

People's Column Man Criticizes Theatre Taste

To the Editor:

There is nothing so cheap as cheapness. This was amply demonstrated with the recent showing of *Brick*. Hardly in one of our local theatres. It would seem to me that our youth is subjected to enough in this day and age without any additions.

Such a demonstration as I walked out on is an insult to the intelligence of our citizens. This type of thing brings the responsibility for the actions of our too much maligned teenagers directly to our own doorstep.

I HAVE BEEN a theatre goer in Birmingham for over 25 years and so can certainly attest to the fact that a new low has now been reached.

There are many fine pictures to be seen these days and therefore I sincerely hope that the individuals responsible for choosing those to be viewed in our theatres will, in the future, use considerably more discretion.

M. E. RYDER
Royal Oak

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Whitey "Auto" Not Sell Now

Felix thought it was a big joke when Whitey Fisher—who owns a chicken farm up on Murphy Hill—bought an old tuxedo.

"Bought it mainly to haul eggs," Whitey told me. "Take out the rear seat and there's as much room as a truck. Put it back, and I can take all the kids on the Hill to school."

"In winter weather," he continued, "I can sling back the roof and get sunshine. And when I go hunting, I'll wind up the glass partition and the dogs can't lick the back of my neck!"

From where I sit, things aren't always what they are at first glance. "More than meets the eye" is often true whether you're talking about Whitey's "cab," or a new neighbor down the street. Give things a chance to be proved... give every man a chance to be heard. Sit down over a glass of beer or butter-milk and get to know each other. It's the American way... the road of "tolerance" we all ought to ride on.

Joe Marsh

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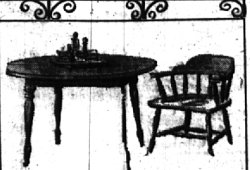


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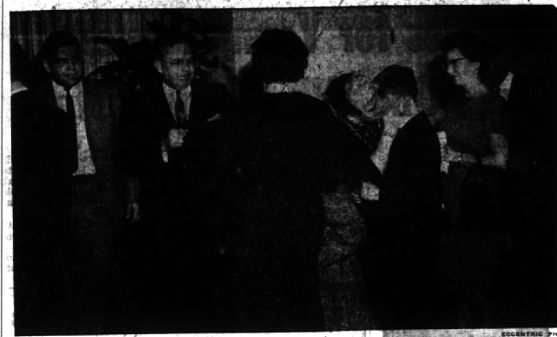


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Congregation Says 'Farewell'

Getting a farewell kiss from Mrs. Emil Kontz is Bill Smith, one of the last children to be baptized at First Baptist church by the Rev. Dr. Emil Kontz, (second from left), talking to Bill's mother, Mrs. Stewart Smith. With Mrs. Smith is her daughter, Marilyn, also baptized Sunday by Dr. Kontz. Also in the long and lingering reception line of church members who said their farewells to the Kontzes Sunday afternoon were Mr.

and Mrs. Robert Marker (right). Beside Dr. Kontz is his son, Ricky. The beloved pastor and his wife left Tuesday for St. Alban's, W. Va., where he will become pastor of the local church for almost 11 years. The congregation presented the couple with a complete set of sterling silver flatware and a pair of silver candleabra.

Troy News Briefs

Troy Drops Appeal On Zoning Law

Troy will not contest a circuit court ruling to the supreme court asking the earlier decision on interim zoning be set aside.

Commissioners of the city decided not to spend an estimated \$1,800 in legal fees to fight the Troy-Holcombe decision handed down by the circuit court two weeks ago.

The circuit court ruled in favor of John C. Holcombe, owner of a saw mill on 15 Mile near Degundro, who contended the city could not adopt a township resolution because of city charter law.

HOLCOMBE referred to the charter set up by a commission in 1955 when Troy was incorporated from a township to a city.

City attorney Stanley E. Burke said the city would have a stronger case if it appealed the decision, but that Holcombe cannot win the point of law by default before the supreme court.

Under township law, Holcombe was restricted in his operation of the sawmill and the situation changed with the adoption of a city charter.

Holcombe began to expand his operation just after the adoption of the charter.

COMMISSIONER Louis Yanich said the city couldn't be sure of winning the appeal case.

"We would spend \$1,800 for sure," he said.

Yanich also said he was against the appeal because of a similar case near his home on John R near Orlington.

He said an auto junkyard had also violated the non-conforming clause.

