Critics and criticism, of the proper kind, have a rightful place in human affairs. It is only when the critic sets himself above the art or science that he criticizes that his place in society can be questioned. Be the right kind of critic!

The Birmingham Eccentric

Thursday, February 17, 1955 · SECTION 5

'Round the Towns

Bloomfield, Troy Township Primary Balloting Seen Light

DAVID GOODWIN · DR. DONALD AIKEN · LARRY BLANTON · BUD BUNNELL

Boys' Club members discuss club activities with committee chairman. (Eccentric Photo)

Memberships Open To New Boys' Club

WALNUT LAKE—Memberships in the newly-formed Walnut Lake Boys Club are now being accepted.

The club, sponsored by the community's Men's Club, will meet every Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Men's Club until a suitable meeting place is found.

Headed by Committee Chairman Dr. Donald N. Aiken, the club invites all boys between the ages of 13 and 19 to enjoy participation in sports and games under adult supervision.

Helping Aiken will be Dr. Russ Jokeh, Stewart Schultz, Kenneth Crumb, Richard Nelson and Roderick Menoch.

The first meeting of the organization was held Feb. 10 and initial membership blanks were handed out to Tom Harrison, Dave Paige, Danny and Dennis Welker, Bill Bishop, Gerald and Larry Bal Blanton, Dave Goodwin, Charles and David Sarlund, Ralph Flebig, Pete Whims, Bud Bunnell and Bill Rice.

Firemen Harassed By False Alarms, Traffic Problems

BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE — Continuing problems over false alarms and traffic congestion at the scene of fires has resulted in a plea to residents made by Fire Chief Charles W. Wiggins.

The rash of false alarms that began to plague township and village firemen last fall pose a definite threat to both property and human life, Wiggins explains.

The greatest danger, he insists, is the ever-present possibility that a real blaze may break out while apparatus is touring the village looking for a falsely-reported fire.

The constant danger to the firemen who rush to the scene of these false reports is also pointed out by the chief.

STILL ANOTHER factor is present during false alarms. The communities of Pontiac, Birmingham, Bloomfield township, Farmington and several other districts are on the same radio station band, Wiggins reports.

All radio communication between trucks and the fire station ties up the band from the other areas and poses still another threat to efficient fire-fighting procedures.

Improper driving and parking habits of interested by-standers has also been cited by Wiggins. Following fire trucks too closely en route to fires and parking too near to the scene of a fire hampers fire - fighting and oftentimes proves dangerous, Wiggins asserts.

Area Governments Pick March Dates For Tax Reviews

Tax Board of Review dates for five area communities have been set for March, it was announced this week by local government officials.

Review dates for the City of Lathrup Village, which expects a heavy schedule due to a reassessment of all Village property during the past eyar, will be March 8, 9, 10, 11, and 14 from 9 to 5 p.m. In addition, two night meetings will be field on March 8 and 14 from 7 to 9.

Bloomfield Hills will hold its Board of Review on the second and third Saturday of March, from 9 to 5 p.m. and longer if necessary, according to Robert Stadler, city clerk.

TROY TOWNSHIP'S Board of Review will meet Wednesday, March 2 from 9 to 5 p.m., and on Tuesday, March 8, from 9 to 12 and from 6 to 8 p.m. The board will be checking area property on March 1 and 7, according to Fred Hillebrandt, township treasurer.

Board of Review meetings for Bloomfield Township will be on Monday, March 7 and Tuesday, March 8, from 9 to 5 p.m.

Review dates for Southfield Township have been set for Tuesday, March 8, Wednesday, March 9, and Tuesday, March 15 from 10 to 4 p.m. Monday, March 14, the board will meet from 10 until 8 p.m.

City Acts To Buy Voting Machines

LATHRUP — City Clerk Florence Bennett Monday night was instructed to obtain purchase contracts on three voting machines from the Automatic Voting Machine company.

City officials are expected to purchase the machines at their next meeting at a cost of $1,375 each less rental fees.

