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This and That

by George R. Averill

One of the nicest and most wholesome episodes in any game of sport occurs when the fans get together to pay due honor to some outstanding athlete. Such a scene recently was paid to the Red Wing's Gordie Howe down in Detroit when he was showered with approximately \$12,000 worth of gifts. What did Gordie treasure most among his gifts, you may ask? Well, it was the living contents of an automobile that had been presented to Gordie, in the back seat of which sat his mother and father, both of whom had come down from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Actually, Gordie broke down and wept when he saw his parents in the back seat. What a wonderful tribute he bled them, and in paying it, also honored their son.

Two Georgia colored men were discussing the financial condition of the country. They didn't agree. "You's all wrong," one volunteered. "They ain't no money shagout. Ah asked mah bankuh is he out o' money and he tuk me in de vault and showed me piles o' amples o' money. An I says could he let me have jes' a little. An' he says sho' he could. Ah has 'em all right? An' ah has 'em. Now dat's what's de match wit dis country. They's plenty o' money but we've jes' runnin' shot on colla'ral."

In a literal and fundamental sense, a nation is much like an individual. In the same way, nations will pursue a wrong way of life until they have "reached the end of the road," and they reform may take place, or at least improvement. It is the end of the pendulum's swing. Nations, likewise, do this, as witness the recent "revolt" of France, and it is admitted a strong man, Gen. Charles De Gaulle, who now has the temporary powers of a dictator, almost—the greatest, personal power of any Frenchman since Napoleon. Question: is the United States drifting away from traditional self-government freedoms, and into a dominating labor-government bureaucracy?

Tamper not with idle rumor, for the truth appears to lie. Carve thy life to hilted silence, wrong shall not fall on it and die; Tamper not with accusation, harvest not what thou hast heard; Christ stood in the court of (See THIS & THAT, Page 8-A)

Life demands from each of us a constant application of self-discipline. If we fail to "police" our own actions, then we are not faithful to written and unwritten law, and we must pay the penalties required. As parents, if we fail to bring up our children in an environment of proper self-discipline, we have weakened their ability to oppose wrong. "As the twig is bent, so the tree is inclined."

82nd YEAR—NO. 2

Hold Youths For Attack On Driver

Seven Bloomfield Hills high school students, held for investigation of assault and battery against a Clawson truck driver, were to give their statements to the Oakland county prosecutor today.

All of the youths, two of whom have police records, were released on \$100 bond following the incident Thursday night. Injured seriously was Harold C. Putebaugh, 358 S. Chocoma, Clawson. He was taken to Ardmore hospital in Ferndale.

Winter Returns To Wreak Havoc In B'ham Area

Winter roared back into Birmingham this week behind a 60 mile an hour gale and a surprise snowstorm.

The wintry blasts that hit here and all of Oakland county Sunday, toppled trees, ripped wires and broke windows. Tuesday's six-inch snowfall turned roads into ice-covered trails, slowed traffic and reduced visibility to almost zero.

SUNDAY'S WIND blew out seven plate glass windows at S. S. Kresge's Miracle Mile store, Telegraph at Square Lake, Bloomfield township, causing between \$2,000 and \$5,000 damage.

A closing at Kay Cooley Inc. 190 W. Maple, Birmingham, was shattered during the storm. Damage, and two large windows at Birmingham high school were blown out.

Awings on many stores in the Birmingham business section were ripped by the gusts, and several signs, including the municipal parking sign at Woodward and Hamilton, were blown down.

THE BIRMINGHAM police department reported that trees and branches littered many of the city's residential streets. A tree completely blocked the street in front of a home at 1223 Holland, and a 12-inch tree partially blocked Oak street.

Charles Gale, superintendent of the parks and forestry department, said approximately 14 city owned trees were destroyed by the wind.

Parks and forestry workers were busy Sunday afternoon and all day (See WINTER, Page 8-A)

Contributions Large and Small Swell Roll Call

A man in working clothes, obviously a gardener, came in and contributed to the brand new Community House Roll call last week.

The week previous, five little army girls came in to add 75 cents to the Roll Call campaign. They were Diana Smith, Nancy Swan, Susan Brown, Lynn Leinbach and Nancy Burge.

WITH \$32,000 already in the till, Community House workers have received the halfway mark toward the \$60,000 goal.

"These are just a few examples of the kind of donations we are receiving," said Mrs. Effie Schaffer, executive director of the Community House.

"These little girls gave a little help and these were the proceeds from the admission charge."

"The gentleman who contributed \$50 told us the donation was given because 'he's a sign he had so much enjoyment and value from our senior workshop.'"

