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The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Thursday, August 2, 1962

EDITORIAL

SECTION B

Primary Candidates Endorsed

Next Tuesday is primary election day. The Eccentric published the Oakland Citizens League evaluation of candidates last week so the citizens of the area would have an opportunity to study their qualifications.

We have looked the candidates over ourselves and feel that the following people are the best qualified to represent their party in the general election in November.

THERE IS NO contest for governor in either party. Local resident George W. Eganoff will be pitted against incumbent John B. Swainson in the fall election.

For lieutenant governor, Democrat T. John Lesinski is unopposed in his party and we feel that John Stahlin is the most experienced and qualified for the Republican nomination.

There is no contest in either party for congressman-at-large. Republican Alvin Bentley will face Democrat Neil Stahlin in the general election.

LOCALLY FOR the congressional nomination we feel that Democrat George J. Fulkerson is the best man for his party's nomination. Incumbent Republican William S. Broomfield is unopposed.

For state senator, incumbent Republican Farrell E. Roberts should get the nod. Neither of his party opponents possess legislative experience or qualifications that would overcome this deficiency.

Democrat Deland H. Smith is unopposed for this office.

IN THE LOCAL legislative districts,

Democrat John F. Foley is unopposed in his party for nomination for the third district (Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Troy, and townships to the west) and will face incumbent Republican Henry M. Hogan, Jr., who is also unopposed.

In the 4th district (Beverly Hills, Lathrup Village, Southfield and areas west) we feel that incumbent Republican Raymond L. Baker's experience and record makes him the best choice for his party's nomination. For the Democrat nomination, we feel that the background of Albert A. Kramer would make him the best choice in his party.

THERE IS ONE contest in the Republican party for county officers. Only Drain Commissioner Daniel W. Barry has opposition and he should receive his party's nomination.

Among the Democrats there is a contest for sheriff and drain commissioner. Kenneth G. Hirt appears to be the only Democrat candidate for sheriff with any law enforcement experience and therefore is the best candidate.

Roy J. Russell, who is a professional engineer, should be his party's choice for drain commissioner.

WE HOPE the area residents will get out to vote. This is their opportunity to actually select the best man in their party. If they fail to vote, they will be merely confirming in November the choices of the people who turned out to vote in the primary.

Reviewing Newspaper's Role

One of the functions of this newspaper is to give opinions, in these editorial columns, on various issues in the community.

We believe it is our responsibility to:

1. Report the local news as it happens.
2. Analyze and interpret local news so that our readers may have a better understanding of what takes place in their community.
3. Take a stand on important community issues. Giving our opinions, based on facts from our news stories, may help our readers make sound decisions affecting their daily lives.

MANY OF OUR editorials are concerned with governmental affairs. This is quite natural because we as a newspaper and as citizens of the community have a great interest in and concern for our government.

Two recent examples, in which we took different positions on matters before the city commission, were our editorials on the proposed golf course at the former sewage plant site and on a request to dedicate the city's parks.

As for the golf course, the Birmingham City Commission has not made its decision. Current indications are that commissioners seem to favor it and may eventually order its construction.

More recently, we concurred with the City's thinking on the parks dedication

proposal. We agreed that to tie up City-owned property to one use forever would not be wise—future needs may necessitate other uses.

WE BELIEVE it is our responsibility as a community newspaper to relate the facts involved in problems such as these and to offer our opinions for the benefit of both the public and the city officials.

In this way, we believe, our newspaper can be and is a useful guide to both the public and the governing body.

Serving as a guide to newcomers in our community is of special importance to us. That is one of the reasons we consistently stress the importance of citizen responsibility.

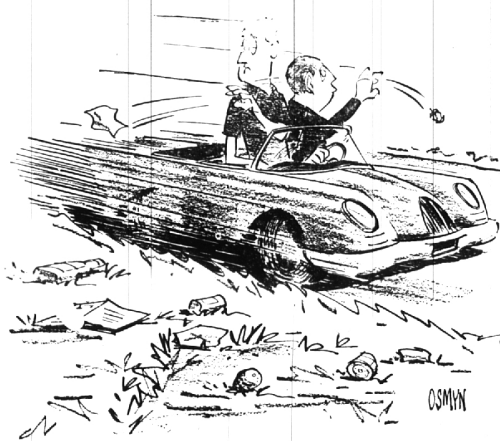
Toward that end, we strive to consistently publish information that will help new citizens become early oriented in the affairs of their community.

To help them, as well as our long-time residents, reach decisions about solutions to community problems, we offer our opinions in the editorial columns.

WE REVIEW this function of our newspaper here today not to pat ourselves on the back but to remind ourselves as well as our readers of our responsibility.

With the confidence that this will help us give you a more informative, more readable and more effective product.

Litter Leaguers



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Declares Speed Limit On Lahser Too High

To the Editor:
Please help us protect our children!
We live on busy Lahser Road, just north of Maple, where the

Cheap, Ugly Signs Make Blood Boil, Resident Says

To the Editor:
It makes my blood boil to go into Birmingham downtown, and see our beautiful city deteriorating, with the new business places sneaking in overnight with their fronts of the buildings plastered with cheap and ugly signs all over.

