

Attention Men!

... new feature for you begins this week on the sports page. See Crossfire on page 8-E.

Thank You

... for good deeds, Methodists lead youngsters. See page 6-B.

Ruby For Ruth

... International connoisseur celebrates 40 years of instruction. See C, page 1.

Junior Birdmen

... going up. See page 1-D.

Doctor Delves

... into Belgian Congo. See page 1-E.

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This and That

by George R. Averill

A Class Reunion Turns Back Some Of Memory's Pages

Have you ever attended a grade school class reunion? One that allures other grade, none of which had left the shelter of school not later than 25 years ago—some were a half century?

I have ... did one day last week. My grade school is located in Cleveland, Ohio. Its name is Denison. It was my first school return to the scholastic scenes of my childhood since, happy with a diploma in hand, wearing the class colors of "apple green and white," I marched forth to "engage in combat" with whatever destiny had planned to deal me.

And I'm glad I attended this reunion ... though I must admit that Father Time, the inexorable sculいた, had changed considerably the appearance of those Denison graduates, some of whose names I still remembered.

AS THE YEARS continue, I often have tried to recall many incidents, many names that were part of my childhood environment.

Far away from them, both in years and in physical environment, I must admit that memory didn't reveal many chapters in my life's book. This, of course, I often regretted, for I've long been a student of the past, and I've often found myself in a predicament where I needed to visit some of the old friends, to re-instate myself as a valued and enriching asset to my mature years.

SOMEHOW, perhaps akin to the adult's conviction that "very little ever tastes as good as what Mom managed to put on the family table when I was a youngster," my memories of childhood are cherished.

Who knows but the reason they are so lovingly, endearingly remembered is because they were portions of the innocence and the irresponsibility of a normal guileless childhood?

MEETING A LONG forgotten classmate, immediately the conversation turned to the past. (See THIS & THAT, Page 2-A)

Helped to Trim Community House's \$17,451 Deficit

A conscience twinges netted the Birmingham community house, which has an anniversary this week, an additional \$40 as the roll passed its April 15 deadline, still short of its \$51,500 goal.

"I should like to increase our contribution for this year to the community house," a letter read. "We think that the community house is important in Birmingham's social and civic life," it went on.

Going to and fro in this yet imperfect society of human beings, one is indeed fortunate if he determines to make his own personal adjustment to the environment of which he is a part. Assuming that one has ideals and strives to achieve as many of them as he can ... the continuous effort of striving (not merely "wishing for") to bring them about will achieve much success. And striving itself is rewarding, too!

83rd YEAR—NO. 8

The Birmingham Eccentric

40 PAGES
APRIL 28, 1960

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

Ireland Sticks by Decision to Resign

NEW VOTE JUNE 13th ON MILLAGE

Gare Includes Tax Cut in New Budget

New Census Means More State Funds

Birmingham's municipal services will cost property owners slightly less next year, according to the 1960-61 budget recommendation which City Manager L. R. Gare will submit to the city commission next Monday evening.

Despite a \$110,084 increase, taxpayers will need to pay only \$19.20 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This year's rate was \$19.40.



B of E Gets Its Second Candidate

See Statement, page 7-D

There was another hat in the board of education ring this week as Albert C. Scott, 1901 Birmingham boulevard, announced his candidacy for one of the two seats on the Birmingham board of education becoming vacant in June.

Scott, national fleet sales merchandising supervisor for the Ford division of the Ford Motor company, joins E. Ross Hanson, also a Ford executive, who entered the race two weeks ago.

HOPING for better communications between the board and the voters, Scott will be vying for the seat of William C. Spence or Mrs. Dean Reier, both of whose terms expire in June.

Voters would have supported the four-man proposition if communications had been better, Scott said. He urged a re-vote on millage in the June election, in his pre-election statement.

BIRMINGHAM, he said something to hold its teachers, do something to reduce the ratio of students to teachers. Money for teachers' salaries must be realized through such actions as a partial withdrawal from the summer recreation program.

