



Tale of Two Ponies...

... exploring the wide, wide world on page 1-E.

Lady Elizabeth...

... brings polish to politics. See page 1-E.

No Fire, No Smoke...

... no objections either. See Franklin's firehall, page 1-E.

A Peek...

... Into the personal lives of show world stars Bert Lahr and Constance Bennett. See page 3-A.

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Holding conversation with others, especially when the subject requires on-the-spot intelligent utterances, is a highly interesting and entertaining activity. In the sometimes rapid-fire give-and-take one often brings in to play epigrammatic, witty phrases such as "epigrams" call upon invention, mental adroitness—it's conversation at its best.

81ST YEAR—NO. 25



First thing GM president-elect John Gordon received (at left) when he got home from New York City Tuesday night was a reward from Mrs. Gordon. Then she sat him



down and got the details of his election as GM's No. 2 executive. Then it was his turn. With a glance at his watch, he suggested: "Let's eat."

A Surprised Family Welcomes Home Its GM President-Elect

A plane winged its way westward to Detroit Tuesday afternoon, its prize passenger reflecting on the momentous event that had happened to him just 24 hours before.

At the same time, with her son at her side, a woman was driving a 1958 yellow Cadillac coupe de ville the length of Michigan's lower peninsula. Her mind was filled with the thousands of thoughts that radiated outward from the most important, wonderful event. She had had no advance knowledge of it.

Gordon Is Career GM Executive

John F. Gordon, General Motors Corporation's new president and chief operations officer, has been a GM man for his entire industrial career.

Group executive in charge of body and assembly divisions until Monday's board meeting, Gordon, 1958 Rathmore, Bloomfield Hills, began his career with General Motors as a laboratory technician with Cadillac in Detroit.

After serving as head of the engineering laboratory and as motor design engineer at Cadillac from September 1923 to March 1925, Gordon was called upon by General Motors in 1940 for product study work in forward engine design, a staff activity in Detroit.

The threat of war soon resulted in a shift in his operations to the subject to a different mental attitude.

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Monday afternoon at a special meeting of the GM board of directors in New York City, Frederic G. Donner was named GM board chairman to succeed Albert Bradley.

GORDON, a vice president in charge of body and assembly operations, was elected president to succeed Harlow H. Curdice.

James E. Goodman, of Bloomfield Hills, who has been general manager of the Fisher body division, was elected a company director and will take over Gordon's former assignment with the body and assembly group.

These appointments are effective Sept. 1, when Bradley and Curdice retire.

UNDER GM's new organizational structure, Donner will be GM's chief executive officer, concentrating on the financial aspects of the corporation. Considered a financial wizard, he has been an executive vice president and chairman of the financial policy committee.

Gordon, a career GM executive, is an outstanding engineer who at one time was Cadillac division general manager. He will be the corporation's chief operating executive.

Together, the two men will make a top-flight team which will be ready for the industry's anticipated competitive battle in the next few years ahead.

UNDER GM Presidents C. E. Wilson and Harlow H. Curdice, the

executive and operating responsibilities had been performed by one man.

With Gordon's election, the Birmingham-Bloomfield area recapitulates a top automotive official. He joins two other auto company presidents and a board chairman, all his neighbors.

Ernest R. Breech, Ford Motor Co. board chairman; L. L. Colbert, Chrysler Corporation president; and George W. Romney, president of American Motors.

(See NEW GM PRESIDENT, Page 6-A)

School Bells Toll For Area Pupils

Waitress Waylaid, Robbed

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—A 37-year-old Kingsley Inn waitress was assaulted and robbed and her car stolen shortly after 2 a.m. Tuesday in the restaurant's parking lot here.

The woman, a Royal Oak resident, is in St. Joseph Mercy hospital, Pontiac, suffering from a possible brain concussion.

In the struggle she was struck over the head with an empty beer bottle by the man, described as a tall, slim Negro, 25 to 30 years old. The waitress was not criminally attacked.

SHE ESCAPED from her assailant by leaving from her rooming car in Pontiac after she regained consciousness.

The victim told Bloomfield Hills officers the man was hidden on the back floor of her car when she finished work Tuesday morning. When she closed the car door he rose up and made advances.

She was hit with the bottle while fighting the attacker off.

The woman told police she woke up a few minutes later lying on the front seat of her auto, the assailant having fled.

She leaped from the car on California street in Pontiac, bruising her legs Tuesday morning when she ran for aid to a nearby home.

THE WAITRESS' purse, which police say contained little of value, was found Tuesday afternoon by

(See ATTACK, Page 6-A)

Early Copy for our Sept. 4 Issue Will Help Us Immensely

Because Labor day falls on Monday, we have one day less to produce the next issue of The Eccentric. Copy received as early as possible will be of great help to us.

STRICTLY FRESH

The only trouble with direction signals is that they can't indicate which way the drivers are actually going to turn.

Those who tell you how wonderful things were "yesterday" haven't broken the ice on the water in the wash basin in many a year.

The older the movie, the better the chance you have to see it on the late, late show.

One pleasure may children miss today is the fun of dreaming over the mail-order catalog.

