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This and That

by George R. Averill

HOW TO ADJUST TO A CAREFREE DIET

A health suggestion I read the other day asked me to keep the conversation during meals light and airy and, frankly, it's revolutionary to our household.

No matter whether we were bickering a moment before, my wife and I now sit down to dinner grinning enormously for digestion's sake. You can tune in on the following tableau any night of the week at our place:

Me (dimpling prettily): What gay happenings chanced your way today, my dove?

Wife (effusively): A simply charming little man came round and we had a sparkling little chat about your income tax. He said he was from the government, I believe.

Me (tittering): From the U. S. Government, the one in picturesque Washington, D. C.?

Wife (clapping her hands childishly): That's the one. He said you and them snooty hippy-types might be the extent of the damage to our pretty little car.

Me (forcing a waxy smile): What other episodes hippy-hopped into your day?

Wife (rhapsodically): This afternoon I popped into the car and went off to visit Edn Framingham.

Me (sweetly): How is Edith?

Wife (clouding a bit but retaining the lilt in her voice): Oh, I didn't actually get there. You know that foolish narrow bridge over Ardmore Avenue?

Me (interestedly): The one with concrete lions guarding the entrance?

Wife (giddily): One lion now, dear.

Me (crackling harshly): I'll bet I know what happened to the second.

Wife (wigglingly tweaking my nose): I'll bet you just do.

Me (smiling thinly): What did the man in the repair garage say about the extent of the damage to our quaint little car?

Wife (sillyly): He wrote out a long, silly list of things, but let's read it after dinner. How about some carrots?

Me (spiritually): No, thanks. My digestion's great but my appetite's gone.

(—Eddie Mulligan in Ludington Daily News)

No Hesitation This Time Over Widening Eton

There was no hesitation in Birmingham city commissioners' minds the second time they considered necessity of widening Eton road from Yosemite south to Lincoln.

Monday night they listened to a few residents protest the widening of the road, but they were not so much concerned as the first time. These property owners, who live on the west side of the widening, said they saw no benefit to themselves.

The commission did recognize that more than ordinary benefits would go to the business and industrial properties on the west side of Eton.

THE SPECIAL assessment will be paid primarily by these commercial interests. Residences will be assessed, the city decided, only 70 per cent of half the cost of widening to 29 feet. The normal assessment is 85 per cent.

The street will be widened to 41 feet, with the city and businesses picking up the additional cost over a 29-foot normal residential street standard.

In June 1956, the city considered widening Eton. When it came to a vote, there were not enough commissioners who favored it. They could not agree on the particular width.

THIS WAS NOT the case Monday night. The 41 feet won five votes with no objection. Commissioners Florence Willett and John S. O'Gorman were absent.

The special assessment roll is expected to be up for hearing in several weeks.

Recently I came upon a modern definition of a camel. It is only a hump put together by a committee.

Not too many years ago more than one half of the world really never did find out exactly how the other half lived. Now, with communication and transportation facilities so improved that each people knows what some call "a near neighborhood," what one half does influences the other half very much. The habit of "isolationism" no longer is practical.

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



The Nation's Top Suburban Weekly
TEN CENTS

Arts Festival Program in Full Swing

Undersize Fuse Tests Emergency Water Pact

Previously established emergency measures were used for the first time Monday night to preserve water pressure in Birmingham, eastern Beverly Hills and northwestern Royal Oak.

A blown undersize fuse in the power line feeding the Southeastern Oakland county water authority caused its pumps to shut down for 20 minutes at 8 p.m.

A portable generator maintained by the Birmingham fire department was rushed to the Webster avenue (Royal Oak) pumping station, and connected to one of the pumps.

THIS EMERGENCY move had been agreed upon over a year ago by Birmingham and the water authority.

This bolstered pressure in the Beverly Hills area east of Southfield road and in Royal Oak west of Coolidge.

Hardly anyone but authority and a few municipal officials knew of the power failure until long after a new fuse had been installed by 9:35 p.m.

WATER AUTHORITY Engineer

Manager Donald C. Egbert said the failure was caused by an overload on the fuse when five of the authority's pumps were in operation.

He said a larger fuse is going to be installed by Edison crews.

Monday night city manager said Tuesday's pumpage reached 36.5 million gallons.

When the authority pumps ceased, back pressure in the Birmingham system closed check valves, preventing escape of water back into Beverly Hills-Royal Oak.

FIRE CHIEF Park Smith

ordered a standby well into operation. Together with Birmingham's 1.3 million elevated storage capacity, the well kept Birmingham's pressure at about 30 pounds. Normal is 42-44 pounds.

