

1956 already is on its way to 1957...  
every day of your week tells you that  
time is slipping away... your time and  
my time... time in which to measure up  
to our basic responsibilities, one's sta-  
ture on a child of God!

78TH YEAR—NO. 44

## THIS and THAT

By  
George R. Averill

### Insecurity of Freedom Traded For Civil Tyranny

It seems that too much of our whole world has lost its belief in its own abilities to claim security through the exchange of work and honest sacrifice for the foods that sustain soul and body.

It seems that even we who constitute the freedom's best and last hope, the United States, have heeded the siren voice of that thing called Federalism Government, and are willing "to trade our birthright for a mess of pottage."

We live in a land that long ago severed its political and economic umbilical cord from ancient Britain, our land of freedom was won only after its colonists shed plenty of blood to achieve freedom.

**TO RETAIN** this freedom several other terrible wars have been fought... the alien enemy from without our shores was easily seen, eventually defeated.

It was the great Abraham Lincoln who once told his people that "... if the United States are ever brought to the point of being without it will not be from within."

To the student of these past two decades of U. S. federalism and government, the handwriting is on the wall. Perhaps it always has been.

What you may ask, does it say?

**SIMPLY STATED:** "Most human beings want the most they can get with the least amount of effort."

Most people would not refuse the gift of a rich inheritance from a deceased relative... and most citizens today stretch out their hands to get something from their Uncle Sam.

Ah, add to this human weakness the existence of those in and of government who sound the siren call.

"Come and get it!" they sing inside and outside the legislative halls—"you're on... come on the run and get it!"

**YES, THE DAY** of the political and economic quack and demagogue is here.

Not all of this world's snake oil is in the hands of carnival side-showers.

All nicely wrapped up in foolish, vain promises, it is displayed by both contemporary major political parties in these United States, as each endeavors to win the acceptance of the most voters.

Utopia still is a far place, though still the honest goal of self-reliant people.

**LIKE SALVATION**, though, it is not for sale in the market place; no legislative assemblies can pass laws that will bring it to you, even the best of religions cannot hand it to you in any kind of container.

For salvation always is a personal condition, akin to the Biblical reference to "the Kingdom... within."

There are those who shout: "In a democracy everybody is supposed to be free... free from worry, free from tyranny, free from persecution, free from unemployment... etc., etc."

They mistake the meaning of self-government for the objective of security.

(See THIS & THAT, Pg. 2, Sec. 1.)

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AS MICKEY MOUSE performs on the movie screen, Florence Schaffner, 58, sits among Saturday afternoon movie-goers at Bloomfield theatre. Pearson is a volunteer member of the PTA Fathers' Movie Patrol.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1956

40 PAGES SECTION ONE

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

## Fire Dept. Has Good Year in '55

In most respects, 1955 was a better year for Birmingham's fire department than 1954, according to an unofficial report released this week by Fire Chief Park H. Smith.

Comparing this year's report with the 1954 official annual report, the 420 total number of runs made by the department in 1955 were 38 less than those of the previous year and the per capita loss was \$1.47 in comparison to 1954's per capita loss of \$1.74.

In 1955, the total estimated loss by fire was \$32,965 while 1954, the total estimated loss by fire was \$40,148.

The fact that the city's fire department did its job well is pointed out by the total amount of property endangered by fire—higher this year than last, but with a smaller fire loss.

In 1955 the total amount of property endangered by fire was \$10,786,100 while last year's total was \$10,222,050.

Firemen were busier this year than last in the number of first calls—72 in 1955 and 65 in 1954. There were four more false alarms given—12 in 1955 and 8 in 1954.

Other highlights in the department during the past year were the completion and occupation of two new fire stations and the appointment of Park H. Smith as fire chief upon the retirement of Vern W. Griffith, after 32 years as a fire-fighter for Birmingham.

## National Bank Stockholders Meet

At the annual meeting of stockholders of the Birmingham National Bank, held Tuesday night, election of 11 directors took place, and president H. H. Gardner gave a detailed report of the institution's operations during the year.

"The year 1955 opens on a note of expectation that economic activity, nation-wide, will be on a satisfactory level, whether or not the records of 1955 are equalled," said Gardner.

"OUR DEPOSITS have increased 64 per cent since 1954," he continued. "In view of this growth, the Board of Directors has given consideration to an increase in our capital stock consistent with this expansion."

"The requirement has not been presented to the stockholders, here, because of an expression of interest on the part of a large Detroit bank in a merger with our bank. Any definite offer that may materialize will, of course, be presented at a special meeting of stockholders, where the final decision will rest."

THE BANK referred to is The Detroit Bank, whose chairman is Joseph Dodge, with Raymond T. Ferring, president. It is probable that further information about this discussed merger will be forthcoming within the next month or two.

Directors re-elected were: Merrill C. Adams, George R. Averill, Ford H. H. Gardner, Merritt D. Hill, Charles E. Lewis, John E. Martin, Ernest W. Seasholtz, J. Robert F. Swanson, and A. C. Ver-muth.



