

Memories of a Summer Vacation

"The fellow she would have liked to have met" while vacationing at the beach is mirrored in this pretty young lady's sunglasses. But with summer vacation time just about over, he will become a fading memory until next year . . . when her concealed stare is focused on a new young man . . . and a new memory. (Photo by Joe Aperach for The Eccentric)



This and That

By G. R. A.

A wise old Irish woman, who lives in a small shack on the outskirts of the city, once said that men were guilty of three most astonishing follies. The first was the climbing of trees to shake down the fruit, when if they would but wait the fruit would fall of itself. The second was the going to war to kill one another, when if they would only wait they must surely die naturally. The third was that they should run after women, when if they did not do so, the women would surely run after them.

We read in the newspapers that the price of coffee is to drop a few cents. Does this reduction provide grounds for assuming that the cost of living is on the decrease?

Michigan's House Speaker Wade Van Valkenberg proposes to have the State Constitution amended next spring, by electing a Governor to two terms in office. This no doubt comes about because DeWitt C. Davis, Williams, not of Van Valkenberg's party, has been elected three terms. When if Wade would have thought up this idea if the current Governor were a Republican, and had been elected as often as Williams.

Each pretty hand can steer a ship becalmed; but he that will govern and carry her to her ends must know his tides, his currents, how to shift her sails; what she will bear in foul, what in fair weather; what her springs are, her leeks and how to stop them; what strands, what rucks, do threaten her; the forces and the nature of all winds, gusts, storms and tempests. When her keel flows hell and deck knows heaven, the name to manage her becomes the name and office of a pilot.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

A Washington, D.C. tourist spotted this inscription on a huge public building: "What Is Past Is Prologue." Asking the cabbie what it meant, he got this reply: "That's government talk for 'you ain't seen anything yet!'"

Although our American military services are fully aware of the current dangers to human life that exist in the use of deadly modern weapons, they prove themselves inconsistent in thinking. Example: after World War II it was found they had on hand enough spare parts to keep their jets running at maximum rate for 104 years.

It long has been argued that small towns have more gossip than big towns. Can this be true? Or does it only appear that there is more fun watching a game when you know all the players?

A dictator, to remain in office, must control every medium of communication, chiefly the newspapers. In Argentina Dictator Peron forced all opposition newspapers to close. When if he had known that wouldn't be actually confiscated their property, paying only a token price. Another device he used was to place the import of all newspaper under his control, dishing it out as he saw fit. He has just abandoned this control on newspaper imports—but do you suppose he hasn't done this as a mere "gesture"—knowing that he still controls Argentina's news papers? He's still a dictator!

City Is Willing To Operate Kresge Parking Lot

Birmingham is willing to maintain an 18-car, metered parking lot on the northwest corner of Hennetta and Merrill, city commissioners agreed Monday night.

They tentatively accepted a proposal to pay the S. S. Kresge Co., owners of the lot which is presently used for the sale of new building, a token lease of \$1 a year and the amount of yearly city taxes the parking lot would add to the Kresge tax bill.

The city estimates it will net about \$1,000 a year from the lot, even though revenues are used to defray operating and maintenance costs and school and county taxes.

The Kresge board of directors now must approve the agreement.

All makes of inner spring mattresses removed. One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial 9-7777 and ask for ENterprise 6219.

Tardy Taxpayers Face Penalties as Deadline Passes

With the deadline for receipt of city taxes falling on Tuesday of this week, Birmingham books were slightly behind last year at this time with just over 83 per cent of the tax bills paid.

One year ago on August 30, the city had collected 86.6 per cent of its taxes.

While mail still is being received at the city hall with postmarks bearing the August 31 deadline, it seems probable that a larger percentage of residents will face a penalty for tardy tax payments.

According to Deputy Treasurer Alice Upward, the city of Monday had collected \$791,766.01 of the \$921,741.57 levied.

The penalty here calls for the payment of three-quarters of one per cent of the bill each month after the deadline.

IN BLOOMFIELD HILLS, 81 per cent of the tax monies had been received as of Monday with \$81,564.84 in the city treasury out of the levy of \$101,579.52 according to City Clerk Robert Stadler. The penalty there is the same as found in Birmingham.

Lathrop residents face a far more severe penalty when they are late paying for the city's yearly operations.

Four per cent of the tax bill is added as of Sept. 1 on late taxes with one-half of one per cent added monthly after Oct. 1.

City Treasurer Florence Bennett estimated that \$25,000 of the city's \$29,000 levy had been collected, accounting for 86 per cent of the total sum.

Fire by Kids

A fire set off by youngsters playing with matches Saturday morning in a parked automobile at the corner of Merrill and Southfield resulted in about \$25 damage to a seat cushion.

