

New YMCA Building Is An Asset

A considerable contribution to the mental, physical and spiritual life of this Birmingham area was made two weeks ago when the first permanent YMCA building was dedicated. Costing nearly \$150,000, the edifice, located on Lincoln, represents a great forward stride in the influence of the "Y" hereabouts.

To be sure, there has been a sort of token "Y" here for 40 years. But for most of that time is operated on a scant budget, necessarily limiting its program.

DURING THE PAST decade, however, under the leadership of amiable and competent Ed Kirbert (aided, of course, by many loyal local adults who have served in a voluntary traditional "Y" pattern) the local branch has continued to expand and improve its program for youth.

So we congratulate all who have made the new building possible. It is part of the entire series of volunteer programs which, all combined, do so much good toward improving a community.

Consumers' New Service Center

Two weeks ago, along with 75 other local and nearby men, we attended a luncheon given by the Consumers Power Co., on the occasion of the opening of their new service center for customers in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties, located on the 14 Mile Rd.

The luncheon, of course, was appetizing and the portions generous; how else could it be? ... since it was cooked right there by competent culinary experts, and ON GAS!

Anyway, following a tour of the large building, out of and in which 600 men and women work, we couldn't help but be impressed with the evidence of orderly industry shown by the several hundred employees working there.

TOO, THERE WAS manifest the element of personal pride, of a sense of personal accomplishment on the part of many whom we contacted.

We couldn't help but mentally contrast the Consumers Power Company's environment with what you generally find in a governmentally operated activity.

In government the elements of profit for stockholders, plus maximum service to customers, is never evidenced as in a privately owned and operated business.

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government's inroads into business operations that can be carried on more efficiently and economically by private enterprise.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

FEAR is the parent of an uncountable number of human faults. For example, selfishness is one of FEAR'S oldest "children". Selfishness, by the same reasoning, is at the root of a great deal of human problems, all the way from the individual to the whole human family. If selfishness could be eliminated, imagine how much more satisfactory the state and federal governments would operate! When consideration for the rights and deencies of the WHOLE nation are included in a piece of federal legislation, it is often quite accidental. To assume that "Justice for All" motivates the vast majority of our high officials is to assume more than the facts can substantiate.

It is reported that the Teamsters' new president, boisterous Jimmy Hoffa, is adding culture to his personality, more properly befitting his vocational stature. If he changes his ideas and acts in keeping with his sartorial appearance, he'll achieve quite a goal.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

PETOSKEY, Mich., May 5—Birmingham's Mayor Carl F. Ingraham is most impressed by his visit to this Michigan town of 7,000 residents.

He says it reminds him of the natural beauties of the state of Maine, where he spent his early years.

"Your great expanse of Lake Michigan, the rock ledge at the shoreline, the woods, lakes and streams about you here remind me of what I remember of Maine," he told his new Petoskey friends. (Ingraham admits his recollections have been dimmed by his 23 enjoyable years as a Birmingham resident.)

HE SPENT AN ENJOYABLE day in this Little Traverse bay community almost coterminous across the lower peninsula from Birmingham. He was visiting here as part of Mayors exchange day activities of Michigan Week.

Birmingham Fire Marshall George Scott

flew Mayor Ingraham up here in a plane the city had chartered.

Scott is a former Navy flying instructor, presently heads Birmingham's civil air patrol unit. His other passengers for a beautiful, smooth, sunny trip were Phil Ingraham, 17, and this reporter.

THE FLIGHT GAVE OUR MAYOR much more of an idea what his adopted state has and what it looks like than if the trip were made on the ground.

The heavily populated, flat areas between Birmingham and Flint, the rich, heavily farmed Saginaw River valley.

Then almost as if by a wave of the hand, the scenery seemed to change. The landscape was largely untouched by man. A ribbon or two of concrete stretching the miles from one small town to another. Many more roads were laid out in rectangular patterns along many township section lines. Winding off them were two-track trails that vanished in a clump of yet-bare trees or the middle of a sandy, brown field of unutilized land.

IT TOOK JUST TWO HOURS to reach Petoskey as the crow flies. The man who met us turned out to be most familiar with Birmingham and the area around it.

