The Birmingham Eccentric

84th YEAR—NO. 5 | 36 PAGES | APRIL 6, 1961 | BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN | SECTION A

The Nation's Top Suburban Weekly — TEN CENTS

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

Behind Our Front Page

If you were able to sit down and listen to the words and experiences of some of this world's great men and women, no doubt you would willingly do so. Many of these people (indeed, most of them) already have passed on to their eternal reward . . . but many of them have left books for us to read, enjoy, perhaps profit by. Do you read many good books? Do you encourage your children to read?

Career Rockets

. . . from youthful space craze. Story and photograph on Page 1-E.

Mid-Century Look

. . . created by architecture is on display at Cranbrook. Picture story on Page 1-D.

Young Scholar

. . . to give on-the-spot interpretation of test ban talks. Story on Page 1-C.

How Much

. . . Income Tax Is Birmingham Paying? Story on Page 5-B.

Amusements	6-E
Bits of Birmingham	2-A
Business Briefs	B
Campus News	5-D
Church	6-B
County Column	1-D
Down to Earth	7-B
Editorials	8-B
Legal Notices	8-A
Nature Now	7-B
Obituaries	4-A
Real Estate	E
Round the Towns	E
Sports	8-E
Theaters	6-E
Woman's News	C, D
Want Ads	6, 7-A
Youth and Education	4-D

54 B'ham Curriculum Changes Advised

Two Newcomers Win B'ham-Hills Elections

By LES LANGLOIS
City Editor

See Table 5-A
Other Election Stories 1-E

Political newcomers came within two votes of making a clean sweep over Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills incumbents for city offices in Monday's elections.

Of the three newcomers contending, Carl F. Fischer lost out to former mayor Ralph A. Shaw and incumbent Robert W. Page for Birmingham's City Commission while Arthur J. Underwood Jr. joined incumbent Edwin S. Snyder in victory over incumbent Charles B. Kass for Birmingham's Library Board.

Newcomer Robert A. Frye shared victory with incumbents Jack S. Bugas and Lyman J. Craig over veteran Dominick Vettraino for Bloomfield City Commission.

FISCHER, WHOSE tally of 3,061 fell just two votes behind Main's 3,063, has not decided whether he will petition for a recount.

"I really don't know," he said, "but I'll probably make up my mind by Friday."

The law allows six days from the date of the official canvas to petition recount. The canvass will be conducted by city commissioners Thursday evening when the count becomes official.

Page collected the most Birmingham commission votes, rallying for 3,513.

It was a different story in the Library Board race as challenger Underwood's 3,326 votes topped Snyder's 2,803.

BLOOMFIELD'S COMMISSION contest saw Frye's 387 votes upset Vettraino's 305.

"That's the way the cookie crumbles," said Vettraino, who after losing a commission post by a handful of votes in 1953 served three consecutive terms since winning in 1955.

"You hate to be beat," he said, "but I'm not sorry, really. Besides, I'm adult enough to know that someone had to lose."

Bugas led Bloomfield winners with 463 votes, followed by Craig with 419.

Incumbents Homer J. Murphy and Alva J. Richardson, who were unopposed for Bloomfield's constable and justice of the peace posts, continue in office.

BOTH COMMUNITIES favored the two state proposals voting 5,327 to 700 for Con-Con and 2,873 to 2,629 for state aid to projects in Birmingham and 577 to 102 for Con-Con and 321 to 310 for state aid in Bloomfield.

Although Oakland County votes on state proposals reflected this mutual agreement, 77,541 to 30,381 for Con-Con and 55,841 to 45,767 for state aid, only the Con-Con proposal won out in statewide polling, 610,454 to 562,006 as of Tuesday. Overall state voters turned thumbs down on the state aid proposal, 559,218 to 594,889 as of Tuesday.

The next step toward Constitutional Convention will be a partisan primary July 25 to nominate delegates to the convention.

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OF THE FOUR local candidates for state offices, three emerged victorious. The following state totals include 5,000 or more of 5,078 state precincts reporting.

C. Allen Harlan (D) won a seat on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees with 621,090 votes but ranked last in Birmingham with 1,578 and third in Bloomfield with 119.

Although Thomas B. Adams (R) narrowly defeated Ralph E. Richman (D) 602,536 to 600,471 in statewide votes for the Wayne State University Board of Governors, he swept Birmingham with 5,244 and snagged Bloomfield with 657.

Controversy exists in the Adams-Richman race, however, since the wire services differ in their counts.

JUSTICE HARRY F. Kelly topped all contenders in the non-partisan state Supreme Court justice race with 647,982 state votes, but pulled away from John R. Dethmers by only 99 votes in Birmingham and 26 in Bloomfield.

