

Good habits are valuable assets. Children are started on the road to habitual physical cleanliness by their parents; they learn to keep their bodies clean, to wear clean clothes, to become clean in their behavior, though, that so many of us do not acquire the habits of continual spiritual growth.

BOTH YEAR—NO. 25

The Birmingham Eccentric

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



The Women's Top Ten Cent
Suburban Weekly
SEVEN CENTS

This and That

by George R. Averill

Inspirational recorded messages will be broadcast 'neath the pillows of sleeping convicts in a California prison with the hope that it will aid in the rehabilitation. The plan has been tried outside prison walls with very considerable success. It's certainly worth a try.

Back before 1911, (before federal welfare handouts) there were about 13,000 Eskimos living in the Canadian Arctic. Now the number is down to less than 6,000. Reason: they are living on processed foods, no longer hunting seals and fishing as in other days. Becoming civilized!

A contemporary wit suggests that each year's fresh college graduates, many of whom are tempted to turn the world upside down, should be made aware of the fact that the earth's weight is 6 followed by 21 eights.

Hurricane Bertha, of '37, will always be remembered by citizens of southern states as a more kindly visitor than her previous cousin, Audrey.

Detroit's city council president Louis Martini is given virtual assurance of being elected Mayor Cobo's successor. Louis is well liked, knows how to get to the right people, . . . some day he may sit in the State's hottest civic seat in Lansing. That is, of course, if he mixes proper portions of boloney with his nice spaghetti.

Twenty years ago I visited various European countries, including France, where the franc was worth 20 of our U. S. pennies. The other day France again devalued its franc from 350 to 420 francs. This makes each franc now worth a trifle over a fifth of an American penny. That's the sad state of affairs that a nation can come to through ineptness and extravagant operation of its government and business world.

Former Detroit Lions' football coach "Buddy" Parker certainly performed dramatically a few days ago when he rose up at the Lions' banquet and briefly announced that he was quitting the right now. Heralded by everybody as perhaps the top coach today, the chap must have been under tremendous emotional strain to have done what he did. . . . and what he did was never so undeniably "dit" before, say many sports' writers.

Recently watched a TV program featuring Oklahoma's U. S. Senator Robert Kerr, being interrogated by a group of newspaper reporters. Kerr, an oil-rich, gas-rich, multi-millionaire, presented himself as a man of that panel as a super-expert on civics, politics, governmental and business financing, cattle raising, and several other items. Perhaps, though, his greatest portrayal was that of a self-centered, arrogant, self-centered disciple of Robert Kerr, alias, I. M. & Co., Inc. I have seen that Oklahoma chap up on TV. He grows more gaseous and oily as the years run on, it seems to me.

Far Trailer Burns After Commission OK's Replacement

Just a few hours after city commissioners okayed the purchase of a new far trailer for use in repairing street cracks, the current Birmingham department of public works far trailer sent clouds of black smoke into the air Tuesday.

DPW Superintendent Tom'Brien said a burner leak spilled oil on the tar coated tank's exterior, igniting it. Several times on the trailer were severed by fire-fighters from extinguish the early morning blaze at the DPW yard.

Brien said the trailer was back on the streets by 11 a.m. It will be replaced about October by a more efficient, \$2500 tar tank and trailer, purchase of which was approved by commissioners Monday night.

INSIDE THE ECCENTRIC

- Amusements 7-B
- Bits of Birmingham 5-A
- Books and Reviews 4-D
- Business Briefs 4-D
- Churches 5-B
- Correspondents 6-B
- Bloomfield Village 4-C
- Graefield Derby Section E
- All Other Areas Down to Earth 3-D
- Editorials 8-D
- Nature Now 8-D
- Obituaries 1-E
- Round the Towns 1-E
- Sports 6-E
- Women's News Section B
- Want Ads 6, 7, 8-A

All makes of inner spring mattresses restored. Openings repaired. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial "0" and ask for Enterprise 6216.

Planners Reveal Goals for B'ham

Birmingham's continuance as a desirable residential community, comprised primarily of single family homes, is the hope of city planners, according to a statement of their basic goals for the city. The statement will be presented to the city commission with the proposed new zoning ordinance prepared by the planning board.

