



Life, indeed, is made up of so many little things, little acts, words, thoughts... in just the very best of them, in performance, they are things worth while, for they comprise so much of each life!

78TH YEAR—NO. 19

THIS and THAT

By G.R.A.

Log of a Western Trip

JASPER PARK LODGE, JASPER, ALBERTA, CANADA—This is a big country. The mighty big country, are words that Phil T. Rich, Midland (Mich.) publisher and I say more than once each day as we continue our trek through this beautiful Canadian Province of Alberta, on our way to Vancouver, Seattle, and other northwest U. S. points.

And so true it is for out here in this Canadian Rocky Mountain range country, that one may travel for long distances without coming to a city or village, or even seeing a human being.

The morning that Phil and I drove in our Nash Ambassador from Lake Louise, where we had travelled 48 miles before seeing a person on or along the highway.

I KNOW there are other equally beautiful areas in the country between Calgary and Jasper, a total distance of 267 miles; they must consist of many miles of broad river valley like that through which courses the Bow, Athabasca, Smoky, Whirlpool, and other rivers, of thousands of acres of mostly rolling, open grazing land, upon which countless horses and cattle live, with the accompanying sprinkling of ranch buildings... of rolling grazing lands that rise into foothills, rising higher and higher until timberlines show, bare rocky thrusts... of mountains to emerge into a mountain range, and upon their sides and tops you see great and small glaciers extending downward through mountain-tops, plus many glaciers sitting a perch on the tops of peaks like white caps upon a beloved granddaddy's head.

AND THROUGHOUT all this scenery there are scores of creeks and streams coursing down mountain sides, some of them wide, some of them narrow, tumbling, tumbling in white lacy patterns of intermingling, white whipped cream foaminess... racing according to God's law of gravity toward the mighty valley rivers that take to their bosoms what were once drops of water, became flows of snow, then the solid blue ice of glaciers!

And all of this liquid scenery finally finding its way within the Seven Seas, only again to be lifted by a warm sun into the sky to change into clouds, to fall upon the high and the low places of Mother Earth.

YES, INDEED, one can become enthusiastic about such grand scenery as Alberta offers. Of course, one can find lovely similar scenery in the United States, and were I travelling through it I would never feel an enthusiasm for it, too. But since I'm up here in Canada, I am... as would you, no doubt.

But I started out this piece with the idea of saying something about Jasper Park area, especially in the region of Jasper itself.

THIS CITY, or "townsite," has a population of 2,000 human beings. Its own Altitude is only 3,470 feet, but all around it are snow-capped mountains; flowing (See THIS & THAT, Fig. 1, Sec. 1)

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THIS ARTICLE ABOUT YOU, OLLIE? ASKS BURR TILLSTROM OF OLIVER J. DRAGON "Kukku" creator and star consider Eccentric story on "alligator."

Strict Water Restrictions To Continue

City officials commended Birmingham residents for their cooperation in accepting tighter conservation restrictions during the present heat spell.

"The people have responded wonderfully in what has been a critical situation," said Asst. Fire Chief Park Smith. "However, this does not mean we will remove the restrictions."

Present rules prohibit any sprinkling between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., after which the odd and even days of watering must be followed.

EVERY DAY through Monday the pumping of water exceeded five million gallons. But as result of a brief rain Tuesday, Chief Smith reported that less than three million gallons were used that day.

"That's quite a difference. However, the pumps have been going again moved over five million gallons," he said.

City Engineer J. R. Gare said, "The cooperation of the people has been very good, but in order to meet the peak demand hours from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., we will have to keep the present restrictions for at least another week."

The pumps have been going 24 hours a day, so we are asking all residents to continue their cooperation," he added.

Builder Files \$23,000 Claim

Robert Elder of C. Carl Elder and Son, Builders, 1811 S. Woodward, has filed a claim with the Birmingham National Bank for the amount in their bank account of \$23,616.90.

