

Thank You, Commissioners, For Your Leadership

Recent opening of Birmingham's first municipally-operated and owned off-street parking lot, bounded by Merrill, Pierce and Brown, is a decided asset to everybody concerned. Providing space for 251 automobiles, this convenience facility is the result of six years of local discussion and planning, concluding in a co-operative venture on the part of the city and a large number of assessed property owners of businesses.

Existence of this off-street parking project proves something this newspaper has advocated for several years, namely: the absolute necessity of the city government assuming leadership in solving the parking problem.

IT IS OUR BELIEF that on such projects early achievement is possible only when a municipality itself assumes the

Maples and the Cranes, 1955 Champions

Local football fans were fortunate this season to have in their midst about 75 varsity football players whose two respective teams captured their league championships.

The Birmingham Maples the other week romped to their first Eastern Michigan League championship, while last week the Cranes of Cranbrook walked off with top honors in their Inter-State Conference.

It had been 16 years since Cranbrook had won a previous championship, while Birmingham never had lost the league which was organized in 1945.

WINNERS OF EIGHT GAMES this fall, Birmingham must defeat a formidable

Honest Labor Can Get Us More for Less Cost

Many union labor leaders are worried about what automation will do to labor... for they hold that by further mechanization of machines will throw countless people out of jobs.

Industry and scientists admit that there will be a temporary increase of unemployment... as always takes place with great technological advancement.

responsibility for conducting every phase of research required. Otherwise, due to the normal inability of many people to reach quick and common agreement on such problems, the solution would result in endless delay.

So, for the past two years, the city commission has been able to bring together the various persons involved, and caused them to accept the final plan.

On behalf of our citizens who will find the new off-street parking lot a convenience, and for the businesses that will benefit, we say to the entire commission: "Thank you, lady and gentlemen... thank you for bringing into existence a facility much needed in Birmingham!"

...and, of course, to all career city employees involved on this project, a hearty "Thank you!", too.

able opponent Thanksgiving Day in Royal Oak before the Maples can claim a perfect season.

Cranbrook's only loss has been to the Birmingham squad. The Cranes have six wins and one tie, that with Buffalo's strong Nichols School, which had been figured to wind up as season's league leader.

Having expressed their champion ways on the field, we encourage the Birmingham and Cranbrook players to carry their leadership and sportsmanship into their adult lives. May their winning qualities be duplicated by those to follow—let's see if we don't have to wait so long till next time!

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Gov. Williams, in his handling of the second special Legislative session he called recently, revealed the technique of good leadership. He actually went into the House and Senate chambers in the State Capitol and "got down to earth" in his arguments with both friend and foe. The fact that he didn't win the Senate to his ideas at once is no reflection on his good intentions.

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"At the Summit", during the Geneva meeting of the leaders of the U.S., Britain, France and Russia, "the spirit of friendliness and cooperation" was presumed to have been kindled. Now, at a later meeting of secondary leaders of these nations, when the "spirit" was supposed to be transformed into realities, Russia reveals herself as opposed to the processes of free men and freedom. Well, why should one have expected else from the gangsters who still inhabit the Kremlin!

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GEORGE R. AVERILL
Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL
Business Manager
GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor
GERALD E. JEHLE
Advertising Manager

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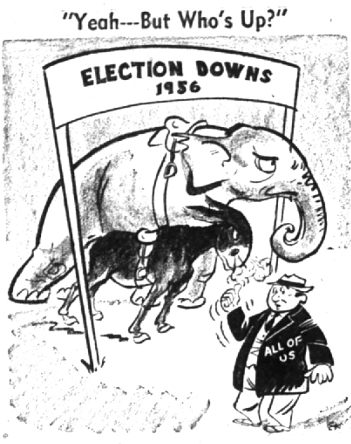
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WOMEN FIRST: MICHIGAN WAS THE FIRST STATE TO GRANT WOMEN THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN 1830.

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WISDOM: MICHIGAN WAS THE FIRST STATE TO GRANT WOMEN THE RIGHT TO HOLD OFFICE IN 1837.

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NATURE NOW

Fall Completes Nature's Cycle

By LYDIA KING FREHSE
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Now in November the days shorten perceptibly and one can no longer deny autumn's ending. "All things are but borrowed for a time."

It is one of Nature's charms that she is never too possessive. She knows how to relinquish as well as how to hold. On our last walk a dank misty aroma arose from the forest floor. Only the oak protested the bareness of autumn. They are among the last to break into leaf and now they cling long to their subdued reds and scarlets, their tarnished yellows and browns. And so we stood to watch a single leaf fall. No breeze stirred. No sudden outward strain severed its connection with the parent stem. But now that its work is ended a special mechanism releases it to join its countless companions at my feet.