Hub Cap Plan Creates Interest In Other Cities

Birmingham's inauguration of hubcap engraving has created interest in the theft-prevention system in other Michigan cities, including Detroit, police Det. Sgt. Robert Schaule said this week.

Birmingham is believed to be the first city in the Midwest to use the system, Schaule said. Since its announcement this month, Schaule, who set the engraving system in operation, has received inquiries from several other cities. Under the plan, city gas stations have cooperated with police by obtaining electric vibrators. Attendants engrave the auto serial number on each hub cap, making it easily identifiable in case of theft.

SCHAULE THIS WEEK urged owners to take advantage of the free service, which requires only a few minutes' time. He said the high number of hub cap thefts reduced if every owner makes his hub cap unusable by engraving.

He listed two more stations in addition to those named last week when next Thursday, Friday will offer the free engraving. They are John & Gene Standard Colonial service, Adams and Maple, and Bill Hall Standard service, 210 N. Woodward.

B'ham Area Schools To Open Next Week

Next Thursday and Friday will be the registration day for Bloomfield Hills schools, pupils while Troy pupils will sign up Thursday when schools in that township's district open.

Birmingham school pupils, meanwhile, get an early start Tuesday morning when the local fall term officially opens. Birmingham pupils have completed registration and all preliminary programs. Dwight B. Ireland, Birmingham school superintendent, reports.

Bloomfield Hills students will receive bus route maps showing new and altered stops when they enroll at their schools next Thursday and Friday.

The number of stops has been reduced slightly, according to Superintendent Eugene L. Johnson, to conform to the new state school bus law. If there was any question of a stop being hazardous, he said, it has been eliminated.

Gray Lady Training

A Gray Lady training course will be conducted at the American Red Cross chapter house in Ponca, beginning Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 1:30 p.m. The course consists of seven two-hour sessions.

Interested women should contact Mrs. William G. Sproul, Oakland county Gray Lady chairman, who lives at 811 Shirley drive, Birmingham.

The Eccentric's work week next week will be one day short because of Labor Day. All News and Advertising Deadlines must be moved ahead accordingly.

If you will get your news or advertising copy in early, it will help us immensely.

Suit Filed Against City On Zoning

A bill of complaint was filed last week against Birmingham officials in Oakland county circuit court, charging that their refusal to permit construction of a four-story apartment dwelling here was "grossly unreasonable."

The plaintiff, Cober company, of Detroit, seeks a mandatory injunction compelling the City of Birmingham to permit building of the structure on property the company owns on Woodward avenue near Redding road.

COMMISSIONERS MONDAY night defused City Attorney Richard Adams to defend the city's action in refusing to rezone the property from terrace to a multiple family classification, which would allow the four-story structure.

Residents of abutting property objected to the four-story dwelling at hearings on the Cober company's request before the planning board and city commission.

The complaint was signed by Cober company president, William Berman, and prepared by his attorney, Irwin I. Cohn. It stated the zoning "curtails the market value of the premises."

The new school on Lahser road now has available classrooms and new equipment, Johnson pointed out, adding that the change should be only for a year as a new elementary school on Quaton road is planned for next year.

KINDERGARTEN children at Vaughan, Hickory Grove and Wing Lake schools whose last names begin with letters A through L are to enter school at 9 a. m. next Thursday. Those with letters M through Z are to begin at 9 a. m. next Friday. All kindergarten children attending Eastover school are to enter at 1:30 p.m. next Thursday.

During the week of Sept. 9 to 13, morning kindergarten groups will attend one-hour sessions from 9 to 10 a.m. afternoon groups, from 1 to 2 p.m.

JOHNSON REQUESTS parents of kindergarten and first and second graders to pin notes on children riding the buses the first few days giving name, address, telephone number and bus number. While the general policy of the district's board of education is to accept no tuition cases, an exception is made in instances of families with homes under construction in the area. These parents (See CLASSES, Page 8-A)

Burglar Joiled Here



Where Intruder Was Caught

H. Richard Steding, 930 Larchlea, stands on the stairway landing where the burglar fell unconscious last Thursday morning after the intruder hit his head attempting

to flee the Steding home. Steding, an executive engineer for Chrysler Corp., holds one of the pair of 5-pound lamps he and his wife guarded the man with until officers arrived.

