

Most people will gladly accept a helping of food at your table, but will resist a spoonful of advice you may try to give them. Having not advice, even you, who need it desperately, is an art difficult to master.

78TH YEAR—NO. 35

THIS and THAT

By G.R.A.

How The Eccentric Acquired Its Odd and Peculiar Name

"How did The Eccentric get its name?" is a question frequently asked by new residents of this Birmingham area, and so, from time to time, its history is re-printed for their benefit.

Here is revealed The Eccentric was founded May 2, 1878, by two George H. Mitchell and Almeron Whitehead. The former was a life-long Democrat, the latter a Republican, and ever the two did meet in editorial combat in its pages.

For some time, they printed parallel editorial columns, revealing their individual views and opinions. In spite of this, the world failed to reach Utopia as rapidly as both young and non-unmarried-journalists desired.

It is significant that these two young men, working together as business partners, were to play important parts in the development of Birmingham. They not only founded The Eccentric, but started Birmingham's first bank, and operated in their general store at the southwest corner of W. Maple and Pierce streets, (where Shreve Drug store now stands) the community's first telephone exchange.

LIKE MANY youngsters, both Whitehead and Mitchell apparently had the usual quantity of desire to small printer's ink. This desire was partially fulfilled in 1875, for it was in that year that they sent to Boston for a pair of newly printed Press and a few fonts of type. At the time Whitehead was employed by Captain J. Allen Bigelow, and Mitchell worked for one of Birmingham's then leading businessmen, Frank Hagerman.

They paid \$80 for the press, and kept it first in Whitehead's bedroom. Here, during their spare hours, the two disciples of Benjamin Franklin Printer, labored to perform simple typesetting, and turned out small printing jobs—including calling cards and ten cents. (In those days you could get three candy cigars for a nickel, too.)

FOR NEARLY three years these young men kept their fingers in printer's ink, all the while visiting, greater typographical studios to concur.

Being young men of deep conviction, with growing ambitions for the civic and business progress of their town, they earnestly nurtured the idea of starting a weekly newspaper. They bought more printing equipment and were ready to launch their "colossal" journalistic enterprise upon the unsuspecting village in which they lived and worked.

What will name our newspaper? was the question that confronted Whitehead and Mitchell. Call it The Birmingham Journal—there's a fine paper by that name in New Orleans," advised Tom Flynn, a local resident of those days.

"HUH—THAT sounds a little too peculiar," reacted the future publishers. "We'll have to find something more appropriately different."

They did so—about 77 years of subscribers and others since have found out.

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Another \$5,427 Added to Rink Cost

Birmingham's artificial ice skating rink went up another \$5,427 this week, with both city officials and the architect admitting a sharp increase in the responsibility.

Already in the neighborhood of \$175,000—about \$35,000 more than originally planned, the construction of this rink at Elton park has become a "thorn in the side" of the city commission.

At Monday evening's meeting, commissioners for the first time clearly evidenced their displeasure at the way this project has progressed.

THEY HAD before them a recommended \$5,427.22 additional appropriation for three alterations to Birmingham's first bank, and \$1,314.32 for revisions to the food bar and entrance turnstiles, \$1,213.00 for plumbing changes, and \$2,899.60 to add 200 amperes more capacity to the previous 100-ampere capacity of the rink's electrical control panel.

Just how much of this added cost was caused by the architect is in question.

Commissioners and city officials readily admitted to the \$2,527.22 of the added cost because of the changes in plumbing, food bar and turnstiles.

BUT BOTH City Engineer D. C. Egbert and City Manager L. R. Goggin said they were not sure how much of this added cost was caused by the architect is in question.

Representatives of the six communities which would be involved in the proposed Evergreen inter-city sewer met here yesterday afternoon to learn whether Detroit can handle the sewage treatment.

Clyde Palmer, Detroit assistant city engineer, was expected to detail to the group exactly what Detroit could or could not do for these six communities, which have been cited by the state for pollution of the Rouge river.

Some disagreement has existed over what Detroit reportedly could do for treatment of sewage from Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Lathrup, and the townships of Southfield, Bloomfield and Troy.

A DEC. 1 meeting is planned where governing bodies of those six municipalities can obtain definite information so they can decide on their action to abate pollution.

Four of the communities—Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Troy and Bloomfield townships—already have tentatively agreed to form their own sewage treatment authority should efforts fail to get the entire Evergreen project. They would make additions to the Birmingham treatment plant to handle necessary requirements.

Deer Second-Best In Tangle with Auto on Woodward

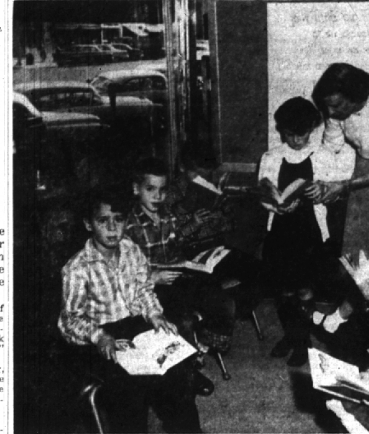
BLOOMFIELD HILLS—A six-point, 150-pound deer was killed late Monday in what is normally considered civilized area of Woodward, when it was struck by a car driven by Kenneth E. Stordewant, 21, of Pontiac.

