

Many splendid, sincere words of praise have been directed to and about many human beings... and certainly, when deserved, they should be made known more often. Especially should such praise be offered within a family—for one offers the virtues of its members as taken for granted. I like what a son once said about his mother: "Her entrance into a room is as though another candle were lighted."

## Commission Takes Steps Toward Civil Defense



A walking menagerie came equipped with a gate and "please don't feed the animals" sign as they trotted along with about 4,997 others who marched in the city's 25th annual Halloween parade and party.

### This and That

by George R. Averill  
**Skipper of Cruise Ship Aquarama Is A Local Resident**

On a recent trip to Cleveland, Ohio, via the S.S. Aquarama, a 500-foot passenger ship that for three months each summer plies between Detroit and the Ohio city, I met Capt. Morgan L. Howell, devoted skipper of that pleasure craft. It was on the occasion of the recent Chrysler preview of 1962 cars.

Capt. Howell, who lives in Birmingham at 478 S. Adams, had somehow learned that when I was younger I, too, earned my living living in the hulls of a number of Great Lakes and ocean steamships, as a marine engineer.

"SOME OF them have been aboard for three years," he said, and they become great aids to making the Aquarama an enjoyable craft for summer vacationists.

Capt. Howell and his Missus plan to spend much of their coming winter in La Jolla, Calif.—but he'll be back next spring, and he'll not doubt pilot his beloved craft for another three years of Detroit-Cleveland daily round-trips.

- Amusements 6-E
- Bits of B'nai 4-A
- Business News 6-B
- Campus News 5-D
- Church 6-B
- Down to Earth 8-D
- Editorial Notices 5-B, 4-D
- Nature Now 7-B
- Obituaries 8-A
- Real Estate 6-E
- Round the Towns 8-D
- Sports 6-E
- Theatre and Education 5-D
- Weekly Visit 7-B
- Woman's News 8-A
- Want Ads 6, 7, B

### 'Really Big Show' Hit Town Tuesday

By BRN SCANLON  
Staff Writer

"Wow, mom—what a mob!" And what a mob it was when Birmingham young people got together Tuesday night for the city's 25th annual Halloween parade and party.

An estimated 5,000 tikes—not counting their parents—participated in the parade that wound through the city streets and ended at the parking lot northwest of Willis and Woodward.

Teenagers—2,400 of them, gathered at Seaholm and Groves, Derby and Barnum for dancing, movies and games and at Baldwin for a play.

The grand total this year was 7,400 as compared to 6,500 last year.

**THE BIG TURNOUT** pleased members of the Chamber of Commerce, the sponsoring organization, but it surprised them because of previously inclement weather and because it was a school night.

At 6:30 p.m., just an hour before the parade began, the streets of town were quiet and empty. Some 15 minutes later it was "organized chaos."

**THOSE WHO hot-footed** it in the parade—the tunes of Groves and Seaholm marching bands—were garbed in an endless array of costumes.

One was a television set. Another was a hunk of cheese. There were maybe 50 brides—without grooms, of course.

**A TOTAL OF 16 schools** marched in the parade. An uncountable number of the youngsters held hands in a series of articles of school age. They also held on to a few stragglers, but they didn't seem to mind the difference.

A Civil War hero arrived on the request of The Eccentric. Officials of Baldwin Public Library are writing a series of articles dealing with services, problems and needs. The following, the third in the series, tells of some problems encountered by a small library.

By CAROLYN ASHLEY VOGT  
Library Trustee

"We're going to the library," is a statement with a magic all its own. Even Pitkin never came more binding spell than that "the library" weaves for it. In the quiet of a city block, or in the rented quarters above a grocery store, the library is a magnet for young and old.

We Birminghamites are gratefully aware that our Baldwin Public Library is uniquely strong for a city of our size. But as the sage observed, "No man (or library) is an island," and the days are long past when Baldwin Public Library served only Birmingham residents.

Today non-residents are using over 40 per cent of the Baldwin

### Asks Compromise On Library Plan

By LES LANGLOIS  
City Editor

An attempt to initiate a contractual agreement for library service between Birmingham and Beverly Hills ran into financial snags last week.

A proposed contract, whereby Beverly Hills would pay Birmingham its "fair share" of the Baldwin Public Library operating costs on a "percentage of fee" basis, was tabled pending further study.

Beverly Hills Council President Marvin B. Cline told library board members last Thursday that he wouldn't be able to sell Beverly Hill councilmen on the proposed contract and asked for a compromise in achieving a more equitable settlement.

