

Elect . . . Friedrich
FIESSELMANN, Jr.

Birmingham City Commission

2 year term to fill vacancy

- Keep the downtown Shain Park
- Pay-as-you-go city swimming pool for summer youth activities
- Divert through truck traffic from the heavy industry east of Birmingham to proposed toll road
- Integrated greater metropolitan police, fire, water, and sewage

Vote for a program with a future



**Will Use Jeep to Creep
Among Mexican Mountains**

Primitive natives of the remote Valley of Tepoztlan, a 70-mile gash in the mountain ranges of Mexico, soon may have the white man's know-how in education, agriculture and medicine brought by jeep over rugged burro trails to their adobe doorsteps through the efforts of Karl D. Bailey, Oakland county district horticultural agent.

He has undertaken a spare-time fund-raising campaign to provide a jeep for the use in Mexico of R. L. (Lyn) Lewis, former 4-H Club agent at Pontiac under Bailey, who lives at 5275 N. Adams road. A "jeep" committee appointed by Bailey includes Ed Kirbert, executive secretary of the Birmingham branch of the YMCA. Lewis and his wife, Betty, during the last six years have developed and directed a "rural reconstruction center" which serves 11 villages scattered through the Tepoztlan Valley. The center is named "Canohmila" which means "a field of sweet potatoes."

Until recent years no native of the valley had ever seen a wheel. Today a small air strip and a mountain road permit Canohmila to be reached from Mexico City but the ancient valley trails still offer much the same transport difficulties that confronted the Conquistadores.

CANOHMILA originally was established as a recreation camp by the Mexico City YMCA. Opening of the camp revealed the many needs of the valley villagers in the fields of nutrition, health and education. The International Committee of the YMCA moved in with financial aid and the camp soon outgrew its original purpose.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, who succeeded the first director, Dr. D. Spencer Hatch, have greatly expanded the program. Financed by a grant from Sears & Roebuck, they have introduced agricultural

advancements in a program similar to the American 4-H Club. A Mexican agricultural agent has been trained in modern farming practice. He serves 170 members of nine clubs on a full-time basis.

Hybrid seed corn is demonstrated in Canohmila along with other improved varieties of crops and vegetables. Seeds are available at or below cost. Over 8,000 pure bred baby chicks have been flown in. A pig club and bee keeping are also among the native "4-H" activities.

A FREE clinic maintains a trained nurse who specializes on maternity cases. A day nursery, organized by Betty Lewis, provides a child training program and a balanced daily meal for each child.

The charge for this service, incidentally, is one egg for two days of care per child. Students from the more inaccessible villages are given board and room at the Center. Craft training includes a 14-loom hand weaving department.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, who are touring the United States under YMCA auspices during a one-year leave of absence, visited Bailey in Pontiac recently. "We agreed that the one thing most desperately needed at the Tepoztlan Valley project is back country transportation," Bailey said. "I suggested a jeep and volunteered to try and interest the people of Oakland county in helping to buy one for them. I know how badly they need it because I

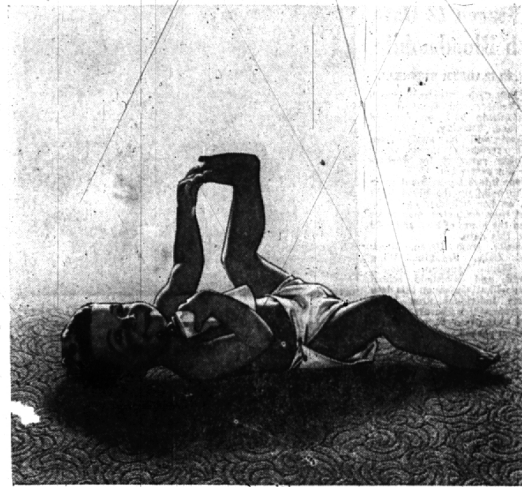
flew to Mexico last winter and saw the center in operation."

AIDED BY color slide films that he made in Tepoztlan, Bailey is speaking before interested groups in this area on behalf of "project jeep."

Withdraws Petition For Zoning Change

In withdrawing his petition for rezoning of property he owns in the Quartz Lake Estate subdivision, Samuel Frankel, Detroit, said he was considering using the property for business to conform with present zoning. Frankel's petition, dated Jan. 5, had asked that the city grant a zoning change to permit the construction of multiple dwellings.

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People's Column

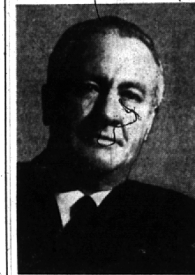
**We Don't Publish
Unsigned Letters,
'Maple Resident'**

A letter intended for publication in this column was received this week, signed only "A Resident of East Maple." It commented on the City Commission's plan to widen that thoroughfare and to restrict parking on it.

Because the letter writer failed to sign his name and address, The Eccentric will not publish it. It is this newspaper's policy to offer anonymity to writers of letters to our "People's Column," but we must know who the writer is in each case, whose name we will retain in our files.

If the letter writer in this case will identify himself (or herself), we will be pleased to publish the communication in our next issue.

NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOUSE? Then locate it by reading or using the Classified Ads in The Eccentric each week.



O. D. A. OBERG

**Australian Guest
As Rotary Clubs
Note Anniversary**

Rotary clubs of Birmingham, Berkeley, Ferndale, Oak Park and Royal Oak will meet together March 24 when O. D. (Ollie) Oberg, Rotary International director from Sydney, Australia, will be their guest.

Each club will have a share in the program, which follows the 6:45 p.m. dinner in the Hillside room, Devon Gables.

Oberg's coming here is a part of the 50th anniversary celebration of District 222, with arrangements in charge of Lloyd Megee, the district's Golden Anniversary chairman.

The guest is a Sydney businessman, associated with firms in the timber import-export field.

HE IS a director of Rotary International (1954-56), chairman of the 1956 Pacific Regional conference committee and on the nominating committee for President of Rotary International, 1955-56. He has been a Rotarian, since 1938, holding many offices.

Megee said tickets were now available from the various club presidents and stressed that the program and dinner would take the form of "Ladies' Night."

People's Column

**Appreciates
News Coverage
By Eccentric**

To the Editor: Though collection work continues for the 1955 Community House Roll Call, the publicity to acquaint all that the "House with a Heart" needs \$52,400 has met its deadline.

Now, then, it is timely to say a very warm "thank you" for the complete coverage and cooperation given the drive by "our" Birmingham Eccentric.

The board, furthermore, joins me in expressing deep appreciation to Alice Morgan.

Her column of Jan. 27 was outstanding. It was informative, interesting and complete to the "Heart of Birmingham."

Many others on your staff are in our gratitude for the full page of pictures and their part in judging the high school editorials.

When our goal is reached please count your cooperation among the most vital contributions.

MRS. WARREN S. SUMNER, Publicity Chairman, 1955 Roll Call.

FRENCH
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