

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1955

34 PAGES SECTION ONE

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



It certainly is not normal to throw rubbish into a neighbor's yard, and how this motorist who lives in the city is not wrong to litter a neighbor's reputation with the rubbish of rumor and gossip, unfounded criticism.

78TH YEAR—NO. 17

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Log of a Western Trip

By G. R. A.

...No. 2 Of a Series

...This is especially true in Canada's wonderful national parks, and Banff comprises 2664 square miles. It was the first of Canada's many national parks.

NO HUNTING

is allowed in any of her parks, and only wardens are allowed to carry firearms. This no doubt accounts for the abundance of wild game that ranges the parks, with most of them afraid of human beings. At least the bear, mountain sheep and buffalo we have seen have not shown undue fear of human approach to them.

...This doesn't mean that people make pets of them, either. Only the bull elk we have seen in the wild settings have scampered away from us as we drove along.

...WITHIN FIFTEEN minutes Rich and I were in that location, but I saw of the herd were two bull elk, each with a spread of horns that must have measured five or six feet at the widest part. These elk were lying down at the moment, chewing their cud just as cows do.

...They were in the large front yard of a private residence, and they were wild elk who lived there about these elk and she replied: "They are wild elk, and have been coming to my yard for the past two years. At times I have seen as many as 50 elk here, and now and then one or more bears. We natives aren't afraid of them, but we keep a respectable distance from them, of course."

...RICH TOOK some colored movie of them, and I took several colored "still" with my Leica camera. There probably is no greater concentration of wild life anywhere in North America than the Banff and Jasper National Parks, we were informed.

...One day in Banff Rich and I drove up Mt. Norquay, five miles from downtown Banff, to take a ride up that mountain in a ski lift.

Improvement of City Recreation Has Been Steady

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

By RUTH ANNE SILBAR

Everything in the Birmingham recreation program is on the up grade. The number of children enrolled in recreational activities, playgrounds and recreational facilities all show a healthy increase since the present recreation board was organized in 1947.

The recreation board's services have become many and varied during these years in order to meet the ever-increasing need.

Five years ago, W. G. Robinson from the University of Michigan Extension service met with a civic group in Birmingham headed by Mrs. Alice Parrie, to survey recreational needs of the community.

Robinson, who has 25 years of experience with the National Recreation Association, outlined the work to be done and provided technical assistance in gathering the information.

A COMPARISON of today's recreational facilities and program and that of 1950 shows how much has been accomplished in so short a time.

Since then, five playgrounds or play centers have been added to the program. The high school and Turney school sites, property of the board of education, as well as the city-owned Poppleton, Penbrooke and Eton parks, have been developed.

Differentiation is made between a playground and a playfield. A playground is defined by the Robinson report as an area of about four acres, with apparatus such as swings and slides. One should be within a quarter to a half mile of every home.

A playfield, however, is a larger area of at least ten acres, designed for baseball, softball and other field games.

BIRMINGHAM now has four playfields—Eton park, the high school site, Poppleton park and Pierce school site (which was the only playfield existing in 1950). Approximately one-fifth of the recreation cash budget is spent in conditioning and maintaining baseball diamonds. Undoubtedly, interest in baseball which has been generated by the Little League, proved a stimulus for the acquisition of more baseball playing fields. However, there are now 11 baseball diamonds in use every summer day and evening, where in 1950 there were only five.

Feel Residential Use Is Best for City's Ex-Dump

Decision on use of the city's 10-acre former gravel pit and dump on Maple came closer this week in the city commission's thinking. Tuesday night, commissioners tentatively agreed to sell it for residential development, with a substantial green belt along the eastern edge.



THE STUART LOTTERIES of 247 Fairfax don't wait until the Fourth of July or Flag Day to display their two bright activities. This week was the first day for the family of five. Each day for more than four years they have raised the flag in the morning and lowered it in the evening, except for inclement weather. Hauling down the flag are, left to right, Mrs. Lottier, Mark, 5, David, 6, John, 8, and Mr. Lottier who made and installed the flag pole himself. (Eccentric Photo)

That Rainy Day Welcome Anytime

Rains that fell in short spurts last weekend were welcomed by area communities to relieve the heavily taxed water supplies during the season's longest heat wave.

No records were broken in the number of gallons pumped as residents used their allotted and even numbered days for sprinkling. However, with the weather man offering no promises for falling temperatures, restrictions may be tightened.

BIRMINGHAM had its record consumption day on May 21 when nearly 9,000,000 gallons were pumped. This was the weekend the sprinkling restrictions were put into effect.

According to Asst. Fire Chief Paul Smith, the big problem is being able to pump the water at peak periods of the day, and not the total amount of pumping.

Increased Traffic Basis of Objection To Proposed Track

A race track at John R and 14 Mile in Troy township would only aggravate the traffic congestion in Birmingham, city commissioners declared this week in a resolution opposing the facility.

Elect Bates Prez Of Hills B of E

BIRMINGHAM HILLS—Merrill O. Bates was elected president of the Bloomfield Hills Board of Education this week, with Douglas E. Jocelyn the elected Secretary and David W. Lee, Treasurer. New members of the board elected last month are Karl E. Scott and Robert H. Hoffman.

She Wants to Know The Difference

How well Birmingham police are enforcing the speed limits will be evaluated in a report to be prepared by Chief Ralph Moxley at the request of Commissioner Flurrie Willett.

Springdale May Go to Rec Board

Springdale park may be fully integrated with the city's recreation program, if the city commission endorses a recommendation by City Manager D. C. Egbert. The Birmingham Eccentric learned this week.

Egbert Conducts City's Business From Hospital

It's "business as usual" for Birmingham City Manager Donald C. Egbert, even though he is confined to the hospital.

Those at city hall who have need for personal contact with Mr. Egbert take the necessary communications or files to the hospital for him to study. Recordings of letters or items to come before the city commission are sent back here for typing.

Second Arrow Downs Stuffed Bear at Party

Who shot the bear at "Kip" Taylor's birthday party Tuesday morning?

Wasons, Moving from Cannes, Translate Packing Box Tags

It was new neighbors moving into the little peak-roofed home that looks like Hansel and Gretel's gingerbread house, on Northlawn opposite the golf links.

Manager's Plan Being Reviewed

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STRICTLY FRESH

Barbers have nothing to fear from automation, says Communist labor committee member. H. R. Ector, his reasoning: Machines can't talk. Trouble in recruitment is not in the work, it is in the worker. They also don't like to be told.

PHOTO STORY

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Government girls in Washington, D. C. weren't slated to accompany their bodies during the recent Civil Defense evacuation tent. Wives reportedly had something to do with this state of affairs. They were more apprehensive about atomic bomb than atomic bombs.

All makes of long spring mattresses received One-day price ROYAL MAT. For info, call "Dial" 761 and ask for Enterprise 541.

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