**UNDER THE terms** of the contract, Beverly Hills' annual "fair share" of the library's total operating costs of \$149,281.65 would be 7.28 per cent, or \$10,865. Since this first contract would cover only a seven-month period, from Dec. 1, 1961, to July 1, 1962 (ending the fiscal year for both towns), Beverly Hills' fee would amount to \$6,837.

Each year the contract would be renewed and a new fee set according to the "percentage of use" formula.

As this library use increased so would Beverly Hills' fair share. Currently, 280 Beverly residents use the Baldwin Public Library.

By JULY, 1964, when the current non-resident fees will be terminated, the library board hopes to have similar contractual arrangements with other neighboring communities.

Although Cline is interested in developing a contract for library service and does not object to an eventual "fair share" plan, he feels that the plan would penalize Beverly Hills' users until 1964.

At the proposed fee of \$10,865, Beverly Hills' fee would be charged over 2 1/2 times as much as the present \$4,344 non-resident fee. Beverly Hills' fee system will be in effect until 1964. Cline arrived at his estimate by dividing the total fee by the current 280 Beverly Hills residents using library services.

**IN EFFECT,** said Cline, Beverly Hills residents would be charged this higher fee while residents in other communities would be receiving the same service for the lower non-resident fee.

"We are willing to pay this fee as long as everyone else is paying their 'fair share,'" said Cline.

Cline suggested that the "fair share" plan be adopted in 1964 and that an alternate plan be developed for the interim period.

As one alternate plan, he proposed that Beverly Hills' users a fee which includes the current non-resident fee plus a "certain percentage" of the total fee. "This certain percentage," he said, could increase each succeeding year until the "fair share" rate would become effective.

**LIBRARY BOARD** President James A. Tobin pointed out that the proposed contract was drawn up on the assumption that the fee would be shared by all Beverly Hills residents; then, all Beverly

residents would be eligible for library service as are Birmingham residents.

However, financing of the "fair share" is left to the discretion of the municipality contracting the library service.

And Cline disagreed with Mrs. F. Chalmers Smith and other board members that "the cost of library service should be spread over non-users as well as users."

**AS CLINE explained,** Beverly Hills would finance part of the fee through the city's budget and distribute the remainder of the fee among Beverly Hills library users only.

Thus, Beverly would pay the library board the full fee and sell library service on a family card basis to those residents desiring it.

Eventually, said Cline, the city would finance the entire library service cost through its annual budget.

Cline said a considerable increase in Beverly Hills' property valuation from \$20 to \$25 million within the next two or three years would enable the city's budget to absorb the entire cost.

At that time, library service would become available to all residents, not only those living according to the "percentage of use" formula.



Having a Ball

Down the garden path in Cranbrook Village and up to the door walked this quartet, bent on monkey business and trick or treating on Halloween night. Mrs. R. O. Crosthwaite obliges Bongo Bailey by offering a popcorn ball even though the chimp is already chomping on a lollipop. Looking on (from left) are Donny and Kevin Hunt, sons of Bongo's partner, B'Wana Don, and Richard McConkie who all know that Bongo has more up his sleeves than hide—after all, his shipping bag was full. Incidentally, Bongo masqueraded as a human—he thinks people are pretty funny. (See story, 1-E.)

### Stacy Asks Grand Jury Investigation

By KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

John P. Stacy has taken his case to Gov. Swainson.

Stacy has written the governor asking for a "grand jury investigation" of Birmingham city officials in regard to alleged zoning ordinance violations.

Command Wednesday morning by The Eccentric, Doris Jarrell, administrative assistant in the governor's office, said any action to be taken would have to come through the attorney general's office.

She said the governor can't order grand jury investigations.

**DEPUTY ATTY. GEN. Leon Cohan** told The Eccentric that a "routine investigation" is under way to determine if there is anything substantial in Stacy's complaint.

"It is being investigated," Cohan said. "Until our investigation is completed, we couldn't comment any further."

"With anything of this nature we should get further information to see if there is anything substantial in it. We conclude that the zoning ordinance," City Manager L. R. Gare said today, "will welcome any investigation of its services and there have been no violations of the Birmingham zoning ordinance."

**STACY is a Dearborn resident** but does business in Birmingham as (See STACY, 5-A)

### Says Bankruptcy Not Contemplated By Showcase, Inc.

Prospects of Showcase, Inc., going bankrupt were never contemplated, the president of the firm said.

In a letter to The Eccentric, Mrs. Mildred Puddington, corporation president, said she had read the "untimely article" in last week's paper reporting on the closing of the firm.

The Eccentric stated that reports of Showcase filing for bankruptcy were unconfirmed.