GENEVIEW MAXWELL, Wing Lake resident, sees Valley of the Kings, Thebes in Luxor, Egypt accompanied by Egyptian guide Mahmud Abdalla Suleiman.

## Egyptian Officials Interviewed by Wing Lake Woman

Officials connected with growth and development of Egypt's new regime have been interviewed by a Wing Lake woman who is just completing her first year as a reporter for the Daily Star in Beirut, Lebanon.

She is Genevieve Maxwell, 6291 Worthington, Wing Lake, who now is on combined reporting-sightseeing tour of Egypt.

Egypt's new governmental regime, reports Miss Maxwell, had two goals: (1) the end of any kind of British occupation or influence and (2) setting up a progressive governmental machinery to benefit all Egyptian people for both immediate and long-term programs.

June 19, 1956 will see the evacuation of the last British soldier from Egyptian territory, she said.

TO ACHIEVE the second goal, Egypt has set up two permanent councils, one for production and one for public welfare services. The nation's economy and raising the standards of production, Miss Maxwell reported, depends on the standard of living of individuals and groups.

In her interview with Dr. Fuad

Galal, secretary-general of the council of public services at the Senate building in Cairo, Dr. Galal said, "We are an under-developed state, and the policy of the new regime is to start from the bottom."

The planning commission had to gauge what the individual could do for himself and from that point an analysis had to be made in terms of quantity and quality of health, education, social services, municipal and rural services.

ACCORDING TO Dr. Galal, 260 out of 300 community centers have been built, each center to care for approximately 15,000 persons. Each community will contain hospitals, housing units and schools.

(See OFFICIALS, Pg. 2, Sec. 1)

## Hearing on Parking Is Saturday

An informal public hearing to discuss the various off-street parking projects for Birmingham will be held in the municipal building Saturday morning at 8 o'clock.

Members of the commission, aided by various department heads, including manager Donald C. Egbert, will be present.

"While we will talk about further details of the proposed Hamilton project, we also plan to go over all other tentative off-street projects we think necessary for our community," stated Egbert.

Referring specifically to the Hamilton project, Egbert stated, "We will have to act now if we want to open this lot sometime between September and November this year. Without it, inconvenience and lack of facility will result," said City Manager D. C. Egbert in proposing the special hearing.

Referring to Monday's city commission meeting.

THE CITY's first parking lot at Pierce and Merrill opened just before the Christmas shopping season and netted \$370 in revenue during the peak pre-holiday week. Last week, which included a holiday, the lot netted \$225.

The necessity has been declared for a second lot two blocks west of the present parking site.

## Republicans Will "Salute Ike" By Holding Dinners

One of 41 Republican Party fund-raising dinners, presented as a "Salute to Eisenhower," President, will be held Friday evening, Jan. 19, in Detroit's Masonic Temple.

Leland I. Doan, president of the Michigan Chemical Co., is chairman of the dinner, which will be staged in seven other Michigan cities.

An hour-long nation-wide TV program, headed by President Eisenhower and followed by Vice-President Richard L. Nixon, secretary of the Treasury Humphrey, and others, with a TV visit to the Eisenhower Gettysburg farm, will be presented.

The program will be Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Tickets in Oakland County for this dinner are being sold from the village of Edward E. Wilson, 1850 N. Woodward. His telephone is Midwest 4-1930.

## City Parking Lot Hours Discussed By Commission

No action was taken by Birmingham city commission Monday night on the basis of information from the new parking lot's daily hours.

Commissioner William E. Roberts brought out the fact that a large number of evening parking tickets had been issued at the new lot.

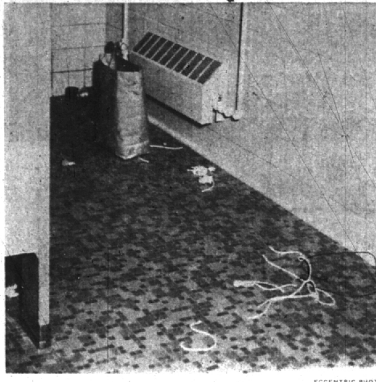
ROBERTS COMMENTED that additional signs should be made up, informing occupants the lot is in operation from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. daily, except Sundays and holidays.

On the basis of police revelation of the problem that had developed in other communities' theatres, the safety committee decided to have a father patrol, to see that such a situation does not develop here.

UNDER THE plan now in operation, each of the ten public and parochial PTA groups in the Birmingham area furnishes two men on every third Saturday throughout the year.

Each week the two volunteer fathers report to Lt. Henry Timm, juvenile officer of the Birmingham police. After a short briefing on their method of operation, the men take their posts among the young movie-goers.

The father patrol has the complete cooperation and support of managers Lee Fraser, of the Bloomfield theatre, and Jack Ce-



INSIDE OF THE BASEMENT men's rest room of Michigan Life Insurance building, Woodward avenue and Coolidge road, where 10 men were bound and gagged by a gunman who fled after a five-hour vigil in the wash room. Note the clothes line on the floor which the bandit used to tie up the men.