SEMON E. KNUDSEN

Name S. E. Knudsen General Manager Of GM Diesel

Semon E. Knudsen, 31500 Bingham road, Southfield township, this week was appointed general manager of the Detroit Diesel Division, General Motors corporation, by Harlow H. Curtice, GM president.

Knudsen, son of the late William S. Knudsen, president of General Motors from 1937 to 1940, succeeds William T. Crowe, who is retiring after 35 years' service with GM.

The new general manager will go to Detroit Diesel March 1 from GM's Allison Division where he has been manufacturing manager for aircraft engine oeprations since Dec., 1954. He has been at Allison since Feb., 1953.

A GRADUATE of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Knudsen joined General Motors as a process engineer at Pontiac Motor Division in 1939.

At Pontiac, he was successively chief inspector-defense plant, superintendent of the car assembly plant and assistant general master mechanic before he was appointed director of the process development section in August, 1949.

To Ask State To Abolish Turnpike Law

While residents and municipal officials grid for the local battle to block the proposed turnpike through Southfield and Bloomfield townships, a move started this week in the state legislature may dissolve the Michigan Turnpike Authority.

Senator William S. Broomfield (R-Royal Oak) has stated he will seek to abolish the Authority now that the Federal government has initiated action for an extensive public highway program.

Broomfield's move comes on the heels of grumblings in the legislature against the power being assumed by Turnpike officials.

William E. Slaughter of Southfield township, chairman of the authority, is quoted as saying the authority will not fight for its life.

THE STATE legislature ordered the authority to come up with a toll road program for the state. Slaughter explained. He added that if the state no longer wanted the program the authority would stop its studies.

Dearborn city officials joined the fight against the Flatrock to Saginaw expressway early this week, charging that the proposed route would destroy planning and property values in the city.

Locally, members of the Foxcroft subdivision association meet Tuesday night to discuss plans to block the road. Under the direction of Ellsworth E. Kramer, subdivision president, the group noted its protests against the road that is proposed to parallel Telegraph through Bloomfield and Southfield.

SOME 125 persons, representing 60 per cent of subdivision residents, voted to create a special resolution committee and to assess property owners for funds to finance protests to the state.

The resolution committee of five men was instructed to prepare a

(See STATE, Page 2, Sec. 5)

Only Two Contests Slated In Small Bloomfield Race

While over 10,000 voters are eligible to go to the polls Monday, Feb. 21, in the regular township primary elections, little interest in competition between candidates is expected to keep voting figures down.

Lack of candidates in Southfield and W. Bloomfield townships cancelled the primaries in both these communities.

In Bloomfield, only 11 names will appear on the ballot. Troy offers the only real election as a full slate has been entered for both parties.

In Bloomfield, some 4500 people are registered while Troy rolls contain 5,841 names.

Only two nominees can lose in Bloomfield township's abbreviated ballot.

ONLY CONTESTS are for two-year trustee terms and a four-year justice of the peace term.

There is no Democratic slate.

Three candidates will seek the Republican nominations to the two trustee vacancies. They are Bessie M. Griswold, Albert A. Clark and Mark R. Kraus.

Kraus and Clark are incumbents. Kraus filled the vacancy on the board left when Henry G. Corbet moved from the township about six months ago.

Mrs. Griswold, who lives on Pon Valley road, has long been interested in township affairs.

Justice Albert C. Carr seeks the nomination for reelection against William R. Rudell for the one justice seat.

OTHER candidates who are unopposed are Supervisor David E. Anderson, Clerk Robert H. Dudley and Treasurer Arno L. Hulet. Three men will seek four constable posts. They are Maurice S. Morey, Karl E. Rhodes and Russell W. C. Pickering.

The township has four voting precincts. Voters in precinct one vote at the township hall, 4200 Telegraph; number two is the Bloomfield Village fire hall, on Bradway, east of Lahser; number three is in the Wing Lake school, Wing Lake road at Maple; number four is at the Hickory Grove school on E. Square Lake road.

Both Republicans and Democrats have offered a complete slate for township offices in Troy.

WHILE TOWNSHIP Supervisor Norman R. Barnard is unopposed for the Republican nomination, Roy L. Duncan and William G. Laimbros both seek the Demo bid for supervisor.