AT THE BASE of every leaf there is a kind of cushion or enlargement where its stem is joined to the twig. Here is a mechanism which controls the movement of the green leaf, tilting it, dropping it, adjusting its position to catch or to reject the sunlight. This movement is controlled by the increase or decrease of water in the cells of the cushion. For example, when they are swollen with water on one side, the leaf stem is turned in the opposite direction and vice versa.

When autumn comes a separate layer of thin nonconductive cells grows across the cushion, shutting the leaf off from its food supply. WHEN THE first warm winds of March lift the top layers in a merry whirl, the lower leaves have done with their protective warmth and are gently returned to the earth in new layers of humus. During the winter rots and molds and many other agents of disintegration of the once living leaf. This is earth's abundance returned to itself in layer after layer of enrichment. "All things are but borrowed for a time."

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background of The Birmingham of Today.

30 YEARS AGO
Nov. 12, 1905
The L. O. T. M. M. of Birmingham entertained the Lady Boss of Royal Oak and Big Beaver on Friday last, for six o'clock dinner. A usual their dinner was most sumptuous, and the visiting ladies thought themselves most royally entertained.

The Misses Nellie and Mammie Ford were guests of Miss Edna Ford of Troy Sunday.

Miss Ethel Boy, who is a student at the Detroit Conservatory of music and popular young lady of this place gave her first recital at the Conservatory last week.

J. M. Clements of the stone shop, announces that he has cut the price of new shoes to \$1 per set, at the same time maintaining his high standard of workmanship.

30 YEARS AGO
Nov. 13, 1925
Victor Perk of Birmingham, a junior at Albion college, played right guard on the Albion eleven last Saturday in the contest with Alma, which was played as the feature of the annual Albion college Homecoming, the games resulting in a 12 to 0 victory for Albion.

One of the loveliest weddings of the year was solemnized last evening at 8:30 o'clock in St. Paul's Cathedral in Detroit. Rev. S. S. Marquis officiated when Miss Barbara Louise Thompson, daughter of Walter Thompson of Winburn Hall, Bloomfield Hills, became the bride of Milton Spencer Witche of Greenwood avenue.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

When the city's new municipal parking lot opened, one of the things the Birmingham city commission said it would watch is just how many all-day parkers would continue to park in adjoining residential areas.

Top city officials feel that long rows of cars remaining all day in front of homes is an undesirable practice for Birmingham. Depreciating to residential property, they claim.

If the parkers don't voluntarily make the move into the 173 spaces now available at the Pierce-Merrill lot, the city has warned it will impose and enforce tight parking limits on nearby streets.

Three weeks may be too short a time to judge whether the all-day parkers are going to make the move of their own accord.

But so far as we have seen, it looks like they are staying away in droves to save 20 or 30 cents a day parking fee.

Any day now the city should be deciding whether residential depreciation still is a factor. If that is re-affirmed, it won't take the police department long to post the new orders. We hear the necessary signs now are available.

Some of these days all those TV cowboys are going to run out of bullets. If they need any lead to reclaim, they can dig it out of our living room walls.

Birmingham Mayor Charles Renfrew feels the city should not sink \$85,000 worth of parking lot bonds this coming January.

He would rather see this money, which has come in from the property owners assessed for 40 per cent of the lot's cost, instead be applied directly on the cost of any future lots.

"Why not leave this (\$260,000) bond issue alone, and use the assessment funds at no interest on the other lots?" he asks.

(The other commissioners consider him the group's "financial" expert.)
City Manager D. C. Egbert said he understands this cannot be done legally without invalidating the special assessments.

So the issue now is in the hands of City Attorney Forbes S. Hascall, who's to see what legal implications he can find.

The three top Hollywood movie studios have gone on television this season with hour-long programs which for the most part are composed of plugs for their past, present and forthcoming movies.

And these programs have sponsors yet.
First we've seen of sponsored commercials!

A traffic light at Southfield and W. Maple some time ago was recommended by Police Chief Ralph Moxley.

But city commissioners shelved the plan, primarily because they thought that forcing motorists to stop on slippery winter hills would not be desirable.

Now comes a band of residents in the neighborhood petitioning for the light as an aid to motorist and pedestrian alike. Moxley's going to dust off his recommendation.

From where we sit, it appears the commission may approve the light this time.

The human paradox!
People want their own home town filled with traffic lights, stop signs and other devices which they feel certain will slow down and/or discourage "those out-of-town speeders!"
Then they complain violently about having to drive through so many towns which have done that very thing.

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