

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

WET WEATHER bring any reaction from you in the past few sploshy weeks? It did from one of our Eccentric readers, who mailed in this contribution:

SUBURBAN SPRING

If you're bored with rainy weather
And your yard's a large lagoon;
If you wonder if your lawn will ever sprout—
If your driveway is a washout
And your floors with mud are strewn,
Then you know what "Country Living" is all about.

If you dreamed of sweet seclusion
But you got a large contusion
As you minced down to the mail in mires of mud—
If your hall with boots is cluttered
And your child with mud is buttered
Just rejoice! You're not a city dweller, bud.

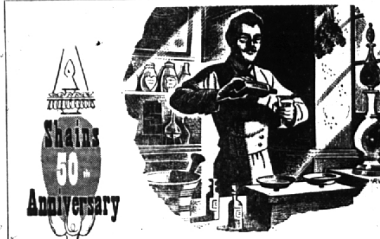
If your vestibule is bordered
With the nursery stock you ordered
In anticipation of an early spring—
If your green thumb is a twitchin'
But you have to mop the kitchen
For the third time in two days, is this the thing

That is called suburban living?
Then you view with some misgiving
All the touts and claims the real estate men make.
Yes, you bargained for seclusion,
But there must be a some confusion.
Did you really buy a lot, or just a lake?
SUZY O.

MRS. IRENE E. MURPHY'S offer to serve on a Birmingham election board five, rather than at the 78¢, cents an hour she figures she would earn during the day, has been declined by Birmingham city commissioners on the basis it would establish a bad precedent. Mrs. Murphy, 441 Bonnie Briar, feels the small rate of pay violates both the length of day a woman may work (federal law sets an 11-hour maximum, election boards here serve about 14) and the \$1 minimum wage law. City Attorney Forbes Hascall says this particular community job is not covered by either of these regulations. "Commissioners work for \$5 a week, for example, but most of them put in more than five hours of meetings," Hascall reminds. Mrs. Murphy also suggested the city might like to consider half-day election workers. City Clerk Irene Hanley said she'd like to study this suggestion in more detail. "It might help out if we can work it," she told commissioners.

IF YOU'RE FEELING PLUSH these days, you fit Birmingham's description, according to an item on the front page of the Wall Street Journal last Thursday. In a paragraph describing the new bus line here, the journal stated, "Volkswagen buses serve plush Birmingham, Mich., a suburb of Detroit."

IT WAS TOO LATE to make corrections in the story itself, but perhaps The Eccentric can make some sort of amends with a correction in this column. It concerns a story on page one of section two telling of a benefit tea for St. Vincent-Sagrha Fisher home for children. The story is written in the past tense, as though it had been held this week



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fact is, the event isn't until next Tuesday, June 5. The Eccentric hopes this 7-day speedup does not inconvenience anyone. We regret our error.

PETER LOOMIS, Birmingham high school student, was awarded a scholarship based on scholastic achievement to study six weeks at Cornell University this summer. Peter was one of 16 high school junior men from all over the nation chosen by Telluride association, sponsor, to study the problem of "Conflicting Ideals of Communism and Democracy." July 2 through August 11, The scholarship includes lectures, textbooks, library privileges, meals, housing, and social activities. Peter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Loomis, 1648 Dorchester.

ANOTHER ISSUE OF VOTERS GUIDE, published by the Birmingham League of Women Voters, is to be distributed tomorrow (Friday) by league members in lobbies of both Birmingham National and Detroit Wabek banks here. It contains background information on Tuesday's Troy-Birmingham annexation vote, and general information about the three Birmingham board of education candidates in the annual school election June 11.

Festival Named Principal Of Pierce School

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. 1.)

Mrs. Hazel MacGirr, principal of Vaughan school, served as a consultant. Each of the teachers chose from a posted list the phase of Michigan history she felt her pupils could best portray. Costumes were made by the parents, but nearly all props, even to the make-believe railroad train used by the first graders, were made by the classing them. Their production was supervised by Vaughan teachers, Mary Jane Thompson and William Schrot. Steven T. Mason was portrayed by George Clark, with Cynthia Swan acting the part of his sister and hostess.

Daniel Andrews was Cadillac, and Inge Hensler was his wife. Head of the important Brady guard, first Michigan militia, was Peter Armitage.

