

The Birmingham Eccentric



44 PAGES
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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

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Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

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\$180,000 Library Addition Gets Okay

City Can Handle Extra \$30,000

Birmingham will get its badly needed public library addition.

City commissioners, in a closed-door session preceding the regular city commission meeting, evaluated the city's capital improvement program and decided the city can finance the \$180,000 addition.

In their regular meeting, the commissioners told architect Linn Smith to re-design the bids. Original bids, together with fees, has brought pronounced construction to nearly \$200,000.

SMITH subsequently shaved about \$20,000 of specifications. It was advised that original general contracting bids be rejected and re-advertised.

Smith said new bids could be in by Sept. 21.

Mayor Harry M. Denyes explained how the city can handle the additional \$30,000 and estimated total of \$180,000 for the addition's cost.

"There were a number of capital improvements—streets, sewers, small bridges, and other projects which the city proposes to build," he said.

"These projects are not quite ready for development, so we can use a share of those funds for the library emergency. It will in no way impair our capital improvement program, we are confident."



Thirdclassman Ralph C. Conlan, 130 before the Air Force Academy's administration building, Harmon Hall.

Bloomfield Twp. Air Cadet Seeks Fighter Pilot Career

This is the second of three articles about your new U. S. Air Force Academy and the North American Air Defense command headquarters, both in beautiful Colorado Springs.

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—Your U. S. Air Force Academy has only two objectives:

First, to instill in its graduate a desire for a lifetime of military service to his country.

Second, to provide the best basic combination of educational, scientific, and military background on which this graduate will build his contribution to the future military air defense of our nation.

Thirdclassman Ralph C. Conlan, 130 Eilers, Bloomfield township, already has his flight career picked out—and this fall he embarks on the first real appreciative taste of academy routine.

Conlan has noticed the difference between his year at the University of Detroit and the air academy. (He went to the U of D for a year after turning down an alternate appointment to Annapolis.)

"I decided my future would be in the air," he explained.

HE SPENT this summer "re-covering" from the previous 11 months' rigorous experience as a fourthclassman, equivalent of a college freshman.

"It certainly feels good to have the pressure off," Conlan told this reporter on a visit to the academy a few weeks ago.

The trip was arranged with the aid of the Air Force Association's Norman Lyle Squadron of Birmingham. An assist came from the 408th Troop Carrier wing out of Selfridge Field.

"I want to be a fighter pilot!" he wants from the air force.

AS A WINDUP to his 19½ hours of math, chemistry, English, geography, military training and airman's life his first year, Cadet Conlan went through the sound barrier in a jet interceptor trainer during two weeks of pilot indoctrination this summer.

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HE WAS REWARDED in 1958 by Oakland Congressman William S. Bromfield with a principal's appointment to the air academy.

We cadets read the book first, then ask questions in class," Cadet Conlan explained. "In college, we listened to the professors, then read the book for answers to any questions we had."

"This method of 'learn-by-doing' pervades the air academy.

From their first weeks of training—when they are told about "survival methods" then cast loose in the Rockies' Rampart range to find their way back to the academy— to their final days as firstclassmen (or seniors), these cadets actually live in a laboratory.

THEY LEARN by doing, whether it is a chemistry or a leadership problem.

As fourthclassmen, they are told what to do, when, and how.

As thirdclassmen, they have the opportunity to watch the newest class behavior, and how the upperclassmen run the academy.

Professional officers only step into the discipline in rare instances. Otherwise, it is the firstclassmen, with some assistance from developing leaders among the secondclassmen, who "run the show."

CADET CONLAN'S day begins at 5:55 a.m. He eats, attends classes, drills and participates in athletics and studies until 10:15 p.m. when he can enjoy 7 hours 40 minutes of sleep.

This pace burns up an enormous 4,000 calories plus of food a day. No cadet gets fat.

The academy's first class was admitted in July 1958. This fall sees the first full class of 100 fourthclassmen. The academy thus in four more years will reach its planned corps size of 2,650 cadets.

WHEN EACH CADET is graduated, he will have the equivalent of 171 college credits. This is also (See CADET, Page 2-A)

\$5 Million in New Water Mains Coming

Seek Clues In Seaholm Vandalism

The Birmingham police department today is continuing its investigation in the Seaholm high school at a hard-hitting, determined pace, as it moves toward finding the vandals who ransacked the library, home economics rooms and boiler room sometime over the weekend.

