

# Behind Our Front Page

As you tackle life's problems . . . you expect help as you go along. See marriage lecture series on C-1.

**Take a ride . . .**  
with Westwood's police and find out for yourself that policemen are made of sterner stuff than armchair experts and village councilmen. Turn to page 1-E, column 5.

**A classy lassie . . .**  
with a bright red chassis is the new sweetheart of Franklin villagers. You can meet this siren on page 1-E, column 5.

**No, Birmingham area, sports fans . . .**  
we haven't forgotten you. The Eccentric has a sports page, as usual. It's just in another location — for this week only. You can find the news of area athletic activities on page 8-B. Late sports flashes will be on 2-A.

**A minister who started preaching**  
to the cowboys in the Texas ranch country at age 16, celebrates the 20th anniversary of his pastorate here next week. See "To Honor . . .", P. 6-D.

**When the boys started . . .**  
a science club, the girls followed suit with one of their own at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs school. See "Sputnik Starts Club", P. 6-B.

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# This and That

by George R. Averill

## Phil A. Hart Seeks U. S. Senate Seat

"I have no commitments to serve any single class or credo," declared Michigan's affable Lieut. Governor, Philip H. Hart, who recently announced his candidacy for U. S. Senator on the Democratic ticket.

Here's a really nice chap starting off his Senatorial campaign with a statement that certainly doesn't jibe with his political record thus far.

Why, Phil, do you say such things? You are well known for your absolute devotion to labor leaders, and your criticism of the capital and management segments of our society.

Only very recently, on the occasion of the banquet tied in with your announcement, you refused to allow your overdone well-wishers to be served food in an eating place whose kitchen and dining room help belong to no union.

PLEASE, PHIL, be consistent in your public statements. Personally, I think you'll probably defeat the Republican Senator Charles E. Potter, anyway . . . so, as a good voting-citizen of Birmingham, Michigan, why not just be your dedicated UAW-FDR-HST-brand of Democrat?

If you do so (and take this from an editor who knows something about practical politics) you'll always be able to identify yourself when you see your reflection in your shaving mirror each morning. Of course, Phil, you do have commitments to serve a single class and credo. Why not unapologetically about it—if you really have such convictions?

The piccolo is reputed to be the highest pitched of all musical instruments. Another musical instrument that, many argue, ought to be pitched as high and as far as possible, is the Elvis Presley type of guitar.

The highest reward for man's toil is not what he gets for it. (See THIS & THAT, Page 6-A)

If each of us would refuse to believe harmful gossip about others, except upon good and firm proof—how much better off all of us would be. When tempted to make negative talk about another, who has no right long enough to talk about it, I like some person to talk about me as I am about to talk about another.

BOTH YEAR—NO. 51

# The Birmingham Eccentric

40 PAGES  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1958

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

The Nation's Top Suburban Weekly  
TEN CENTS

# Senate Probably Will Kill School Bus Safety Bill



## Prize Series, Winning Lensman

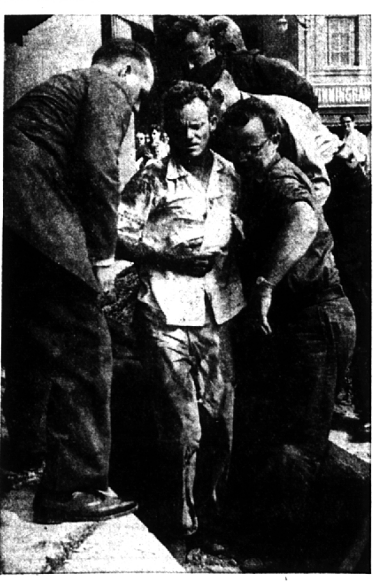
Eccentric photographer Les Line, with his first-place picture series on Birmingham's Grand Trunk station, titled "Lonely at Night," and his three award certificates. The picture series appeared in the Dec. 19 issue of The Eccentric. Line won two firsts

and a second in the weekly class of the competition, sponsored by the Michigan Press association and the Michigan State university school of journalism and continuing education service.



## Latest for Spring

This photograph, "Latest for Spring," by Eccentric photographer Julie Candler, was judged best in the personalities, fashions and society division of the weekly competition. The picture appeared in the Jan. 30 issue of The Eccentric.



## State Awards To Eccentric's Photographers

Four of eight first place awards as well as a second place in the weekly class of the Michigan Press association's annual photo contest went to Birmingham Eccentric staff photographers last week.

Les Line, Julie Candler and A. E. Ajerach were the recipients of the awards, the second top state honors accorded The Eccentric this year.

The Eccentric, for the third straight year, was judged first in general excellence among suburban Michigan weeklies at the Michigan Press association's 30th annual meeting Jan. 24-25.