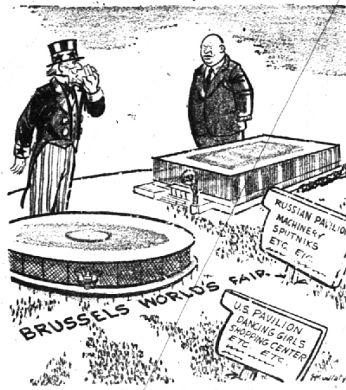
He was Ernest L. Neumann, Petoskey's city manager since 1949. He took that job the same day Harold K. Schone began as village manager of the resort town just across Little Traverse bay—Harbor Springs.

In a couple of years Schone became Oak Park's city manager. This job Neuman had held prior to coming to Petoskey. Schone moved up to Birmingham for about a year, then to Pontiac to head the county's new department of public works.

Mayor Ingraham came here, looked here, and was conquered by Petoskey's natural beauty and friendliness.

Petoskey looked, listened, and liked Mayor Ingraham.

"Who's a Square?"



Professor Powell Is Going to Italy

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

Every school needs a psychologist, claims Dr. Harold F. Powell.

And thanks to a Fulbright grant, the Wayne state university professor of psychology will personally see that a college in Rome, Italy has a psychologist next year.

"I'm still pinching myself," says the resident of 1431 W. Lincoln, Birmingham.

By he learned only recently that he has been awarded the year's grant to lecture on psychology and social case work in Rome. The associate professor of education and clinical psychology is one of 400 Americans who will receive grants this year under the Fulbright act.

WHEN WORD OF the grant came through, things began to happen in the Powell household. The family's big colonial house was put up for rent. The Powell daughters, Margaret, 16, and Betty, 14, began making plans to attend an overseas school sponsored by the American and British embassies in Rome.

Their mother, Jean McCarroll Powell, contacted her employers, a school system in Macomb county. She won't be here next year, she told them, to carry on her teaching of orthopedic children.

THEN THE Powell family set down and mapped five-week tour of France and England they'll take before they reach Rome in late September.

A for language preparations, Dr. Powell isn't going to lose any sleep boning up on Italian. He began studying with Berlitz a year ago, about the time he applied for the Fulbright grant.

Still he thinks it may take a while before he can hold question and answer periods after his lectures to Italian students at the Ente Nazionale Scuole Italiane di Servizio Sociale.

MEANWHILE, the modest, pleasant - mannered professor is finishing up his work of training clinical psychologists and future PhDs in school psychology.

When he finds some extra time, he sits down at the huge desk in the Powell recreation room study and pulls out a stack of papers. The manuscript sheets contain the professor's nearly completed book, "The School Psychologist."

In it, Dr. Powell says, he makes his case for elementary school's need of psychologists.

"**POOR MENTAL** health gets started in childhood," the psychologist explains.

When a child with emotional problems gets to school, he may have difficulty adjusting. Then there can be behavior problems. Or perhaps the child can't learn to read, or he can't keep ahead in his school work.

That's where the school psychologist comes in. For Dr. Powell believes, "Half the children who are behind are not retarded—they are just fooled up!"

In children who have trouble reading, he said, four out of five times there's an emotional factor involved.

Dr. Powell himself was a psychologist with a Detroit school before he went to Wayne 12 years ago.

HE GOT HIS PhD in counseling psychology at the University of Michigan.

We asked him about his understanding of what makes people tick. Did it affect his relationship with them?

"I find that I'm more tolerant and a lot less critical of people because of what I know about them," he said.

No wonder Dr. Powell got that grant. He's every college student's desire—an understanding professor.



Dr. Harold F. Powell, recipient of a Fulbright grant from U. S. state department.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO
May 15, 1908
"Today the city had been permanently lifted in Birmingham, and if you are in good standing at the Village are there, you can have a drink at any hour of the day or night, not excepting Sundays or holidays. But don't forget to pay your semi-annual dues."

30 YEARS AGO
May 17, 1928
"A total of \$32,939 was subscribed to the Community House

fund up to last night, according to reports made at the second meeting of the campaign workers held in the Episcopal church."
15 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1943
"Because of the new signals used, there will be no prosecution of last Friday night's air raid violators," Commander William H. Fisher announced Wednesday after a conference with Mayor John E. Martz."

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