In many cases, there seems to be little difference between in-laws and outlaws.

16,600 Expected To Enroll

Almost 14,000 students are expected to show up for opening class days at Birmingham and Bloomfield public schools next week, with another 2,667 expected to enroll in the area's six parochial schools.

Birmingham schools will open with a half-day session Tuesday, except for kindergarten, which will begin on Wednesday, the first full day of operation. Bloomfield schools will also start classes Thursday, while Our Shepherd Lutheran school's opening will be postponed to Friday, Sept. 15, with classes opening Sept. 17.

BASED ON the number of public school students in Birmingham at the end of May, 11,109 children will be brought into the district, plus those gained through normal population increase should enroll in the Birmingham district alone.

Meanwhile, the city's former high school, now Baldwin elementary, has received a beauty treatment containing sandblasting, new roof and interior decoration, while the all-summer race to pave Derby road adjacent to its namesake school before classes begin is winding up just in time.

Bloomfield's new junior high school is expected to relieve much of the strain formerly placed on Bloomfield Hills high, which handles

(See SCHOOL, Page 6-A)

Crash Spectacular, Hurts Air Slight

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—A spectacular two-car truck race here about 1:30 p.m. yesterday afternoon demolished one car, wrecked a utility pole and extensively damaged another vehicle but left the three occupants of the cars without serious injuries.

Victims driven by Robert Mills, 17, of Bloomfield Hills and Ronald Austin, 26, of Pontiac, collided at Woodward and Long Lake, Austin's 1952 auto continued into an Edison pole, shearing it off and toppling it onto the car, a total wreck. Both drivers were unhurt.

MILLS WAS alone. A passenger in Austin, Gerald Allen, 26, of Pontiac, suffered a few facial cuts.

1st Girl in 5 Generations

Lil' Lilibet Gets Top Billing with Movie Actress Aunt

By BETTY PAYSNER
Special Writer

Did that beautiful girl you saw strolling through Birmingham look like a movie star?

You're right. Dorothy Hart, star of 20 movies including "The Naked City" and permanent panel member on television's "Pantomime Quiz," was in town over the weekend.

Lil' Lilibet is the first child of Betty and Robert Akers, her niece. Five-month-old "Lilibet" is the daughter of Betty and Robert Akers, 1708 S. Bates.

According to Miss Hart, her niece "Lilibet" is a star attraction.

Lilibet is the first child of Betty and Robert Akers, the first girl in five generations of Akers, and the first to make Dorothy Hart an aunt.

"This is the first chance I've had to see my niece. I'm thrilled to be here," exclaimed Miss Hart. "The last time I saw her was at the Akers, was a year and a half ago at a family reunion in Shaker Heights" (a Cleveland suburb).

"THIS IS also the first time I've been in Birmingham, and I'm very impressed by it," she stated. "I think that Birmingham has a singular charm. It has an appealing, soft, country feeling. Yet it's near a large city. I live right in New York city, so this is really a vacation for me."

Agreeing with her sister's impression, Mrs. Akers gave her opinion of Birmingham in words we love to hear.

"Before the Burroughs Company transferred my husband from Cleveland to Detroit, he said home to us was always Shaker Heights. Now we wouldn't want to leave Birmingham. People have been very friendly to us here. We think it's the ideal place to live."

ON TELEVISION, Miss Hart is known for her quick wit and green-eyed, saucy good looks. Off screen, she is acknowledged as an ardent supporter of the United Nations. She was honored as a special speaker along with Sir Leslie Munroe at the United Nations Tenth Anniversary in 1956.

In private life, she is the wife of Frederick Pitters, a business management consultant. Dorothy Hart is her maiden name.

MISS HART became interested in theater work as a profession before she entered college.

People who started in the theater as quickly as possible, so I completed my college studies in two and a half years at Flora Stone

This and That

by George R. Averill

Our Little League Players Did Well

Birmingham's all-star Little League State Champions went down defeat when they played another Little League team in Naperville, Ill., two weeks ago.

It was unfortunate of course. Our local youngsters wanted to win, which was laudable. But they lost a game, and it's hoped that is all they lost.

If they still retain the spirit of good clean competitive play, if their playing has given them a greater sense of the value of team sportsmanship, both as individual players and as a team—well, then our boys have won a character value of great worth.

Such an attitude, carried into and through adult life, will be a most valuable personal asset. With it, they can "play" many other comparable "games," on or off the field, in or out of their own lives, or in their high spirits toward other goals. Indeed, this is the desired result of the whole field of youthful sports.

Discussion problems concerning teen-agers, one woman asked her neighbor, "Is your son hard to get out of bed in the morning?"

"No," replied the other. "I just open the door and throw the cat on his bed."

"How's neighbor was puzzled. "When," she asked, "does that happen?"

"Replied the other, "He sleeps with the dog."—Great Northern, Great Northern River.

LAST MINUTE

Some good, and some not-so-good legislation always is passed in the final days of a State Legislative or Congressional session. Do you know why this happens?

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JOHN F. GORDON

JAMES E. GOODMAN

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Last of Four Articles

Physical education facilities fit into education plan three ways

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