Clifton Truesdell is the lone GOP candidate as he seeks reelection to the clerk's post. Democrat aspirants will be Harold M. Brown, Frances Jo Curtis, Esther Griffin and Matvin W. Kuschinsky.

Republican Incumbent Fred W. Hildebrant seeks nomination to reelection as treasurer against Republican George A. Stuckele. Edward J. Armstrong is the lone Democratic nominee to the treasurer's job.

Six candidates are seeking nomination to the four trustee seats on the Republican slate. They are J. Wesley Smith, George W. Ford, Lyle J. Walker, Donald I. Fornwall, Gerald F. Hannaford and Elmer W. Lowe.

SMITH, WALKER and Ford are incumbent board members.

Democratic aspirants for the four trustee seats are William Stacching, Henry O. Broth, Leonard M. Fandale, William R. Jenkins and Gerald L. Scofield.

No contests are seen in either party for the posts of highway commissioner, board of review member, and justice of the peace.

Henry C. Curtis, Democrat, and Republican George W. Bolton are the sole candidates for the highway commissioner's post.

Grady Moore, Democrat, and Republican Elmer M. Schroeder also will be the only candidates for the board of review nomination.

Joseph A. Gallas, Democrat; and George T. Jeffers, Republican; are candidates for the one justice of the peace vacancy.

FOUR-YEAR justice term will be sought by Ceville H. Mason, Democrat, and Scott C. Belyea, Republican.

Five Democrats will seek nomination to the four constable posts. They are Thomas H. Tucker, Robert D. Hartley, Barbara Rightmyer, Victor E. Schade, Sr., and Robert Sciskowicz.

No opposition on the ballot is seen for the Republican bid for the constable openings as four have filed for the same number of posts. They are Michael R. Cyr, Anthony Lubinski, Jr., Melvin K. Shook and Dennis W. Slattery.

No contests in either party are scheduled for the two one-year terms, two four-year terms and two six-year terms on the township park commission.

ON THE Democratic side for the two-year terms are James King, for the four-year term, Iitia B. Munyan, Jr., and Glenn A. Watson; for the six year terms, Donald J. Flynn and Lloyd A. Stage.

Republican candidates are Bertha Trost and Frank Limburg, two year; Erma I. Hampson and Walter Benos, four year; and William L. Latto and Howard P. Estes, six year.

Troy precincts are: Number one, Troy township hall, 60 W. Wattles; number two, Big Beaver fire hall; number three North End fire hall, 5920 Livernois; and number four, 2375 E. Maple.

Area-Wide Problems Aired by Planners

The scope of planning in this area being undertaken by the Detroit Metropolitan Regional Area Planning Commission was explained to members of the Oakland County Planning Commission last week at a meeting in Pontiac.

T. Ledyard Blakeman, executive director of the Metropolitan group and Wing Lake resident, described studies now being made on a land-use map for the entire region, determining the "natural communities" in the area, traffic and blueprints for future sewer and water trunklines.

Blakeman also futhered that his organization would soon join with Oakland and Detroit in an industrial study aimed at obtaining an overall picture of manufacturing in Michigan's southeast section.

ALSO ON hand to discuss problems shared by both Detroit and Southern Oakland county were members of the Detroit city planning commission and the Rochester-Avon-Oakland Area planning commission.

"The meeting to initiate closer coordination of governmental planning activities was called by the county planners.

In discussing the land-use map being prepared by the Metropolitan Area planners, Blakeman stated that it attempts to set up a logical plan for laying out residential, industrial, commerical and recreation districts.

"We adopted a tentative land-use plan for 1953," he said, "And are now taking sub-sections of it to local agencies for their study and criticism before it is made final."

BLAKEMAN added that when a major part of the plan for Oakland county is completed, it will be submitted to the county planning commission for study and recommendation.

The study on "natural communities" in the region, Blakeman explained, is "the design to plan parks, roads, and other services so they will complement whole communities without cutting them to pieces."

Other data gathered on home-to-work traffic "I think will indicate people would like to live as close to their work as reasonably possible given space and a free housing market", Blakeman said.

