



Moments of inspiration come to men and women only when they are moved by the impulse of usefulness when they are seeking to give otherwise either by word or action, or in some form of art, to their fellow man. Such moments are not of daily experience, but even one of them is never forgotten.

79TH YEAR—NO. 3

Light Voting Is Expected Next Monday

THIS and THAT

By George R. Averill

Mayor Hubbard Wants Utopia for Dearborn's Oldsters

Now you take this chap Orville L. Hubbard, 64-year-old Mayor of Dearborn, Mich. Here is a man with tremendous civic ideas. He's been Dearborn's mayor for 10 more than a decade. How does he do it?

Easy. With the vast tax assessment that the Ford Motor Co. bears on Dearborn's books, Hizzoner is able to get most of his city's income from a single corporation.

This results in a light tax burden on the individual property owners... and these are the folks who get the variety of community benefits from the money Orville and his council spends. So the beneficiaries continue to keep Orvie in office.

A FEW weeks ago a local fishing pal of mine, Jack Taylor, of 988 Madison, and I were sitting in the lounge of the Rod & Gun Club, in Everglade, Florida.

Who should enter but three men, one of them recognizable as Dearborn's genial Mayor. One of the two other companions was Dearborn's purchasing agent, on vacation. They were on their way to Naples, 25 miles west of Everglade.

...and the Mayor was buzzing with another idea. "I'm thinking about a plan to have our city purchase a lot of inexpensive land somewhere in southern Florida, to be used as vacation or permanent home-sites for Dearborn's old, retired citizens," explained Orvie.

"WE COULD send our city to get the money with which to build homes down here, aided, of course, by some federal funds. "I haven't got the plan all worked out yet, but with more and more people living longer and longer and retiring earlier and earlier... well, I don't see what can be wrong with a city doing what it can to make these people happier and happier."

When I mentioned something about the constitutional legality of a community getting into this type of venture, Mayor Hubbard gave me one of his most captivating smiles and replied: "Well, we can't get state and federal legislators to create whatever laws are necessary to make it possible, can't we?"

IT'S HARD to keep up with Orvie's terrific civic ideas, as many folks already have found out. You may recall that Orvie isn't supposed to leave Wayne County, but as come you are to leave Wayne county, he smiled: "Well, isn't this country a part of the Dearborn area?"

(See THIS & THAT, Pg. 6, Sec. 1)

INSIDE THE ECCENTRIC

PHOTO PAGE

Section 4, Page 1

Space Craze Sparked By Young Astronomer

Section 2, Page 4

Lathrup Woman's Club Stages Mad Hatters' Party

Section 2, Page 1

Baseball Outgrowing Area Diamond Facilities

Section 5, Page 6

Lathrup Goes to Polls Monday

Section 5, Page 1

Section Page

Amusements	6	4, 5
Bits of Birmingham	1	2
Church	4	6, 7
Correspondents:		
Berkshire	5	5
Bloomfield Village	3	4
East Beverly	5	8
Franklin	5	8
Gilbert Lake	5	3
Grassfield-Derby	3	3
Lathrup Village	5	4
North Adams	5	8
Valley Woods	5	4
Walnut Lake	5	4
West Beverly	5	5
Wing Lee-Foxcroft	4	17
Down to Earth	4	17
North Shore	4	8
Oakdale	5	1
Round the Towns	6	1
School	2, 3, 4	6, 7
Society	2, 3, 4	6
Sports	5	6, 7
Theaters	6	5
Want Ads	1	6, 7



ALAN WALTON tells his mother and father details he can remember about his 16-day disappearance. The youth did not know how he reached St. Louis, where he was found Saturday.

Haack Assessment Estimate Turns Out 'On the Nose'

An estimate of a 55 1/2 million rise in 1956 Birmingham assessed valuations was off just \$10,480, according to a final report presented to Birmingham's city commission Monday night by retiring City Assessor Elmer V. Haack.

Four weeks ago Haack estimated that new residential and commercial structures and a 30 per cent increase in all residential land values would up the 1956 total assessment by about 55 1/2 million.

Final total released Monday night was \$58,759,940, compared to the 1955 valuation of \$53,249,460.

HAACK, who retires March 31 to establish his own fee appraisal service, will be replaced temporarily by James H. Purkiss, Jr., city finance director. Haack will continue to act in an advisory capacity.

"The city has not yet found a permanent assessor," said City Manager Donald Egbert, "and the commission will interview applicants Saturday morning."

Cal Patterson C of C Speaker

W. Calvin Patterson, vice-president of Michigan Bell Telephone Co., will be principal speaker at the annual Birmingham Chamber of Commerce meeting April 18 at Devon Gables.

