and Mrs. Robert P. Sauer, handicap chairman

and co-chairman, respectively; Mrs. Frank Arnold, junior district representative; and Mrs. P. H. Pope, publicity.

The rules committee consists of Mrs. Milton J. Deck, Miss Marion Crane and Mrs. Vernon W. Wheeler.

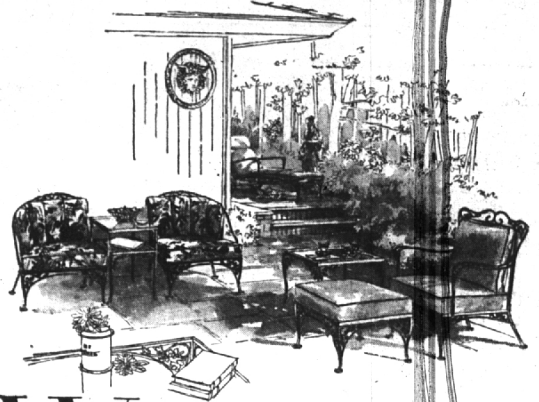
## U of M Students Pledge Fraternities

Kendall Fowler and Dudley Chapman will be among the honored convocation guests in Ann Arbor on Friday.

Dudley, a sophomore at the University of Michigan, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Chapman,

## Accessories Is Topic

Miss Maxine Sheldon spoke on "Decorative Accessories" before members of the SOC chapter of Alpha Chi Omega at a meeting held Tuesday at the Lakeside road home of Mrs. A. S. Thornbury. Assisting her were Mrs. William J. Cass, Mrs. Robert Murphy, Mrs. Hamilton Dendel and Mrs. James Tupper.



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