The shortage, they claim, came from a partnership in a corporation two weeks ago. No accusations have been made.

The bank has asked Robert Elder, one of the members of the building firm, to furnish them with a detailed list of checks in which Elder said were forged in his name.

Greyhound Driver, Mrs. Quilhot, Has Additional Honors

Additional safety honors were announced this week for Mrs. Josephine Quilhot, 1873 Cole, driver of the Greyhound Greyhound for the Great Lakes Greyhound Lines.

The slender motor and grand mother Monday night received the safety award trophy for 10 accident-free years on the Detroit-Pontiac run. She received the trophy at a special ceremony at Detroit's Motor City Speedway.

Earlier this year Mrs. Quilhot was presented an engraved watch for the safety record she has established.

All makes of inner spring mattresses are available in the ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for Enterprise 6318.

Pools, Ice Rink Spur Expansion Of Recreation

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the last of three specially prepared articles surveying the past, present and future of Birmingham's recreational program.

By RUTH ANNE SILBAR

New recreational programs and activities for city young sters already are being planned by Birmingham's recreation board to take effect when new facilities are completed.

With a great deal of enthusiasm, and an inner glow of satisfaction, the board is watching the development of the artificial ice skating rink soon to be built at Eton park.

To cost approximately \$100,000, this recreational facility was approved overwhelmingly by Birmingham citizens last April, and from every indication, it will be ready for use the latter part of November.

Plans designed by O'Dell Howell and Luckenbach are almost completed and according to recreation board members that is the biggest part of the job.

BOARD MEMBERS were assured by the architects that once plans were made, it is only a matter of weeks before the facility will be ready for operation.

The shelter house and ice skating rink, a mechanical rink for all-weather use, will be adequate to provide for 450 to 500 skaters at one time.

The recreation board hopes and expects people of all ages to participate in general and figure ice skating, and in ice games. The shelter will be a cheerful place, its interior walls painted in warm, bright colors and will provide refreshments and a place for social contacts.

"This shelter is the most compact building I have ever seen," Mrs. William H. Jackson, chairman of the recreation board, said. "There isn't an inch of waste space and it is the kind of a building Birmingham will be proud of."

IN SUMMER the rink will provide a concrete surface for tennis, badminton, shuffle board, or other games needing a hard surface playing field. The shelter will be made available for general park use.

The recreation board reserves the summertime use of the shelter facility as a center for general community activities such as parties or outdoor dances. In conjunction with the rink, a large parking lot will be constructed.

Another future program will be a re-organized and complete swimming program for all ages. This is the kind of a building Birmingham board of education swimming pools are constructed, one at the high school and the other at a new junior high on Derby road.

VOTERS approved a school bond issue in June making the construction of these pools a certainty. The high school pool will be completed, according to estimates, for use next summer.

The Derby junior high school will be ready in the fall of 1956 school authorities hope, and will be a combination indoor and outdoor unit with locker rooms to serve adults as well as school children.

These pools together with the present Barnum pool will meet many of the unfilled recreational demands which now are not possible.

STEPS ARE BEING taken by the recreation board to enlarge game and spectator areas. An immediate project in this direction is the construction of the three Little League baseball diamonds at Eton park.

Eventually, the board hopes to make Eton park the center of baseball activity for boys of the Little League and is planning to increase the number of existing baseball diamonds as soon as possible.

In addition, plans are being formulated to provide for the development of all city parks and school playgrounds and other minimum use can be made of neighboring game areas.

The school board already has completed plans for providing playground apparatus and ball diamonds at all new elementary schools.

The recreation board will develop outdoor areas for tennis, archery, badminton and shuffle board, by unit, and will attempt to provide the greatest participation with the least nuisance value.

EVENTUALLY the recreation board hopes to have all spectator sports located at special sites and a start in this direction has been made now in the development of Eton park.

In other recreational activities during the winter also can be increased when the new, Derby junior high school gym is completed.

