

If your neighbor maintains a lovely looking yard and garden, do you complain his (and her) on its refraining value to yours? A well-tended yard and garden is a great community asset and an asset whose total value to its owner cannot be estimated.

79TH YEAR—NO. 9

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1956

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

46 PAGES SECTION ONE



\$72,900 Budget Boost for Birmingham

Tell Alcohol's Effects, Speaker Advises Parents

By RUTH ANNE SILBAR

"How should the drinking problem be handled when some parents do it?" was a question presented to Dr. Frank D. Slutz, counselor and speaker at Birmingham high PTA meeting Tuesday night, shortly after his introductory remark that alcohol doesn't seem a problem nowadays, and few students in the past 10 years have asked questions about it.

THIS and THAT

By George R. Averil

An Accolade to Paul T. Babson An Exemplary Man

"Many, many times in this newspaper I have declared that a large and most important part of the country's economic progress is the voluntary activities of people. Look over your own local community and you will find that even the whole earth's population, and evaluate the importance of these voluntary labors. Without them our society would, indeed, be impoverished, less civilized, less safe and enjoyable for us to live in. Which brings me up to the acknowledgment of a most satisfactory, personal editorial assignment here, to wit: to chronicle the fact that, two weeks ago in Washington, D. C., the citation of "1955 Lay Churchman of the Year" was given to Paul Talbot Babson, of Wellesley and Boston, Mass. This annual citation is made by the Protestant Churches of America. Last year the same citation was given to President Eisenhower.

I KNOW Mr. Babson (he is my daughter's father-in-law) and am aware of his efforts to contribute a considerable value to the fabric of mankind in the same category in the nation's economic affairs. Paul Babson's first cousin, Roger Babson, noted economist, once said to me: "Together with my own father, I consider Paul to be among the two most honest men I have ever known. His word and personal reputation are less tarnished than gold."

INSIDE THE ECCENTRIC Beverly Hills Area Considers Annexation to Birmingham Section 6, Page 1 Photo Page Section 4, Page 1 Hillsdale Stable Transformed Into A Home Section 2, Page 1 Sally Hanson Wins National Award for Short Story Section 6, Page 4 Maples Hit and Run to Victory Section 5, Page 6

Section Page Amusements 3 4 Bits of Birmingham 1 2 Birthdays of Briebs 4 4 Church 4 6.7 Correspondents: Birmingham 5 5 Bloomfield Village 3 5 East Beverly 5 8 Franklin 5 8 Gilbert Lake 5 3 Greenfield-Derby 3 7 Hillsdale Village 5 8 North Adams 4 3 Orchard Hills 5 5 Walnut Woods 5 2 Walnut Lake 5 2 West Beverly 5 8 Wining Lake-Foxcroft 5 2 Down to Earth 4 2 Nature Now 4 8 Outdoors 4 8 Round the Towns 6 1 School 6 4 Suburban Scene 6 2 Women's 1 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 Sports 3 4 Theaters 3 4 Want Ads 1 6.7



Mr. and Mrs. DOWD Are on vacation

Maple Parking Stays, Says Commission

There is no need yet to take any parking off Maple avenue in downtown Birmingham, five city commissioners agreed Monday night when representatives of the chamber of commerce and businessmen, Commissioner Charles Renfrew and Carl Ingraham, who cast the two dissenting votes, argued unsuccessfully that peak morning and afternoon traffic demands should be met by a corresponding removal of parking during those hours. They based their contentions on surveys and recommendations from the police department, city manager, and traffic engineering consultant.

THE QUESTION we should ask as legislators, are you doing your best? We are not setting up machinery for students to better their records here. It is a track team, Slutz pointed out will compete with their best—try to break their own records. Slutz recommends dividing pupils into groups of abilities.

WHEN HER car overturned in a crash at the intersection of Franklin streets Thursday, Dorothy Thorpe, 12 of 1596 Amber, received only minor bumps and cuts. She was treated at Beaumont hospital and later released, as was Virginia H. Schnell, 40, of 551 Wellesley, driver of the second vehicle involved in the accident.

Women Suffer Minor Injuries in Crash

For the past several months a group of women has been enthusiastically studying the possibility of establishing in the Birmingham area a club for women of similar tastes and center for cultural, social, civic and philanthropic pursuits. Although there already are numerous and varied programs available to women here, many of them felt the lack of a woman's organization with club-house and dining-room facilities where they might gather with friends, for study, service, or pleasure.

Family Week Being Marked

As family week is observed May 6-13, Birmingham's largest family, which runs smoothly all year long, is carrying on in the usual tradition while mother and dad take a well-earned vacation.

Carrying on the family routine are Pat, 12; Nancy, 10; Mrs. David Power, of Maple avenue, 18; John, 16; Joan, 15; Carol, 13; Sally, 11; Jimmy, 10; Dick, 8; Mary Beth, 6; Ginger, 5; Barbara, 4; and Timothy, 2. The father heads a local accounting firm.

PAI, WHO works at McManus, John and Adams, is in charge during her parents' three-week absence, and each child carries out his regularly-assigned responsibility in keeping the home running smoothly.

