

An unusual repertory group . . .

which presents its productions in church sanctuaries, will appear next Tuesday evening at North Congregational church. You can read about the Bishop's company on Page 7-B.

It takes a good man . . .

to cut a baby boy's hair. But most any Saturday afternoon in Birmingham shops you can find a barber giving a screaming baby boy his first haircut. Two such operations were going on when the Birmingham Eccentric photographer stopped by on a recent Saturday. See result on Page B-1.

A German Concentration . . .

Camp where men were burned alive was an experience and a horrible sight for a young Birmingham girl. Her story was told in a letter home to her parents. Turn to page 1-C.

Need a racing form . . .

for the Southfield sweepstakes? Can you tell a talk horse from a favorite? See page 1-E, columns 4, 7 and 9 for statistics on all entrants in Southfield's big race.

Big Michigan golf events . . .

are many this year. First of the season's is the Western Open next month at Red Run. Story and tournament schedule on page 6-E.

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## This and That

by George R. Averill

Persistence is a laudable virtue, especially if it attaches itself to an acceptable cause. Birmingham's only feminine city commissioner, Florence (Twink) Willet, persists in her latest success relative to winning the support of her fellow commissioners to appropriate some of the city's money for the purpose of improving Shain Park. (Who was it said something about "making two blades of grass grow where before only one grew"?)

The second smallest turnout for a local election in Birmingham's history took place last week. Lacking the elements of a sizeable contest, or a bond issue, most of our citizens lost their loyalty and devotion to the cause of citizenship and remained away from the polls. But this situation is not confined only to Birmingham. It is a universal American weakness. It's comparable to the weakness of those who make their homes at the base of a new-and-shiny volcano, or who live in the lowlands along a river—in both cases they flee (or vote) only when danger asserts itself.

Word comes from up Washington, D.C. sources that little, if any, new laws will be enacted this session to place needed controls on certain phases of labor leadership. This is because 1958 is an election year and neither major party wants to lose labor votes—either imagined or real. Thus you observe the price demanded for votes. Thus, you realize, here it is one basic democracy's weakness: its ultimate truths and values are sacrificed because of human behavior in civic affairs.

(See THIS & THAT, Page 5-A)

Many edifices of worship are woefully put to rest to make Heaven and earth meet. There are some people who are sacrificially generous in support of their churches, either financially or personally, time and effort—sometimes both. There also are those whose financial aid is less than they spend on movies, television, golf, cosmetics, etc. Is religion that cheap?

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

The Nation's Top  
Suburban Weekly  
TEN CENTS

# The Birmingham Eccentric

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



## They've Got Rhythm—And Toothbrushes

Getting in some hot links for their toothbrush sale are the members of the Birmingham Exchange Club's Dixieland band, under the direction of President Richard J. Wilson, who uses a toothbrush for a baton. The Dixielanders' music will drum up sales Saturday afternoon at "strategic points" in the downtown business area, where the all-day street sale will be conducted. Jim Mattison, the club's second vice president, is chairman

of the sale to raise funds for youth activities such as sending underprivileged children to Camp Oakland, and the club's support of Birmingham's teen traffic court and clinic. Uniformed CAP cadets will also sell toothbrushes, using proceeds for their squadron's activities. Three Exchange club teams compete for high sales, with the two losers taking the winners to a Tiger ballgame.

## Constitution Reform Need Being Dramatized by LW

By the end of May the Birmingham branch of the League of Women Voters will have contacted its first thousand people to urge a "yes" vote in November on calling a state constitutional revision convention.

The LWV's speakers bureau put programs on in March before more than 300 people. Its April-May commitments will bring audience totals to the 1000-mark.

Skit or speakers are available without cost to area organizations now through October by contacting Mrs. William Hammond, 998 Brookwood, Birmingham.

THE QUESTION of calling a convention for the purpose of revising the constitution will be on the November ballot automatically every 10 years.

Discussing the development of the constitution will be on the November ballot automatically every 10 years.

Robert W. Peelen, 1402 Pierce, Birmingham, is president of the county chapter of the AAOU. Other officers are Rev. Robert W. Gibson, Jr., 389 Westchester, vice president; Mrs. Winston Kellogg, 1876 Northlawn, secretary; and Mrs. George A. Burnham, 1904 Glenwood, Lathrup village, treasurer.

Barnes lives at 788 Randall, Birmingham. He has covered Birmingham since 1946, and serves on the advisory council of the Oakland County chapter.

Kids Behaved Like Angels During Vacation

Kids got a pat on the back from Birmingham police this week because of their good behavior during the holiday Easter vacation.

Birmingham Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley said he attributed the lack of juvenile trouble reports to "improved manners."

Two years ago Moxley labeled the school spring vacation as a "hell week" because of heavy vandalism.