This coming winter, the high school gym will be made available one night a week for community recreational use. A program of ball sports, badminton, volleyball, roller skating and other minimum use can be made of neighboring game areas.

THE RECREATION board seeks to interpret and evaluate the needs of the community. Mrs. Jackson said, "and to provide the best possible program for the general public."

One on the board responsible for carrying out this function are appointed by the city commission are Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. William H. Jackson, City Manager Donald C. Egbert, City Supt. of Schools Dwight B. Ireland, and school board member William Spence.

'Don't Confuse Me With Alligator'

Pleads Oliver J.

By DOROTHY JEAN ZACK

"Who in his right senses could confuse Oliver J. Dragon with an alligator?" exclaimed the noted television dragon when asked if he might possibly be the Long Lake "alligator."

It hurt the long-sighted star of "Kukku, Fran and Ollie" to think someone could be calling him an alligator.

It was one of those "anonymous" newspaper tippers who called late last week suggesting it must have been "that television dragon" which had been in the lake. We sometimes think elves call with those good ideas.

"I was swimming in Long Lake recently," he told a Birmingham Eccentric reporter who contacted him in Chicago to verify the rumor that he was the creature that had been mistaken for an alligator in the lake.

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NE Parking Lots Get Tentative OK

At a joint meeting of the city commission and the planning board last Thursday, plans were discussed and sites selected for two off-street parking areas in the northeast quadrant.

After consideration of eight possible combinations of proposed parking arrangements, the joint group agreed that one site for a parking lot would be between Ferndale and Park street between the southern tier of lots on Oakland and northerly tier fronting on Hamilton.

TOTAL expenditure, including \$123,000 for property acquisition and \$35,200 for construction, would be \$158,200 for this parking lot.

In the other site, which includes 250 feet on south side of Hamilton between Woodward and Hunter, 83 spaces would be available in a lot, at a total cost of \$149,200.

IN REGARD to the southwest

Proposed assessment district including business property fronting on the north side of W. Maple from Woodward to Chester, south on Chester to Merrill, south on Merrill one-half block south to Townsend, east to Bates, north to Martin, east to Heppertis, south to one-half block south of Brown, east to Pierce, north to Merrill, east one-half block, south one-half block, east to Woodward, and north to Maple Grove.

This suggested area includes almost all that which is being considered for financing of municipal lot No. 1 at Pierce and Merrill. This latter facility has proceeded through the necessary hearing, but commission has yet to determine exactly the assessment method to apply on business properties. The lot is scheduled for opening in little more than a month.

Whitman Gets Civil Defense Responsibility

Prime responsibility of Birmingham's new assistant city manager, Dana T. Whitman, Jr., will be as civil defense director, city commissioners agreed this week.

"Other assignments are expected to be added later," said Mayor Charles Renfrew.

Whitman, who worked in the manager's office until he became Holden (Mass.) town manager two years ago, arrives here for duty Aug. 1.

Two Safety Awards Won By B'ham

Two traffic awards were received recently by the city of Birmingham, according to Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley.

One of these was the AAA-sponsored Award for Excellence in Pedestrian Safety in 1954. The other was an honorable mention award for traffic law enforcement from the International Cities of Police.

EDWARD H. BAVIS, director of traffic safety for the AAA in Detroit, in a letter to Moxley, commended the city for not having a pedestrian death in 1954. The award was the result of an annual National Pedestrian Protection Contest.

DAVIS said that increased education of pedestrians since 1937 has cut the pedestrian death rate by 49 per cent while non-pedestrian deaths are 18 per cent in the same period.

THIS IS ONE TIME the cameraman had to watch the birds. When the temperature was hovering in the mid-nineties last week, this shade-seeking pigeon found solace atop the opened window in the office of Robert Hall, Recreation and Athletic director at Southfield high school. "It looks like that bird wants to enroll for the September term," said Hall, after the pigeon made his appearance for several days on the high window ledge above the clock. (Eccentric Photo)