Patterson, a well-known Detroit area speaker, is active in many civic affairs including the United Foundation and the Boy Scouts of America.

He is on the board of directors of Cranbrook school and president of the United Community Services.

AT THE ANNUAL C of C meeting, Patterson will speak on "Civic Responsibilities of Business and Industry."

Patterson lives in Foxcroft, Bloomfield township.

Names of three new board of directors members will be announced that night. President Henry L. Sellers will report on the chamber's general activities for the past year and call for reports from the various chamber committees.

SIX NOMINEES for the three directorships which will be announced in April are: Russell M. Downey, John R. Fawcett, Willard Johnson, Aaron Kerenbaum, Arthur Lake and David J. Underdown.

The annual dinner meeting will be emceed by Warren Michael Kelly, Detroit radio and television personality.

Property owners Alice C. Baker and Howard J. Bell seek a change in zoning from single residence to two-family.

Candidates Race to Get Most 'Ayes'

In an off-year election, with 20 strange local issues on the ballot, Birmingham's annual city election Monday is expected to draw less than 3,000 voters to the polls here.

Bad weather could sharply cut into the ranks of those who do exercise their freedom of choice on four city commission candidates and three local propositions.

Most interest is expected to come from backers of candidates, who will seek to get him elected over the other contestants.

Two will be elected to three-year terms from these four commission aspirants:

Charles Renfrew, the city's current mayor, who is going for his second term;

Plan Board Member Carl F. Ingraham, 40 Harmon;

Donald K. Fill, 1693 Banbury; and Omar Hansen, 523 E. Southland.

UNOPPOSED for re-election to the public library board are Mrs. Cecil Miller and Birmingham School Supt. Dwight B. Ireland.

The Birmingham ballot also includes three local propositions: permit integration of the city's municipal retirement program with that between the city and F. Y. Henkel, 493 W. Frank, of property at the southeast end of Quorton Road; an accompanying map for visual explanation).

FOR THE first time, voters will note on the voting machines that candidates names will be on blue-green sheets instead of the old papers are printed on red-lined paper.

This new style, recently permitted by the state legislature, is going to be closely observed by Birmingham election boards to see if it aids voting procedure.

The city's 11 precincts will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., with a noon line at the closing hour to be permitted to vote.

Birmingham's registered voters, 47,500, Birmingham election boards is slightly more than 12,000.

IN A 1955 April off-year state election, 5,326 voters appeared.

Two years ago—in 1953—17,474 voters cast ballots. That election, however, was featured by a large bond issue for the city's two new fire stations.

The sale of property involves three lots at the southeast corner of Hunter and Webster, which the city commission has determined there is no advantage in keeping.

BY A 96-7 majority vote in January, eligible city employees endorsed the proposed charter amendment which would amend their retirement benefits through federal social security.

Retirement costs now are divided five and eight per cent of city payroll, with employees paying the latter. Should Monday's amendment be approved, participation would drop two per cent. (See RACE, Page 3, Sec. 1.)

Results Forecast Before Election In Bl'ham Hills

Bloomfield Hills will go through the routine of a municipal election this Tuesday, but the results are already known.

Incumbent candidates for the offices which will be re-elected are: City Clerk Robert Stadler is doubtless making the figure in an unopposed election.

Cost of the election to city taxpayers is estimated at approximately \$300 by Stadler. Principal expenses are ballot printing and election workers' salaries.

Incumbents to Run For School Board

Two incumbent school board members will seek re-election in the June Birmingham school district election.

Terms of Mrs. Elaine Farnie, 693 Glenhurst, Birmingham, and William Spence, 30523 Greenfield, expire in June.

Both members said Wednesday they will file petitions for another four-year term.

Mrs. Farnie first was elected to the board in 1952. Spence is completing his second four-year term.

PETITIONS for the school board election must be filed with the board secretary not later than 4 p.m., May 12. Petitions must have signatures of not less than 50 nor more than 75 qualified district electors.

Bell to Spend \$986,000 More On Office Here

Michigan Bell Telephone Co. will spend \$986,000 to expand and improve service here during 1956, according to area manager Albert H. Warner.

Warner said the local figure is a part of the company's record-high \$9,000,000 construction program for this year. He will be required to meet the unrelenting demand for service throughout the firm's territory.

He pointed out that the 1956 program would raise Michigan Bell's postwar construction expenditures here to \$9,400,000.