THESE INCLUDED coordination of Maple traffic signals, widening of Willits street, opening of Oak street through to Hunter Blvd., a new Hunter crossover to Hamilton, and opening of three new municipal off-street parking lots.

Family Week Being Marked

Family week is observed May 6-13, Birmingham's largest family, which runs smoothly all year long, is carrying on in the usual tradition while mother and dad take a well-earned vacation. Pictured here as they gather around the living room TV set are the 12 children of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin P. Dowd, of 588 Larchlea.

Another \$100,000 Could Be Added

If Birmingham city commissioners are to hold this year's tax rate to the same used last year, they may have to trim City Manager D. C. Egbert's preliminary budget figures by more than \$43,000.

This "re-valuation" of departmental requests continues in committee session Saturday morning as commissioners are scheduled to interview several department chiefs. First of these meetings took place last Saturday.

Public hearing on the budget is set for Monday night, May 21. Final budget must be adopted by June 11.

Current city expenses will be \$1,422,165.17, Egbert estimates. Proposed 1956-57 budget total, \$1,465,144.75, while anticipated annual boost in city employees, on the basis of last year's 2 1/4 per cent increase, this year it could total about \$20,000.

However, more than \$56,000 in departmental special requests are not included in that budget figure, and while anticipated annual boost in city employees, on the basis of last year's 2 1/4 per cent increase, this year it could total about \$20,000.

Thus, to keep the tax rate at \$12.70 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, they must find \$34,000 more in revenue, trim it out of basic budget figures and special departmental requests, increase the tax rate, or any combination of the three; it could total about \$20,000.

ON THE BASIS of the basic budget alone, city costs will be \$512,200 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, they must find \$34,000 more in revenue, trim it out of basic budget figures and special departmental requests, increase the tax rate, or any combination of the three; it could total about \$20,000.

Fluoridation Hearing Next Monday Night

Public expression on fluoridation of Birmingham's water supply may be made at a hearing next Monday night, May 14, Birmingham city commission announced this week.

At Monday's hearing, Oakland County Health Commissioner Dr. Edwin W. Deer, immediate past president Dr. James Riley, and Dr. Mel Noonan will be present to answer any audience questions.

Fluoridation sharply reduces dental caries in children studies show. Birmingham has about a half-part of fluoride per million parts of water, say state experts. Efficient combination is one part per million, and could be easily added in Birmingham's proposed water treatment plant, the city officials point out.

FROM Commissioner Manley Bailey: "Does a mother have the time to do the supervising?" (Adult over 16 years old, an expert swimmer, must be in attendance when gates were unhooked.)

FROM Carl Ingraham: "This bothers me that a person who wants to put in a pool has to go all through this fencing, locked gates, supervision, purification, etc., when all we want to do is protect the youngsters from wandering too close to the pool. We've never fenced Quanton lake or the River Rouge. We even have puddles in which someone could drown."

BAILEY WAS back in with: "Wouldn't it even have to do all this for garden pools? (The proposal would regulate pools one foot or more in depth.)" Said Charles Renfrew: "Aren't we going to the extreme to require continuous filtration and chlorination? I'll go for a secure fence and gates."

AFTER this dousing, Mrs. Wilcox said: "I'll go for a secure fence and gates." (See POOL, Page 2, Sec. 1)

Citizens League Service Award To Be Made to Ex-Police Officer

David Gilpin, former lieutenant in the Pontiac police department, the county has been invited to receive the Oakland Citizens League outstanding service award for his work in the River Rouge area. The award was presented Tuesday night at Birmingham Community House.

As a result of investigation he led, and in which the Citizens League was an instigator, a grand jury was called which led to the trial and conviction of a number of racketeers between 1944-49. The presentation will be made on behalf of the League by Mayor William H. Donaldson of Pontiac, former board member.

Wayne Law Senior 3rd District's 3rd Candidate

Third entrant in the race for Republican nomination as third district state representative is James C. Foster, Jr., 27, of 785 Purdy, Birmingham. He announced his candidacy yesterday afternoon.

Wayne university law school senior, this is his first attempt at a public office. He is a charter member of the law club, Young Republican club, now being organized. His wife is a physical education teacher at Bar num junior high school.

FOSTER is a University of Michigan graduate who served three years in the U. S. Army intelligence section. He also is an active member of the Elks.

THE OTHER candidates are Harvey Beggs, Bloomfield and Farrell Roberts of West Bloomfield township. County Commissioner Ralph A. Main also has been mentioned as a possible primary candidate.

They seek the legislative spot now held by Richard C. Van Dusen of Birmingham, who has announced his retirement from the current session ends in December.

STRICTLY FRESH

Diffusionist thought: do guests drop in unexpectedly of an evening to back in your heart-warming hospitality or is their television set out of order?

Politics makes strange bedfellows—especially during convention time, when hotels in the host city sleep four and a to a room.

A well-behaved child is one who successfully conceals his mischief-making projects.

Mothers-in-law who bride at mother-in-law jokes are the reason why there are so many mother-in-law jokes.

The mystery of who put the ovals in Mrs. Murphy's chowder ranks second, in our estimation, to the more pressing problem of who put the flannel in the neighborhood restaurant's pancakes.



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