

Birmingham Chosen for Home Experiment

Frustrated Stamp Buyers Vent Ire on P.O. Machine

By JULIE CANDLER
Special Writer

For two cents, some irate Birmingham citizens were saying last week, they would like to wrap up whoever was responsible for a certain stamp vending machine inside Birmingham Post Office.

Then they would mail that person to Postmaster General Arthur B. Summerfield.

Meanwhile, the irate ones were stamping their disapproval of the coin-operated vendor by writing notes on its "Out of Order" sign.

"Hoffa would have this thing fixed by now," said one stamp-starved citizen who didn't get to the post office while the stamp window was open.

LIKE HUNDREDS of others, the man who thought of Hoffa can't lick his stamp problems without that machine. He might work in Detroit, or travel. He might have a wife who can't find a babysitter during regular post office hours.

He goes to the post office late at night or on Sunday. He's fresh out of stamps and he has a letter to mail. Then he sees the "out of order" sign on the stamp machine. He feels like a housewife whose washing machine fixes after Junior has spilled the guppy bowl on her best tablecloth.

He might even feel like a guy whose car won't start just as he's starting on his honeymoon.

One thing is certain. The stampless one staring at "Out of Order" is frustrated.

POSTMASTER Roland F. Reese is frustrated, too, over the electronic whir kid of a machine. It blew its complicated stack, he will tell you, because of one tiny micro-switch thimble.

He'll even show you where the thimble fits into the machine's intricate controls, the thimble jams are currently available only in Chicago. Over three weeks ago, Reese explains, he reported the breakdown.

Then he waited, making frequent checks with the repair department in Detroit. He even made a long-distance cross-check with the man

in Chicago who stores thimblings. Meanwhile, people kept putting stamps on the sign on the machine. Birmingham postal employees had to keep putting up new notices saying "Out of Order."

Someone wrote, "Well, get it fixed!"

SOMEONE ELSE noted, "Why can't you get a good one?"

The next man wrote, "Yeah!"

"Ridiculous at this time of year," said another annoyed writer, "do you LIKE long lines at the stamp window?"

Another asked, "How long has it been—five weeks?"

B'field Property Owners Pass Sewer Pond Issue

By LES LANGLOIS
City Editor

Bloomfield Hills' property owners have left no doubt about the majority's desire to install an internal sewer system.

With Monday's 219 to 189 approval of a \$1,500,000 bond issue to finance the sewers, the city's pollution problem and embarrassing position with the courts has been resolved.

"The city commission is gratified at the election results," said Mayor Henry Woolfenden, "and particularly appreciative of the support of the voluntary citizens' committee which was organized to inform the citizens of the facts of the issue."

The proposal received 14 votes over and above the 60 per cent majority needed for passage. This represents an increase of 10 votes more than the slim margin of four obtained in the first general election in October.

THAT ELECTION had been deemed void because of a technical error in publishing notices of the election.

"Evidently there's no doubt that the majority of property owners want sewers," said City Clerk Robert J. Stadler. Stadler attributes the increase

Fewer Meetings Suggested for B'ham Commission

Birmingham's city commission may begin meeting every other week instead of every week.

At Monday night's meeting, Commissioner William E. Roberts called for a report from the city attorney on what charter changes would be necessary to bring this about. He felt shorter meetings would be necessary to bring this about. He felt shorter meetings would be necessary to bring this about.

City Manager L. R. Gare also asked for a report from the attorney on a possible charter change to have the city's codification of ordinances posted in the clerk's office rather than published. He cited the high cost of publication as his reason for suggesting this change.

The commission will meet Tuesday night next week and the week after because this Christmas and the holidays days legally fall on Mondays this year.

Parking Eyed As Problem In Birmingham

"What are we going to do about the parking problem which will be facing us with the advent of new business?"

This question was asked of the Birmingham City Commission Monday night.

In a letter to the commission, Frank W. Mulholland of the F. J. Mulholland Co., 238 N. Woodward, pointed out that Birmingham is losing a new department store—Demery's.

Mulholland said it is hoped this new store will "add much to our business, community and our city as a whole."

But, he said, "they are providing little or no parking for their customers and employees, which added to the problem we have now can harm our city as a shopping center and a wonderful place to live."