A 4-Day Week Coming Up

For The Eccentric's Editorial and Advertising staffs . . . So please try to get your news and/or advertising copy to us by this weekend . . . And then we, too, will have a more enjoyable Labor Day holiday.

Plan Board To Continue 14 Mile Study

Birmingham plan board was in receipt last week of a letter from Oscar Gunderson, traffic engineer consultant, which stated that the recent survey on 14 mile road taken by the city was incomplete and that further study should be made.

According to Gunderson the survey, by itself, does not prove the desirability for opening 14 mile road between Southfield and Cranbrook roads.

Gunderson cited the need of 14 additional items of information to complete the survey taken at the West Maple/Cranbrook intersection, which indicated that 3000 vehicles heading south could use 14 mile road, thus avoiding congested sections of Birmingham.

ADDITIONAL information which Gunderson reported should be presented to show need for opening 14 mile road includes the following:

Diversification of traffic to Lincoln.

Modified desire line chart and a summary of the origin-destination information.

Congestion rating and travel time studies.

Review of the Master Plan of highways with particular attention to Southeastern Oakland County.

Determination of minimum right-of-way width for 14 mile road between Southfield and Cranbrook roads.

Estimate of how much of the right-of-way for 14 mile road he obtained by deduction and an appraisal of the remainder.

Approximate construction cost of 14 mile road in the mile in question.

Analysis of the problem of improving Cranbrook road as far south as Northwest-eastern highway.

A presentation of the population of the area.

(See STUDY, Page 8, Sec. 1)

Deputy Defense Director Resigns

Citing the lack of interest in a local program, Deputy Civil Defense Director Rex Iles Tuesday resigned in a letter to Defense Director Ralph A. Main.

This week Mayor Charles B. Frew admitted the program had been "drifting", but said, "But I don't know what we can do about it. It's difficult to sustain local enthusiasm when there is very little in the rest of the area."

Summer Fun Concludes For 18,000 Students

Reaffirm Interest in Lake Water

In an effort to explore the long-range solution to the problem of an inexhaustible pure water supply for Birmingham and other Oakland County cities, including Pontiac, as well as Detroit, city managers of Birmingham, Royal Oak and Pontiac met Tuesday to discuss the problem.

This meeting, sponsored by The Eccentric, Daily Tribune of Royal Oak, and The Pontiac Daily Press, included George R. Averill, Grant Howell and John W. Fitzgerald, respectively representing these newspapers, George G. Schmidt, of Royal Oak, secretary-manager of the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority, also was present.

Donald C. Egbert, Edward M. Shafter and William Willman, managers of Birmingham, Royal Oak and Pontiac, respectively, also were present, and they narrated the water problems of their cities.

IT WAS pointed out by Egbert and Shafter that the movement to organize the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) began back in 1949 when the population growth of the area made tremendous strides, bringing with it an ever-increasing demand on its water systems.

The SOCWA eventually brought together Birmingham, Royal Oak, Berkley, Huntington Woods, Clawson, Pleasant Ridge and Southfield Township, who comprise local membership in this body, with authority to make a contract with Detroit, and to issue revenue bonds to pay for the cost of connecting mains to Detroit to service each community's existing system. This total cost is estimated at approximately six million dollars.

During this five-year interval from 1949 to date, Pontiac did not express a desire to enter into the authority.

HOWEVER, within the last two or three years, Pontiac's growth created summer water shortages, and Manager Willman said Tuesday that his city now is interested in seeking water outside its limits, perhaps by joining other municipalities in the construction.

(See WATER, Page 8, Sec. 1)

Parking Lots Ready, But Opening Awaits Decision on Setbacks

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

Waiting, still waiting for those off-street parking places first proposed by the Wabek Corporation and Jacobsons a year and a half ago.

While the three newly-resurfaced lots to be operated by National Garages of Detroit are nearly ready to admit harassed motorists, delays in sideway set-backs and screening may keep the spacious lots just out of reach for another 10 days, according to Edwin Peabody, a spokesman for National Garages.

And it's "round and round" the block for drivers searching for those elusive, on-street parking places until the city's zoning board of appeals can act on either reducing set-back requirements for lots adjacent to Warren court property as well as on the lot north of Bates, or ruling that the set-backs will stay.

WABEEK-JACOBSONS officials hope to have the set-backs reduced from the required 12 feet on the lot north of Bates to five feet. This matter already has come before the board of appeals twice without decision.

The property owners also seek concessions from owners of residential property abutting the lot west of Bates.

Meanwhile, the brightly painted signs erected by National Garages stand at the entrances of empty lots, lots that will hold an estimated total of 500 cars.

The garage firm had hoped to open on Wednesday of this week until they learned of the continuing zoning dispute.