Misunderstandings about what or what are the "frills" must be cleared up through better communications, also, he said. His chief concern, he went on, (See B of E, Page 2-A)

Underground Work Is Dirt Cheap Today

A quarter of a million dollars worth of water mains and sewers for \$175,745.1 is a bargain Birmingham city officials haven't seen in many a year.

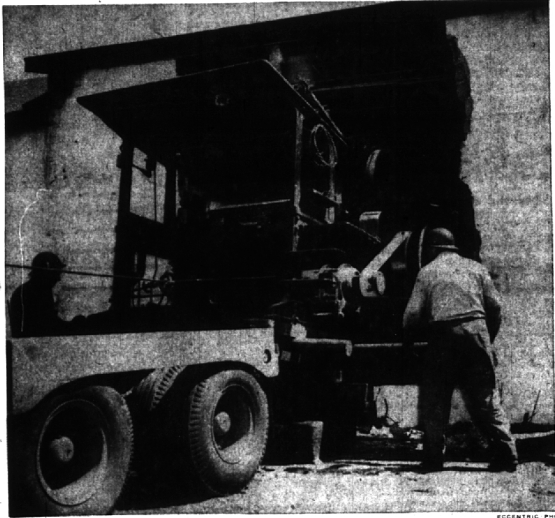
So they were most pleased Monday night to award contracts to three low-bidding firms which will build two transmission water mains and two sewer laterals.

Said City Manager L. R. Gare: "These bids are terrifically low. The contractors are just plain 'hungry'."

COMMISSIONER Lance C. Minor observed that prices today are at the rates they were about 15 years ago.

"And the mortality rate now is running about 80 per cent for firms which are worth a half million dollars or less," Minor said.

At Ange's, Police of Warren bid \$97,815 on a main up South-



This 41½x54 Miehle cylinder press leaves its old North Woodward pressroom for a new location in The Birmingham Eccentric's brand new building on Bowers street. The

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

In the Middle of Our Move

We're on our excited way to 1225 Bowers, Birmingham.

Today's issue of The Birmingham Eccentric is the last one published from North Woodward avenue. Future issues will be coming from the modern, \$250,000 Birmingham Eccentric-Averill Press building on Bowers, east of Adams. (We will be just across the street from the new A&P branch store.)

Composing room and pressroom started moving yesterday, and are continuing today. Tomorrow and Saturday all day the front offices will be closed while these departments pack up here, and unpack six blocks to the east.

Soil-Cement Roadbuilding Study Undertaken by B'ham

A substantial saving in construction and maintenance cost of city streets would result from using the soil-cement type, according to Birmingham City Commissioner Lance C. Minor.

He said a mixture of cement and earth has been used extensively in the South for more than a decade. He cited a number of communities which have found building and maintenance costs well worth the investment.

Minor explained the process con-

sidered a "door" was cut through the building wall so the press would not have to be dismantled completely.

When we leave North Woodward, Demery's department store will start demolition of our old buildings. Demery's new tri-level suburban store will go under construction, with grand opening set for early 1961, Demery's Golden Anniversary year.

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS we shall do in our new building is to hold some open houses so you can come and see our new home.

We'll be deciding the dates shortly after we have moved. Then we'll pass the word to you.

GEORGE R. AVERILL
Editor & Publisher

Yamasaki Wins 2 More Honors

Special awards from the University of Washington, Seattle, and Wayne State university, will soon be conferred on Birmingham architect Minoru Yamasaki.

These are the second and third honors he has received in a month.

Pierce Principal To Head State Group in June

Principal of Quanton elementary school, Birmingham, Barber will serve a one-year term and will succeed Pearl Trudgen, principal, Jefferson School, Battle Creek.

A department of the Michigan Education Association, the DESP is made up of more than 1200 elementary principals throughout the state.

It's Smith Vs. Smith In a Tangle of Wits

It's not easy being married to the author of "Low Man On A Totem Pole," "Life In A Putty Knife Factory," "Lost In The Horse Latitudes," and many other funny books—especially when you have him underfoot 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks of year.

So says Nelle Smith, also known as Mrs. H. Allen Smith, whose husband exasperates her more often than not because he thinks he's a mechanical genius, a great cook, and because he also has a "charming" way of eavesdropping on her telephone conversations.