Among the few complaints to reach police last week were reports of cars driving across lawns. A W. Lincoln resident who said two power pots were removed from a porch and broken on the street.

All makes of inner spring mattresses need service. RYAN, MATRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for ESTESSA 6216.

two women come before a panel of fashion experts for analysis. Mrs. Michele Higgins wears a 1958 dress with an overwhelming amount of jewelry, shoes and hat.

Participating in these programs are Mr. Higgins, Mrs. Al Krueger, Mrs. Roland Sawley, Mrs. John Rex Jr., Mrs. W. Davis, Mrs. William Esery, Mrs. Geo. Malone, Mrs. George Talburt, and Mrs. Lawrence Avison.

Programs were presented in March to the H-12, St. Clair Chapter DAK, Veterans Club and Junior League. In April and May, League members will appear before meetings of the AAUW, Adams PTA, Pontiac Lions Club and several church groups.

The present document came from the League's "bargain" era. It was said at a Detroit league meeting last week, "What is needed is one for the 'bargain' era."

SHE CITED New Jersey which revised its constitution in 1948. "The New Jersey constitution cost \$500,000," she said. "In the first year of operation under the new document, that state saved over a million dollars on judiciary matters alone."

Reappoint B'ham's Four Supervisors

Birmingham's four representatives on the Oakland County board of supervisors have been reappointed for another year—Mayor Carl F. Ingraham, David Levinson, Mrs. Hope Lewis, and Luther Heacock.

Whereas—furthermore—hereby. Those are some of the dull words printed on two golden proclamations signed this week by Mayor William E. Roberts of Birmingham and Mayor Dominic Vettrino of Bloomfield Hills.

But behind the dull words there are people—interesting people. Important people, fighting for something they believe in.

They are the Oakland county chapter of the Michigan society for mental health. On the chapter's list of members are many Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills residents.

THAT THEY were in a determined mood when they met at Fox and Hounds last week.

Said board member Mrs. Edwin Clarke, of 792 Wilbur, Birmingham, "I'm working on a volunteer basis with a 13-year-old boy who right now is in the juvenile home because he got into trouble."

That boy's family never visits him. He's mixed up. He needs psychiatric care badly," Mrs. Clarke said. "But the first psychiatric appointment we can get for him is in June."

Tennille, she said, the boy is slipping. His family have neither

BUT WITH TREATMENT.

## Birmingham's New Mayor: Carl F. Ingraham

Whether his record-setting 12-minute meeting last year while he was mayor pro tem had anything to do with his winning his new title, Carl F. Ingraham isn't sure.

But he is Birmingham's mayor for the next 12 months. His fellow commissioners elected him Monday night to succeed William E. Roberts, who headed the city's legislative body for the past year. Roberts continues as a city commissioner.

For the second time, Harry M. Denyes, Jr., is mayor pro tem. He first held this office during 1956-57.

Both Denyes and ex-city commissioner John S. O'Gorman served 20 months for J. P. were sworn into their city

O'Gorman looked away from the table a moment Monday night and found himself elected to the commission's representative to the city recreation board. He replaces Charles Delbridge, Jr., who declined to seek reelection to the city commission.

O'Gorman's first task as recreation representative will be to work with the board on a third-quarter budget report to the commission.

The Elton park ice rink program cost the board \$22,000, with about \$15,000 in realized revenue. The city commission wants to know



CARL F. INGRAHAM

how the recreation board will spend the fourth quarter in making up this \$9,000 overexpenditure

## Business 'Good' Here Says C of C President

Birmingham business conditions are "good," Chamber of Commerce President Richard J. Wilson, a local druggist, said yesterday in answer to a query from The Birmingham Eccentric.

HE SAID IT IS INCREASINGLY important to improve sales methods and provide greater service. He warned against accepting and repeating negative attitudes.

Wilson's statement reads:

"Alert retailers and business people realize that present conditions constitute a buyer's market, and that it is becoming increasingly necessary to improve sales techniques and give better service."

"While business in Birmingham continues good, we have to guard against negative thinking. It is not diffi-

cult to develop a defeatist attitude when we are exposed to millions of written and spoken words regarding the present national recession.

WHETHER IT IS NOW or any other time, the stores that are kept up-to-date, carry good merchandise at fair prices and give good services will continue to do well. Here in Birmingham, we are indeed fortunate in having these conditions already present, through the efforts and up-to-date thinking of the local people.

"Another favorable factor found throughout the Birmingham business area is that most all the stores are operated so that shopping is a pleasant and satisfactory experience for both customer and staff."

It is not at all unusual to hear newcomers remark that they find it fun to shop in Birmingham."

## Urgent—Baby Setters Needed Immediately!

Everyone loves a bargain. Generally it makes no difference what it is. Someone needs it immediately.

But if a mother's place is in the home, then an English setter found underling on Woodward avenue near Big Beaver road last Thursday night should go home immediately. But where is home?