"We already have reached the \$25,000 goal in contributions from almost half of the campaign supervisors still to be heard from," Mrs. Schaffer said.

In addition, there are many businesses yet to be contacted, according to the executive director.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon in Northampton, Mass., for Edward J. Gare, 92, who for more than 75 years was associated with a jewelry firm there.

He was the father of Birmingham City Manager L. R. Gare.

The elder Gare began with a meat street jewelry business in 1885, became a partner in 1900 and acquired sole ownership in 1919.

Besides his son in Birmingham, the elder Gare is survived by two other sons, Edward J., Jr., of Northampton, Marshall S. of Pitts-

The Birmingham Eccentric

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



With half a day's work already behind him, early-morning riser Marshall Wells (right) checked over some printing work at 8:30 a.m. recently with The Averill Press composing room foreman, Fred Stinson.

Wherever Farmers Go, There's Wells on Radio

By JULIE CANDLER
Staff Writer

It's not for the cows that Midwestern farmers keep radios in their barns. It's for the men who are plugging in the milking machines. They're listening for information from radio farm editors like Marshall Wells.

For 15 years, farmer-at-heart Wells has been clutering his huge daily audience from the WJR-Detroit studios.

The deep voice of Birmingham resident Wells rises above Bessy's dulcet moos to thousands of barn rafters daily.

Wells gets up at 3:30 a.m. every day including Saturday and Sunday, to do his 9 to 6:30 a.m. "Voice of Agriculture," and the Sunday "Weekly Farm Review" at the same hour.

He goes to bed about 9, claims his average of six-and-a-half hours' sleep is plenty. Besides, he says, "you'd be surprised at how much you can get done at 3:30 a.m. when no phones are ringing."

HE HAD already been at work for five hours at 8:30 a.m. when he stopped at The Birmingham Eccentric about some printing recently. He works a wide-brimmed hat, sports shirt, and hip-length jacket.

"I never thought about going on the radio," he said when we asked how he became a radio farm editor.

"I was in the newspaper business in Iowa. One day the farm editor of a radio station (owned by my newspaper) got sick. They asked me to fill in for him," he recalled the farmers' friend.

"I said, 'I wouldn't do it, but they insisted.' He went on, 'So I said, 'O.K., it's your radio station!'"

THAT FIRST morning Wells entered the studio, read over the script.

"They told him, 'When the light goes on, start reading.' Said Wells, 'So I did. I've been doing it ever since.'"

Besides two radio shows daily (one on the radio from 12:15 to 12:30 p.m.), good-natured Wells makes about 100 personal appearances a year.

James H. Wragg, with whom he is married and lives in Paris, France, and a son, Toby, who goes to Notre Dame.

Wells first learned about agriculture from a South Dakota grain farm which his parents operated. He learned more on a Montana cattle ranch and in the California orange groves. He was graduated from the University of Iowa, where he met his wife.

He thinks Michigan farms will continue to get bigger. And the day may come, he believes, when farmers have more of a hand in setting their own prices, instead of being at the mercy of the market.

Eton Rink Eatn' At City's Savings

School Officials Okay Boundaries, View Enrollment

Secondary school attendance areas and estimated enrollment reports for the 1959-60 school year were the major items of business at Tuesday night's board of education meeting.

The board approved changing the present attendance areas for the junior and senior high school students to include the new junior senior high school, 13 Mile at Evergreen.

In addition it heard reports from the school's principals, who predicted an approximate increase of 400 to 500 students for the 1959-60 school year.

This would bring the enrollment up to an estimated 12,000 students.

THE BOARD ALSO agreed with a recommendation that the new junior senior high school house grades 7 through 10 for the 1959-60 school year.

"This would mean that the present ninth grade classes at Barum and Derby junior high schools would be split. Those students within the new school's attendance area will attend there next fall."

This year's 10th and 11th graders will continue to attend Birmingham high school, and will finish their education there.

FOURTEEN MILE road will be the dividing line between the two schools.

Senior high school students living south of 14 Mile and within the school district, including the Walnut Lake area will attend the new school.

Those living north of 14 Mile will attend the present Birmingham high school.

THE RECOMMENDATION that the new school house grades 7-10 the first year was made by a seven-man committee consisting of Dr. Richard Featherstone, assistant superintendent of schools; Ross Wagner, principal of Birmingham high school; James Burchette, Derby principal; Robert Ford, Barum principal; and William Nease, principal of the new school.

The committee felt that by starting students at the tenth grade level it would give the school officials time to work on accreditation and allow for an increase of the graduation class.