The damage to the school was "the worst I've seen in the last 17 years," said police Lt. Robert Schaule.

THE VANDALS entered the school through a study hall window sometime between noon Saturday and 6:30 a.m. Monday.

They started their attack there ripping pages out of dictionaries, spraying a plastic book-cover coating material over everything.

FIVE YEARS of index-card filing were undone, said Detective Lt. Merlin L. Holmquist, when the cards were scattered around the room. Phonograph records were broken; books were knocked from the shelves; paper records were scattered around.

Oil was poured on plants and the shelves; paper records were scattered around the room.

The vandals made their way to the library where they smashed paste and ink bottles on the tables, sprayed a plastic book-cover coating material over everything.

A FEW TABLES were found floating in the swimming pool later that morning.

The gate at the north end of all parking lot was sawed in half.

The young culprit's fingerprints and all fuses from the fuse box in the boiler room. All boilers will have to be checked for safety reasons before they can be used, said Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, Superintendent of Schools.

A NOTE, carefully printed on a desk blotter seemed to indicate the vandals' remorse. It read:

"We didn't do it all, but two of us had to straighten things up. We're sorry.

Signed:
The Two of Us."

No accurate estimate of the amount of damage has been made. It is expected to cost \$100,000 or more.

'Sister City' Idea Liked By 9 Groups

Nine Birmingham community groups are interested in "adopting" a sister city in another part of the world, an exploratory meeting demonstrated Tuesday morning.

City Commissioner Florence Willett, acting for Mayor Harry B. Gray, presided over representatives of the nine organizations.

"They all indicated interest in getting a sister city as a means of aiding the U.S. effort for better communication between people of different countries," said Mrs. Willett.

SHE SAID SHE will contact 17 other local groups to see if they are interested in supporting the sister-city plan.

Next meeting of the group is Oct. 6, she said.

At the first meeting were representatives of these organizations: Lions, Kiwanis, Hi-12, Birmingham school, B'ham art association, League of women voters, B'ham council of churches, Village women's club, and B'ham girl scout council.

Asks Rezoning

Rezoning of property at 277 N. Bates from multiple housing to B-1 business is sought by owner of the property. The rezoning has been referred to the Birmingham plan board for study and recommendation.

All board of lower spring mattresses. One-day service. ROYAL MAT. Call for "Dial" '90 and ask for Birmingham 6210.

Southfield Is Principal Beneficiary



Another step toward a \$5 million expansion program which will double the water supply to Southeast Oakland water authority members was taken yesterday morning when the authority's board of directors checked on progress of articles of incorporation amendments which will permit the proposed expansion.

Several member communities week are expected to give tentative approval to the amendments.

FIRST REAL STEP in the expansion would come early next year with the issuance of an initial \$1 million in bonds.

This first money will provide a new \$500,000 main up Woodward avenue from 8 Mile to bolster the present main along that street.

Another half million dollars would be used to construct an additional storage tank at the authority's Webster avenue, (Royal Oak) headquarters.

THE ULTIMATE program would see large transmission mains into Southfield city in anticipation of expected growth.

Authority members were considering proposed amendments to rules which would permit the financing of this future program.

A authority manager-engineer Donald C. Egbert explained to Birmingham city commissioners Monday night how the changes will affect the communities.

HE SAID present contracts don't establish the means to finance future improvements. Therefore, bond buyers won't touch the financing.

THE SUGGESTED amendments would permit the authority to advance their ultimate water supply needs.

Members now are buying about 48 million gallons of water daily from Detroit. The future demand is expected to rise to 102 million gallons.

Members are paying approximately \$3,000 per million gallons as a future demand charge.

THIS AMOUNTS to about half the water cost. The remainder is paid through water rates in several communities.

"Customer rates will not have (See WATER, Page 2-A)

Jaycees Conduct Shopping Survey This Saturday

Birmingham Jaycees will conduct a pedestrian survey to determine where shoppers in the Birmingham area are from, this Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Shoppers in the downtown area will be asked brief questions as to not interfere with their marketing.

Jaycees stationed in the downtown area will ask where the shoppers live, where they are parked, to what store are they going and questions of a similar nature.

THE PURPOSE of this survey will be to gather information concerning the shoppers' needs, desires and habits.

Results of the survey will be turned over to the Birmingham planning department and the downtown merchants for further study. Information will be used in the future development and expansion of the downtown shopping area.