**SHOWCASE, AN exhibition hall** for building products at 136 Brownlee, Birmingham, closed Oct. 20 because exhibitors failed to pay back rent. Mrs. Puddington said.

National Bank of Detroit, manager of the property owned by the Walter O. Briggs trust of 1935, regained possession of the premises.

### OK's Survival Plan; Orders 4 Other Steps

By KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

Birmingham city commissioners approved a survival plan for the city Monday night.

They also directed City Manager L. R. Gare to report next week on the need for a full-time civil defense director.

Ordered him to report in two weeks, or as soon as possible, on plans for and estimated costs of a fallout shelter for city hall employees.

Told the city clerk to write letters on behalf of the commission to various county, state and civil defense officials urging them to seek legislation to exempt shelters from property taxes.

Directed local Civil Defense Director K. S. Kemming to seek clarification of warning signal systems.

**THE SURVIVAL plan,** drawn up by Kemming, outlines the policies and procedures to be followed in event of a local emergency, such as a nuclear attack. It is patterned after state and national plans.

It has been approved by the Michigan Office of Civil Defense.

Commissioners accepted the plan with the understanding that it could be altered at any time.

Commissioners William E. Roberts and Robert Page differed on whether a full-time Civil Defense director should be retained on a paid employment or as a volunteer.

Said Roberts, "If we are going to implement this plan, we need someone to have a full-time director, he be a volunteer or hired."

He said Kemming, who is the city's assistant city manager, could not do the work to implement the plan and still fulfill his other duties.

**BUT ROBERTS said** he would not "hesitate to close the door immediately" on prospects of securing a volunteer, "considering the caliber of people we have in Birmingham."

Page, who has been the City's strongest advocate for a survival plan and for construction of shelters, favored employing a director and placing him under supervision of the city manager.

However, he expressed willingness to explore the possibilities of securing a volunteer.

Commissioners then accepted Charles Renfrew's suggestion that the manager "determine what would be the most practical addition to his staff" and report accordingly next week.

**AS FOR shelters,** Commissioner Carl Ingraham commented, "It doesn't seem logical to encourage the manager to determine what we don't take some definite steps to see what we can do to provide shelters on an emergency we have."

He suggested a study be made to determine what could be provided and what sites for city hall, the library, fire stations and other city buildings.

He welcomed support of Commissioner William W. Burghum, who said that for the commission to give advice on shelters "it is incumbent upon us to start action on one."

Burghum proposed that the manager "tell us what the cost would be to provide a shelter for the people in this building, equipped with food, sleeping facilities, etc."

**THIS, HE SAID,** would "give impetus to personal responsibility on the part of (City) employees."

Page said that "if it is not possible to have an emergency we have to have it in a position so the people could stay here over a period of time."

To which Roberts added that "we should have a plan." (See PLAN, 3-A)

### CD Plan Serves as Guide

The survival plan approved by Birmingham city commissioners Monday night actually serves as a guide for the community in event of a disaster.

It provides for a communications center (already established in the basement of city hall), emergency generators and water supply, a special rescue truck and monthly alert exercises.

The plan outlines training courses, including first aid, and procedures for implementing them. Usual practice is to train certain City personnel first, then they train others. Periodical refresher courses also are provided.

### Limitations of Small Library Viewed Resources, Service, Staff Among Them

Library's service. And because they have contributed only 13 per cent of the operating expenses through the Christmas season, the trustees have agreed to head-on the necessity for a change in non-resident policy.

Considering that the interests of Birmingham as a community are furthered by permitting non-resident use of the library (provided it is paid for on a fair and equitable basis), the trustees of Baldwin Public Library have notified four neighboring communities that the library is open to each the opportunity to provide library service for all its residents through contractual agreements.

**A THREE-YEAR interim** to July 1, 1964, has been set as the period for these contracts to be individually worked out and, activated, one by one.

These agreements could ultimately result in a cooperative plan for this area. While the library board has not a blueprint of the exact direction in which it expects to go in fostering a cooperative plan of library service for this area, long study has convinced us that when large and small libraries in natural areas work together, sharing their services and materials, the individual user benefits in increased quality without increasing cost.

It has long been the thesis of the (See LIBRARY, 3-A)

### Yule Season Jobs Available at P.O.

Birmingham Postmaster Roland W. Reese said today openings for temporary employment are available at the post office during the Christmas season.

Reese said, "All residents of the Birmingham Postal District interested in temporary employment during the Christmas season will please procure application blanks at any postal window, fill them out completely and return them as soon as possible."

Reese said applications are being accepted at Birmingham post offices and drivers for the Christmas rush. He said any person accepted for service will receive in the mail a notice indicating a date for interview.

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