"My conscience wouldn't be clear if I voted to prosecute one man when both cases are similar."

Come Down to Our Level, City Says

The owner of a refuse dump in Troy's northeast corner was given 60 days to meet city grade and slope specifications last week.

Joseph Pons was given the court order after city engineer David W. Hasse said Pons' land was 10-15 feet higher than surrounding lands.

Pons claims the present level is correct.

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Mon., Thurs., Fri. till 9 p.m.

People's Column Nature Column Receives Credit From Teacher

To the Editor:

Your nature columns by Lydia King Freese certainly deserve enormous credit. For several years they have given me great enjoyment by conveying a wealth of information in beautiful writing.

Moreover, they have helped inspire me to further my study of natural science and to convey as much of this knowledge as possible to the children I teach.

One example concerns the article

on the "Oak Skeletonizer". My kindergarten children were wondering about the tiny white spots everywhere on the school grounds. Mrs. Freese explained this very well in her article, and now the children know that these are cocoons that will produce unusual looking moths in the springtime.

THERE HAVE been many other examples, as with the Monarch butterfly who flies south, or the different kinds of falls that can be found.

The children are fascinated to know that "someone from a newspaper" can tell them so much about their own nature treasures and discoveries. We have come to expect that each week Mrs. Freese will reveal something new and very wonderful to us.

MRS. CLARENCE WHITNEY
City and Country School



Attends Air Force Seminar

Col. H. McPartlin (left), 3930 W. Orchard Hill, Birmingham, was among leading businessmen from all over the country who got together at the Sheraton-Park hotel, Washington, D.C., recently for the United States Air Force Chief of Staff Reserve Forces Seminar. He is pictured with Benjamin Fridge, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force.

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2 Youths Caught in Service Station

Two Detroit youths caught burglarizing the Kussel Gulf Service Station, 220 S. Adams, were examined in municipal court yesterday and were bound over for trial Monday in circuit court. Bond was set at \$2,500 apiece.

Robert Tschinski, 17, and Arthur E. Williams, 19, were caught inside the service station Nov. 16 by Birmingham patrolman Harold Christy and Sgt. Malcolm Ross.

The officers said a small cabinet containing a safe had been forced open and paper from desks and files were strewn around the office.

Washington Asked To Rule on Parking Lot Assessments

Birmingham City Attorney James L. Howlett Friday asked the U.S. commissioner of internal revenue to permit Birmingham businessmen to deduct from their federal income taxes those special assessments paid for municipal off-street parking lots.

Howlett cited similarity of a May, 1958, tax department ruling allowing such deductions for Birmingham, N. D., businessmen who paid toward city parking lots.

Birmingham downtown property owners paid \$387,724.92 of the city's \$844,312.29 invested in four parking lots constructed since 1955.

Tax claims must be filed by April 15, 1959, if participants in the 1955 program are to benefit.

Despite increased competition for people's time, newspaper circulation in the U.S. has reached a new high of 58 million newspapers purchased daily. With Canada added, the figure is over 61 million newspapers purchased daily.

Architectural Contract Is Approved

The Birmingham Board of Education Tuesday night authorized signing a contract with Eberle M. Smith & Associates, Detroit, to do architectural work on the proposed Westchester school.

The new elementary school will be built on a site near Cranbrook and Maple. No starting or completion dates have been set.

IN OTHER ACTION, the board approved bids totaling more than \$10,000 on equipment for the new junior-senior high school.

The bids were for equipment for the art, science, homecoming, library, shop and kitchen rooms. Low bids were accepted in all cases but one.

Architect Lynn Smith of Smith, Tarasanta, McMahon, Inc., recommended the school accept the second lowest bid on art equipment.

THE BIDS accepted were: Art—Pennsylvania State Co., Detroit, \$29,232. Science—McFadden Corp., Lansing, \$46,562. Homecoming—Custom Kitchen Dist. Inc., \$14,123.66. Library—McFadden Corp., \$14,995. Shop—Ray Haven Equipment Co., Detroit, \$5,889.69.

The board also approved the use of Greenfield school for Westwood council meetings, and authorized the conversion of the heating system in Hill school to a two-pipe system.

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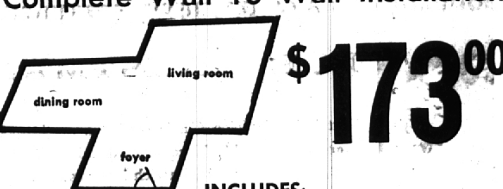
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