LOOKED 8-FEET TALL

Captor of B'ham Cat Burglar Was 'Too Mad to Be Scared'

By LES LINE
"If he had moved so much as an eyelash . . . wham!" That's what Dick Steding told Birmingham patrolmen and detectives when they answered a report early Thursday morning that a burglar was in the Steding home at 930 Larchlea.

The scene that greeted officers was one of the intruder curled unconscious on stairway landing. Steding crouched over him with a 5-pound glass lamp post, ready for use and Mrs. Steding standing at the head of the stairs with another lamp in readiness.

He meant it, too. Detective Lt. Merlin Holmquist said Thursday, "Lucky for that burglar he was out cold. If he had tried to get away we might never have been able to question him. The husband had a spot all picked out and that lamp was aimed and ready to swing."

THE INTRUDER Lt. Holmquist referred to was 46-year-old Ernest J. Morris of Detroit, a notorious cat burglar with a record a mile long.

The Steding home was the second Birmingham job on his list Thursday. The burglar had referred to was 46-year-old Ernest J. Morris of Detroit, a notorious cat burglar with a record a mile long.

City 'Grew Up' 25 Years Ago

By LES LINE
Sept. 6, 1932—the day that Birmingham "grew up." Next Friday will be a sort of a silver anniversary for this Oakland county city.

It was 25 years ago that day that Birmingham discarded knickerbockers for a pair of men's trousers, so to speak. Twenty-five years ago next Friday the village of Birmingham, at a special election, voted to become a city.

THERE'LL BE no shouting, no fireworks, no parades. It's just not something folks get excited about, not like a college at the end of a war. Oh, there'll be some that will remember . . . those still living who served as village officials back in that turbulent era, those who were on the city charter commission, those who fought both for and against the governmental change.

PERHAPS EVEN today's version of the city commission will pass a resolution in memory of the anniversary.

Stairwell Fells Him In House

By JULIE CANDLER

The stealthy "cat" burglar's nocturnal visits to Birmingham area homes ended with a blow last Thursday. The blow struck at 5 a.m. when five-foot-er Ernest J. Morris, 46, of Detroit, fled down the darkened stairway of the H. R. Steding home, 930 Larchlea, Birmingham. Just five feet, ten inches above a midway step was a low point in the stairway ceiling. It stopped him cold.

For a time not even police knew where he had been. It was only before they arrived at the home to find the unconscious man huddled at the stair bottom.

DET. LT. MERLIN Holmquist said Wednesday that Morris had volunteered no information. When questioned, the mild-looking, sprightly prisoner merely stares vacantly and says, "I can't remember anything."

The forgetful man did recall that he had been in another local home the night he broke into the Steding residence, Holmquist said. It was the morning after that Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Wyses, 503 Wellesey road, discovered \$81 had disappeared from their wallets the previous night. The couple were unaware that their house had been entered.

POLICE ALL OVER the Detroit area term the experienced thief who enters homes during the night "cat burglar." His method has been to creep quietly into bedrooms while their occupants were sleeping. He takes only cash usually from the husband's trousers and the woman's purse.

The tactics were used in a number of Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham burglaries during the past year. Morris is held under \$5,000 bond in Oakland county jail. He is present on parole from Jackson State prison, where he has served three terms.

Previous convictions have been for the charge brought against him by Birmingham police—burglary and entering in the night time.

Eight other police departments have asked police here to hold Morris for their interrogation.

AS A LOCAL prisoner, Morris was hospitalized for two days at St. Joseph Mercy hospital, suffering from a brain contusion, before being transferred to the jail.

It wasn't Morris' first hospital stay as a police prisoner. He was once shot by Grosse Pointe Park police, then admitted to a hospital before being brought to trial.

Morris demanded examination on his arraignment before Birmingham Municipal court Judge John J. Gaffil, who set the hearing for Friday at 10 a.m.

STRICTLY FRESH

The horses have an infallible system for keeping a friend of ours broke. The greatest town in the United States is any place where you're happy.

Stimil: As tasteless as the cocaine.



High Life by Tom Manhard



Slippery when wet