

This & That

(Continued from Page 1-A)

65—and that is a very rare occasion, you may be sure.

In the beginning of the white man's invasion of the entire Caribbean Sea islands, from Cuba to Trinidad, sugar cane was the big crop.

To grow and harvest it, the whites started the slave traffic from Africa. This cheap labor resulted in great fortunes being made by the ruling classes.

Other tropical fruits and vegetables, of course, were cultivated and harvested.

WITH the abolition of slavery in the 19th century, the large plantations were abandoned. The land now is in smaller units, and sugar cane harvests are taken to a few centralized mills for processing.

A visit to these islands, together with a study of the history of them, reveals the usual social and economic cycles that may be found wherever mankind has established itself.

So I'll conclude this series of articles with this column. The entire trip was interesting and enjoyable.

I'd like to make its counterpart again. Maybe I will. Maybe you will read this way, too. I assure you that it will be worth the time, expense and effort.

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BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

DO YOU KNOW THE ALTITUDE OF BIRMINGHAM?

... how high above sea level both communities are? Recently this Wanderer had occasion to discuss this with Wilbur S. McAlpine, local surveyor and map maker. He probably knows more about local and other Oakland county land surveys than any other person. "Well, several years ago I found that at Adams and East Maple the land is 765 feet above sea level, and at Woodward and Maple 780 feet," said Wilbur. The Detroit River is 572 feet above sea level. Therefore, if we average Birmingham at 772 feet, we find that it is 204 feet higher than the Detroit River... which probably puts us about 200 feet higher than Detroit's Grand Circus Park.

VINCENT B. WATKINS, Birmingham ex-city commissioner, is a busy prospector these days. He's "digging up" the program for the 1957 Gold Rush which more than 12,000 Detroit-area scouts and leaders will stage May 24-26 at Highland recreation area. Gold Rush "Governor" is another Birmingham man, C. Allen Harlan.

WHEN THE MEMBERS of Birmingham's "Newcomers Club" held their regular monthly meeting at the Community House Thursday last week, (from a membership of 450 ladies 165 were at the luncheon) 21 of the officers and committee chairmen were topped with very attractive brand new Easter bonnets. The headgear, made of very deceiving colored crepe paper, were all alike in pattern. They were the work of Mrs. Ralph O. Moore, Jr., 17330 Birwood, the club's

Smashed Windows Head Vacation Damage List

Spring vacation again brought trouble for Birmingham police this week, the list leading off with the pilfering of a beer bottle and a stolen telephone receiver through the show windows of Bob Frost and Harold Turner auto agencies on S. Woodward.

Fined \$25 plus \$10 costs in Birmingham municipal court Wednesday morning were Robert L. Smith, 18, of 685 Southfield, Birmingham; Nicholas Micelli, 19, of Ferndale; Robert L. Stredwick, 19, of 1072 Stratford lane, Birmingham Hills; and Robert L. Sauer, Jr., 19, of 2209 Pine road, Birmingham.

All four pleaded guilty to the charge of malicious destruction of property, and agreed to make restitution of \$50 in damages. They were placed in three months' probation.

The youths were apprehended by Bloomfield Hills police about midnight Sunday after a radio alert from Birmingham police that the 1957 car in which they were riding was headed north on Woodward. A half empty case of beer was found in the car.

The other arraignment today, Hills Judge Alvin J. Richardson fined Smith, Micelli and Stredwick \$25 each on charges of being drunk and disorderly. Already on probation for a Birmingham traffic offense, Smith was sentenced to 10 days in Oakland county jail by Richardson.

OTHER CALLS RECEIVED at the Birmingham police department as spring vacations began included: At 409 Bonnie Brook, boys set fire to a porch.

At 401 Wimpleton drive, someone shot at the house.

Boys hit another house with eggs.

Boys threw an object from Grand Trunk viaduct at E. Maple, breaking a car windshield.

Boys throwing bottles into street at Bates and Martin.

Someone placed a chicken in a car at 1673 Quanton road.

Bicycle found thrown into Rouge river.

Tacks placed in auto tire.



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chairman of decorations. Among those who looked good wearing a hat were Mrs. John F. Green, 202 Suffolk, president, and Mrs. John Morris, 1354 Cedar drive, secretary and current program chairman. Said George B. Averill, Eccentric publisher, who spoke at the luncheon: "This is the first time in my life that I ever saw two or more women wearing the same style hat within sight of one another—and each audibly admiring the others' headgear. What a phenomenon! Just like men behave about wearing apparel..." (Editor's Note: Averill is, of course, quite naive relative to situations like the above.)

POOR HOMELESS HOMER, the racing pigeon, didn't get picked up and taken home Saturday after all. His owners called at the last minute from Detroit, asking for Homer's "hostess", Mrs. Russell Link, of 2825 Hylane drive, to release the bird instead, so he could fly home. When told Homer is "released" every day and flies right back to Mrs. Link's garage, the owners stated, "If he's that dumb, we don't want him. Tell Mrs. Link to have squab for dinner!" He is a handsome, friendly bird, and Mrs. Link wonders if some little boy or girl wouldn't like to have Homer for a pet, before somebody has the poor little squab for dinner.

AT ITS NEXT MEETING May 14, Bloomfield Hills city commission will have the sober task of appointing a successor to C. G. Eden, who died Saturday. It may be done at a possible special session called earlier for Mayor John S. Bugas to make his departmental appointments. "Pat" Eden, as he was known to his friends, had served as city commissioner for 15 years and was mayor last year. His term runs until April 1958.

AN OIL PAINTING entitled "Montmartre," by Robert A. Herzberg, 1936 Holland Ave., Birmingham, has been accepted for showing in the 39th Annual Exhibition of Toledo Area Artists. Mr. Herzberg is a former Toledoan. The show will be held May 5 to 26 in the Toledo Museum of Art. Announcement of the prize-winning exhibits will be made May 4.

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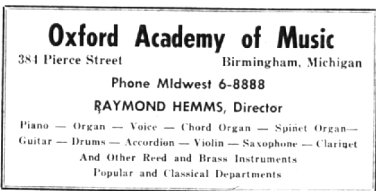
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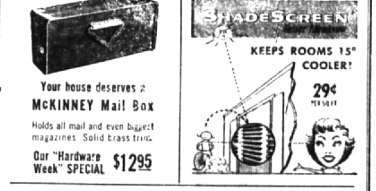
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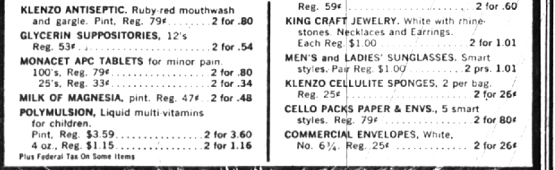


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