"CERTAINLY PLANS must be made as to where we go from here. We must try to arrive at a plan that will be fair and sensible to all parties involved."

Mulholland called attention to the Central Business District Development Committee's experimental mall as a step toward "a better Birmingham and a nicer place to shop."

He said the "setup we have now does not seem to do the trick and the new stores coming in want to be good citizens and do their part."

His letter was referred to the CBDDC.

Dog

(Continued from 1-A)

radiant-heated tile kennel," Dodd said.

ONE OF THE allowance-conscious youngsters asked who paid all the bills.

The Lions club and personal donations was the answer.

Dodd especially stressed the school's indebtedness to the Lions, "they supply almost 70 per cent of our funds," he explained.

AS THE REUNION drew to a close the Miller children and the handsome Leader Dog exchanged a contented farewell.

Don W. Wren, headed for their Birmingham home with Marsha commenting, "I think he turned out all right."

"Merry Christmas," was heard. It seemed a fitting conclusion as the dog strode to his new responsibility of assisting someone in need.

Jesus

(Continued from 1-A)

don't have as many things as I do."

Sixth grader David Bishop, 1312 Humphrey, may make mistakes in spelling but not in his heart:

"If I had to I would give my Christmas toy away and if I had to I would give my train away too and my bid give for being a nice boy and if I had to give my bed away I would not give it away for a thing because I would not have a place to lay down and go to sleep."

Carol

(Continued from 1-A)

very first Christmas when you were too small to remember.

you see, Carol, he lives in the smallest and the biggest piece of sky you left in a box. If you look hard you'll find him everywhere for he is the laughter in a riddle and the joy in a game boy and if he had vitamins and the sunshine in milk. He is the fun in a firecracker and the music in a raindrop and the speed in your skates.

HE IS THE squeak in your brand new shoes and the swirl in your party dress. He is at the bottom of every Christmas stocking and at the top of every rain-bow.

He doesn't need any food or care but he does need love and faith and trust. That you have, I know because you asked for a real elf for Christmas.

Don't ever lose him, and you will always have a happy heart.

Love,
Santa Claus.

Changes Approved

Birmingham city commissioners approved changes Monday night in the proposed articles of incorporation for the South Oakland County Garbage and Rubbish Authority. Three changes had been suggested by Birmingham, Lathrup and Madison Heights.

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Downtown Sidewalk Program Finished

Birmingham's 1960 downtown sidewalk improvement program is completed. It provided for reconstruction and replacement of sidewalk on Maple from Chester to Woodward and on Woodward from Brown to Oakland.

City commissioners Monday night appropriated an additional \$3,792.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to complete payment of the project. They had appropriated \$2,000.00 the city's share of the cost on Aug. 1 of this year.

Final cost of the entire project, including property owners' shares, was \$26,978.99.

Mystery Remains Unsolved; Who Is Our Benefactor?

The mystery of Tobias Jueca de Castro is still unsolved.

No answer has been received from the Brazilian Government Trade Bureau in New York to Tobias' identity.

Birmingham has sent several magazines and books about his native Brazil to be placed in Birmingham's Baldwin Library.

But it is not known whether he has done this in some official capacity or as a private citizen.

The Birmingham Eccentric has sent a clipping of its story to Tobias at his Rio de Janeiro address and is awaiting a reply. A letter inquiry was sent to the trade bureau last week.

Demery's Store Completion to Be Late in April

Completion of Demery's department store in downtown Birmingham may be delayed until late in April, it was revealed this week.

Charles A. Peck, president and general manager, said the building "is coming along beautifully but not according to schedule."

Plans were to open in early spring, Peck said.

"But it looks now," said Peck, "as though it will be late in April before we open."

"Originally, we were to have the building turned over to us this week so that we could begin installing fixtures, putting in flooring and counters. This work will take at least six weeks."

New Year's Party Planned By Teen-Agers

Completing plans for the semi-formal New Year's Eve dance, annually cosponsored by the Birmingham Department of Recreation and the Community House, this year's committee, under the direction of co-chairman Hap Dunne and Patty Mason, met for the final time Monday evening.

The teen-age dance "Silver Shadows," which will be held Dec. 31 from 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Community House, may be purchased at Grinnell's Music Store over the holiday season.

