



WHEN MRS. FRED HOPSON (standing, right), comes back to hometown Birmingham and its nearby area for a visit, she regularly sees her mother, five brothers and sisters, her three children and several grandchildren. This year she added another name to the list of relatives to look up. He is five-week-old Terry Lee Hopson (lower right), Mrs. Hopson's first great-grandchild. Representing five generations here are (standing, from left) Mrs. Joshua Gibbons of 507 Frank street; her daughter, Mrs. Hopson, now of St. Petersburg, Fla. Seated are Mrs. Hopson's son, Frederick, and his daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Hopson, both of Battle Creek. The 91-year-old great-grandmother had just had her first view of the newest generation shortly before this picture was snapped.

This and That

by George R. Averill

Adlai E. Stevenson, the Democratic candidate for President, can't get away from his vice-cracking tendency. Speaking in Detroit Labor Day, he referred to his second face, emphasizing that he "didn't get it on a golf course." He was talking, of course, about his "second face," the love for golf, as though even U. S. President couldn't escape the game that attracts millions of Americans.

No thoughtful independent voter is going to bring to Adlai, if he wins, the kind of peace and prosperity that a great American family, I thought.

Just how ineffectually busy can a politician get, anyway? Stevenson's own party was in control of the federal government for 20 years, and claims to have raised the standard of living of billions of families; yet this "ugly patching power" still remains in spite of those prosperous days, then what did the Democrats do during their 20 years?

No wonder, friends, that millions of Americans not vote they get disgusted when they hear speeches like the one Adlai made in Detroit, Labor Day.

(Not all Republicans, either, are guilty of some of the same kind of folly when he plays a talk.)

Recent President Harry W. Truman, one of the few long-time Birmingham residents, reminded me of the tremendous population changes that have taken place hereabouts during the past 50 years. Indeed, much of it is in the past decade, in fact as growth goes.

Mr. Truman purchased the old 213-acre Mercer farm over 50 years ago, at \$100 an acre. Now it is being developed as a residential subdivision, the least expensive of its many new homes today sells for about the price of the 213 acres when Truman obtained title to it.

Michigan's present population is in the neighborhood of 7,250,000, and within the area of metropolitan Detroit, consisting of Wayne county, and Oakland, Macomb, and Westland, half of these people live.

The census of so many in Detroit's suburban areas accounts for this great growth, and the director said, "We have seen the sky-rocketing of land values."

Community House Classes Filling

Classes are filling up rapidly as enrollments get under way at Birmingham Community House for the fall season of craft and hobby classes, according to Myra Shaw, adult education director. Through a number of the classes have enrolled their full quota, openings still exist in some of the classes, the director said.

Among them is the course in photography, new this year, to be taught by Jack Umeyer on Thursday nights. Also listing openings are Tuesday ceramics classes, instructed by Mrs. Edith Foster, a Monday night dancing class under Charles Doan, and a design class guided by Peter Doan.

Other still available courses are gardening, Mrs. Alice Burlingame; interior decorating, Mrs. Gay E. Brown; millinery, Mrs. C. C. Seawing; Mrs. Bea Roach, and separate courses in enameling and sewing, Mrs. Thelma J. Anderson.

Also available is a free course in first aid and Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon sessions in painting for school children, to be taught by Mrs. Virginia Schaffer.

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Alert Girls Aid Police In Search

Because of the alertness of three Birmingham girls who were approached by a stranger last May, Clark Russell, Jr., 32, of 2022 19th street, Ulica, will be facing trial tomorrow morning in Birmingham municipal court.

Det. L. M. Holmquist arrested Russell last Wednesday for investigation of alleged indecent liberties. This investigation resulted from an incident in 1953 involving three other local girls, then sixth and seventh grade students.

Russell had left the state before Birmingham police were able to establish presentation to secure a warrant for his arrest in another state.

BUT IN MAY of this year, Birmingham police learned of Russell's presence in the vicinity through the aid of the alert girls who reported that they were approached on East Maple near Rugby street.

ONE OF THE girls, for 175 cars, is to be north of Hamilton between Park and Ferndale. Clearing of several houses on the site has been completed. The girls are now being housed in a temporary building. Negotiations are under way for demolition of the site.

The second lot, to accommodate 83 cars, will go on the south side of Hamilton near Hunter.

Neighbor Finds Local Decorator After Attack

A neighbor discovered the body of John M. Luscombe in the living room of his home at 2192 Yorkshire at 8:30 p.m. Monday. Deputy Coroner Dr. Isaac Prevette said death had occurred sometime Sunday. He listed a heart attack as the cause of death.

Herbert F. Royal, Jr., of 2165 Yorkshire, entered the Luscombe residence when he became aggressive after failing to observe signs of life in the house. Luscombe had been in ill health since June 1954.