THE PHOTO competition was held in connection with the 19th MPA press photography short course Friday and Saturday at Kellogg Center, Michigan State university, East Lansing.

The course was sponsored by the press association and the Michigan State university school of journalism and continuing education service.

The photo contest was divided into four classes—for weeklies, for small dailies up to 25,000 circulation, for dailies from 25,000 to 75,000 circulation, and for the state's larger daily newspapers above the 75,000-reader mark.

Each class in turn was divided into eight divisions for various types of photographs.

IT WAS THE first time Eccentric lensmen had entered the state press photography competition. The five awards they won topped the weekly field of entrants.

Line, Eccentric feature photographer and sports editor, won two firsts and a second.

His picture story of Birmingham's Grand Trunk station, titled "Lonely at Night," was judged best in the personalities, fashions and society division. It was titled "End of Ordeal."

A baseball action photo taken at a Birmingham Little League game and titled "Out at Home" won second place in the sports division. It was published in The Eccentric of Aug. 1.

MRS. CANDLER, Eccentric school and church editor, won first place in the personalities, fashions and society division with a photograph titled "Latest for Spring." (See AWARDS, Page 6-A)

## End of Ordeal

The best weekly news picture of 1957 was what the judges called this photograph by Les Line. Titled "End of Ordeal," the picture shows a Birmingham city workman being pulled from the cavein that trapped him beneath the sidewalk at Maple and Woodward last July 30.

## Mayor Pairings Are Set

Drawings to determine pairings for the fifth annual Michigan Week Exchange of Mayors, which will be held May 5, were conducted in Lansing yesterday morning.

Birmingham will exchange with Scottville, Bloomfield Hills with Morley, Bingham Farms with Grosse Pointe, Franklin with Belding, Troy with Crowsell and Lathrup with Caspian.

Governor G. Mennen Williams, honorary Michigan Week chairman, Lt. Governor Philip Hart and House Speaker George Van Pelt, honorary co-chairmen, drew the first names in pairing 503 cities and villages for the exchange.

EXCHANGE CHAIRMAN Bruce Garbutt, mayor of Ferndale, and his committee of 27 mayors and village presidents supervised the drawings at the Lansing YMCA yesterday.

The mayors' exchange is one of the features of Michigan Week, and since its institution four years ago has gained recognition as an important program through which officials are able to learn more about the state, its communities and the problems of municipal government.

In recent exchanges, civic leaders, club presidents and school officials have been invited to Birmingham, and the program has been nationally recognized through such publications as the American City magazine.

## A Police Problem With Teeth in It

No one claims it, but someone must be sorely missing it. A dental plate was turned over to Birmingham police Monday morning.

It was found on Martin street in front of the Birmingham post office at 8:24 a.m., possibly uncovered by the melting snow.

Police say the owner may claim his teeth by stopping at the station and identifying them.

## B'ham Athletic Club Schedules 1st Meet

The 280 members of the newly organized Birmingham athletic club will hold their first meeting next week, according to Fred Matthaei, Jr., the club's president.

Matthaei said the session was planned to present to members and their wives the details of the club's operations, finances and plans for a pool and building at Oak Hills drive and W. Maple road. The club is slated to meet at the Birmingham high school, Little Theatre at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

## STRICTLY FRESH

The boss says that his secretary is just what he needs for a rocket—fuel problem would be solved for all time.

Most enterprising man of the space age: the fellow who first obtains scavenging rights to the celestial junk yard that someday may be wired with out-of-order satellites.

Similar, as among a science fiction writer whose stories were laughed at five years ago.

They're building space vehicles to tolerances almost as close as the thinness adjustment on the local luncheon counter's meat-slicing machine.

## Shain Park Beauty Treatment Tabled

Birmingham's municipal housekeeper looked out her front civic window Monday night and insisted that the boss of the homestead clean up their front yard—NOW!

But the boss resisted on the basis that he had to look at the family budget first.

City Commissioner Florence Willett, who ran and was elected three years ago on a "good housekeeping" platform, took the final 60 minutes of Monday night's meeting in a final effort to persuade the other six commissioners to do something this year about the tackiness of Shain park.

Purchased almost 30 years ago as part of the three-block Birmingham civic center, Shain park lies between the municipal building and public library, a block south of Maple.

MRS. WILLETT recalled her three-year fight for improvement of Birmingham's downtown green spot, which she said has outlived its original landscaping and present design.

She said an adequate and appealing improvement would cost slightly over \$17,000. She said recent remodeling of the city commission room itself cost over \$20,000.

"Many more people see Shain park than ever come up here to see us," she reminded.