Unlimited Local Dialing Offered

A new residential telephone service that will permit Birmingham customers to dial calls throughout the metropolitan area at a special monthly rate has been proposed by the Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

The monthly rate of \$10.50 also will include the cost of one-party line service and unlimited calling within Birmingham's present local calling area.

At present, Birmingham customers like all other suburban customers—pay additional charges for all calls made to telephone outside their local calling area.

The optional, new Metro-Calling Service, first of its kind ever proposed by a Bell System company, will be offered in Birmingham on a one-year trial.

IN AN APPLICATION filed in Lansing last Friday with the Michigan Public Service Commission, Michigan Bell asked permission to put the new service into effect early next year.

The service that will be available to Birmingham residential customers will provide for unlimited calling to the metropolitan area after 6 p.m. daily, and all day on Sundays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days. Regular charges will apply for calls made at other times to telephone in the metropolitan area outside Birmingham's local calling area.

Birmingham customers with Metro-Calling Service will be able to dial calls for a special monthly rate to about half the telephone rates in Michigan.

THE SERVICE will be for private-line users but a second line to the home will not be necessary. Two-party line users desiring the new service will automatically be upgraded to individual-line service.

Albert H. Warner, local manager for Michigan Bell, said the new Metro-Calling Service is a step toward simplifying telephone rates and more efficiently meeting the service needs of customers.

Royal Oak was selected for the new service because it has switching equipment that can be easily adapted to the trial, Warner said. The community also is typical of the rapid telephone growth in the metropolitan area and the resulting

change in customers' telephone requirements, he said.

"THIS NEW service takes into account the changing trend in the calling habits of the general public," Warner said.

"The basic provisions of Metro-Calling Service will enable subscribers to call about half the telephone rates in Michigan for a special monthly rate.

Although the Detroit area has been spreading out," Warner said, "people who have moved to Birmingham still wish to retain their ties with friends and relatives who live either in Detroit or in other suburbs. The quickest and easiest method of maintaining contact, of course, is with the telephone.

"By introducing this new type of Metro-Calling we are attempting to satisfy our customers' desires to maintain those contacts as inexpensively and conveniently as possible."

COMMUNITIES in the metropolitan area that Birmingham customers will be able to call under provisions of the new service include:

Allen Park; Auburn Heights; Berkley; Beverly Hills; Birmingham; Bloomfield Hills; Bloomfield Township; Center Line; Clawson; Commerce; Dearborn; Dearborn Township; Detroit; Drayton Plains; East Detroit; Ecorse; Farmington Hills; Ferndale; Franklin; Fraser; Garden City; Grosse Pointe; Grosse Pointe Farms; Grosse Pointe Park; Grosse Pointe Shores; Grosse Pointe Woods;

Hamtramck; Harper Woods; Hazel Park; Highland Park; Huntington Woods; Insterke; Keego Harbor; Lake Angela; Lathrup Village; Lincoln Park; Livonia; Madison Heights; Melvindale; Mt. Clemens; Nankin Township; Northville; Novi; Oak Park; Orchard Lake; Pleasant Ridge; Plymouth; Pontiac; Redford Township; River Rouge; Riverview; Rochester; Romulus; Roseville; Royal Oak; Royal Oak Township; St. Clair Shores; Southfield; Southgate; St. Vincent; Taylor Township; Troy; Warren; Westland; Waterford; Wayne; Westland Township; Wixom; Wolverine Lake; and Wyandotte.

At this Holy Season it is a privilege to send Christmas Greetings to our many friends,

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Carol

(Continued from 1-A)

very first Christmas when you were too small to remember.

you see, Carol, he lives in the smallest and the biggest piece of sky you left in a box. If you look hard you'll find him everywhere for he is the laughter in a riddle and the joy in a game boy and if he had vitamins and the sunshine in milk. He is the fun in a firecracker and the music in a raindrop and the speed in your skates.

HE IS THE squeak in your brand new shoes and the swirl in your party dress. He is at the bottom of every Christmas stocking and at the top of every rain-bow.

He doesn't need any food or care but he does need love and faith and trust. That you have, I know because you asked for a real elf for Christmas.

Don't ever lose him, and you will always have a happy heart.

Love,
Santa Claus.

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