The 1-million gallon tank on 14 mile in Beverly Hills almost was exhausted in the 20 minutes it took to get Birmingham's emergency generator to the Webster pumping station.

In Birmingham Monday, 6,667,000 million gallons of water were used, Chief Smith said. This is only 4,000 gallons less than last summer's record high.

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All kinds of home spring, automatic, one-day service, RAYMOND MAT, call "Dial O" and ask for Enterprise 6316.



Coombe, Incumbents Win 3 B of E Posts

Two incumbents were returned to their school board seats and one new member was added in Monday's light (1800 ballot) election.

The three winners, selected from district voters who supported his candidacy in the election.

MRS. BEIER, unopposed for the unexpired one-year portion of the term she is serving, received 1,533 votes.

Mrs. Peter B. Loomis, president of the school board, was returned for a four-year term with 1,101 ballots.

George W. Coombe, Jr., took the chair vacated by Amos Gregory, who did not seek re-election. Coombe cornered 950 votes.

"MANY of those votes represent the efforts of close personal friends. Even more gratifying, however, is that several hundred others reflect support from persons whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting, but who share with me a genuine interest in a continuation of the high standards established by the Birmingham public school system."

"I want all to know that I appreciate fully my obligation (to them) and to our children and I shall strive to discharge that obligation faithfully during the next four years."

Other candidates were Francis H. Allen, 305; Theodore H. Symke, 186; George J. Fulkerson, 144; Granville C. Ryan, 140; and Albert H. Giuliani, 69.

Coombe, in a post-election statement said:

"I would like to thank the hundreds of Birmingham school district voters who supported my candidacy in the election."

Accident Rate Drops in B'ham

Birmingham's automobile accident rate took another drop last month when the city registered a total of 50 minor collisions. This was a drop of five accidents compared to the same time last year.

Only four of the accidents involved personal injuries and four of the collisions entailed property damage.

Estimated property damage was \$8,755, according to Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley. Exactly half of the accidents involved right-of-way violations and 14 were caused by drivers following too closely, Moxley said.

MRS. PETER B. LOOMIS



GEORGE COOMBE, JR.

RUN BY THE Christian Brothers of Ireland, whose province is in New Rochelle, N. Y., the school is named after the founder of the order.

The 85,000 square foot plant is going up at a cost of \$980,000.

Main feature of the modernistic building is the chapel (1), adjoining the main entrance and facing Lahser road. Generous use here of carved stone panels, stained glass, mosaic tiles, and glazed brick make the chapel an eye-catching focal point among the straight, clean lines of the structure.

A TWO-STORY monastery for 20 teaching brothers shares the chapel wing.



Veteran movie and stage actor Walter Pidgeon was a surprise visitor to the James Melton concert Tuesday night. Arts Festival chairman Harvey S. Kresge introduced his wife to the actor after Pidgeon had entered the high school. Melton and Pidgeon met on a downtown Detroit street accidentally. Concert star Melton (in picture at left) renews his friendship with Miss Marilyn Hatch, of Buffalo, N.Y. Miss Hatch travels many miles to attend Melton's concerts and has been a fan of his for many years.

O'Gorman Quits Commission; Plan Bd. Losing Marin

Birmingham city commissioners are seeking for two new members of their official family—a city commissioner and a plan board member.

John S. O'Gorman, who has served for 14 months on the city commission, has resigned for the second time. He's sold his Birmingham home, bought one in Tucson, Ariz.

He resigned the first time in December 1959 after serving 20 months. He cited poor health as his reason.

GEORGE MARIN said Tuesday he is not going to serve on the city plan board after his term expires June 30.

"Why, I've already served three terms (three years)," he explained. "It is expected that Robert E. Page will be named to another city plan board term."

City commissioners met in committee following Monday's regular session to discuss candidate for the two appointments.

Several people were proposed, among them Mayor Harry M. Denyes, Jr., will contact.

Next came a quartet of lighter pieces which Melton performed very well. There was hardly a high note.

He then introduced his pretty protégée, Barbara Meister, who stole the show. (Even Melton admitted it when later he called her a "show stealer.")

MISS MEISTER, professionally performed two Puccini arias, the second in a duet with Melton.

WALTER PIDGEON was in Detroit for a commercial movie, accidentally met Melton on the street. An invitation to the Tuesday concert was made. Pidgeon had returned to Detroit immediately after Melton's performance.

Melton and Miss Meister adjourned to a party which Mr. and Mrs. Max Frubau gave at their Bloomfield Hills home for the artists and the Festival committee chairman.

