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There is little doubt but what most people today are least upon acquiring the material things of life. . . . Those things that . . . much and rush doth corrupt. . . . That which reason why so much of society itself is vitiated by troubles.

80TH YEAR—NO. 11



BIRMINGHAM MAYOR William Roberts (center) watches Battle Creek Planning Engineer Sam Strelchek explain major points of Battle Creek's multi-million-dollar downtown redevelopment program. At right is William Page, administrative assistant to Battle Creek Mayor Russell Worgess, who was in Birmingham Monday for "Mayor's Exchange Day."



AMONG CITY OFFICIALS on hand to greet Battle Creek Mayor and Mrs. Russell V. Worgess as they arrived at Birmingham's municipal building Monday morning were Mayor Pro-tem Carl Ingraham (left) and City Commissioner Florence Willett (right). The visiting mayor and wife were taken on a tour of the city in a red convertible provided by Wilson Pontiac-Cadillac.

This and That

by George R. Averill

Famed evangelist Billy Graham has announced a six-week religious campaign in New York City. He will seek to bring the thoughts of people to a greater appreciation and understanding of their relationship to Divine Providence. There's no doubt but what Billy will do considerable good . . . for even the prevention of one wrong act is an asset to God's ledger. However, Rev. Graham does depend very much upon his emotional appeal to his listeners . . . and emotions are conditions of the conscience that, brought to the boiling point, too often cool down to the frigidty of merely good intentions. A wrong-doer may momentarily be moved to want to reform, but reformation is an unceasing process . . . an unending war of the spirit against the flesh.

Good old "lie" made a valiant effort to win the nation's support for his nearly 72-billion-dollar budget. His argument to retain a billion for the State Dept. to dish out on foreign affairs failed to impress this writer. We again wonder just how much lie really does know about important segments of his budget.

If Uncle Sam could collect \$1,400 from every man, woman and child in the United States every year, he could pay off the national debt. This averages \$6,400 for each family of four.

A midwest preacher recently declared that "the trouble with too many church members is that they die when they are about 25, but aren't buried until they are 70."

It's estimated that the average housewife now spends 1 1/2 hours a day preparing food for the family, as against 5/8 hours 30 years ago. This gives her four extra hours during which she may perform other household chores.

Vice-President Dick Nixon appears to be parrotting the State Welfareism enunciated by his Chief. So far as we know, Nixon doesn't know very much about the problems of running a business enterprise.

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Battle Creek Recreation Amazes Mayor

Battle Creek's recreational facilities and program astounded Birmingham's Mayor William Roberts when he made a special tour of them Monday during Mayor's Exchange Day as part of Michigan Week activities. "I am completely amazed at the size and depth of your program," Roberts told Battle Creek's Vice Mayor Thomas McCalla and other city officials following a two-hour auto tour of the "Cerebral City's" 290 acres of parks and playgrounds. Roberts was particularly impressed with the great care given more than a dozen baseball diamonds. Battle Creek annually draws state, regional and national fans of several types of amateur baseball leagues and federations.

BIRMINGHAM'S Mayor also was impressed by his visit to the Battle Creek youth building, where meeting rooms, game and swimming facilities are used by 6,000 young people each week. In the morning, Roberts and his son, Billy, were taken on a special 1 1/2-hour tour of Kellogg Co. food processing plant on the east side of Battle Creek. They returned to Birmingham following a specially arranged dinner at the Athenian club on the 18th floor of the National Bank building.

AS SOUVENIRS of their trip, Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Rex Potter presented the visitors with poster (See MAYOR, Page 2-A)

Visitors Impressed By Homes

Two residential areas in both Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills and the operation of the Hills' 11-man police department impressed visiting officials in Monday's annual exchange of mayors, high-light of the 1957 Michigan Week program. The mayor of Battle Creek, Russell V. Worgess, and his wife toured Birmingham Monday as guests of the city commission and various civic organizations as part of the Birmingham-Battle Creek mayoralty swap. Auburn's village president, Frank Brown, and Mrs. Brown, a member of the Auburn council, spent Monday afternoon viewing various interesting points in Bloomfield Hills, touring the Ford plant and visiting Hills Mayor John Bugas, unable to participate in the Auburn-Bloomfield Hills trade because of his business schedule.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS' mayor pro-tem, Dominick Vitralino, and Hills City Manager Elmer Kephart made the joint to Auburn in place of Mayor Bugas. The work of the Bloomfield Hills police department was of special interest to the Auburn village chief. The community of 900, located on MD9 between Bay City and Midland, is in the process of establishing its own department. Mayor Brown explained that Auburn has six part-time officers but that the community has reached the point of employing one or two full-time policemen.

THE AUBURN chief met with Birmingham Mayor Roberts and Hills City Manager Elmer Kephart and a committee of teachers the board voted to adopt a checklist type report card to be issued yearly at parent conferences and then again at the end of the year.