BREAKING DOWN the construction program for Birmingham, Warner said that dial switching will be added in the central office to serve 4,000 more customers at a cost of about \$383,000. Balance of the local budget will go for additional cable and wire, private switchboards, telephone instruments, and other facilities.

Since 1946, telephones here have increased from 1,180 to 24,100—a 20-fold increase in the 10-year period.

Warner pointed to the company's accelerated merchandising program as an important factor influencing telephone growth and the type of service available to users in the future.

THE TREND toward two or more telephones—and telephone lines—in homes will move rapidly during the next few years, just as many homes have two or more radio and television sets, and automobiles.

"Colored telephones will become increasingly popular. So will such special telephone devices as the name-free 'Speakerphone' and the automatic answering equipment known as 'Amanda.'"

Furs, Jewelry Stolen From Window Displays

Fast-working thieves early Saturday shattered display windows in two Birmingham stores and sped away with over \$3,000 in furs and jewelry.

Birmingham police reported the burglary at 4:45 a.m. At 5:08 a.m., patrolmen discovered the alarm ringing, and the store's window empty.

At 5:30 a.m. a break-in at Lake Jewelers, 69 E. Maple, was discovered by the patrolmen.

George Dimas owner of the fur store, told police the window—containing a silver fur cape jacket valued at \$1,600 and a \$1,000 royal park mistle.

Lloyd L. Lake estimated the value of rings, bracelets, cultured pearls and pearl and diamond earrings missing at \$800.

Thieves left a trail of jewelry which they apparently dropped as they rushed away. Two earrings were recovered near the store, and a ring was found in front of Hag's shoe store, 163 W. Maple.

LAKE SAID THIS loss would have been much greater if it were not for his practice of substituting costume jewelry for precious stones in the window at night.

Both store owners said losses were covered by insurance.

Det. Lt. Merlin Holmquist, of the Birmingham police department, speculated the same thieves who took \$95 from a Royal Oak store's cash drawer that same night were responsible for the Birmingham break-ins.



ALAN WALTON tells his mother and father details he can remember about his 16-day disappearance. The youth did not know how he reached St. Louis, where he was found Saturday.

Student Relates How He 'Woke Up' In Saint Louis

By JULIE CANDLER

"It was just like waking up," said a pleasant, soft-spoken youth whose disappearance had baffled DePauw university authorities and police through the Middle West for over two weeks.

Alan Walton, 18, of 880 Yarmouth, Bloomfield Village, flew home Sunday evening with his father, who had boarded a plane for St. Louis immediately after Alan was able to identify himself to police there.

Alan remembers nothing from the two-week period. Monday, the Walton family physician pronounced Alan well, except for malnutrition, and said amnesia was brought on by "overdoing."

ST. LOUIS POLICE answered a report from the public library Saturday that a youth had become ill after spending most of the past five days around the library.

"I guess I was faint from lack of food," said Alan. "I couldn't have eaten very much during that time, because I lost over 30 pounds."

St. Louis police took the youth to the station and called a physician.

"IT WAS AT the police station that I started waking up," Alan said. "I had no identification on me—I still haven't found my billfold—so they started questioning me about who I was."

NEXT ALAN remembered his Birmingham telephone number, and it was then that Dr. and Mrs. Charles Walton heard the long-awaited news and the welcome sound of their son's voice again.

Alan said he had no recollection of where he might have been in the 16 days after he disappeared March 3 from the DePauw university campus at Greensville, Ind.

"I don't remember how I got to St. Louis, or anything that I did during that time," he said. "I was wearing a different shirt and trousers when they found me, but have no idea how I got them."

THE DEPAUW freshman could (See STENTUP, Page 6, Sec. 1)

STRICTLY FRESH

Mess hall at Fort Belvoir, Va., has been equipped with hi-fi radio units "to enhance meal-time atmosphere." Translation: to drown out the sound of chomping by hundreds of molar.

District of Columbia board of education recently declared a holiday which will be observed when the circus hits town. The theory is that children won't have to cut classes to attend the matinee. Someone's always taking the fun out of things.

Radio Moscow announces that Russia will play host to 4,500,000 tourists in 1956, many of whom will visit Siberia. Nothing was said about a round-trip ticket.

Lady called up Internal Revenue office in Knoxville, Tenn., and asked, "Do you figure sales tax on the dollar or on the gallon?" Hanging up, she was wondering: whisky or gasoline?

Thieves in Grand Rapids, Mich., are going to get a big bang out of their latest batch of booty. They stole five good-looking trousers which were returned to a tire firm because of internal defects.

All makes of inner spring mattresses are being inspected by the U.S. MATRESS COMPANY, Dept. O, ask for Enterprise 6318.