Set Court House Groundbreaking

PONTIAC—Groundbreaking ceremonies will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, after which work begins on construction of Oakland county's new court house at the service center site, just north of the intersection of Telegraph road and West boulevard.

The county board of supervisors awarded the contract this week to the O. W. Burke company, Detroit, for construction of the court house's first unit, to cost a total of \$3,064,700.

What Is the Up-to-Date B'ham Man, Woman Wearing?

See The Birmingham Eccentric's Special section on Fall Fashion With Next Week's Issue

This and That

by George R. Averill

The idyllic environment of the recent Steven Rockefeller-Ann Marie Eannussen romance presents a wedded state that millions of people pray will continue in matrimonial bliss. This Cinderella affair, bringing together a simple, wholesome, Norwegian girl of modest means with a son of one of this earth's richest families affords all the trimmings of romantic fiction. Its success can impact for good upon many, many human beings. May this train prosper?

Mother, hearing a great clattering and banging on the porch where small Bobby was playing, called out, "What are you doing?" "Nothing," answered Bobby. "What are you doing it with?" demanded mother—and a small voice answered: "With a hammer."

An Ann Arbor, U. of M. professor, William C. Morse, has suggested a new way for teachers "to spare the rod" and still maintain classroom discipline. His solution: give teachers the right to exclude real trouble-makers from class. Morse opposes corporal punishment in schools, "... hence his solution. "We can't all use one kind of church, one kind of store, or one kind of recreation. Yet we try to use one kind or another," argues the professor. (But, where do the "real trouble-makers" go, when excluded from class, professor?)

An Omaha psychiatrist, speaking during a symposium on the spring said: "A man spends his first 95 years preparing for the last 15."

This is success: To be able to carry money without having it burn a hole in your pocket. To be able to bear an injustice without getting back at somebody. To be able to do one's kind even when one is not watched. To be able to stick with a job until it is finished. To be able to make use of criticism without letting it whip you. (American Eagle Magazine.)

"They say" are two words that have done more harm than any other subject that can go with this verb. "They say" generally is a reference that is spewed in the desolate wastes of a gossiping mentality.

You're an Old-Timer if your dad tried to teach you the value of a dollar. In 27¢ says the idea really made cents.

To keep a clothesline from fraying, our Household Editor suggests that you use only a modern dryer.

U. S. Senator John L. McClellan, who heads the Senate Labor Relations Com., is convinced that "We now know that labor should clean its own house." But Senator does also mean that our famed U. S. Congress is just an important.

Ike Advisor To Open Series At Town Hall

Opening Birmingham's popular Town Hall series this year will be Arthur Larson, special consultant to President Eisenhower and director of the World Rule of Law Center, Duke University.

Dr. Larson speaks to the sold-out series next Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Birmingham theatre. His topic is "Motion picture, stage and TV sin." Vice President follows on Oct. 14 and 15, and the series concludes with Madam Pandit, India's Prime Minister Nehru's striking handsome sister, addresses the Town Hall audience Nov. 12 and 13. On Jan. 14 and 15, poet and humorist Ogden Nash will be featured.

JOHN J. AY, Rhodes scholar, prize-winning film photographer and a great-great-grandson of America's first Supreme Court chief justice, will bring his films to Town Hall Feb. 4 and 5.

Ending the season will be Barbara Ward, noted British author, who speaks here 25 and 26.

Mrs. George Cary is in a restful home of Birmingham Town Hall, Inc., which is sponsored by St. Anne's Church, St. James Episcopal church, Birmingham.

Basement Floodings In S'Central B'ham To Be Investigated

Recent home building in Beverly Hills and areas south may be causing a county drain on Southfield road to overflow, the Township residential basements in the Birmingham Blvd.-Shipman street area just above 14th road.

Most recent floodings were during the torrential rains of Aug. 29, 30 and 31.

Birmingham City Manager L. R. Gare said he will have the engineering department try to locate the exact trouble.

"I think the trouble is with our 14th culvert. But we will check first before making a definite decision," he said.

Gare said three sewers are going into a 30-inch Southfield sewer. It is to be inadequate to handle that large a volume.

Visitor's View of Air Academy

Dramatic view of the U. S. Air Force Academy is obtained from across the natural bowl in which the academy's athletic facilities have been constructed. Two practice football fields are at the bottom of the bowl. A stadium is planned further east. (out of picture to the left) from contributions by present and former air force personnel. Academy living and study area is on top of the hill in center of the picture. The Rocky mountains are in the background.