The board approved the use of the card for grades four, five and six for an experimental year after the committee pointed out that the Bloomfield Hills system is one of the few now using letter grades.

THE TEACHERS' committee urged the adoption of the checklist card, stating that it more truly indicated the child's development and interest. Salaries for office and maintenance personnel were raised \$100 to \$300 for the next year. The board approved the low bid of \$3,475 for the new City Law Maintenance company for care of lawns at the district's four schools.

3 New Elementary Principals Named

Principals were named this week for three of the four new elementary schools in the Lincoln school district which will open this fall. School Supt. Dwight B. Ireland this week announced these appointments: Noah Blosser will be transferred to Greenfield school from Adams school. New principal at Adams will be Frederick Pints, for the past two years principal of Lincoln consolidated school of Eastern Michigan college, Ypsilanti.

EDWIN CRANDELL will go to Harlan elementary from Franklin school. Daniel A. Welch, who has taught in Battle Creek and on the Lincoln consolidated staff, will succeed Crandell at Franklin. Duane D. Fisher will become principal of Valley Woods school. He has taught and held an administrative position in Walled Lake consolidated schools.

Midvale elementary's new principal still is to be selected. All males of lower spring mattresses. THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, 1255 E. Woodward, MI 7-1133

Bank Clerk Talks Bandit Who Leaving Without Cash

Dogs Cause Protests In Village

Bloomfield Village Protection Association elected three trustees, heard civic reports and tackled the annual problem of roving dogs at its 15th annual meeting Monday. Approximately 300 area residents attended. They named Henry T. Schlachter, 620 Yarmouth, Carl F. Beier, 3215 Broadway, and James K. Vanhook, 3500 Sunnyside, trustees. They replaced retiring board member Morris C. Purdy, Harry Cunningham and Robert A. Reid, association president. Police Commissioner Blaine Eynon opened the dog problem discussion by re-stating the position he took publicly a year ago before being named to the post. "I believe children are more important than adults and that every boy who wants a dog should have one. People who want dogs confined to leashes and pens seem to be in the minority."

EYNON SAID he had instructed the village's three policemen to try to exercise "reasonable control." He stated that the police send notices of complaints to dog owners. President Reid concurred that Eynon's policy was agreed to by the board. He said the present dog problem personally never had seen any "packs of dogs wandering through the village."

First to take exception to the board's policy was C. J. Bolt, Jr., who called the present dog situation "the worst it's ever been."

HE SAID "I don't think it's a kindness to the dogs themselves, to my neighbors or the children to let dogs roam as they do. Dog owners who involve some element of neighborhood."

Bolt said that every dog owner with half the responses coming from dog owners themselves) showing, Bolt said, residents' opposition to a dog owner for a misdemeanor of letting the dog run unattended, he would be the issuing officer witness the offense.

REID AND Eynon mentioned the costs involved in strict enforcement would include a dog catcher, wagon and pond. Villagers replied that they would like to start with the threat of enforcement and asked why residents couldn't be fined progressively when cited repeatedly for allowing their dogs become a nuisance.

The board meeting association members had an opportunity to inspect the new "quint" fire truck recently purchased for \$18,189. It serves as a pump and ladder, hose, aerial and tank.

RETIRED President Reid also was presented with a plaque from the association in recognition of his services. Arthur F. Brookman reported that the association had recognized the spraying by the school division's elm trees while they were still dormant and that this was done entirely before April 15. He said his studies had found that one spraying annually in the dormant season would be enough to prevent the spread of the pest.

The board allocated \$2,000 remaining from a special fund for rearing for use to be filled in the subdivision. This was to be turned over to the township supervisor to issue work orders.

ASSOCIATION members were told that the enlarged water system is now complete. By agreement with Westchester and another subdivision the group has five wells under construction and a million gallon reservoir. A long-term committee to study water problems and future needs was appointed. They are Charles W. Wiggins, Wayne M. Spade and Judge W. Bearden.

UF Chairmen Meet
United Foundation's Bloomfield Hills division chairman, Mrs. Raymond G. Bower held an organizational meeting of area chairmen recently at her home on Long Lake road, Bloomfield Hills. Attending were Mrs. John S. French, Mrs. R. B. Ryding and Mrs. Frederick W.

Money Is Delivered Meantime

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

BLOOMFIELD—A would-be bandit and chief clerk at Manufacturers' National Bank branch at Telegraph and Maple held a talk-athon in an isolated area of the bank while at the same time Brinks guards were delivering fresh bags of money to another part of the bank Tuesday.

William G. Webb of Pontiac, chief clerk said, "I just kept talking like 90. He said he was sorry but I just wanted him to get out of there."

At no time did the bandit show a weapon, and he finally walked out without any money. Five minutes after the Brinks guards departed, apparently unaware that the guards had been in the bank.