## "Wash Room" Bandit Hosts Ten Men for Five Hours Friday

By DICK KELLEY

Ten men were "guests" of a "well-mannered" bandit for five hours Friday in the basement men's room of the new Michigan Life Insurance building, Woodward Ave. and Coolidge road, Royal Oak.

Wearing a hooded parka jacket and dark-tinted glasses, the bandit apparently entered the building around 8 a.m. and hid in the wash room.

First victim of the rest room "caper" was George Bundush, of Royal Oak, a boiler room operator in the building. Bundush was greeted by the bandit, gun in hand, in the basement corridor and forced into the wash room.

He forced Bundush to walk out of the building with him. On the outside he ordered Bundush to walk east and then headed south. Police are still looking for him.

AFTER walking half a block Bundush ran back to the building and told the switchboard operator to call the police. He then proceeded to untie the other nine men still in the wash room.

Questioned after the police arrived, the switchboard operator said she wondered why so many people failed to answer their phones.

The ten men never got a very good look at the gunman, who hid behind a door and the hood of his jacket and the dark glasses. They estimated his age as about 30 years old, five feet, nine inches, and weighing about 170 pounds. He wore gloves and left no fingerprints.

DURING the five hour wait, which proved futile, the gunman was calm and courteous. He relieved the men of their money, which totaled \$445, including \$400 from Angus Smith, follow-up man for the building architects who en-

tered the room to inspect the sinks. It got so crowded in the small room when the last of the 10 men was strewn on the floor at 1:30 p.m. that the bandit decided to leave.

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## Public Hearing Jan. 30 on Bates Paving

Progress on plans for widening Willis from Woodward to Chester was made at Monday night's Birmingham city commission meeting.

A public hearing on the assessment roll to defray costs of paving Woodward from Bates to Chester, on Woodward avenue, and heard reports from City Manager D. C. Egbert on an east side green belt area.

Commissioners also approved April 15 as the date for Birmingham high school's annual student Civic Control day, discussed lighting on Woodward avenue, and heard reports from City Manager D. C. Egbert on an east side green belt area.

AN ASSESSMENT roll of \$8500.15 was approved to defray costs of paving Bates street, extending north from Willis 200 feet. Egbert said plans are to complete the project before the 1956 construction season.

A second assessment roll was approved to defray costs of acquiring right-of-way of ten feet along Willis from Woodward to Bates.

The assessment district will be created in the amount of \$4,000.

The hearing on the Willis widening from Bates to Chester was continued until next week's commission meeting, to enable a new resolution to be drafted concerning proposed method of spreading costs.

## Robbery Has Lighter Side

After five hours Friday, the basement wash room of Michigan Life insurance building took on all the appearance of an old Marx Brothers' movie with 10 men strewn on the floor.

The bandit directed George R. Bundush, his first victim, in taping the mouths of the other nine men in the wash room. At the job Bundush was doing on one of the later men, he said, "you ought to be getting good at this now."

During the five-hour siege, the bandit remarked to his captives he had no idea of robbing the Wayne-Oakland bank on the first floor of the building that would be a Federal offense.

After questioning by the Royal Oak police for nearly two hours Friday afternoon the 10 victims decided to go to lunch but then remembered their wallets were empty. Michigan insurance president Scott A. Lamb picked up the tab for the ten men.

The gentleman bandit was polite and calm throughout the five-hour siege. He refrained from comment about the capture of his captives proved to be broke.

## STRICTLY FRESH

Thief entered a Knoxville, Tenn., apartment and stole a kitchen sink. Everything but the kitchen sink was what he couldn't steal—apartment was vacant.

Police Chief Muscatelli recently investigated robbery of a liquor store at Bentleyville, Pa. When he makes part with the miscreants they'll taste the harvest of the grapes of wrath.

National prosperity hasn't changed the even tenor of things in Cayce, S. C. Thieves raided

Ryden spearheaded the move toward the formation of the PTA Council safety committee, which he now heads. Schools represented in the father patrol are Adams, Baldwin, Barnum, Beverly, Holy Name, Pembroke, Pierce, Quaker, and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

Because fathers, educators and police working together have developed an effective measure which will continue in operation, Birmingham parents can feel more secure, now on file at township offices, at their next meeting, Jan. 19. Citizens feel the hospital, headed by Dr. Donna Young, will create a noise and odor nuisance.

Residents Protest  
Veterinary Hospital

SOUTHFIELD — Twenty-five residents in the Inkster-Northwestern highway area signed a petition protesting approval which was given to a veterinary hospital to be erected in that neighborhood.

Boards of Appeals, which approved the hospital at a meeting early this month, will be headed by Dr. Donna Young, who is township offices, at their next meeting, Jan. 19. Citizens feel the hospital, headed by Dr. Donna Young, will create a noise and odor nuisance.

Boas told the fellow across the desk from him to take a couple of days off. He's worth nothing to the firm if he's not around all his time planning what he'll do on his next extra duty — Memorial Day.

All cases of mass spring outbreaks of the disease, known as "Royal Malaria," died "O" and ask for Enterprise 613.

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