Stordewant, returning from Birmingham to Pontiac, told police the deer suddenly appeared and struck his auto's hood, killing it, he said.

The car was damaged only slightly, police said. The deer was turned over to conservation of ferals for use in one of the county institutions.

HOW TO PREVENT this "lake" from forming in the Robert L. Oldani backyard at 1577 Derby may have been discovered if a private drain is run to the street sewer, city officials believe.

Water, coming from backyards of abutting new homes in Troy township, winds up Oldani's property and that of his two next-door neighbors, Walters, from last week's heavy rain came within inches of his backdoor sill. The drain's estimated \$560 cost would be borne by affected property owners and the builder of the Troy homes, the city has proposed.



NATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK, Nov. 7-12, is being observed this week by Birmingham schools through "live" classes in Mulholland's show window. Here, Eleanor Hancock, (center) second grade teacher at Adams school, instructs Mary Fraser, as (left to right) Barry Emmett, Robert Lotero, Edward Priest, Mary Ann Heym, David Boier and Elizabeth Holmes await their turn. (See story on Page 6, Sec. 3.)

Hear How Detroit Would Handle Big Sewer Interceptor

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UNDER STUDY for more than a year by planners, the new zoning would enable the city to put between retail business and residential neighborhoods, a new type of business use that would be more acceptable to neighbors.

It is designed to permit uses which do not generate large traffic volumes, and have no large off-street parking needs.

These proposed office uses, according to the proposal, would be of a nature that have limited contact with the public, do not involve retail merchandise sales, and have no offensive noise, smoke, odors or fumes.

ADVERTISE side, front and rear yards would be required.

Commissioners would enact this amendment, which they believe will solve several current "problem zones," as well as possible pending eventual reworking of the entire zoning ordinance, now being studied by the plan board.

Hearings on application of the Michigan Thoroughbred Turf club for a race track at 14 Mile and John R. which was postponed from last Monday to today, has been postponed again until Monday at 10 a.m. in Riving Commissioner James Inglis' Detroit office.

Office Zone Amendment Nearly Ready

A new zoning classification which would provide a more acceptable translation from business to residential zones has been reported out by the Birmingham plan commission.

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Extensive Looting Charged To Nine Troy Twp. Youths

Nine juveniles—who have been accused of, and have admitted a list of break-ins and thefts so numerous they can't recall how many there were or where they took place—have been arrested and awaiting juvenile action, according to Troy township police Chief David Grattop.

Two of the boys were taken to Oakland County Children's home in Pontiac and are now being turned over to the custody of their parents.

HE QUIETLY went up to the altar, lit a candle in meditation and then returned to his seat. Mrs. Otto curiously questioned the purpose of this special prayer.

"I prayed for Holy Name to beat St. Hugo," said young Walter. After the services, the Otto's visited the T. F. MacManus family on N. Woodward.

Ted MacManus, III, a member of the St. Hugo team, became distressed when he learned that a player from the opposing team had come to his church to pray for victory.

LATER IN the day, troubled by thoughts of what Walter had done, Ted called the Otto residence and happily remarked that Walter's request was now "officially cancelled."

Well, it seems Ted must have put the Saints "straight"—because St. Hugo upset Holy Name, 6-0, on Sunday.

At no time did the boys take anything of great value, both Grattop and Schauld said, but the thefts were so "extensive it will take some time to straighten everything out."

Civil Defense Rules Approved

A civil defense ordinance was approved this week by Birmingham city commission.

The measure establishes duties and powers of the mayor and civil defense director in meeting defense or natural emergencies.

Core of the defenses would be city personnel and equipment, correlated with volunteer persons, agencies and services.

The mayor may activate the ordinance when in his judgment circumstances require it in the city or to aid other communities in accordance with state statutes.

DEFENSE Director Dana Whitman, who also is assistant city manager, will be charged with administration, planning, coordination and operation of all civil defense activities.

Whitman can appoint volunteer citizens to augment city departments during a defense emergency.

Mayor Proclaims 'Good Will Day'

Saturday, Nov. 26, has been proclaimed Good Will Day for Boy Scouts and Goodwill Industries by Mayor Charles Entwistle.

Boy Scouts will visit residents with "Good Will" bags, receiving donations for the G.W.I. to further its program of aid to handicapped persons.

Suffers Leg Cuts

Katherine F. Spears, 45, of Poplar, suffered leg cuts when her car struck the rear of another driver on John T. Evans, 22, of Jackson, Sunday at Oakland and Huxley. She was tickled by police for failure to stop in assured clear distance.

Town Hall Psychologist To Dramatize Problems

Noted as a "psychologist with a sense of humor," Dr. Murray Banks will appear today and tomorrow as second speaker in the Birmingham Town Hall series, held at the Birmingham Theater, at 11 a.m.

Dr. Banks will be introduced at the theater and at the celebrity luncheon following his lecture by Paul N. Averill, business manager of The Birmingham Eccentric.