WEBB SAID the robber, dressed in dark suit and shirt, came in with a briefcase and asked for the manager, saying he had \$22,000 worth of certified checks he wanted to cash close to nearby land deal. No checks were seen. Webb told him the manager was not in and took the man to the rear of the bank to an employee's waiting table. The customer said he wanted the \$22,000 in \$50 and \$100 bills and was told by Webb that the bank didn't carry that kind of money.

Then the bandit passed Webb a note. "I read only as far as 'Follow these instructions and nobody will get hurt,' and realized it was a holdup," said Webb.

THE WOULD-BE robber said he had four accomplices in a waiting car, but when he walked out later no car or aides were seen.

"He was already shaking. Nobody scared him out, I just out-talked him," said Webb, who still was visibly shaken himself when interviewed 15 minutes after the attempted robbery.

"He kept asking (for the money) and I kept telling him a small branch like of the bank carry that much cash," Webb said.

OTHERS in the bank at the time, Mrs. Eleanor Reese, 255 Laguna court, and Mrs. Ruth Franko, 617 Laguna court, Walled Lake, and two or three customers were unaware of the attempted holdup until Webb and the bandit came from the front of the bank again as the robber was leaving, about 11 a.m.

Mrs. Reese said Webb stopped at her window and said "That was an attempted holdup." She said she saw only the bandit's back as he walked from the bank and turned east.

WEBB TOLD police the 40-pound bandit, in his late 60s or early 60s, had two fingers missing from his right hand, and chain-smoked cigarettes during the robbery.

This was the first hold-up attempt of the branch bank since its opening in 1954. It was a work of Webb's first encounter with a bandit in his four years with the bank.

Vandals Might Have Caused Train Wreck
Approximately \$200 in damage was inflicted by vandals Tuesday afternoon to water main and reflectors alongside the Grand Trunk Western railroad.

Ticket agent E. J. Wichman told police a serious railroad accident could have resulted from the destruction, believed to be the work of juveniles. He said parents should be warned of the danger to their children and believe that reflectors if youngsters are allowed to play near the tracks.

Jr. Hi Enrollment Wave to Hit Soon

Last week's Birmingham Eccentric map, showing that the sprawling Birmingham school district will have 14 elementary schools this fall, graphically underscores the need for more junior and senior high school classrooms in the near future.

That was the comment this week of the Citizens Committee on Education, which last month recommended that the Board of Education ask voters at the June 10 election to authorize a \$6.8 million building program to meet additional classroom needs through the 1963-60 school year.

The board accepted the independent committee's recommendation, which calls for a junior-senior high school, one new 20-room elementary school, rehabilitation of the 40-year-old Baldwin school, and a service building.

COST OF the program can be met with no increase in the present school debt service levy of 8.5 mills, the committee assured. "Since 1949, about 67 per cent of the \$15.4 million committed by the voters for school buildings has been for elementary schools," said Louis A. Bauer, 3140 Broadway boulevard, committee chairman.

As a result, a great wave of elementary graduates is starting to engulf our junior and senior high school facilities. Large enrollment increases are growing at the rate of about 1,600 a year and that the 14 elementary schools, two junior high schools and one senior high will meet estimated needs for only the next two years."

BEST ESTIMATES available are that new schools open in September, 1959, about 15,500 students will be on hand—3,400 more than last fall, Bauer said. Largest proportionate increases will be in the junior and senior high groups, which will grow by 40 and 50 per cent, respectively, compared with 34 per cent for total enrollments.

"Our two junior high schools, with more than 2,000 students, already are beyond design capacity—Derry by about 20 per cent and Barnum by 6 per cent," Bauer said. "The crowding will be much more serious by next fall, and in September, 1968, overcrowding will be critical."

"We estimate that by September, 1968, junior high enrollment will exceed design capacity by \$225,000 for a service building (See SCHOOL, Page 2-A)

BRENNAN ASKED for, and was told, how the \$6.8 million would be spent: \$1,000,000 for a 20-classroom elementary school in the developing subdivision south of Maple and west of Chestnut; \$4,900,000 for a site and building for a 1,500-student junior-senior high school, complete with parking lot, swimming pool, landscaping, etc.

\$225,000 for rehabilitation of Baldwin elementary school at Maple and Chester, Birmingham; \$50,000 for a service building (See AGENDA, Page 2-A)

STRICTLY FRESH
People responsible for putting gum under theatre seats are the same folk who hide bread crusts under cushions when munching sandwiches while watching TV.

A poorly fitted set of dentures makes one look toothful rather than youthful.

After sampling a nearby restaurant's soup, we surmise that their hot water bill must be terrific.

Any attempt to induce a cow to give chocolate milk would be utterly ridiculous.

NEXT WEEK'S ECCENTRIC
WILL BE OUT ONE DAY EARLIER
—ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 29—
because of Memorial Day

All News and Advertising Deadlines
Must be made ahead accordingly

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