

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

IN TAKING notes on the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Johnson, this Wanderer learned that the couple was delighted a week ago to read an account of a prenuptial shower for the bride, the former Ethel Robinson. The story of the shower was carried in The Eccentric's column, "Happenings of Long Ago."

THOSE CONCRETE PIPES along Greenfield and 14 Mile roads have quite a number of people confused on what's being installed. Many of them believe it is a new interceptor sewer. But SOC Water Authority Chairman R. L. Gare, who also is Birmingham's city engineer, hastens to explain the pipes are for WATER. "Nowadays, especially in the larger sizes, concrete is being used for water mains," he told this Wanderer. "This work may necessitate the brief closing of portions of Greenfield and 14 Mile while concrete pipes are extended across the street. Greenfield below 14 Mile was closed early this week. Work on the 10-million gallon storage facilities on 12 1/2 Mile east of Greenfield is progressing rapidly."

BIAM MERCHANT and property owner Sam Bruni believes businessmen should keep their premises in good repair and attractive to look at. "Not only in front, but the alley sides, too," emphasizes Bruni. "If the owner won't do it, then the city should have a law under which it can have that work done, charge the cost back to the owner." He's following his own advice, this week is having the alley sides of his buildings repainted.

SEEING HER NEW NOVEL enacted on television was not a reason for a party, said Mrs. John Cooper, who wrote "Thunderstorm" under the name Sylvia Cooper, so just the family watched the play, "Decision by Morning" given by the Robert Montgomery Theatre Monday night. Based on a doctor faced with an ethical decision, the book was published May 12, is its second edition and will soon be published in England. One of six doctors who provided Mrs. Cooper with background information during the three years of writing, Dr. S. M. Lewis of Ferndale solved the problem of office hours during showtime by asking all his Monday patients to a TV party in the waiting room at 8:30 p.m. He served ginger ale and cookies to some 25 patients.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE got one of its rare workouts Monday night at the Birmingham city commission meeting. Commissioners were considering necessity of a sewer along E. Maple for the Briggs Building parking lot. It was discovered the original resolution did not call for the entire cost to be borne by the property owner. So... 1) the resolution of necessity passed only a few minutes before) had to be reconsidered. Then 2) the motion was withdrawn. 3) The several-week-old resolution setting the hearing was rescinded. 4) Then a motion for the property owner to bear all the cost. Finally, 5) another resolution setting a new necessity hearing for Aug. 8.

WHO THREW THE BUTTER in Barnum junior high school's incinerator? This was a question considered by the school board in its decision to purchase a new and larger incinerator for Barnum. It was learned after investigation that several dozen pounds of rancid butter were responsible for the excessive flames which caused exterior damage to the incinerator. The insurance company termed it "negligence" which under its stipulations there is no adjustment. The board has now decided to check all other incinerators being installed at the new schools. Because milk bottle containers are to be replaced in the schools by highly flammable wax containers, the board sees an extreme need for larger and more adequate incinerators. The high flammability of fats and wax has made small incinerators such as at Barnum unsafe it was agreed by the board, after the unscheduled butter test.

SHADES OF Davy Crockett's ghost! One young character was spotted on Woodward avenue Saturday morning who probably had the husky pioneer spinning in his grave. The lad's shirt bore the traditional D.C. emblem, his short tan trousers were properly fringed along the sides, but on his head he wore a natty, pale blue yachting cap!

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People's Column Criticizes Ziegler's Attitude

To the Editor:
Highway commissioner Ziegler's arrogant attitude toward turnpike authority chairman George M. Higgins yesterday on the turnpike decision is a good reason why he should be defeated at the next election, and why some of his Republican colleagues went down at the last election.

When a guy gets to be "Whole Hog or none," he usually winds up with none and we can well afford to get along without Mr. Ziegler's type.

HERE IS a chance to get a turnpike road, a road which finances itself and Mr. Ziegler is blocking it at every turn and wants to use state gas taxes to pay for it. We have been waiting now nearly a year and a half for a road, and all we hear from Mr. Ziegler is that they are broke.

Now does Mr. Ziegler have as much gasoline tax money that he can build another deathtrap on our road like Telegraph? If it's an example, I would say Mr. Ziegler et al highways boys at Lansing are worse than anantark.

LOOK AT the death rate on Telegraph road and it is any one's guess that there are about 1000 more people total from Toledo to Saginaw. Mr. Ziegler had only a two lane highway on Telegraph road north of Eight Mile road until less than two years ago.

The state great highway commissioner running things at Lansing and now he wants to drain our state funds, taking the job all over again. Not for me.

Look at West Maple, two lane roller coaster and all completed within the last two years. Ziegler never heard of a bulldozer to remove the sand hills from the middle of the road, his boys have right over them and if you meet a guy coming over the hump, that's too bad for you.

WHAT OUR six counties around Detroit and the Highway department at Lansing need badly is a Moose to lead us out of the wilderness, wherever Mr. Moose is "the authority."