James C. Zeder (R), the only local loser in state competition, placed third for the University of Michigan Board of Regents with 599,402 state votes. He rated first in Birmingham with 5,284 votes and first in Bloomfield with 681.

Birmingham had its largest turnout for a spring election with 6,599 of 14,803 registered voters or over 44 per cent casting ballots. This compares with only a 19 per cent turnout last year. Closest turnout within the last six years was 43 per cent in 1955.

BLOOMFIELD VOTERS made a similar showing with 770 of 1,499 registered voters reaching the polls. Bloomfield's 140 absentee ballots accounted for almost 10 per cent of its total votes to give Bloomfield a record absentee vote for a spring election.

At the county level, an estimated 115,457 of Oakland's 334,455 registered voters turned out at the polls.

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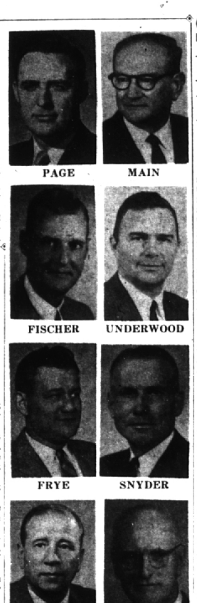
PAGE — MAIN
FISCHER — UNDERWOOD
FRYE — SNYDER
BUGAS — CRAIG

This and That

by George R. Averill

Quo Vadis?—Where Goest Thou, Sir Mister President

Together with millions of other Americans, we had high hopes that President John F. Kennedy really meant it when he said: ". . . don't ask your country what it can do for you—ask yourself what you can do for your country."

Those were very brave words. They suggested that the new President had recently read a book titled: "Profiles Of Courage", authored by John F. Kennedy, of Massachusetts.

Since his inauguration address, however, our young White House occupant appears to have wandered from the above utterance. Already he has launched his administration on courses that are destined to increase general taxes, at the same time increasing the dependency of the citizenry upon certain governmental hand-outs. How can this program result in other than the further cheapening of the dollar? And the weakening of our National character?

SINCERELY, WE join all who hoped that President Kennedy would perform in a manner that would reject those negative "paseaes" of past administrations, We had hoped he would not resort to the past's failures.

Unless he changes his course, according to authorities and experts on the various subjects, Kennedy and a supine Congress will fail to achieve economic, social and political soundness—achievements which, over and above all else, are necessary to restore self-reliance, self-sacrifice and the conscience of self-dedication — virtues that are required to perpetuate true self-government as a republic.

ALTHOUGH WE DID not vote for President Kennedy, we accept and respect him as our nation's Chief Executive. We wish him every possible success—indeed, we have said frequently in conversation with friends: "Honestly, sincerely, we would glory in Mr. Kennedy's successful efforts to lead our country, and others, to peace and prosperity. We would pray that he may become one of our nation's greatest Presidents!"

A. F. Power Named to VP Post at GM

A. F. POWER

The Board of Directors of General Motors has elected Aloysius F. Power a vice president and general counsel of the corporation.

Power succeeds Henry M. Hogan, who retired April 1 under provisions of the General Motors retirement program. Power lives at 420 Dunston, Bloomfield Hills, and Hogan at 444 Arlington, Birmingham.

Power joined the General Motors legal staff in New York in December, 1927. Ten years later he was transferred to Detroit as assistant general attorney for the corporation, a title which was changed to assistant general counsel in 1947.

BORN IN Worcester, Mass., he was graduated from College of The Holy Cross in 1923. He became a teacher at Fordham Preparatory School. He took graduate studies in business administration at the evening school of New York University for a year and then studied law at the evening school of Fordham University Law School, receiving his degree in 1927.

During the 10 years he was in New York, Power working under Hogan, handled the legal problems and litigation of the New York branch and zone offices of General Motors and its subsidiaries, with special assignments in tax, labor and stock transfer areas.

HE IS A lay trustee on the board of trustees of College of The Holy Cross and a member of the American Bar Association and Detroit Bar Association. He is also a member of Bloomfield Hills Golf Club, Detroit Athletic Club and The Recess.

Power and his wife, have a daughter and a son.

Romney and Van Dusen To Seek Con-Con Seats

George Romney of Bloomfield Hills and Richard C. Van Dusen of Bingham Farms have both announced that they will be candidates for nomination as delegates to the Constitutional Convention from the Fourth District of Oakland County.

Van Dusen has announced that he will seek Republican nomination.

