The Birmingham Eccentric

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

The Nation's Top Suburban Weekly
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81ST YEAR—NO. 30

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

Behind Our Front Page

How wonderfully alive are those families where every member really loves one another; where necessary tolerance exists because of this affection; where parents lead discussions about things of interest to children and maintain this program right on through and up to their children's maturity. Every home needs the environment in which Love should flourish!

Red Head Responsible . . .
for bachelor's apartment . . . See Page 1-C.

Father Built a Barn . . .
and then had to build a whole farm to go with it. See Page 1-E.

They Were Workin' On . . .
the railroad in Franklin last weekend. See Page 1-E.

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This and That

by George R. Averill

Santa Claus Will Re-Align Major Political Parties

Rapidly thinning are the ranks of what once was a stalwart Republican Party in the U.S.A. This condition is a natural human one, existing whenever people lose faith in the value of clinging to tried-and-true practices. One also could say the same thing about what once was the original Jeffersonian Democratic Party.

This once-ardent defender of individual freedom has been taken over by power-hungry labor-politicians, by New and Fair Deal devotees of "give-away" programs.

In time, perhaps the change may be adjusted as new political alignments are made; one side being dedicated to a socialistic-welfare government, the other side composed of citizens who believe in the values of self-reliance, hard work, decentralized government of the types represented in the life and works of Washington, Jefferson, Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson.

No government dressed up and acting like Santa Claus ever lasted indefinitely anywhere on this earth.

Here's very important news: It is reported that in a 20-mile race a man would win over a horse because of the biped's greater endurance . . . and to think that man can do this with half as many legs, too!

Nobody can truthfully assert, we believe, that President Eisenhower is dishonest. Ike may be ignorant of certain of the procedures that are required by a man in high public office; he may depend upon too much mediocrity in some of his aides; or he may just get real tired of trying to sweep back the tides. But Ike most assuredly is an honest man!

That politician who promises much more than he can deliver, generally these days gets elected. While many Americans vigorously oppose red Communists, or red ink on their personal and business balance sheets, too many of them approve the red habiliments of a governmental Santa Claus, as he perennially goes about encouraging a once-self-reliant U.S.A. to chant the words: "Gimme! Gimme! oh, Gimme!"

Jim Haggerty is Ike's press secretary. Before he went to Washington he had a similar job in Albany for New York's former Governor Dewey. Jim certainly is an experienced newspaperman. He knows what motivates reporters who cover the White House, therefore should be understanding about how and why they ask questions . . . even embarrassing ones. But there are times, we feel, when Jim appears to try to "cover up" some incidents and situations that should, within his own reportorial instincts, make him want to hide his face in a waste-basket.

Every time Congress creates another agency it automatically sets in motion the need for added taxation to pay for the maintenance of the agency. Such agencies, like babies, generally grow bigger and bigger, requiring more and more taxes to support them. A chief over-all reason why the federal government is so big is simply that too many Congressmen have helped to make it so—for they are the ones who create the various agencies. To be sure, behind Congressmen are too many listless, apathetic taxpayers who fail to make known their opposition to this bureaucratic growth.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Pausing outside Birmingham country club, Dr. Margaret Mead (center) chats with Birmingham Town Hall President Mrs. George H. Carey (left), and Mrs. O. F. Pearson, also of Town Hall, following Friday's celebrity luncheon.

Suburban Man Is Sick, Sick, Sick

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

Suburban Man is suffering. He has an acute case of "too much low level goodness."

That's the diagnosis of Dr. Margaret Mead, who has been studying homo sapiens, from Borneo to the Bronx, for more than 30 years.

Last Thursday and Friday she told Suburban Womanhood at Birmingham Town Hall about the view through her anthropological microscope.

She gently chided Suburban Man. But her audience laughed at her humorous jabs and subtle, Bob Hopish pauses.

The astute Mead generalizations about him brought frequent murmurs of "That's so true!" from many a Suburban Man's wife in the audience.

SHE MADE some generalizations about Teen Age Man when we talked to her backstage just before her lecture. The 56-year-old writer, professor and curator seemed completely relaxed. She wore a handsome blue tweed suit, her short hair topped with a lacy blue velvet cap.