A WELL-KNOWN interior decorator with studios on Pierce street since 1945, Luscombe had lived since 1914, attending the public schools here.

He was a member of the Pontiac Ski club.

Surviving are a sister, Mrs. Helen Wood, 2192 Yorkshire, and a brother, William K. Luscombe of Galesburg, Ill.

Mrs. Norman Lytle, a Christian Science reader, officiated at services Wednesday from Manley street funeral home, with final resting place in White Chapel cemetery.

Safety Council Reports to City On '55 Traffic

At a meeting attended by Birmingham city officials and traffic representatives Tuesday, Corp. Ralph Foster of the Michigan state police praised Birmingham for its handling of traffic safety activities.

Reporting for the National Safety Council on the city's traffic activities, Foster submitted by Police Chief Ralph W. Mosley, Foster made recommendations which the council advised could further improve the city's traffic handling.

The Safety Council awarded special recognition to Birmingham for safety activities as reported, but made no attempt to classify Birmingham as one of the 47 cities in the Birmingham population group.

"BIRMINGHAM's accident record activities met 58 per cent of appraisal measures, a commendable record," the report said.

Among recommendations were that additional accident data be made available for traffic engineering and public safety education use, that more men hours be spent in maintaining traffic control devices, and that Birmingham consider eliminating angle parking on certain business area streets.

The Safety Council also recommended more modern type lighting along high volume and accident-prone streets.

Enters Guilty Plea

When arraigned on charges of reckless driving Monday, Birmingham municipal court, Herman Gaff ordered him to pay a fine of \$100 and costs, and to be confined in an accident Sept. 2 at Lincoln and Woodward.

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May Study 4th Freeway Route Ziegler Advises

State Highway Commissioner Charles M. Ziegler, in a letter to The Birmingham Eccentric dated Sept. 7, confirmed recent reports from his office that there are at least three routes being considered for the north-south freeway through Oakland county.

We may even have to study a fourth location in order to develop all the facts for the federal bureau of public roads," said Ziegler.

"You know we do not wish to select a location which would create a great disruption to people's homes and have to pay for expensive properties, but we do want to get the best location to serve the people in the area, the through traffic for which the national interstate highways are primarily intended to serve, and one that can be constructed as economically as possible."

"THE NATIONAL interstate defense routes must be located so that in case of enemy bombing the people can be evacuated rapidly from congested areas," added Ziegler.

After the routes have been studied, a public hearing will be held to hear all citizens' objections. Transcripts of this hearing along with route locations will be forwarded to the public roads bureau for determination of a final location, Ziegler concluded.

Commission Room Remodeling OK'd

Bids for remodeling Birmingham's city commission room were ordered advertised this week as commissioners approved an estimated \$15,000 remodeling of the second floor room already in progress.

The \$45,000 proposed change in first floor and basement offices is desired, but commissioners haven't decided yet from where this additional money would come.

School Enrollment In Three Districts Is Up, Up

New residents moving into the area plus the increasing birth rate has pushed 1954 enrollment day school enrollment figures in the Birmingham area to new heights.

Southfield school district reported an increase of 9,961, an increase of 978 students.

Southfield rang up an increase of 538. Last enrollment figure for all Southfield schools is 5,842, compared to 5,304 enrolled in June 1953.

Authorities anticipate another 150 students within the week.

Bloomfield Hills school district reported an increase of 260 students. Enrolled last June were 1,685 pupils, with latest enrollment figures totaling 1,945.

Political Parties Sending Chairmen To Debate Here

A debate between John Feikens, Republican state chairman, and Neil Staebler, Democratic state chairman, has been set for 1:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17, in the Community House auditorium.

Mrs. John Ramsey, president of the Birmingham League of Women Voters, will be mistress of ceremonies for this meeting which is sponsored by the League.

This debate will be open to the public and is presented because of the current interest in the topic of the new "stop" sign, the national issues of the 1956 Election," Mrs. Ramsey said.

Perhaps Either Or Both of These Sign Standards

Other features the legislature also may like to consider for better safety in school bus operation:

- Require all buses—whether school owned or leased—to be PLAINLY marked both front and rear.
- School buses to remain stationary until all children have crossed the highway.
- All children to cross highway IN FRONT OF THE BUS and under the watchful eye of the driver.

INCIDENTALLY, YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED TO LEARN

That even the present law DOES NOT PROHIBIT motorists from going around school buses from the rear.

The law only requires the overtaking driver to stop at least 100 feet to the rear of the stopped bus "... and then proceed with caution."

The legislature in its next regular session starting in January should act to save the legs and lives of our future Nancys and Bruces!

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