SHE SAID a proposed pool and sculpture were "luxury items" and (See SHAIN PARK, Page 4-A)

## 3 Officers Promoted On B'ham Police Force

Promotion of three police officers was announced today by Birmingham Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley.

Det. Sgt. Robert Schaule, the department's juvenile officer, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

Patrolman Charles Blashfield has been promoted to sergeant, and Patrolman Richard F. Chambers has been promoted to the position of detective.

The promotions were awarded on the basis of competitive examinations conducted by the Birmingham municipal police, plus commanding officers' ratings and seniority.

AS DETECTIVE, Chambers will fill a new police position authorized by the Birmingham city commission in this year's budget.

For the first time, the city will have a detective on duty during the hours from 4 p.m. to midnight. Det. Lt. Merrill Holmquist will continue to head the detective bureau.

Blashfield, 42, is assisted during the day-time by patrolmen, with Chambers taking over afternoons.

Previously, only two men were assigned to the detective bureau.

Schaule, 42, lives at 1623 W. 4th.

With the deadline coming up at 4 p.m. Saturday, next week, Birmingham voters will find three names on the ballot in the city election April 7 to fill two vacancies on the city commission.

Nominating petitions filed so far by City Clerk Irene Hanley are those of John S. O'Gorman, William H. Merrill, and Harry M. Denahy Jr.

O'Gorman, an engineer, was a member of the city commission for 20 months until illness forced his resignation in 1951. Merrill, an attorney, is now a member of the city planning board and Denahy is presently on the Birmingham city commission.

## Metro Problem Study Group Being Formed

Organization of the Southeastern Michigan Metropolitan Community Research corporation recently established as a result of a \$25,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to study the problems of the metropolitan Detroit area, is expected to be completed within the next six weeks, according to William M. Day, chairman of a 16-member citizen's committee charged with the responsibility of organizing the corporation.

## Hurt More Than Heal, Is Claim

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL  
Managing Editor

Oncoming motorists killed twice as many school children in the past 10 years as were killed by drivers who came upon loading or unloading school buses from the rear.

Yet Michigan's senate this afternoon is expected to for the fourth or fifth time expected to pigeon-hole a bill that would require oncoming traffic to halt, thus saving the lives of unknown future school children.

YESTERDAY morning, Republican floor leader Sen. Carleton H. Morris of Kalamazoo told The Birmingham Eccentric by phone from his Lansing hotel quarters:

"I do not want to see the motorist have to stop both ways. I think this would cause more accidents by requiring the drivers to stop only from the rear."

When a majority party legislative leader so discloses his opinion, the ultimate vote usually coincides with that opinion.

IN THE PAST 10 years, 17 school children have been killed getting on or off school buses. Ten were killed by cars coming from the opposite direction. Four children died when hit by cars approaching from the rear of the school bus.

One child was killed by an oncoming car after the youngster crossed a divider strip.

Two children alighted, passed in front of the bus as it started up, and were killed.

ELEVEN of the children were killed while coming around the rear of the bus. The other six had gone around the front.

Last week Thursday, the senate debated the proposed oncoming-stop amendment. Then it voted 15-8 to send it back to the judiciary committee for piecemealing.

But Omer S. L. Harvey, Lodge succeeded in having the vote reconsidered. This vote barely passed, 15-11. The measure was allowed to remain on the calendar until today.

THE MICHIGAN Auto Club, the superintendents of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills school districts, several state's here, the Troy city commission, a number of local subdivision groups all have announced support of this safety measure.

Sen. Lodge told The Eccentric Monday: "There seems to be a lot of sentiment against this bill, particularly from power groups. They think it's a waste of time. But they feel it would contribute to more accidents than the accurate one."

"I haven't run onto any safety bill that has had as much trouble getting accepted and approved."

THE BIRMINGHAM-Bloomfield area is particularly interested in this safety measure. It has measures enacted in two of its 10 fatalities were Bloomfield Hills school children.

Back in 1955, the senate surprising enough unanimously passed a very similar measure. But it died in committee when the bill reached the house of representatives.

A stop-both-ways law has been used many years by 43 states. Three others require drivers in both directions to halt appreciably when passing a slowed school bus.

ONLY MICHIGAN and Connecticut stop drivers approaching from the rear of a slowed school bus. But it, too, has an oncoming traffic go past unimpeded.

If you have an opinion on what may be the outcome of today's action in the Lansing Senate, The Eccentric suggests you immediately wire your stand to Senator Carleton H. Morris, c/o State Capitol, Lansing, Mich. The way he votes in all probability will determine what happens to the amendment.

All makes of lower spring maintenance cars, trucks, and vans. RENTAL TRUCK COMPANY, Dial "GO" and ask for TRESS COMPANY, 610.