"We don't realize that adolescence is the time to grow and get used to physical changes. Teen agers need a little more time to grow, to think and to wonder," she opined, adding that modern teen agers are under too much pressure about things such as career choices.

As for suburbanites, Dr. Mead later told her audience, they are bored.

"THEY HAVE finished contracting for everything they think they are going to need, and are now settled down to pay for it for the next 30 years," she said.

They are motivated, Dr. Mead went on, by the desire to give their families now what they regard as a good life. They hope their small communities will stay small — so the children will be protected from juvenile delinquency.

But, Dr. Mead claims, Suburban Man is trying to keep his "oasis" lovely and beautiful for his children at the expense of the cities he has left, the rest of the country, and the world.

NORTH AMERICANS, numbering six per cent of the people of the world, she said, are using up 60 per cent of the raw and irreplaceable material of the world.

"If you belong to the other 94 per cent, you can see that your feelings might be emotional," she warned.

Suburban Man also affects the cities from which he draws his economic life, Dr. Mead says, because "all the responsible, lively young people have moved out and left an urban slum filled with the very rich and the very poor.

"These people aren't filled with the stuff of which a good community is made," she said.

MEANWHILE, back in the suburbs, people are fighting empty boredom, trying to enjoy something they are going to be paying on for the next 30 years.

They seek escape from boredom in group activity. That's where the low-level goodness comes in, as Dr. Mead sees it.

She thinks we ought to shift into high-level goodness. We ought to prevent things like polio epidemics which hit big cities because we don't make sure that slum dwellers care for their children as we care for ours.

"As a result every child is in

(See MAN, Page 2-A)

'Music Man' Composer Set For Town Hall

A schedule change will bring Meredith Willson, composer of the celebrated score for "Music Man," to Birmingham Town Hall with his wife, Rini, on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 9 and 10.

Their appearance replaces a talk by actress Peggy Wood, originally scheduled for Oct. 2 and 3, which Miss Woods was forced to cancel.

Mrs. George H. Carey, Birmingham Town Hall president, announced the change at last week's lectures at the Birmingham theatre. She said Willson and his wife, both radio and TV stars, will present a program of music, humor and comments, titled "Mirth and Music."

There will be no celebrity luncheon following the 11 a.m. appearances both days at the Birmingham theatre. Only season ticket holders can be admitted to the sold-out series.

New $3,000,000 Shopping Center To Be Constructed in B'field Hills

Mayor Raps Conduct at 1st Game

A minority of Birmingham high school student football fans got off to a wrong season start Friday night when they expressed their bad behavior in front of hundreds of adult spectators, including Birmingham's Mayor Carl F. Ingraham.

He interjected his comments into the city record Monday night when during the regular city commission meeting, he addressed about a dozen Birmingham high school students in the audience.

They are members of the high school civics class, which must visit several municipal meetings as a class assignment.

INGRAHAM PREFACED his remarks by saying he did not intend to bawl out the student body. He merely wanted those students in the audience to take what he said back to school. He hoped that enough pressure might be brought on the bad behaving students to improve the spectator conditions at subsequent games.

Here's what Mayor Ingraham said:

"You students who are here tonight are members of the civics class, where good government is explained and good citizenship is stressed.

"I DO NOT intend my comments to be a bawling out, but merely want you to take them back to the student body with the hope that the situation will be improved.

"Friday night I sat in the bleachers (when Birmingham opened its home season with Royal Oak Dondero.

"I was a bit ashamed of the lack of evidence of our good citizenship to the citizens of Royal Oak when our students cheered roundly when a Royal Oak player was injured, when jeers went up when Birmingham was penalized for a personal foul on the field, when hard objects were thrown around the stands endangering spectators, when 15 and 16-year-old boys puffed energetically on cigars.

"ALL THIS is about as poor an advertisement to the people who look at it as representative of our city's sportsmanship, as anything we could find to do.

"If you can help me get this situation improved, we'll all be better off. I hope you will take this message back with you."

To Keep Door Open For School Parents

Eugene Johnson, superintendent of Bloomfield Hills schools is inaugurating a "talk it over" policy with parents of children in the Bloomfield school district.