Romney, who is chairman of Citizens for Michigan, has not indicated whether he will seek nomination as a Republican or as a delegate-at-large.

Romney was an early and staunch supporter of a Constitutional Convention.

He is president of American Motors Corp. and founder of Citizens for Michigan, a nonpartisan citizens group interested in better government for the state.

An attorney, Van Dusen, 35, is a former member of the Michigan House of Representatives, having served two terms. He completed his service in the legislature in 1956, when he was Republican nominee for attorney general.

VAN DUSEN has long supported the holding of a Constitutional Convention. He is a member of the board of directors of Citizens for Michigan and a member of its study committee which recommended Con-Con over a year ago.

In addition to long-time service in the Republican Party both in Oakland County and at the state level, Van Dusen has been active in civic affairs.

He is a member of the board of directors of Boys Republic, Inc., Farmington, and Big Brothers of Oakland County.

He is a member of the vestry of Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, and has been a trustee of Episcopal City Mission Society of the Diocese of Michigan.

Sewage Plant New Home of Art Group

See related story 7-B

It's definite now—Bloomfield Art Association is going to have a new home.

Birmingham city commissioners formally approved Monday night a lease agreement with BAA for the deactivated sewage treatment plant, 1516 S. Cranbrook.

The association will convert it into a community art center.

Commissioners also accepted the low bid of $1,800 for demolition of BAA's present quarters at 361 N. Woodward, Oakland County Republican headquarters, 351 N. Woodward, and a structure at 277 N. Bates.

These three buildings are on property bought by the City for Municipal Parking Lot No. 5.

On recommendation of City Manager L. R. Gare, commissioners accepted the low bid of $1,396 for revision of plumbing facilities in the treatment plant.

BOTH BAA and the City will be engaged in renovations necessary to make the plant available for occupancy by BAA by April 10.

Terms of the lease include a rental period of 25 years at $1 per year and a provision that any time after March 31, 1968, the City may terminate the lease if the building is needed for some municipal use.

The lease outlines the work to be undertaken by BAA and to be completed by Jan. 1, 1963, including deodorization, installation of a new heating plant and certain interior repairs.

BAA president Robert Bender told commissioners that a new heating system to heat the entire building has been ordered.

THE LEASE calls for the City to enlarge the present parking lot to provide space for 60 cars. The City will be responsible for a number of other exterior repairs and services.

Included with the plant are 400 square feet of land surrounding the building to be used by BAA.

The commission has granted BAA tentative approval last week.

On motion of Charles Renfrew, the commission Monday night authorized the mayor and clerk to execute the lease agreement.

B'ham Rotary Will Host Area Confab

Over 300 Rotarians from 48 Southeastern Michigan and Southern Ontario clubs will converge on Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills Sunday and Monday for the annual conference of the 638th district of Rotary International. Birmingham Rotary Club will host the two-day event.

Birmingham president Clarence W. Kraft will preside over the conference. Among Birmingham participants will be the Rev. Glenn Harris of the First Presbyterian Church who will deliver the invocation, Mayor Florence H. Willett who will welcome the guests, and master of ceremonies Art Blakeslee.

Representing the president of Rotary International (J. Edd McLaughlin of Ralls, Tex.) will be Dr. J. Martin Klotsche, provost of the University of Wisconsin, who will address a meeting and governor's banquet Monday.

OTHER PROGRAM highlights include a report by District Governor John MacPherson of Ridgetown, Ont. and a luncheon talk by past District Governor Joe Brady of Howell.

In addition, special ladies' programs will be held for the wives of visiting Rotarians. One of these programs will be a luncheon sponsored by the Birmingham Rotary Anns at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Township.

"We want this convention to be inspirational, educational and enjoyable," said Kraft.

The annual conference is designed to review Rotary service activities and make plans for increasing the clubs' future effectiveness.

Study Unit Ends 3-Yr. Ed. Report

By LES LANGLOIS
City Editor

After three years of detailed study of Birmingham's school system, a citizens' study committee made up of representatives of 14 area Parent-Teacher groups Saturday submitted its report of recommendations to the Birmingham Board of Education.

These recommendations along with the comments and advice of some 20 college presidents are serving as the base of a five-day community-wide educational planning conference in Birmingham this week.

Although familiar in its purpose to appraise the effectiveness of elementary and secondary schools, the conference, consisting of educators, students, businessmen and citizens, is unique in being the first of its kind in the Birmingham area.

COMBINING WORK of the past with efforts of the present, the conference, sponsored by the Administrative Council of Birmingham Schools under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Otis M. Dickey, provides an approach to future educational progress.