DETROIT'S own progress in expressway planning, redevelopment of slum areas, civic center and public parking garages was outlined to the group by Armin Roemer, assistant director of the Detroit planning commission.

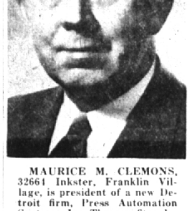
A report on proposed planning of highway development worked out by the Rocheester-Avon-Oakland planners was presented and several changes were recommended by County Highway Engineer Robert A. Larson.

J. Robert F. Swanson, chairman of the Oakland Plan Commission, directed the meeting.

Pledge at MSC

William F. Wilson, 26754 Santa Barbara, Lathrup, was recently pledged into the Michigan State College chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha social fraternity.

More News from 'Round the Towns Section 1, Page 2



MAURICE M. CLEMONS, 32661 Inkster, Franklin Village, is president of a new Detroit firm, Press Automation Systems, Inc. The new firm, located at 18212 James Couzens, will specialize in the engineering of special automation equipment and serve as national sales agent for Hamilton Automation company of Hamilton, Ohio. Clemons was previously with General Motors corporation for 25 years, more recently as master mechanic of Chevrolet-Cleveland Pressed Metal Division. For the past year he has been chief engineer of Sahlin Engineering company, Inc., Troy township.

Leaders Discover Troop Campouts Are For The . . Kids

LATHRUP — Twenty - seven Scouts of Troop B-14 spent a recent fun-filled weekend at Metamora Scout Reservation, Feb. 11-12.

Leaving at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Senior Patrol Leader, Gary Ushman, and two Junior Assistant Scoutmasters, Bob Ewart, and Darryl Pfister, along with Scout Patrol Leaders went ahead to prepare the cabin for the arrival of the balance of the troop the next morning.

With Scoutmaster Al Miller as one team and the entire troop as the other, a snowball fight ended in the quick retreat of the lighter side. With no other snowball team even considering a battle, the Scouts spent the rest of the afternoon—well, mothers who need patches for trouser seats, might try matching material on the hills of Metamora.

ALTHOUGH A very large cabin had been reserved for the troop sleeping arrangements were something of a problem.

Lacking bunk or cot, and being adverse to sleeping on the floor, Troop Committeeman Ted Garrish solved his problem by arranging a bed on a table.

It looked quite comfortable, but sleeping in it proved, much to the amusement of the entire troop, a little difficult.

There was some trouble during the night with a mumbling, grumbling, back-talking furnace, which filled the cabin with a rich, thick smoke, but in the morning after everybody donned overcoats, and overshoes, it was a simple matter to open all doors and windows and let the smokey air out, and the cold air in.

CHUCK TAYLOR, assistant scoutmaster, and another bathrup contender for the "Pancake King" title, made a notable breakfast that morning, assisted on the bacon by a slightly tired Mr. Garrish.

There was a mystery stew for dinner, and although success depended on degree of hunger, there were those who wondered if it was a case of too many cooks, not enough stirring, or Committeeman Don Harshman's missing rubber.

Smelling somewhat smokey, tired but happy, the caravan arrived home late Sunday afternoon, and Monday morning found mother wishing she were an expert on the bugle, or had nerve enough to get son up with the old bucket of water treatment.

COLONEL AND MRS. WALTER OTT

Family united again (Eccentric Photo)

Reservists To Hear Promotions Report

A regular meeting of the 9660th Air Reserve Squadron will be held on Monday, Feb. 21, at 7:30 p.m. in St. James High school, Ferndale.

The program will consist of an Air Force training lecture and intelligence briefing. Captain Lee Kenney, Squadron Commander, will discuss items of squadron business and announce the results of recent promotions.

Small Dog Braves Cold For 10 Homeless Days

The little dog with the big name, Silver Sequin O'Millhurst, a toy poodle owned by Col. and Mrs. Walter Ott, 580 Lahser, has, his owners hope, no more desire to answer "the call of the wild".

It wasn't really Chalkie's fault that he spent about 10 days roaming the countryside, because while Mrs. Ott shopped in the Mill's Pharmacy, someone let the little white dog out of her car. That was the start of a very hectic period in the lives of the Ott family and their dog.