He has scheduled Wednesday evening from 7-9 o'clock as conference night when he will meet with parents who have school problems to discuss with him. Appointments may be made by calling the Bloomfield board of education offices.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Baldwin Safety Patrol Wins Trophy

The Birmingham Lions club safety patrol trophy, awarded annually for excellence in safety patrol work, was presented to the safety patrol of Baldwin school last week by Lt. Robert Schaule of the Birmingham police department. Schaule presented the trophy to (left to right) William Brown, Peter Elliott, Jeffery Hodde, Bruce Naylor and Thomas Elliott as Lawrence Sauvage (left rear), supervisor of the Baldwin safety patrol, looked on. Hodde and Peter Elliott are safety patrol captains, and the other three boys are lieutenants.

New Clubhouse At Springdale To Be Studied

An increase of over 60 per cent more golfers at Birmingham's Springdale course this season may have brought in the initial capital to build a new clubhouse.

An estimated 28,000 rounds played — nearly two-thirds more than the 18,000 rounds in 1957— is reflected in the $7,726.68 net revenue for the past fiscal year.

The suggestion to pay for a new clubhouse in the future out of the course profits came at this week's Birmingham city commission meeting.

Construction of a clubhouse-concession building is the only permanent property improvement that won support after study of a report on course operation. The report stemmed from a letter by George Meughler, 543 Frank, a regular course patron who offered suggestions for improvement.

CITY MANAGER L. R. Gare was asked to develop tentative plans and costs for an improved clubhouse facility. The present one is a small frame structure, inadequate to handle the volume of business the course now has.

With nearly one-twelfth of Birmingham's population possessing memberships to play at Springdale, it took only the letter from one citizen to also prompt the council into considering closer care of the course next year.

Tees, sorely in need of repair, may be leveled or rebuilt and kept seeded, fertilized, and watered all season. Since there is no space for alternate tees, golfers could help with the upkeep by being careful not to damage the turf.

Added suggestions to improve landscaping and sanitation will be incorporated into next year's maintenance program.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

7,960, 7,961, 7,962 . . .

With hardly a muscle moving, seven-year-old Susan Rittger, of 4811 Tullamore, nonchalantly kept the hula hoop moving longer than any other entries in Birmingham's first hula hoop contest, held Saturday at the Bloomfield theatre. She hiked her hoop from her knees to her hips, and even kept it going while theatre Manager Keith Musser took her name and address after she won. Second prize winner of the contest, sponsored by the city's two theatres and the local S. S. Kresge store, was nine-year-old Susan Norton, 1652 Graefield. Local store manager Harvey Kresge also presented prizes to runner-ups Debbie Eggen, Paula Serakos and the only male who finished in the running, Robbie Candler. Another contest begins at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Birmingham theatre.

$1,000 in TV Sets Taken from Store

Birmingham police this week are investigating the theft of over $1,000 worth of television sets and radios, taken from the Birmingham Television Co., 1842 S. Woodward, last Friday.

Police found the store's back door open early Friday morning. The lock had been smashed and a crowbar was found nearby.

Owner John Palmer said that $1,100 worth of his stock was missing plus several customers' appliances.

The door of the nearby Hamburger Builders Co. was also forced open, police said, but nothing was found missing.

Want Equal Shares

Confirmation of assessments on improving the Brookside-Park alley has been postponed two weeks to permit residents to petition the city for equal division of costs. Normal Birmingham assessing method would see costs ranging from $23 to $140 depending on size of property. Spokesmen said the equal cost plan meets resident approval.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for ENterprise 6319.

Bagwell Was Here

Republican nominee for Governor, Paul D. Bagwell and his wife, Edith, were at the Birmingham Community House last Wednesday afternoon to officially open the Eighth Annual Piety Hill Antique Show. The show is sponsored by the Piety Hill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Never Underestimate Power of a Twinkle

You may have a hard time getting your husband to let you get rid of your livingroom antiques and refurnish with simple, functional furniture—but the result is well worth his praise when he sees what has been accomplished.

