



THE NATION'S TOP
SUBURBAN WEEKLY
TEN CENTS

Ah, Sweet Spring
... and the latest fashions are pondered and priced in this week's special section.

Mixed Pix
... on photo page. See 1-B.

Music Music
... "Music Man's" in town. Birmingham residents lend an ear on page 1-C.

Dittim Dottum
... watum chu... they swam and swam right into second spot. Page 8-E.

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This and That

by George K. Averill
We Take a Two-Day Audubon Society Trip In Florida

On a recent brief stay in southern Florida Herbert H. Gardner, local banker, and I enjoyed an interesting two-day trip in quest of the rarities of the various subtropical birds found in that state. The trip was sponsored by the National Audubon Society, out of Miami. Such trips, costing \$30 per person, exclusive of meals and a one-night motor accommodation, must be arranged for in advance. Herb and I drove from Delray Beach to Miami where, at 8 a.m., we transferred our small luggage to one of the Society's station wagons. Our next stop was to be Plamingo, at Florida's most southern tip. En route our guide, Robert J. Loomis, made several detours where we saw flocks of Roseate Spoonbills, Egrets, Blue Terns, and numerous other birds.

ALSO, AS WE DROVE along Fern now and then stopped to point out land birds which we viewed through binoculars. After a lunch at the splendid restaurant in Plamingo, (built "State" Sam- tother with a large motel, marina, etc.) we retraced part of our route through the Everglades National Park and boarded a launch, taking to a small island (about 12 acres) in Lake Cocohatchee, to see a rare sight, 700-800 Wood Ibis, also familiarly (and formally) called "State". This island rookery literally was covered with these large water birds. Many of them had themselves, become the "proud parents" of young offspring. Quite a number of them flew back and forth to other nearby islands, returning with twigs, saw grass, and similar materials with which they made and repaired their nests. This was reached by traversing two other connected lakes, and was prohibited territory to fishermen so that the rookery would not be threatened with abandonment by the feathered population.

THE EVENING FOUND us at Tavernier, a small community at southern shore of Key Largo where we had dinner. Our guide planned for the next morning, to take Herb and me, plus our married couples on the trip, to see several island rookeries opposite Tavernier in Florida Bay. But during the night a cold northwest wind arrived and, when the boat trip arrived in the morning, the cold was too rough, the wind too cold—and no one as had brought winter clothing with us. So we had to forego that portion of the bird-viewing trip. Penn, however, proved to be an interesting and informed amateur ornithologist, and gave us quite a bit of data not only on the bird life, but included reference to much of southern Florida's bird life. Incidentally, on the trip we met (at a safe distance, of course) a dozen or so alligators and one crocodile.

So, if you're down Florida-way and want to put in a couple of profitable days, I suggest this Audubon trip.

All makes of inner spring mattresses available. Call ROY at 5-1000. TRES-CORP. Dial "O" and ask for Executive Office.

Pretending to be something that one is not is a most foolish effort. Such pretense, perhaps, is most often expressed in the areas of personal vanity. One may wish to make others believe he is rich in station or material wealth. Some may find security in pretending themselves to be more erudite, more versatile than they are. Many are the methods of pretense. Vain pretending is foolish.

83rd YEAR—NO. 2

Noted Scientist Moves Lab Here

Enzymes or Erin, He's Great on Both

By DENI SCANLON
Staff Writer

Did you ever catch a leprechaun? It's almost impossible to nab one of the witty, ingenious little men, but if accomplished a treasure is surely your reward.

For the first time in my life, I've caught one here. For the noted research scientist, Dr. William Francis Drea, who is indeed witty, ingenious and gregarious, left his Colorado Springs, 74-year-old gentleman, complete with his favorite green Alaskan headgear in January and moved to Birmingham where he now lives with his daughter and her family at 691 Pilgrim.

"I HAVE an excellent set-up here," he commented, as we toured the recreation room-laboratory in the comfortable Waldemar II. Adams home.

"My son-in-law is converting this room into a perfect laboratory," he said.

"Must one problem—what will the bugs do with that," he said jokingly, pointing at the bar.

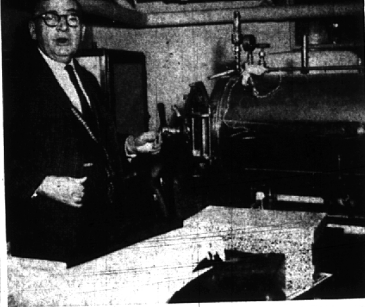
Dr. Drea's work in this Birmingham research center will be the continuation of his important discoveries in micro-biology.

Dr. Drea, a native of Cambridge, Mass., is a graduate of Harvard dental school and practiced dentistry in Boston. He was a member of the school faculty from 1910 to 1915.

After he moved to Colorado Springs, he practiced oral surgery and with his experience in X-ray diagnosis, he became an instructor and lecturer on X-rays at Colorado college from 1922 to 1941.