HER HILARIOUS commentary on their life together—plus his views on what's like having HER around the house all day—leads the May issue of "Suburbia Today," which will be conveniently located between the pages of the May 8 edition of your Birmingham Eccentric.

The magazine is abloom with lively features this month. It starts off with the news column, "Getting Around," which introduces the startling fellow who wants to put broadness instead of grass seed on his lawn, the little lady who runs a "free lunch counter" for birds, and many other unusual and interesting people and events in the "pleasant places."

THERE'S A SERIOUS discussion of ways to improve a child's chances of staying safe on a bicycle. Some communities have solved their bicycle safety problems by licensing all riders.

1.9 Mills Requested; Ireland Leaves Aug. 1

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor

There'll be a second vote on increasing Birmingham school district operating funds, but this time for only 1.9 mills instead of 4.

And Dwight B. Ireland has refused to reconsider his resignation as superintendent, a job he's had here for the last 18 years. He will be leaving August 1.

THESE TWO DEVELOPMENTS came at a special 4-hour school board committee session Tuesday night at the Hill administration building.

In a statement Wednesday morning, Mrs. Peter B. Loomis, board president, said the new vote at the June 13 annual election would be for a 1.9-mill increase.

"We have tried to make the best decision we possibly can for the benefit of the entire school district," said Mrs. Loomis.

ON THE BOARD's behalf, Mrs. Loomis added:

"The board of education announces with regret that Dr. Dwight B. Ireland has decided not to withdraw his resignation.

"By mutual agreement then, he will leave his services as superintendent of the Birmingham school district on August 1, 1960.

"He has been a strong, able, and far-sighted school administrator for 18 years in this community, and we are truly sorry that he feels he cannot continue with us."

Then she made a personal comment, which thousands of people in this city who each year have been serving on the board, and in various school and community contacts of earlier years, has been a happy one.

"I admire his ability, his tremendous contribution to our schools and to our town, and value him warmly as a friend."

AT TUESDAY'S committee session, Ireland appeared before the board and confirmed his decision to resign.

He told The Birmingham Eccentric Wednesday morning, "There really was nothing for me to reconsider. Nothing has come up that would change my mind."

He submitted his resignation March 29, but was asked by the board to reconsider during a Florida vacation at the Easter recess.

HE SAID HE was making no comment now regarding his future plans.

"I just don't want to have to consider that right now," he emphasized.

He admitted he has received more than two dozen letters and wires offering him various educational opportunities elsewhere.

For the past year, Ireland has observed a growing tendency for the board to inject itself more and more into the actual administration of the school system.

THIS HAS NOT met with his approval. He is the "strong administrator" type, a fact which is largely responsible for his success in bringing Birmingham's school system to the point of national recognition in many phases.

The smaller millage increase, Mrs. Loomis said, would provide proposed increases in the teachers' salary schedule. Minimum now is \$4,500 for a beginning teacher with a bachelor's degree. It is desired

When Chrysler Corporation's board of directors hold their annual meeting today in New York City, they are expected to confirm or deny rumors that L. L. (Tex.) Colbert will become chairman of the board and William C. Newberg will be made corporation president.

The men, both Bloomfield Hills residents, have refused to comment on the probable changes.

The chairmanship has been vacant since the retirement of R. T. Keller in April, 1956.

NEWBERG is the most likely candidate to replace Colbert as president and chief executive. Newberg, who is 44, has been vice president since Colbert was succeeded Colbert in various posts since Colbert was general director of Chrysler division aircraft engine plant in Chicago during World War II.

Colbert, 54, has been associated with Chrysler corporation since 1933, serving first as a member of the board in 1934, where he was elected as a vice president in 1935.

Newberg, 49, has been with Chrysler since 1924, where he started as a test driver and mechanic. He was named executive vice president in April, 1958.

FOR MORE THAN a year now, rumors have insisted that a change would be made in the higher command and that the changes would come from within the corporation.

Last week, Colbert made his annual report, at which time he said his company was "definitely in the black" during the first quarter.

The exact profits will be announced at today's meeting of the board of directors. Last year Chrysler was \$4 million dollars in the red.