The same applies to a city park, the city fathers, and the only woman on the Birmingham city commission.

THAT'S WHAT put the twinkle in the eye and the smile on the face of City Commissioner Florence Willett this week when she heard Birmingham Mayor Carl F. Ingraham—on behalf of his five male colleagues — say about the Shain park redevelopment:

"It's really a beautiful job. As a resident, I want to thank Mrs. Willett, (Parks & Forestry Supt.) Charles Gals and all the others who had anything to do with the beautification."

Ingraham had walked through the block-square park west of the municipal building only Monday afternoon. It had just been reopened to the public.

HE NOTED the new sod, the new off-center mall, the new walks —and he brought his praise to the meeting that night.

But the job hadn't been easy for Mrs. Willett. She fought for more than a year to have the overstuffed park cleared of its dense bushes, trees and other plantings.

She won a thousand dollars here, a thousand there to get unnecessary trees taken down, to have new walks placed.

HER IDEA, apparently was good, and as the development took shape the other commissioners seemed to get in the spirit. The city saved hundreds of dollars by having welfare clients do considerable of the work. This money the other six officials let go into sodding, when Mrs. Willett had figured the best she could get was seeding of the regraded park.

That twinkle and that smile Monday night was its own reward to the other commissioners for giving in.

Remodeling Plans Now Under Way

A new shopping center worth almost $3 million may be completed in Bloomfield Hills within the next four years.

A $750,000 remodeling and building program, eventually expected to grow to nearly $3 million, has already been launched by Bloomfield Hills Center Inc.

The corporation owns a triangular-shaped, 21-acre tract at Woodward and Long Lake roads, with 800 feet on Woodward and running west to Barden road.

John R. Davis, 3761 Lakecrest, Bloomfield Twp., former director and vice president of Ford Motor Co., and Alan L. Gornick, 695 Vaughn, Bloomfield Hills, Ford Motor Co. tax counsel, are incorporated as the Bloomfield Hills Center Inc.

They have already begun extensive remodeling at the Center.

THE CENTER-PIECE of the new project, the old Kingsley Inn building, is undergoing a complete renovation. A new front will be added to it. The building will be renamed the Barbour building in honor of William T. Barbour, Detroit industrialist and pioneer land developer in the area.

When remodeling is completed in December, Manley, Bennett & Co., Detroit brokerage firm, will open a Bloomfield Hills branch on the first floor.

There will be several other tenants on the first floor and offices on the second.

THE $750,000 will cover remodeling of the old inn, a gas station and a garage. It includes construction of a new building, about 120 by 100 feet, fronting on Woodward.

Davis said ground would be broken for the new building within 60 days. A drug store, fancy grocery, meat market and bakery will be on the plan with a beauty parlor and professional offices on the second.

The building is scheduled for completion next spring.

"THE NEW buildings will be designed to make the Bloomfield Center area attractive, and to provide conveniences for persons living in the area," Davis said.

He said the $2 to $3 million figure would cover construction of another group of stores south of those now being remodeled. He added that plans were now on the drawing board, and that he hoped the center would be completed within four or five years.

THERE ARE several new buildings already in the area which will adjoin the new development. They are the new Kingsley Inn on Woodward south of the development, the new branch of the Community Bank of Pontiac and the remodeled post office on Long Lake road.

There are also 13 apartment and three terrace units on the Davis-Gornick development.

Paving Job Won By Berkley Man

A $36,595.65 contract for four Birmingham paving projects has been awarded low bidder Edward R. White of Berkley. They include paving of Commerce, extension of Cole street, Graefield between Derby and Pembroke, and the rear yard of the Adams fire station.

White also agreed to build a short access drive on Hunter below Maple if the state highway department approves a city request in time this fall.

STRICTLY FRESH

Delegation of responsibility is a fancy way to say, "shifting the blame."

* * *

There's nothing like wood smoke drifting on the breeze to make a fellow wonder if his roof's on fire.

* * *

Bachelors are chronic sufferers from shesickness.

* * *

A wise employe never asks the boss a question he can't answer.

* * *

Our secretary says her boy friend reminds her of a late-model car; he's equipped with an automatic clutch.