He also earned his medical license there by successfully completing the examination without

(See SCIENTIST, Page 2-A)



ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Setting Up New Lab Takes Much Work

At left, Dr. Drea is in the midst of unloading equipment from his laboratory in Colorado. With the help of his son-in-law, the new work area will be complete within a few weeks. Sorting through files of in-

formation (at right) that represent years of research, Dr. Drea commented, "One of these days, I'll have to sit down and write a paper from the results of these experiments."

Coombe Suggests 8 Improvements In Curriculum

Birmingham school officials today are studying proposed changes in junior and senior high school curricula, outlined in a program presented this week by school board member George W. Coombe, Jr.

Coombe also asked for changes in the operation of faculty curriculum committees and a more direct reporting to the board of teacher thinking on curriculum.

THE SUGGESTIONS, some of which may be incorporated in 1960-61 programs, are being studied by Birmingham Curriculum Director Daniel Nesbitt. Nesbitt's report, designed to emphasize the academic, suggested that:

- 1) Home economics, shop and art, for both seventh and eighth grades be elective, rather than required.

- 2) GENERAL SCIENCE be required for a full year during the eighth grade and no general science course be offered in the seventh grade.
- 3) The two-hour English and social science courses in both seventh and eighth grades be eliminated and separate courses be required in both.
- 4) French I and Spanish I be offered as electives in the eighth grades.
- 5) A SECOND English course, emphasizing composition, be required in the seventh grade.
- 6) His suggestions on the high school level included:
 - 1) French I be made available as a ninth-grade elective.
 - 2) GERMAN III be made available as an elective.
 - 3) All classes be rescheduled to provide at least one double period laboratory class per week for each course requiring laboratory work.

Although the programs have not been completed, Nesbitt said, they are already in effect, Nesbitt pointed out.

GERMAN III will be available at Seaholm high school in 1960-61, he reported, "but it's too early to say whether any of these suggestions can be implemented next year," Nesbitt went on.

Nesbitt is due to report the results of his study to the board March 29.

Coombe's suggestions reflect a change in thinking on the function of the junior high school, Nesbitt said.

"JUNIOR HIGH school has been traditionally regarded as a bridge between elementary and high school levels, offering a wide range of subjects, though to electives. It has been designed to test across many fields and to offer the basis for future choice of a career. The picture is changing now."

Have you been trying to think of the lucky number that's going to win the 1960 Ford Falcon? Could it possibly be 711, 212, or 55?

Well, put it down on one of the official "Shops in Birmingham" lottery forms available at any of the 61 participating stores.

THE RETAIL merchants of Birmingham want YOU to win their car. They only wish that every shopper could win.

This is the LAST DAY you may purchase a ticket.

The judges defy the most analytical of minds to FIGURE the total amount of rolls in the lot. SOMEBODY will win—why not you?

The winners of the contest will be awarded prizes in the lobby of the Birmingham Theatre Monday evening, March 21, at 7:30 p.m.

Why don't you enter now? It could be YOU driving away in the new 1960 Ford Falcon!

Only Few Hours Left To Try for Falcon!

Ready for that Easter parade? Picked that date to change the oil in the family car? Honed the lawnmower? Well, it's Spring! Or it will be at 9:30 a.m. Sunday. (What's with the snow? Why, it is lying

April Hearing Set On Business Uses In Multiple Zones

Deletion of business as an accessory use in R-1 multiple family zones will be considered April 15 by the Birmingham city commission. This ordinance amendment is recommended by the city plan board.

Chairman Robert W. Page explained the board feels there is the possibility of undesirable retail uses which might develop in the R-1 zone.

"This is impractical when located adjacent to the residential district," he said.

Manages a City

James L. Juhl, city assessor and administrative assistant for Huntington Woods, has been appointed city manager at Durand, Mich. He will assume his new duties immediately.

Juhl, after taking the Huntington Woods position three years ago, had been administrative assistant in Birmingham.

'Speedy' Suspect Awaits Trial Date

A 29-year-old tire thief suspect is awaiting trial and Bloomfield Township Police Chief Norman Dehke as both suffer from the aftermath of a chase through Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield township last week.

Robert Ballard of Baltimore, Md., who led Birmingham and Bloomfield township police on a wild 15-mile chase at speeds up to 100 mph, pleaded not guilty Monday to charges of larceny from a car before Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Clark J. Adams.

Ballard was accused of taking a Buick Wildcat from Birmingham Ramblers, Inc., during a demonstration ride. When a salesman tried to hold him for police, Ballard escaped, beginning a hot "cop and robber's" chase.

BIRMINGHAM Patrolman Darrell Brunstel pursued him to Lane Fine road where Chief Dehke cut in trying to sandwich Ballard's car to a stop between the two cut corners.

Ballard swerved down a side road forcing the Birmingham car into a snow bank, but Dehke backed up and continued the chase. He was aided by Patrolman Norman Stites of the township who had answered a radio call for help.

Both township policemen overtook Ballard at Woodward avenue after speeding through miles of winding roads in the township.

"BALLARD WAS driving south in the center lane between Stites and myself," Dehke said. "Stites dropped back a few feet and fired three shots; one punctured the tire. Dehke said the driver started to pull over to the right but took a sudden swing for a turn drive at the left. Ballard lost control of the car and it smashed into Dehke."