"The students enjoyed every minute of the many hours they have labored since the first of April to prepare for the great day last week," said elementary school supervisor Mrs. Flint.

As her history reveals, hard work made Michigan what she is today. And with the ability for hard work displayed by Michigan young people like those at Vaughan school last week, Michigan's future promises to be "the greatest."

Birthdays, anniversaries, guests, births, parties are all new—all the society editor about them.

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George W. Averill, Vice-President and Editor

George W. Averill, Secretary

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Enlarge Adult Education Program, Asks Candidate

A newcomer to legal politics this week declared herself in favor of an enlarged adult education program, emphasizing on school building to relieve classroom loads, and greater participation in the county's special education program for handicapped children.

The candidate is Mrs. Marvin Marsh, 59, of 16264 Beechwood, Southfield township. Her statement follows: "I have petitioned for the position of trustee of the board of education because I am deeply concerned about the formal education my son is to begin this fall. I believe the school system as a whole has been keeping pace as well as can be expected considering the mushrooming growth enveloping our communities."

"However, I am not satisfied that my child will be starting his school career in a kindergarten room filled with approximately 30 children as many children are specified by educational standards."

"This problem of overcrowded classrooms, of course, is not unique with Birmingham but will remain one of the basic problems for years to come and one we must all concern ourselves with in an effort for its solution. We cannot allow public apathy to curtail the needs for adequate education for all children."

"I BELIEVE the adult education program, now enjoying a vigorous beginning, can be revised and enlarged to fulfill the needs of adults seeking not only self-improvement but recreational interests (hobbies and active sports). Many parents are awaiting eagerly their chance to use the new pool."

"The board of education is now attempting to evaluate the need for facilities for the education of the physically and mentally handicapped children. The current school census is seeking this particular information."

"I feel Birmingham has not accepted its share of responsibility within the Oakland county plan for special education. Since we all pay a special tax for this plan, the children of this area should receive more of the benefits."

"ANOTHER area which I feel needs improvement is that of guidance within the secondary schools. The important decisions of a course of study to be followed through high school should not be left to the student and parent alone."

"The decision for college preparation should not be allowed to wait until the later years in high school. The gifted child could better take advantage of the existing facilities with an adequate guidance program."

"Lastly, I believe the high school youth of Birmingham are being unfairly censured for instances like spring vacation misbehavior, car thefts, etc."

"I FEEL the schools must accept a share of the responsibility along with other agencies such as the Recreation Board, Council of Churches, etc. for providing a positive program for our youth. We must encourage a variety of wholesome activities and actually provide them if necessary. Busy children are seldom those in trouble."

"I would be honored to serve the voters of the Birmingham school district, as a board of education member. I do hope you will accept the responsibility of making known your wishes by voting in the coming school election."

Round-Up at Adams

Adams school will hold its kindergarten round-up in the school auditorium at 9:30 a.m. Monday, June 4. Programs will be provided for both parents and prospective kindergartners. Mrs. John K. Raby, PTA health chairman, is in charge of arrangements, and Mrs. Alice McCarthy is planning refreshments.

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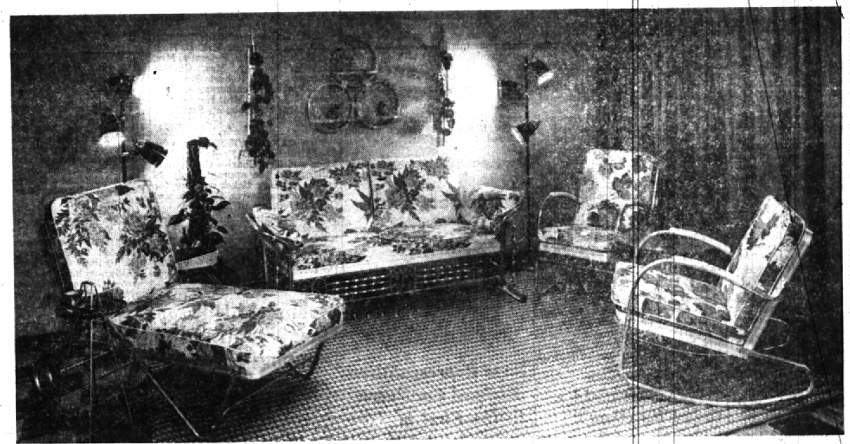
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