IF SOMETHING isn't done immediately, I'm afraid this sort of thing could get out of control.

Why not set up a protective association for the business district, same as we have in our residential district?

If these people want our money they better conform to our traditions; we were here first with our beautiful architecture, and lovely crab trees. I do not intend to step foot inside of these places until something is done.

A PROUD RESIDENT

speed limit is 45 miles per hour, but seldom observed.

Even if it was, believe me it is much too high for this residential neighborhood. There is Bloomfield Village School just across the street, where our little ones start in kindergarten and continue on through sixth grade.

WE HAVE had several accidents and near accidents, but very recently a young boy was very seriously injured in front of our home.

I am not judging who was at fault, but only asking that something be done to lower the speed limit before more serious accidents of this type occur.

If you or anyone else can help us by suggesting how we go about solving our problem please write or call:

MRS. JAS. TWYN
6256 Lahser Rd.

Yesteryear Happenings

From the Files of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
Aug. 2, 1912
For sale cheap! Two good work horses — one, a fine large mare, weighing 1200. Both good workers. Call and see, Wm. B. Brown, 629 Southfield Ave.

Along the Grand Trunk railway and facing Brownell Street and in the immediate vicinity in Birmingham are a number of business interests that mean much to Birmingham in a commercial way. Day before yesterday we took a stroll over the ground and found all owners in their several lines busy and happy. Take the business of William E. McClellan for instance. Five years ago feed was handled by grocers and in a very small way. Now we venture to say Mr. McClellan sells more feed stuffs in one day than all the dealers did in a month.

The supporters for the name of the old school house to be the "S.N. Hill" are numerous and active. They are circulating a petition to this end and have no trouble in securing names.

30 YEARS AGO
Aug. 4, 1932

Senator James Couzens, home again from a strenuous session of Congress in which he figured prominently in attempts to reconstruct and rehabilitate a depression-ridden country, is more than ever convinced that the nation's troubles

(See HAPPENINGS, 8-B)

by IRMA N. DAVIS

Once Over Lightly

"What did you do in the olden days, Mom and Dad, huh? Did they have TV 'n movies and such like that? Huh?"

Well, Virginia, or Johnny or Sue, we had things to do, believe it or not. In fact, we even had fun. For instance, we flew kites the minute the first March winds blew. As soon as the last kitefall was snugged by a tree the boys got out their marbles and the girls their jacks.

Soon, we turned our attention to baseball and roller skating and that's the way it went.

AND ON SUNDAYS practically everybody went for a ride. Without fail.

Our family's first car was a huge Hammobile touring model and one of the necessary features involved in driving it was a series of flat tires—one every 30 miles or so.

Our major jaunts were about three punctures long—or 90 miles. For this our mother packed food and our father told us a generous, philosophical outlook.

IT STOOD him well at each blowout. While he puffed away at the jack and tugged off the bolts—which never really had time to get too attached to the wheel—we gazed ourselves on chicken legs and olives. Our acceptance of his toll was as hard-boiled as the eggs at the bottom of the picnic basket.

When he brought out the little scraper and the patching kit, we knew we had a few minutes left for a game of tag. By the time the multi-screwed tire was back on the wheel, we were as red in the face as the driver.

Sometimes it rained and then our father pulled out to the side of the road and it was "everybody out!" to snap on the window curtains.

ON COLD WINTER mornings, he followed a ritual that was, no doubt, echoed up and down

many a block. Before the coffee pot was on, the teakettle went into service to help thaw out the driver.

After several hot toddies, the motor was ready for a little coaxing and we would hear the familiar clank of the crank as it was fitted into space

and the motor would sputter reluctantly.

On warmer days, our old Hup had today's air conditioning beat a mile. In fact, it was really better than a convertible—the same cool atmosphere with a roof to keep off the sun.

OCASIONALLY we were treated to a touch of sophistication when our aunt invited us for a ride in her big Studebaker. Traditionally, our leaving was preceded by a lengthy argument and the two winners enjoyed the drive perched on the jump seats.

The vanquished pair nursed their bruises in the back seat, with our parents between to parry the blows.

Eventually we acquired a Model T with real, ROLL-UP windows and such was the sturdiness of our driver that it survived all our experimentation with this plush feature.

"LIZZY" WAS an improvement over our battered Hup and could make a 90-mile trip in two days, flat. Our "Bever" boasted a non-cum-furist wheel that rose and again detached itself from the chassis while the car was in motion.

This unfailingly disconcerted my mother who was usually the first to spot it rolling ahead of us just before the driver jolted to a stop.

In the late 1920's, we were graduated to a sleek Model A and most of the adventure went out of driving. Some of the oldtimers in our neighborhood shook their heads gloomily and said it would never replace the Hiver.

In a way, they were right.