Luncheons are held at Birmingham Country club. Seated at the speakers table today will be Averill, the Rev. Harold E. Towne and Town Hall board members Mrs. J. Norvell Hubbard, Mrs. Donald Sawyer and Mrs. Edward F. Cudner. On Friday Town Hall board members will be Mrs. Donald Bay, Mrs. Samuel Trade, Mrs. O. F. Pearson and Mrs. Edward C. Hoem.



DR. MURRAY BANKS

EARNING his reputation as a humorist as well as a psychologist, Dr. Banks dramatizes the various ways in which people react to their problems in living.

He presents a program of scientific truth, human emotionality and behavior, bristling with incredible revelations and unbounded wit.

Dr. Banks has been a nationally syndicated columnist and the author of several books which are the only pills in print in America.

Dr. Banks was graduated from both New York University and Columbia University and has been visiting professor and visiting lecturer at many Eastern schools.

Seek Victory for Team With Prayer to Saints

Even the Saints got into the act in the arch-rival football game between Holy Name of Birmingham and St. Hugo of Bloomfield Hills.

During the Feast of All Saints last week Mr. and Mrs. Walter Otto, 1250 Redding, were visiting in Bloomfield Hills and attended the Feast of the Hills that day.

During the services, young Walter Otto, a member of the Holy Name football team, decided he would "jinx" the St. Hugo team.

To Re-Examine Need For Signal at Southfield, Maple

Need for a traffic light for a difficult intersection will be re-examined by Birmingham city commission.

Nineteen residents of Aspen, Linden and Hawthorne streets this week petitioned for a traffic signal at W. Maple and Southfield.

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley, who recommended this light some months ago, was asked to dust off his proposal and submit it.

Turning movements and school children's crossings necessitate the light, the petition claims.

Moxley also will study pedestrian crossings at Baldwin and W. Maple, another dangerous intersection, point out residents.

Taxi Fare Increase Set for Hearing

A taxi fare increase and two additional cabs, have been requested by the Veterans Club.

Commission of Nov. 21 as a hearing date on the petition.

Present fares are 25 cents plus 5 cents each 1/2 mile. Repeated increases would put the initial charge at 40 cents.

STRICTLY FRESH

Youth today is so impatient. Young woman in Houston, Tex., bopped hubby on the head with a hammer on morning of second wedding anniversary. Grandma waited until the nibb, or pottery, anniversary to bust the old man's crick.

Patrolman in Muscatine, Ia., ticketed a car three times before realizing it was his own auto. Don't laugh. Can you remember your own license number without checking your car's papers?

Judging by the size of their sandwiches, the office shop around

Predict Success of UF Campaign

If the generous pattern of giving continues through the final mop-up period, the 1955 Torch Drive will be another big success story of community spirit in Birmingham, Bloomfield and Franklin.

With 24 hours to go in the official campaign, volunteers late Wednesday had contributions of approximately \$10,000 accounted for. This is 95 per cent of the United Foundation goal of \$200,485 for the year.

The "C" according to Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, campaign director, turns on the success of last-minute calls, continued returns at the time pace during the past week and anticipated gifts not yet received.

"IT LOOKS very much as if the people of the Torch Drive for the top for the seventh successive year since its organization," Mrs. Quinn said. "However, we're keeping our fingers crossed until the last day of the drive has officially closed and all of the volunteers have completed their call-backs and given us their final reports."

"We'll know for certain four or five days after the drive has officially closed and all of the volunteers have completed their call-backs and given us their final reports."

Mrs. Quinn said a particularly outstanding job was being done by local teachers and students. Contributions have been high for previous years, but the school drive has aspects of perhaps greater importance than dollars, she said.

SHE CITED a statement by Dwight D. Ireland, superintendent of schools, as expressing the real significance of the Torch Drive effort in the classroom.

"The question is frequently asked why the school should participate in United Foundation when parents give directly to the school. This is a fair question which should be answered by the school."

"The basic goal of the school is to provide our children with those experiences which help them to grow and mature to the degree that they are capable of participating effectively and with self-confidence."

ONE OF the things that an adult must do is to evaluate and determine the worthwhileness of such demands.

"In school, the child is given a background of understanding which enables him to appreciate the value of those financial drives which alleviate human suffering such as the Boy Scouts, Police Foundation, Red Cross, Tuberculosis, and many others."

Twenty years ago the school tried to educate children to appreciate the reason for the school drive, and separate campaigns to raise money followed.

"THERE WAS a constant demand for these drives which made a heavy in-road on school time. It was decided that one drive for all would be more efficient way of handling these requests. As a result the Board of Education adopted a (See CAMPAIGN, Page 3, Sec. 1)

LASTS FOR YEARS!

Follow across the desk from us says that his wife thinks "By-Bye" on one of his stories means both a raise and the green light to go out and buy everything she sees in the stores.

Now that Halloween is past, the trick's to treat the kids so that they'll recover from the effects of those pounds and pounds of stale candy.

All made of inner spring mattresses from the Oneida Mattress Co., E. 10th St., Detroit, Mich. Dial "0" and ask for E-12121212.



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