THE REST of the men doffed theirs. The indoor temperature was in the high 80's. It had dropped to 84 degrees as the concert concluded two hours later.

Melton began his program with a trio of songs in serious mood. He had power, sang with clarity, but time is catching up with his voice; he couldn't quite make nor sustain the highest notes in those pieces.

MELTON RETURNED for three songs, one a Mexican serenade, another a North Carolina mountain ballad, and a modern harmonic love song.

Then he and Miss Meister concluded the evening with about 10 minutes of popular songs including three songs from Jerome Kern's operettas, "Make Believe," "They'll Never Believe Me," and "Way You Look Tonight."

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THE administrative area (2) adjoins the chapel-monastery wing, and contains the academic classrooms. Twenty classrooms occupy two wings (3) and six large rooms for the sciences, drafting and a library occupy another (4). The school boasts a complete cafeteria with kitchen (5), a gymnasium (6). The gym floor is wood, on steel springs. Locker and band rooms face the athletic field and practice grounds.

BUILDINGS ARE constructed of brick with split-stone facing and cut-stone trim. Floors are of terrazzo in corridors, cafeteria and locker rooms. Most of the walls are of slag block.

Classroom areas are constructed of window-walls of glass and porcelain panels and exposed steel framing with insulated roof panels. Charles A. Valentine Associates, Marysville, Michigan, are the architects. General Contractor is the J. A. Ferguson company, Detroit; electrical work is by the Rogers Electrical company, Pontiac, and mechanical contractor is the Brady plumbing and heating company, Detroit.

A section of the school may be ready for use in September, 1959, contractors said.

Three Big Events Yet To Come

By W. J. ARTHUR
Staff Writer

Two outstanding performances already have marked the opening days of the second annual Birmingham Arts Festival and there are three headline events yet to be staged.

St. Dunstan's Guild hit comedy—"Tire on suburban living," "The Bloominghams Eccentrics," will be staged at 9 p.m. tonight before a sell-out crowd at the Cranbrook Greek theatre.

A "LIGHT Opera Cocktail" will be prepared for discerning music lovers tomorrow night at 8:30 p.m. by the Windsor Light Opera Association at the Community House, and Dr. Seymour Riklin will speak on "Modern Literature and the Unconscious," Saturday, 8:30 p.m., at Baldwin school.

Arts Festival chairman Harvey S. Kresge termed the program "outstanding and wonderful." He said he is extremely pleased with the turnout to the headline events and attendance at exhibits to date.

Opening day ceremonies at Quarters Falls started the Festival with a rush that was immediately followed by an excellent performance Sunday night by the Detroit City Ballet.

JAMES MELTON and Miss Barbara Meister entertained 1,200 Birmingham area residents at the high school Tuesday night in a concert of light opera and standard duets.

which the "Bloominghams Eccentrics," which he has had phenomenal success at the box office thus far, has already been sold out.

Members St. Dunstan's Guild have written the script, music and are producing the original comedy four nights this week.

THE WINDSOR Light Opera Association, headed by John Watson, will present songs from such Broadway hits as "Oklahoma," "Kismet," "Porgy and Bess," "Show Boat," and "Kismet Me Kate."

Besides Watson, featured roles will be taken by Nancy Carter, Jane Burns and Thomas Hamilton. Dr. Riklin is a noted lecturer at Wayne State university and has appeared frequently on radio and television.

He recently taught a course in the "Contemporary Novel" on TV college for WJBK-TV and led a seminar in "Modern Painting" in the recent "Conversations in the Arts."

"LANDSCAPES in Art and Science" is the featured art show at the Bloomfield Art Association building, 336 N. Woodward, and will be shown until the final day of the festival.

If the weather is threatening this afternoon, ticket holders planning to attend "The Bloominghams Eccentrics" presentation can call MI 4-7628. After 6 p.m., you may call St. Dunstan's playhouse at MI 4-9668.

Should rain cancel the performance, it will be re-scheduled at the earliest possible date. Call either phone number to learn exact date.

Scene Changing at Township Corner

The landscape is changing rapidly at Lincoln and Lahser, Bloomfield township, as the Brother Rice high school for boys (pictured at right) rises to its February 1960 completion date.

The school is part of a whole new neighborhood. It will be joined by the Marian high school for girls under construction south of the boys' school and St. Victor's Catholic church to the north.

RUN BY THE Christian Brothers of Ireland, whose province is in New Rochelle, N. Y., the school is named after the founder of the order.

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