Originating in 1958 at the request of former superintendent Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, the Citizens Curriculum Study Committee was appointed by the Birmingham Parent-Teacher Association Council to undertake a study of the curricula of junior and senior high schools.

With Kenneth A. Meade as chairman and James B. Hinkamp and William J. King as vice chairmen, the 18-member steering com-

(See REPORT, 7-A)

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Staff Suggestions For Schools Listed

Curriculum recommendations drawn up by teacher-administrator committees of the Birmingham School District were reported to the community-wide education conference the district is conducting at Groves School this week.

The teacher-administrator staff concurred in recommendations listed by a citizens committee and also made several of their own.

These are condensed as follows:

1) INCREASED use of grouping or sectioning.

Greater need for grouping apparently exists in secondary schools where differentiated programs in English, math and science are sought to effectively handle the wide range of ability that appears among local students.

2) DEVELOPMENT of honors and accelerated courses at the secondary level.

Emphasis on grouping comes from continued requests for special classes, which prove to be quite rigorous, for capable students. Courses, programs are designed for the exceptionally bright students.

3) INCREASED emphasis on in-service training.

New courses must be supported by improved teacher competence; in other words, by better informed teachers. Need exists for special workshops and courses to bring teaching levels up to modern courses. Even teachers just out of college may need additional training.

4) ADDITION of supervisory personnel and consultants.

Departmental chairmen are recommended in all secondary schools where staff size warrants their use. They should supervise work of teachers, interpret and direct the teaching of the existing program and assist in revision when necessary. Consultant help is needed at the elementary level.

5) ADDITION of courses to the curriculum.

Requests are numerous for new courses and new emphasis on existing ones. Advanced biology; French, Spanish and Latin for grade 8; home planning as a substitute for homemaking 3 and 4

(See SUGGESTIONS, 7-A)

Chamber Sets Annual Dinner For April 19

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce will have its annual dinner party at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19 at Devon Gables, it was announced today.

One of the highlights will be presentation of the three winners in the Birmingham Merchants Travel Contest, sponsored by the chamber's Retail Merchants Division and The Birmingham Eccentric.

A humorist with a reputation in the Middle West, Dr. Richard C. Bates, of Lansing, will be guest speaker.

RESULTS OF an election to three seats on the chamber's board of directors will be announced at this meeting. Serving on the nominating committee appointed by president Harvey Kresge are Paul Kurth, Roland Reese, Arthur Blakeslee, Aaron Kershenbaum, David Underdown and William Allan.

Directors whose three-year terms are expiring are Richard Fischer, Thomas Monahan and Eugene Parmenter.

The three newly elected directors will then meet with the other six before May 1 to choose officers for the new fiscal year.

FIRST PRIZE winner in the contest was Birmingham policeman Richard H. Thomason, who won a 12-day trip to the Caribbean.

Second prize, a weekend for two in New York, went to Dirk N. Anderson, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Anderson, 759 Hazelwood, Birmingham.

A housewife, Mrs. R. F. Ganiard, 740 Henley, Birmingham, captured third prize, a weekend cruise for two on the Great Lakes.

Members of the board of directors served as judges.

Chamber manager Charles Mortensen said the annual dinner party is an open meeting for wives, friends, guests of chamber members.

All makes of inner spring mattresses repaired. One-day service. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for ENterprise 6310.

Eccentric Offers Special Feature Page Every Week

The Birmingham Eccentric this week introduces a special page of Features for its readers.

On this page will be found three outstanding articles that appear regularly in The Eccentric—plus one other local feature and picture of considerable interest and news value.

YOU WILL find on this page each week Down to Earth, by Alice W. Burlingame, and Nature Now, by Lydia King Frehse—two columns of longstanding in The Eccentric.

Also, you will find that sparkling new personality series, Weekly Visit, by staff writer Irma N. Davis.

This week and every week you find these readership values on the same page, 7-B—the page of Features—in your Birmingham Eccentric.

3-Year Study Outlined at 5-Day Meeting

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor

Three years of intensive citizen-investigation, study and evaluation of the Birmingham public school system's academic curriculum culminated this week in 54 recommendations to modernize the teaching program so it meets today's demands and needs of a scientific and technological society.

If the proposals are accepted and supported by the school district residents, future graduates of the Birmingham system will have tremendously increased opportunities to develop their abilities.

IT ALSO WILL HAVE a future impact on the taxpayer's pocketbook, depending on what particular recommendations and how many of them are worked into the system's curriculum.

The committee admitted it made no attempt to put a price tag on any of the recommendations.

"This was not part of our effort," explained Kenneth A. Meade, 26725 Captains Lane, Franklin, chairman of the Citizens Curriculum Study Committee.

