

# BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

# 'Look back in Anger' Star Looks to Future

By BETTY PAYNOR  
Special Writer

Pacing in his Cass theatre dressing room, thin, agile Kenneth Haigh spoke briskly, showing no signs of fatigue after performing the strenuous, starting role in John Osborne's "Look Back in Anger" (at the Cass through Saturday). "Our generation will solve its problems," the 28-year-old actor began, in defense of the ideas expressed in "Look Back in Anger".

"Of course, I'm talking about the British," he added as a sudden smile brightened his intense, dark-haired, blue-eyed coloring, inherited from his Irish mother.

"I'm the son of a Yorkshire coal miner. If I had been born 50 years ago, I'm quite certain I would have been a coal miner also," he stated, putting his argument on a personal basis.

"But the tremendous social revolution which England has been undergoing combined with her shrinking stature as a world power has caused my generation to question its place in life. There are 13 million of us in England between age 18 and 30. I'm one of these boys. It will take us time to adjust, but I think we shall."

HAIGH FEELS that playwright John Osborne, known as one of England's "angry young men" because of his antagonism to society, expressed an optimistic attitude in "Look Back in Anger"—an opinion which is probably surprising to many who have seen this controversial play.

"People often don't realize that a rebellious attitude means there is hope that conditions can be changed for the better. If there were no hope, everyone would simply resign himself to whatever conditions exist," Haigh explained.

"AND THEN, my generation in England is rebelling against the worn-out clichés of society. But we still feel attached to our tradition."

"Your 'beat generation' in America attempts to isolate itself from society. It seems to be a type of romantic movement to escape from society instead of trying to change it."

"I know that the 'beat generation' has significance, but I'm not sure what it is. And I think that the literary and artistic works of the 'beat' are poor," he remarked.

"ON THE OTHER hand, I love the dynamic power of America," Haigh exclaimed. "I don't mean its foreign policy which I often deplore, but its growth as a personality," he said, admitting that this statement sounds metaphysical. Nervously, he reached for a corner hat-rack book, bracing himself against it as he jumped to a new topic.

"Canada also is impressive," he commented vigorously. "Here is a great, fresh country to be cultivated."

"You know that the English government encourages its citizens to leave our over-populated island and migrate to various parts of the

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Birmingham city commissioners got a most unusual verbal compliment Monday night from William T. Schusterbauer, 287 Ravine. He has been the neighborhood spokesman through the long series of meetings which Monday night saw confirmation of a special assessment roll for improving the Brookside-Park T-shaped alley. "I do not mean to be tripe or facetious," said Schusterbauer as the last commissioner's vote was recorded, "but I am sorry to see this matter closed. I never have enjoyed anything as much as I have in meeting and working with you commissioners and city officials. Thank you!"

The Boss of the Lion was heard this week when members of the Birmingham Lions Club discovered that Roger Williams, famed pianist, will appear on the Ed Sullivan TV Show next Sunday evening. Oct. 20, Williams' fabulous talents will be presented in concert at the Birmingham high school auditorium on Wednesday evening, Oct. 29 under the sponsorship of the local Lions. They thanked Sullivan for helping to promote THEIR artist.

This is Y.M.C.A. week in Troy. Mayor Frank Costello made this designation in recognition of the new Birmingham "Y" building which was dedicated Sunday. The Birmingham "Y" serves Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Trug and Franklin Village.

Things were really popping last Thursday morning at the Roy Thurman home on Brookwood. Lightning struck the home's eaves during a storm, traveled through a nail to a metal lathe and sent plaster popping out in small holes along the route of the lathe in the Thurman bedroom. There was no fire, firemen say.

A splendid, worthwhile civic activity is being carried on these days by various local, nearby, and many other Michigan Standard Oil gasoline stations. It relates to getting eligible voters to register, also to vote Nov. 4. Sam Reeves, live-wire owner of Reeves gasoline station at West Maple and Telegraph, is one of 10 Michigan station owners comprising a council of a state association of all Standard operators. Reeves spear-headed the local civic activities of the group by placing "Register Before Oct. 9" and "Vote Nov. 4" in numerous places at his station, as well as handing out printed paper windshield-cleaning towels, also red-white and blue lapel clips that read

"Keep Your Freedom—Vote!" "Our civic efforts are non-partisan," explained Reeves. "What we are after is to get people to register and then vote." Reports from several local governmental units reveal that registration has increased considerably as a result of the local dealers' civic program.

The sponsoring committee of the FFA foundation is made up of representatives of more than 300 companies which provide awards to the 380,000-member FFA organization. Its top award goes to the star farmer of America. Hill served as one of the judges selecting this outstanding boy.

HILL, who lives at 968 Glengarry circle east, is active in youth work in Detroit, and nationally. He was chairman of the scouting exposition of 1958 in Detroit. Junior achievement and 4-H are among his other interests. He also heads the farm youth sub-committee of the National Sales Executive, Inc. of which he is a director-at-large. He is chairman of the agricultural committee of the Detroit board of commerce, a member of the executive committee of the Farm Equipment Institute and a member of the advisory committee on farm equipment to the U. S. department of commerce. He has been general manager of Ford's farm equipment organization since 1957.

More salt is present in the Atlantic than in the Pacific.



MERRITT HILL  
FFA Chairmanship To Merritt Hill  
KANSAS CITY—Merritt D. Hill of Birmingham, Mich., was elected chairman of the sponsoring committee of the future farmers of

America foundation here Wednesday night. Hill is general manager of Ford Motor company's tractor and implement division with headquarters in Birmingham.

# Ticklers By George



"He says he'll take his cod liver oil only when Ted Williams does."

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