

5c Per Half-Hour Rate Established For Lot No. 5

Motorists using Municipal Parking Lot No. 5 in downtown Birmingham when it's completed in August will pay a rate of five cents per half-hour.

established the rate of five cents for the first half-hour, five cents for each additional half-hour or \$7.50 per month for those using the lot on a monthly basis.

THIS WILL BE the first City parking lot to charge five cents per half-hour. All others are five cents per hour. Some parking metered spaces at street corners, however, have a rate of five cents per half-hour.

Lot 5 will be operated by an attendant and will not have meters.

9-Hole Golf Course Asked On Sewage Plant Property

By **KEN WEAVER**
News Editor

To what uses should the 66 acres of land surrounding Birmingham's former sewage disposal plant be put?

Should a golf course be built there? Should picnic facilities be installed? Should the property be used for a variety of recreational activities?

These are questions facing city commissioners today.

A petition containing some 1,500 signatures was submitted to commissioners Monday night asking for development of a nine-hole municipal golf course on the property.

The petition was referred to the city manager for study and report.

LOU SHARKOFF, representing the Springdale Golf Association advisory board, said steady increase in golfers at Springdale Park has made a new course necessary.

He said a "revenue-producing, self-sustaining" facility could be established.

But he ran into opposition from Commissioner William H. Burgum, a member of the city recreation

Burgum contended that consideration must be given to over-all recreational needs in the city and not just golfing.

"Let's don't kid ourselves," he declared. "We have no money and no indications of where we would get any."

POINTING OUT that both the recreation and plan boards had studied the property and had recommended it be maintained for recreational use, Burgum said he didn't

know "what kind of report the manager could come up with."

City Manager L. R. Gare replied, "It will be just what Burgum said the City had been forced to restrict the amount of picknicking at Springdale Park due to a shortage of picnic equipment."

"This property also lends itself to that use," he said of the 66 acres.

"We must consider all possibilities, not just one group," he added.

MAYOR FLORENCE H. Willett remarked that Birmingham has more needs than just golf.

"One of the decisions we will have to make," she said, "is, will it all be for recreational purposes or part of it or what?"

Said Commissioner William E. Roberts:

"These petitioners are asking a question. They deserve an answer from us. We need time to consider the question and to give them an answer."

Commissioner Robert Page asked that the manager include in his report the "feasibility" of a golf course and possible costs.

HE AGREED with Burgum that over-all needs must be considered but pointed out that proposed plans indicated the course would pay for itself, "whereas some other things might not."

Page said "66 acres of property are rather hard to come by" and added that it should be "utilized to its maximum" and should not be "frittered away on small projects."

Roberts said all of these points could be brought out in discussion following the report from the city manager.

Gare, pointing out that forth-

coming vacations pose a handicap from the standpoint of having all commissioners on hand when the matter is discussed again, said the earliest the report could be considered would be in the latter part of August.

Traffic Accidents Decrease in City Since Last Year

Birmingham's monthly accident summary for June showed a decrease in the total number of mishaps in the city compared to June of last year, according to Police Chief Ralph W. Moody.

A total of 69 accidents occurred

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last month, eight less than the June '60 total of 77. Property damage accidents were down 10 compared to last year although personal injury accidents totaled 55 this year compared to 22 in June of '60.

TRAFFIC-ACCIDENTS in Birmingham during the first six months of 1961 showed a reduction from the same period in 1960, in every category except in the total of personal injury accidents investigated.

Traffic violations indicated in

these accidents dropped from 369 in 1960 to 335 for the same period in 1961.

"Right of way" violations were present in 139 accidents in 1960 and 131 accidents in 1961. "Following too closely" was present in 125 accidents in 1960 and 88 this year. "Improper overtaking" totaled 61 in 1960 and 62 in 1961.

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McManus Calls for Open-Con-Con

An Orchard Lake resident and Detroit construction executive recently urged Con-Con candidates of both parties to pledge themselves to an open convention.

Richard H. McManus, 2900 Orchard Lake, told a meeting of the Walled Lake Rotary Club "it would be a disservice to the people of Michigan" if the press were barred from any of the convention's proceedings.

"Secret closed-door sessions would be wholly inconsistent with the purposes of con-con," the 50-year-old construction executive said.

McMANUS, WHO IS seeking the GOP con-con nomination in Oakland county's 3rd legislative district, said secret sessions would "kill" the convention.

"They would arouse widespread public distrust," McManus said. "If voters suspect that important decisions were made behind closed doors, they are certain to reject any new constitution submitted for popular approval."

McManus said all con-con aspirants should subscribe to the open-convention position recommended by the Michigan Press Association.

"THIS IS AN extremely important matter," McManus said. "Every candidate should make his position clear—with no strings attached."

A subscription to The Eccentric brings you the community's top news events 52 times a year.

Rev. R. S. Graham To Leave B'ham For Pastor's Post

The Rev. Robert S. Graham, a Birmingham resident for 11 years, has resigned as assistant minister of First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, to become pastor of First Presbyterian Church, at Ardmore, Okla.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham and their four children will take up residence on Sept. 1 at Ardmore. They are now living at 17929 Buckingham.

FOR THE LAST seven years, Mr. Graham has been assistant minister at the Birmingham church. Prior to that he served four years as minister to youth.

He will continue at his present post for the remainder of July. The church will honor the Graham family at a going-away affair on Sunday, July 30.

MR. GRAHAM is a native of Haledale, Pa. He graduated from Bucknell University and Princeton Theological Seminary.

Before coming to Birmingham, he served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Long Branch, N. J.

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