The beautiful white setter is filled with the milk of canine kindness, plus her own portable dairy equipment for a litter of pups. A veterinary currently housing the wandering mother estimates the pups would be about 10 days old. Here's the turn of events:

A Birmingham man took the dog to the local humane society last Thursday, stating he had picked her up at the Woodward-Big Beaver corner when he saw a carload of youths deliberately attempt to run her down.

REALIZING The setter's family situation, Mrs. Karl R. Koehler, Birmingham humane society director, took the dog back to the same corner Friday, releasing her to find her way home to her babies.

But before she found her family, the liver-and-white spotted mother was found by Bloomfield Hills police and taken to the veterinary.

Now she's boarding with the vet while the humane society attempts to locate her owners—and family—before her dairy runs dry.

## Barnum Junior High To Hold Big Splash

Barnum junior high school's water ballet members will present "Splash of Color" Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the school's pool.

At 4 p.m. at the school pool, the show deals with the moods reflected by color. Sue MacLean and Diane Lerman play the roles of an art student and her teacher.

## Area Breaks Out With A Rash—Lock Your Trunk!

The worst rash of tire and wheel thefts in the city's history is plaguing Birmingham police, who say the rash is spreading to residents to keep the trunks of their cars locked. He also asked owners to keep a record of the serial numbers, so stolen tires and wheels can be identified when found.

Birmingham Det. Lt. Merlin Holmquist said nine tires and wheels were stolen from car trunks over the weekend. During the night Monday two similar thefts occurred at 2106 and 2202 Derby road.

Bloomfield Hills police said four tires and wheels were removed from one car there last weekend. Holmquist said most of the thefts are from Chrysler-make cars, on which trunks can be closed without locking.

THE BOARD decided tentatively to continue its present salary schedule that gives teachers a \$300 increase. Beginning teachers start at \$4,600, go to a \$7,500 maximum. Master's degrees net an additional \$300.

Johnson pointed out that the budget for teaching is increased substantially anyway as the district is hiring an additional 30 teachers to staff the new junior high, Birmingham Country school and Eastover school addition.

The three, now under construction, are scheduled for September openings.

When financial information is complete, the board will turn its proposed budget over to Frank Arnold, head of the citizens' financial advisory committee, for its recommendations.

STRICTLY FRESH

It's about that time when you resolve to take the summer down to the fall rather than leave them up all winter, as you did this year.

Fellow across the desk from us is planning a local vacation this year. He needs some work right through the summer.

## Try Holding Line On Salaries for Hills' Teachers

A hold-the-line financial program for 1958-59 was evaluated by Bloomfield Hills board of education in a special meeting last Wednesday.

Supt. Eugene L. Johnson submitted a tentative 1958-59 budget of \$1,880,000, a \$200,000 increase over last year.

The board was due entirely to salaries for 20 new teachers for three new buildings to open next September, and \$300 salary schedule increments.

He said the extra money would come mainly from increased district property valuations.

Rather than seek a higher tax levy the coming year, board members indicated a willingness to borrow funds and see if the deficiency couldn't be made up in the 1959-60 school budget.

Over 70 per cent of the proposed budget would be committed to salaries for the schools' 104 teachers.

FINAL BUDGET figures must await Oakland county tax allocation board's approval.

The board met with an Eastover subdivision committee to consider an area sewer system. It indicated a willingness to include Eastover school in the program if costs are not prohibitive.

Johnson said a system soon could save a couple tank costs for the Eastover addition.

Final plans were checked for the Quorton road sewer which will service the new junior high now under construction.

## A Story of Proclamations and People

many mental patients can be cured, board member Mrs. Syver K. Thigstad, of 232 N. Williamsbury, Bloomfield Hills, explained.

She showed us the proclamation Mayors Roberts and Vettrino signed.

"Mental illness is no longer hopeless, as evidenced by increased rates of improvement and recovery in mental hospitals," it said.

Therefore, stated the mayors' proclamations, do hereby proclaim April 27 to May 27 as Mental Health Week, and furthermore call upon the citizens of our city to help the mentally ill by working with the Oakland county branch of the Michigan mental health society . . .

CITIZENS CAN work together with Mrs. Theodore Yntema, Miss Marie Goodale, K-12 school headmistress, Mrs. William C. Norvell, George A. Kooper, principal of City and Country school, Rev. John C. Wigle, of Episcopal Church of the Advent.

Those who directed and mentioned previously, they're among the local members of the city board. Many of them are speaking and showing films to local groups during mental health week.

They Have Work to Do

Meeting last week at Fox and Hounds, Birmingham area members of the Oakland county chapter of the Michigan society for mental health talked over the week ahead in preparing for mental health week. From left are Mrs. Edna Laird, Mrs. Clark Andre, L. F. Thompson and Mrs. Harvey Greene.