



Have you read a good book lately? If you have, because you have allowed reading to do your part in the making of other persons to enjoy your time, why not sit down, quietly, with some great author and re-read?

78TH YEAR—NO. 14 BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1955 40 PAGES SECTION ONE

# Local Bonds Pass; Gregory Elected

## THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

### "Getting High" Is Poor Theme For TV

To stage a public scene in which intoxication via alcohol is used may be quite acceptable when an author seeks to use it as a device to point out a moral lesson. But to use this same technique to cause people to be amused, is hardly commendable in the eyes of most human beings.

Now, I'm not a prude on this subject. I cannot see why talented persons allow themselves to be depicted as "inebriated" (even in "blind" and thereby are not many other vehicles to accommodate their histrionic abilities.)

THROUGHOUT since TV frequently presents John Barleycorn in this manner, as an advertising medium I think TV is far less civilized than the printed word. Because their certain don't accompany the purchase of alcoholic beverages, they certainly don't accompany the printed words with the theme that "getting lit up" is a wonderful way to have a good time.

One of the greatest advances of the Twentieth Century could be made if somebody would invent this. Some type of gadget which would allow a patient inside his mouth so that he can continue to speak...

After all, conversation can be conversation only when it is a two-way affair!

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CHIEF VERN GRIFFITH



JAMES ALLEN

## 200 of His Townsmen Honor Retiring Chief

By ALICE E. MORGAN

Twice Friday evening the 200 persons attending the testimonial dinner rose to their feet to give retiring Birmingham Fire Chief Vern Griffith an ovation.

Speared by three businessmen, the group was made up of men and women in Birmingham who admire Chief Griffith and the department he has developed in his 32 years of service.

George R. Averill, Birmingham Eccentric editor and publisher, as toastmaster briefly reviewed the retiring chief's career both as a citizen of Birmingham and one of its fire fighters.

He presented guests including Chief Clyde Wray and John Schroeder of Royal Oak and John Charles Wiggins and Charles Buryes, past and present heads of the Bloomfield Village department, and Frank Irons, Oakland county sheriff.

"I don't mind presenting a man who has worked in the fire department for 32 years," Griffith said.

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## Eccentric Named As the Nation's Foremost Weekly

The nation's top weekly newspaper for 1955 is The Birmingham Eccentric, judges for the National Editorial Assn. have decided.

The Eccentric has been named first-place winner in general excellence among the country's suburban weeklies, traditionally the pacemakers for weekly journalism.

Three honorable mentions for special phases of newspaper excellence also have been won by The Eccentric; for best news story, for best use of photographs, and for excellence in typography.

Editor and Publisher of The Eccentric, George R. Averill, will receive the certificate Friday night from NEA Board Chairman Alan C. McIntosh at the award dinner during the June 17-18 NEA summer convention at Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Second Place was awarded the Forest Park (Ga.) Star, and third was the Berea (Ohio) News. In these 1955 National Better Newspaper Contests, a total of 1,406 entries came from 45 states. Winners represent a geographical distribution of 31 states.

General excellence is judged on the basis of promotion of community interests via use of pictures, general appearance in make-up and style, editorial page, advertising enterprise, general and departmental news and mechanical excellence.

"THIS CONTEST was practically a dead heat among the top three entries," said Averill in his coverage of local news, the volume and excellence of pictures, and in their well-written and logical editorials.

"In the final analysis, the judges felt that a slight superiority in press-work raised The Birmingham Eccentric to the top position. This is not a reflection on the presswork of the other papers which was generally excellent. But...

## Incumbents Win in Troy Twp.

By BRUNO KEARNS  
Light balloting in school board elections in all four local districts was eclipsed by the overwhelming approval of the \$5,500,000 bond issue in Birmingham when 2,500 ballot were cast.

MRS. L. DOMIS tallied the high-... followed by Gregory with 1,619 and John V. Nannan with 784.



WILLIAM DOVE BETTY QUILLIAN  
Joslyn Memorial recipients, (Eccentric Photo)

## Joslyn Memorial Awards Go To Betty Quillian, Bill Dove

Highest honor Birmingham high school bestows was given to Betty Quillian and Bill Dove, who won the Marc Joslyn Memorial award at swing-out ceremonies last week.

Their silver-lettered names already are in place underneath those of previous years, who have been honored in memory of Marc Joslyn, a former student leader.

"BILL, WHO IS THE SON OF Mr. and Mrs. William E. Dove, 640 Wallace, has served in the Student Congress every semester during his high school life.

## Bloomfield Hills

A non-contested 183 votes were cast for Karl E. Scott and Robert H. Hoffman in the Bloomfield Hills board election.

HAACK'S REPORT on 93 representative, they say they can't get used to the crocodiles. Don't be afraid, boys. They're not nearly as dangerous as the city's leary shark!

## 'Cinderella' Pickpocket, Aide Outwait Pursuers

By WILLIAM THOMAS

Police in Birmingham are searching for a "Cinderella" pickpocket who ran right out of her shoes while escaping from pursuers last Saturday.

It started when Mrs. Anthony Nimeth of 1896 Banbury, sat down in Kresge's to enjoy some ice cream during a shopping tour.

MRS. NIMETH spotted the thief at work and grabbed her, and at this time, according to Det. Lt. Joseph L. Scott, 2896 Brookside, she presented himself as a store detective and tried to push the two screaming women outside.

The chase covered several blocks and ended at Chester and Merrill the pickpocket wearing shoes, size 7 1/2 B's, blue oxfords.

## B'ham Budget Formally Ok'd

Birmingham's 1955-56 municipal budget of \$1,415,808.90 was approved officially this week by city commissioners.

It will require a 1970 mill tax rate, a 2 cent over last year. This is a \$799,550 increase over the 1954 budget, and results primarily from higher appropriations to police, fire, parks and forestry, and DPW departments.

## House Board Has Approved Two Projects

Modernization of the kitchen and the bathroom at the Mary Griffith lounge are the two major projects approved by the apartment House board for this summer.

OTHER FACILITY changes include the future use of the Boy Scout room for crafts and the present pool room to be taken over as the employment office.

## B'ham, Hills Seniors Receive Diplomas Today

By ALICE E. MORGAN

Commemorative ceremonies scheduled for today will see seniors of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills high schools receiving diplomas.

At Birmingham St. William Whitcomb Whitehouse, Albion college president, will speak on "Shareholders in a Vital Enterprise".

City workers at Rum Jungle, Australia's major uranium mine, say they can't get used to the crocodiles. Don't be afraid, boys. They're not nearly as dangerous as the city's leary shark!

## Roberts Goes On Recreation Board

A five-year term on the Birmingham recreation board this week went to City Commissioner William Roberts, who replaced Commissioner Dean G. Beier as the city's representative.

## STRICTLY FRESH

FBI's chief, J. Edgar Hoover, says married men make better agents because they have the opportunity to relax in some simple methods of the world's most efficient detectives.

Radio Misnew, wrong as usual, avows Russian TV viewers that rays from TV tubes are not harmful. Haven't they ever heard of mass paralysis among children when called to dinner, while the cowboy movie is being telecast?

Lady in Lingerie, Calif., has divorced her 13th husband, is going to marry number 14, a parking lot attendant. If she's as firmly trapped as our car usually is in a lot, this one's for life.