Our amateurs from Michigan don't know Mr. Moose, but I can't go through Westchester county and see what has been going on for the last fifteen years while they were making policies for themselves. Mr. Moose is not an elected official, but an appointed one and gets things done.

Our officials, including the turnpike authority, should run down to Toledo and see what Lewis, county's chief engineer is doing with over 1000 cars trying to get into the turnpike.

APPARENTLY neither Ziegler nor Tom McMillan will build about the Ohio turnpike for both of their roads dump me off at Flatrock on the state death trap to shuffle for myself.

On the south and on the north, they dump me off at Redford. Now tell me who wants to go to Redford? Neither road takes you anywhere.

I have been trying to get around Saginaw and Bay City to pick up the four lane road up north for years and now neither of these multi-million dollar jobs solves the problem.

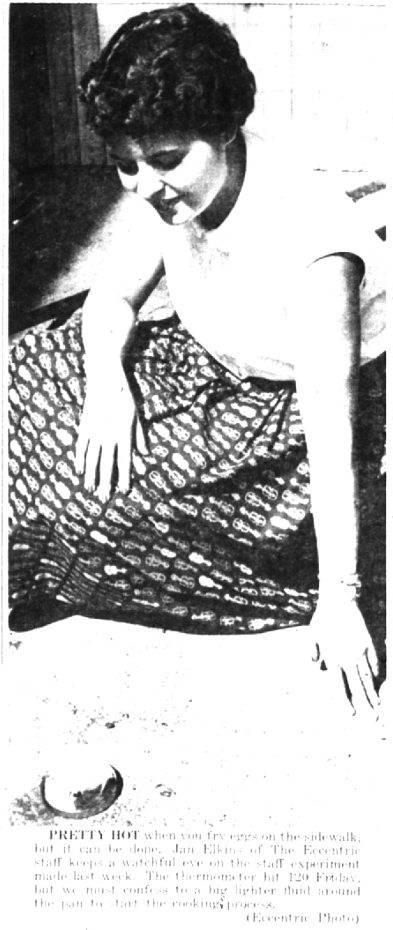
IF the turnpike authority wants to do something good, they should build from the Ohio turnpike to a point beyond Bay City, bypassing both Saginaw and Bay City. Then we will get some where.

The turnpike does not have to come into Birmingham either, to pick me up. I can drive out west five or ten miles to find the turnpike. Going east, I drive close to Akron, Ohio, to pick up the turnpike to save time over Mr. Ziegler's type of red light surface death trap.

Personally, I want no more of our road commissioner's sharp points. He is extremely arrogant and of the turnpike authority and afraid of it because of the modern type of mind at work in it. We have received less for our road tax dollars under Mr. Ziegler than previous administrations. Because the roads are obsolete before they are installed plates are finished. Look at Telegraph road and now he wants to do another one all over again. God forbid and if he tries to build another, an injunction should be started against him, stopping such an obsolete project.

DALE D. MILLER, 414 W. Washington

Rotary Picnic
Birmingham Rotary club's annual picnic will be staged Aug. 22 in the back yard of club member Glenn Waggoner on Oxford road.



PRETTY HOT when you fry eggs on the sidewalk, but it can be done. Jan. Elkins of The Eccentric staff keeps a watchful eye on the staff experiment made last week. The thermometer hit 120 Friday, but we must confess to a big lighter fluid around the pan to start the cooking process. (Eccentric Photo)

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Modern Science Finally Catches Up With Grandpa

I got put in my place the other night. In several of Mr. Elkins' in-laws said we were due for bad weather. "There are flying too," he reported. "That means a storm."

I started to gush with the old gentleman about being over-optimistic. Then my nephew Jim, on vacation in an exclusive resort up "Grandpa's right," he says.

"At least, that's what they say at school." Jim goes on. "The boys say you get before a storm, folks must down low, which flying birds have to swoop down at the ground if they want to get a

From where I sit, there's probably sound reasoning back of most old sayings. A lot of old things people have learned to believe in. Take the idea of a stitch in time saving nine—sparing rods and spoiling children of drink or hot milk or a refreshing glass of beer at bedtime. You may not hold with any of these beliefs yourself... but it's not smart to give them the "bird."

Joe Marsh

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Birth

Ann, Charles, Brower, wife, born July 28, 1955. MRS. ANN BROWER CLARKE, STANLEY of Hoover, Ala. Mrs. and Mr. John Brown of Hoover and the paternal grandparents, Mr. A. C. Stanley of Birmingham.

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C. A. Erdmann Heads Detroit's NACA Chapter

The Detroit chapter of the National Association of Cost Accountants has elected Charles A. Erdmann, 7455 West Greenway, Plainfield townships director of the chapter of the NACA for the 1955-1956 term.

Erdmann is Assistant Controller of Public Works & Community. He was formerly Secretary-Treasurer of Lakeland Laboratories. He was previously a member of the Milwaukee chapter of the National Association of Cost Accountants. Erdmann is a member of the Association of Cost Accountants, Washington, D.C. Chapter.

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