Trying to run from the scene, Ballard was halted when Dehke jumped from the damaged car and threatened to shoot.

Ballard was uninjured. Dehke was taken to St. Joseph Mercy hospital where he was treated for facial cuts, bruised ribs and leg lacerations.

Ballard was arrested last night by Bloomfield Hills and the township indicated they will seek a warrant as soon as Birmingham police have settled their claim with Ballard.

New Type Roll Call This Year

A new approach marks the Birmingham Community House annual fund-raising campaign, although the chairman Ralph E. Hunt, takes the reins of the "roll call" for the second consecutive year.

There is no house-to-house solicitation this year," Hunt said, "if the hope that saving the public the annoyance of the latter soliciting money, our courtesy will be rewarded with an abundant return by mail."

THE FIRST two days of the campaign, which runs from March 15 to April 15, have brought in a mail return of \$15,500.

The goal is \$51,500, "which we figure to be a realistic amount," Hunt said.

"Last year door-to-door solicitors collected \$6,000—of which they themselves contributed one-third, the second-term chairman pointed out.

VOLUNTEER workers—among them the Junior League, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Newcomers club, have sent out 18,000 pieces of mail. Business and professional offices, received 1,484 of those; private homes, 16,004, and organizations, 196.

This year's slogan, "The Open Door to Our Town," netted a prize for Mrs. O. S. Waud, 284 Tillary. Through this open door, Hunt pointed out, 150,000 persons passed in 1959.

"Those who may have misplaced the memo we sent, can just mail a check to the Birmingham Community House," Hunt said.

Hear Local Voices In Region Planning

Two Birmingham area municipal administrators will take part in panels at the 10th Annual Planning and Zoning conference of the Detroit Regional Planning commission, March 24.

Herbert Herzberg, Birmingham city planner will take part in a zoning administration panel. Arno J. Aronson, will be on the panel of the north of Bloomfield city. June 13 was set for the hearing.

Builders Request Hearing on Their 3-Story Apartments

Wallace Newton Co. wants a hearing on its request for rezoning to permit a three or four-story apartment building on Woodward, north of Bloomfield city. June 13 was set for the hearing.

She'll Be Comin' Round the Bend To End an Era

You can take a ride worth telling your grandchildren about Sunday, March 27. The last steam engine to huff and puff down our railroad tracks in the United States will leave Birmingham's Grand Trunk Western railroad station at 2:11 p.m.

The last of the steamers will haul extra cars to accommodate the nostalgic passengers who want to take pictures or tape-record the nation's last steamers. Wichman said a special permit is necessary before such requests can be granted.

For the final round trip, Wichman said, "Crying towels will not be furnished."

Edward Kane, executive secretary of both the state tax board and the state equalization board, said Tuesday afternoon that an approval of the state equalization board next May.

"In the case of Oakland County, which has consistently good equalization procedures—the increase may be less than 10 per cent," Kane said when The Birmingham Eccentric phoned him in Lansing.

Tickets Sold Out, Town Hall Advises

Birmingham Town Hall season tickets have been sold out Tuesday afternoon that an approval of the state equalization board next May.

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Will Adjust Millage To New Valuations, Says School Board

By GEORGE W. AVERILL
Managing Editor

If the state tax equalization board boosts the property valuation of the Birmingham school district—and it will—then the Birmingham board of education will adjust its millage to obtain only an additional \$761,000 yearly.

This pledge was made Tuesday night by Board President Mrs. Peter B. Loomis on behalf of the board.

Said Mrs. Loomis: "The amount required above the current year's budget to improve salary schedules, enlarge the teaching staff, and provide instructional materials, as proposed at this time, is \$761,000."

"IF THE FOUR mill operation increase is voted (March 28) and later this spring there is either a change upward in state equalization or a more favorable allocation of the 15 mills than our present (2.28 mills), the board of education will adjust the millage actually levied so as to produce only \$761,000 in increased property tax revenue."

Tax Boost To Benefit Curriculum

Passage of the 4-mill operating tax levy March 28 will allow the Birmingham schools to cooperate with the national defense education act, buy new instructional material, purchase additional library books for the high school libraries, and provide for inservice training programs according to the members of the board of education.

All members of the board are urging citizens to vote affirmatively in the forthcoming election.

The millage increase will provide salary increases to teachers and to other school employees, as well as for the hiring of approximately 50 new instructors to help reduce the pupil-teacher load in the Birmingham schools.

The main qualification was that matching funds to provide these services had to be available. Birmingham was not able to do previously.

If the 4-mill tax increase goes through as expected, funds will be available to improve the instructional program in mathematics, foreign language, and science in both the elementary and secondary schools. Board Member George W. Coombe, Jr., said this week.

It's Only 72 Hours Till Spring

Ready for that Easter parade? Picked that date to change the oil in the family car? Honed the lawnmower? Well, it's Spring! Or it will be at 9:30 a.m. Sunday. (What's with the snow? Why, it is lying peacefully on the hillside at the corner of Elm and Maple, Birmingham. The old farmer's almanac says it's going to be a colder summer, too.)

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