"We don't want to open the lot until the matter is settled," Peabody stated.

WHEN THE lots eventually are opened, parking rates will be 15 cents per hour with a 10-cent charge for each additional hour. Plans call for a special section of one of the lots for all-day parking.

Lots that are being groomed for Birmingham shoppers are at the rear of the Wabek Building, at the rear of Jacobsons' Maple avenue area and east and west of Bates street and west of Wil-



Answer to parking problem?

County Joins City In Oak Extension

Extension of Oak street to Hunter or boulevard was given a further push Monday night when city commissioners learned that the Oakland county road commission has agreed to participate in cost of the project.

A week ago commissioners instructed City Manager Donald C. Egbert to proceed with negotiations with the state highway department and Secony Vacuum Oil company to close the present north-bound cross-over at Woodward and Hunter and gain property rights across the triangle for the Oak extension.

Egbert was then also instructed to ask again for county participation in the program.

THE COUNTY has tentatively approved its assumption of half of the city's cost for the improvement, leaving the city with a probable bill of only \$8,000 to correct the oft-cited dangerous Woodward-Hunter intersection.

The county's share is expected to be \$5,700 with the state paying one-half of the estimated \$24,000 cost.

Commissioners approved the proposed agreements and instructed Egbert to complete the plans with Secony-Vacuum for the dedication of the property.

AS HAS BEEN the custom for many years, the four public Birmingham schools will report to their respective schools on the day after Labor Day, Sept. 7.

Schools will resume Wednesday on full-day schedules.

Elementary pupils will report by 9 a.m. and will be dismissed at noon. High school pupils will report by 8:20 a.m. and will be dismissed at noon.

All seventh grade pupils residing east of Woodward will report to Adams. All seventh grade pupils residing west of Woodward will report to Barnum. Eighth grade pupils will attend Barnum.

STUDENTS in grades nine through twelve, inclusive, will report to Birmingham high school by 8:10 a.m. and be dismissed by noon.

Four schools in the Bloomfield (See STUDENTS, Page 8, Sec. 1)

Pembroke School Not Ready

Parents of some 18,634 school-aged children in four school districts are reading their youngsters for the opening of a new school year Sept. 7 and 8.

Thirty-eight public and parochial schools—including two new ones—in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Southfield and Troy school districts are slated to open next week. However, a third new building, Pembroke school, cannot possibly be ready for the opening by children on Sept. 7. Completion date is indefinite, possibly not until mid-November, according to Birmingham Supt. of Schools Dwight B. Ireland.

This means that the Birmingham school system will commence the school year with twelve instead of thirteen schools as anticipated earlier this year.

The approximately 450 elementary children at Pembroke will be crowded into Torrey, Adams, Beverly and Baldwin schools, which are assigned to Baldwin and Beverly schools.

Primary children are to be housed in the Adams and Torrey schools, whichever is nearest their homes.

HOWEVER, regular day-long sessions for the Pembroke students have been made possible by utilizing all available space in four elementary schools. Rooms designed for music classes, art education, library services and other special activities have been pressed into service by the four other schools.

A full complement of teachers has been employed for the Pembroke school. Children are assigned to their own teachers, and classroom units will be kept intact regardless of the temporary locations of their classrooms, Ireland said.

This will facilitate rapid and smooth transfer to Pembroke with no disruption of schedules when the school is completed, he added.

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STRICTLY FRESH

A chorus in Moscow is said to dance the can-can equally as well as any Parisian chorus. Moscow's diplomats have long been tops at performing the "can't-can" on the international chorus line.

In the fall's young girl's fancy turns to what she's been thinking about all spring and summer—a new winter coat.

A Chicago judge has ordered a housewife to cook three meals every day for a period of three months as punishment for a marriage reconciliation agreement. Hazzoner never showed up for dinner at THAT home, if he's wise.

City fathers of Berea, Ohio, about to pass a law to round up stray dogs, recalled just in time that the city has no dog catcher or pound. They were really suffering from the heat.

Postal Inspector in Sonoma, California, found 100 letters over two years old in a letter box of an abandoned branch office. Why can't some of our bills wind up in such a place?

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All makes of inner spring mattresses removed. One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial 9-7777 and ask for ENterprise 6219.

FINALISTS in last weekend's Springdale Junior golf tournament relax over refreshments after qualifying for the permanent trophy are, from left, Warren Sumner, Mike Brandt, Dave Sturgess and John Shelley whose scores of 42, 53, 54 and 16, respectively, in the semi-finals last Thursday won them the chance to compete for the championship. Sumner won the tournament by posting a 39-36-65 over the 18 holes with a handicap of 10. Runner-up was Shelley with a 71. (Eccentric Photo).