Hills Tax Rolls Jump \$400,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Bloomfield Hills will have an increase of nearly \$400,000 in the tax assessment rolls this year, according to City Manager Elmer Kephart.

Final figures will not be ready until the board of review finishes its hearings this Saturday.

Most of the increase was attributed to the Kingsley Inn building and new homes in the area. Last year's assessment roll was \$106,000.

Personal property tax was not expected to add to any appreciable amount, according to Kephart.

Schools to Close For Easter Vacation

Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Southfield public schools will close for Easter vacation at the end of classes March 26.

Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills schools will re-open the morning of April 6. Southfield schools will resume classes April 7.

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, St. Columbanus and St. Basil Catholic schools will close at noon March 26 and re-open April 6. Holy Name school will close at the end of classes March 24 and will resume April 6.

Accounting Procedures Newest Knot

By WILLIAM J. ARTHUR
Staff Writer

The Birmingham recreation board could easily adopt the popular hit tune entitled "Problems" as its theme song insofar as the Eton park skating rink is concerned.

Ever since the city commission first submitted a proposal to place an artificial ice skating rink under study in January, 1954, it has presented nothing but problems—mostly financial—to both the city and the recreation board.

MOST RECENT problem came up Monday when Recreation Board Chairman John S. O'Gorman, also a city commissioner, told the city commission the recreation department may go even further in debt on the city's artificial rink.

O'Gorman, who had just returned from an extended vacation, revealed this new problem just three weeks after recreation board trustee William Allee requested a \$1,000 appropriation to close and dismantle Eton Park skating rink.

A misunderstanding between the recreation board and the Detroit Edison company, which supplies the power to operate the freezing machinery, is the cause of the most recent deficit, O'Gorman said.

IN BUDGETING money for this year's operation, O'Gorman discussed the power needs with Edison.

"Of company representative forgot to include the fluctuating price of coal in his first estimates to us last fall," O'Gorman told city commissioners.

He believes costs may exceed another \$600.

Another factor in the current problem is that the recreation budget is kept on a weekly basis and the city maintains its budget on a monthly basis, according to the chairman.

"I don't think there will be an overall deficit at the end of the fiscal year, however," O'Gorman revealed.

"We should be able to make most of it up by the spring swimming and music programs," he said.

THE OVERALL picture, according to O'Gorman, is a bright one. "We may be able to come out on the plus side of the budget—not by much—but a little bit," said O'Gorman. "We may even be able to pick up some of the additional \$15,000 recently given us by the city."

When first planned, the rink was going to cost only \$10,000. Costs kept rising until the city commission finally submitted a bond proposal of \$125,000 to the voters in April 1955.

Then costs jumped up to \$174,820. On Feb. 6, 1956, after several weeks delay, the city formally dedicated its \$180,000 artificial rink.

TWO YEARS AGO, the recreation board revealed that the Edison company had installed faulty equipment that registered only 50 per cent of the power used.

Recreation board members taken back then when the power costs nearly doubled the following year. That's when they found the meter had corrected the installation error.

Thus far, the city's artificial ice skating rink has presented nothing but problems to recreation board members.

Ice skaters, however, have not complained. They enjoyed a wonderful skating season right up until March 1, the day the rink was closed for the season.

Mayors Exchange Committee Appointed
SEE RELATED STORY

Birmingham Mayor Carl F. Ingram Monday night appointed Richard Wilson, president of the Wilson Drug Co., 101 N. Woodward as chairman for the city's Mayor Exchange committee.

Commissioner Florence Willett and Robert Kenning, assistant city manager, were named co-chairmen.

The committee will cooperate to plan Mayors Exchange activities. Mayors Exchange day has been set for May 18.



DR. IRELAND
Dwight B. Ireland Honored By B'ham Library Board

Present and past members of the Birmingham public library board honored Dr. Dwight B. Ireland at his last meeting as a member of the board, March 12.

Dr. Ireland, superintendent of Birmingham schools, was appointed to the board upon his arrival here 17 years ago and has served on it ever since.

Dr. Ireland said he will not run again when his term expires in April because he has found it necessary to lighten the number of civic meetings he has to attend.

HIS SUCCESSOR on the April board will be Daniel A. Nesbitt, director of curriculum for the Birmingham schools.

In addition to the current library board, Dr. Ireland was named among former members Mrs. Louis Hascall, Mrs. John Lambie, Mrs. Graham Shinnick and Mrs. H. G. Wood.

To show their appreciation for Dr. Ireland's many years of service, the board presented him with a plaque on lighting, which is one of his hobbies.