Mrs. Ott and the children spent as much time cruising the vicinity and searching as they could. When the colonel returned from Detroit each night he took over until darkness made it impossible.

IT WAS right at the beginning of the extensive cold wave and all were convinced that the little dog could not survive a night without protection. He had just been trimmed and large portions of his body was practically hairless.

Then came orders for the colonel to report to Washington. Certain that Chalkie had died of cold and exposure, they left for the Capital, but still with home in their hearts.

There, the daughter was taken ill and remained quite sick even after the family returned home. Through it all, she too, worried about the family pet.

The search went on again when persons reported having seen the dog, easily identified by his size, color and the blue collar he wore. The family name, address and phone number were on a tag, but who can read a tag on a dog that darts away, frightened?

THE OTTS began following clues. One lady had seen Chalkie trying to scrounge a meal from a garbage can. Another reported that he came to her yard every morning and ate the seed she had put out for the birds. Each day he appeared to circle around to the vicinity of the pharmacy.

Bloomfield Village police joined the chase—literally—by following Chalkie from yard to yard and street to street, hoping to tire him and corner him in someone's garage.

Finally, the right call came. The Otts rushed to the scene and while Mrs. Ott called the dog, the colonel went to the house for a further check. As he approached the door he saw this small figure walk out of the darkness into an open area. Mrs. Ott called again, and a happy, hungry small dog leaped into her arms.

AT HOME there was a joyous reunion of children and their pet, some good hot food, a good brushing and a warm bed for the wanderer.

"He's much more affectionate now," the Otts agreed, saying Chalkie had been shy before his adventure but is now "one of the family."

1954 County Growth Breaks All Records

Continuing phenomenal growth of the Detroit suburban region is the main reason behind attempts to gain more integreted planning among area communities. (As explained in story immediately above.)

Home building in the region outside Detroit showed no signs of letup during 1954 and problems of serving this new shift in population became more marked during the past 12 months.

While home building in the entire three-county Detroit metropolitan area during 1954 closely approached the record-breaking year of 1950, Oakland county took the honors by breaking all of its records for the year.

This information is contained in the most recent bulletin of the Detroit Metropolitan Area Regional Planning Commission.

In Oakland alone during last year, permits were issued for 12,710 new homes. The previous high was 8,687 in 1953 and the increase represents a 46 per cent jump in home building activity here.

A total of 40,956 permits were taken out in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties and the four eastern townships of Washtenaw county during 1954. In 1950 the record total was 46,423 permits.

SOUTHFIELD township was the fourth highest contributor to the Oakland county total with 983 permits. Bloomfield township was seventh with 630 new homes, closely followed by W. Bloomfield with 606 permits.

Oak Park again led all county municipalities with 1,764 new homes, with Royal Oak township second, with 1,354. The City of Royal Oak also surpassed the thousand mark by granting 1,270 new permits.

An almost unbelievable total of 46,423 new homes have been constructed in the county in the past five years.

On the basis of 3½ persons per home this figure would mean that homes for some 162,000 people have been built in the county during that period, or, as the Regional planners explain, a population equal to the 1950 size of Flint, Mich.

IN 1954, the report continues, new building permits in Royal Oak, Southfield and Troy townships totaled 7,201 to account for over 56 per cent of the building in the entire county.

As Birmingahm reaches near-complete development, only 265 permits were issued during 1954. Bloomfield Hills counted 64 new homes.

Troy township continued to gain in popularity as 395 permits were gained in the township.

STUDENTS FROM MICHIGAN State College are shown chatting in the Mexico City College restaurant while attending the winter term at the only American-style college south of the border. Seated from left to right, are Robert Kopf of Franklin, Frances Gugino of Reese, Mich., Meredith Reynolds Smith, Jr., 1239 N. Woodward, and Emmett Turner of Owosso, Mich. Other Birmingham students attending the term are Eric Davison, 1115 Buckingham; Mary Holmes, 1778 Melton, and Charles M. Smith, 984 Ridgedale.

"You said we ought to buy stock with our savings. How's this for a starter?"