HE SAID the committee objective only was to evaluate the present curriculum in the light of today's scientific and social demands and needs.

The study report was presented during a unique four-evening program of 175 representative citizens, administrative staff, faculty and committee members.

THE CONFERENCE began Monday and concludes Friday. Daytime sessions are being attended by staff and faculty, while citizen-guests attend a dinner and evening session.

The conference is being held at Groves High School, Evergreen and 13 Mile, Beverly Hills.

HERE ARE THE 10 recommendations which Meade said were common to the five sub-committees on English, foreign languages, mathematics, science and social studies which comprise part one of the curriculum report:

1) The school administration take steps to reorganize the staff of the school system and to adopt some form of departmental organization to insure (a) closer supervision of the work of individual teachers, (b) adequate assistance to individual teachers particularly those new to the school system, (c) better coordination of the course offerings within and among all secondary schools, and (d) closer coordination of each subject matter area throughout all levels of the school system.

2) USE OF homogeneous grouping of students in individual academic subject courses in the secondary schools in all cases where enrollment in the course permits.

3) Consideration be given to the structuring of all academic curricula similar to that being done successfully in the areas of mathematics and English.

4) Consideration be given to the development of elective honors courses in the academic subject matter areas for which advanced

(See MEETING, 5-A)

Report Lists B'ham School Improvements

Recommendations concerning the Birmingham school system as outlined in the Citizens' Curriculum Study Committee report of April 1, 1961, and which are being considered by the educational planning conference this week are as follows. (Those recommendations marked with an asterisk have been completely adopted by the school system, while those marked with a dash have been only partially adopted. Adoption of several of the recommendations is planned for the coming school year while still others will require additional study.)

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. — 1. The school administration take steps to reorganize the staff of the school system and to adopt some form of departmental organization to insure (a) closer supervision of the work of individual teachers, (b) adequate assistance to individual teachers particularly those new to the school system, (c) better coordination of the course offerings within and among all secondary schools, and (d) closer coordination of each subject matter area throughout all levels of the school system.

*2. Use of homogeneous grouping of students in individual academic subject courses in the secondary schools in all cases where enrollment in the course permits.

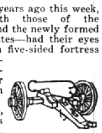
— 3. CONSIDERATION be given to the structuring of all academic curricula similar to that being done successfully in the areas of mathematics and English.

— 4. Consideration be given to the development of elective honors courses in the academic subject matter areas for which advanced

(See COMMITTEE, 5-A)

100 Years Ago—Crisis Before War Broke Out

One hundred years ago this week, Americans — both those of the United States and the newly formed Confederate States—had their eyes turned toward a five-sided fortress on a small island in the middle of the harbor at Charleston S.C.



For there, within the wells of Fort Sumter, the "irrepressible conflict" between the Northern and Southern States over states' rights and slavery was coming to a crisis that soon would explode into Civil War. Although the people had no way of knowing it, the conflict was to erupt within a week.

THE AMERICAN Civil War, which followed from April 12, 1861, through April, 1865, has captured the imagination of Americans more than any other war.

Those who enjoy reading of glory, battles and romance, as well as military strategists, historians and scholars, have studied the Civil War for a century, but still the public desire to read and learn about it grows.

Now, the opportunity to satisfy this appetite for information about the Civil War appears to be at hand as Americans begin a mammoth, four-year Civil War centennial observance.

THE BIRMINGHAM Eccentric, as part of this observance, will give its readers a full and unique history of the Civil War, carried in weekly installments.

Each installment will tell of the events, personalities, drama, excitement, color, significance and tragedy of the week exactly 100 years before.

Begin the habit of reading this unusual and fascinating history next week with its first installment in this newspaper. You will find each story a dramatic and accurate account of the people, the battles and skirmishes and the little items of human behavior that made up the war.

And in the process, you will find yourself absorbing much of the history of that war. If you wish, clip each installment and in four years you will have a chronological history of the war unlike any other ever published.

THE AUTHOR of the series is Lon K. Savage, experienced newspaperman on the city desk of The Richmond Times-Dispatch in the capital of the one-time Confederacy.

Savage, a history graduate of Cornell University who has pursued his interest in history during his professional career, has based his series largely on research in hundreds of Civil War volumes and records found in Richmond.

As you read this series, remember that exactly one hundred years ago this week, notes were being sent back and forth between Washington, Richmond, Montgomery and Charleston in last-minute attempts at negotiations to prevent war.

That those attempts failed is well known. The dramatic results of this failure is the subject of next week's story: "The bombardment at Sumter."

A Call To This Number

MI 4-1100

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