Eccentricities



By HANK HOGAN

There I was, out of gas and four miles from the nearest exit of the freeway. My past life flashed in front of me. Would I end up spending the whole summer under the "Four Mile Bridge" on I-75?

For a couple of years I commuted back and forth to Detroit each day in order to provide food and shelter for my family.

Then I switched my place of business to the suburbs because I realized I could work two extra hours each day and still have the same amount of time with my family.

NOW MY FAMILY has packed up and fled suburbia for the summer and I am commuting again. This time on weekends to the northern part of the state.

I have become a "freeway" expert. I know how to save three minutes by turning right when everyone else turns left, and exactly to the feet how far my car will go on a tankful of gas—now.

In my commuting I must say that our fair state has done a wonderful job in laying out a freeway system. However, there is a small thing that can be improved upon.

IN OTHER STATES the expressways, freeways and turnpikes have gas stations spaced every so often. In Michigan there are none, so you have to leave the highway.

Apparently this was done to give local communities some business but it just hasn't worked.

The highway commission puts up little signs saying "gas," "food" or "lodgings" at the exits, but it doesn't say how far away, what kind and at what hours they are open.

MANY TIMES late at night I have wandered off the freeway for gas or a cup of coffee and had to go as much as eight miles off my course, and even then having to sit on a bar stool to drink my coffee.

And if you run out of gas, as I did, you are at the mercy of passers-by because even if they stop and give you a lift to the next exit you may have a day's hike in front of you to find a station. The state police have added a freeway patrol since my experience but it's geared to pass every spot every two hours and you may have a long wait.

IF YOU'NATELY got a lift to a gas station. But there may be some people who aren't so lucky and are still out there on the highway. With periodic gas stations we wouldn't have to try to go that last extra mile on an empty tank.



By KEN WEAVER

City Beat

Parents should bring their children up in the church. What church?

The church of their beliefs.

This may seem a rather strange declaration after the comments made in this column last week about an eventual spiritual one-world government.

My belief is that we will someday have such a government, but that it will come directly through a Supreme Being and not through any church group or denomination as we know them today.

Still, I feel that it is quite necessary to give our children a church background.

Why?

TO GIVE THEM a spiritual foundation so that they will be more apt to believe in and accept God; to prepare them for a spiritual world.

To give them spiritual and moral values to live by, so that they may have a cleaner, healthier and happier life.

I believe that personal contact with God is much more important than group contact. But it is the group association—the teachings, the prayers, the exchange of ideas—that give individuals the foundation for a closer personal contact with their Creator.

WHEN HE descends among us, it will be the people who have had the closest personal contact with Him who will first accept Him and His one-world government, I believe.

It will be they who first recognize Him and welcome Him to our midst.

Attending church regularly, taking part in worship services, studying and learning religious beliefs will best prepare the individual for life with God.

These are the steps that will give the individual that needed personal contact.

WHAT I BELIEVE in God is most important to God and me. What you believe in God is most important to God and you.

The only really important thing to you and me is that we both do believe. The fact that we differ in details of our beliefs is unimportant as long as we get along well together and do not fight over our differences.

Human nature prevents us from all having the same beliefs. Therefore, none of us will be forbidden entry to the spiritual world because of our specific beliefs.

We will be accepted because we did believe.

But living up to what we believe will help our cause immensely.

THE CHURCH gives us the foundation. Our own meditations give us the means of reaching God, of establishing personal contact with Him.

We will be accepted in His spiritual rule as individuals, not as religious groups.

These are my belief. Expressions of opinions agreeing with or opposing them will be accepted for publication.

The "Cradle of Liberty" is 200 years old. This is Boston's Faneuil Hall, erected in 1740 as a market place with money given by a merchant named Peter Faneuil. Later it burned, but it was restored in its present form in 1792. The building still serves as a market. Faneuil Hall has been associated with the cause of liberty ever since James Otis, the Revolutionary patriot, dedicated it in 1765 with a stirring address. Here Samuel Adams and other Revolutionary leaders met and advanced the great cause. Later the hall acquired glory as the setting for operations by such oratory speakers as Wendell Phillips and Sen. Charles Sumner. Few historic sites can equal Faneuil Hall in patriotic spirit.

The head of a Philadelphia, Pa., barber's union recently told his members in a convention that men should wear their hair longer, "not cutting it short, looking like sheared sheep." He also said the time will then come when men's hair will be washed, set in a net and baked in an electric dryer. He may be right. One never can prophesy exactly what people will do.

A Texas court has declared Willie Sol Estes bankrupt, which seems anticlimactic. His balloon burst so spontaneously. It is surprising to find there's anything left to deflate.

A business magazine reports that a factory worker with three dependents now takes home an average of \$85 a week. That's \$5 more than he took home a year ago—and \$10 less than his easy payments.

Leather will be popular for fall, says a style writer. A razor strap should be just the thing for Junior—but "popular"?

Sign in a paint store's display window; NOTICE: ...Husbands who choose color must have a note from the wife.

Former President Eisenhower says the GOP is the party of business. Well, anyway, it would like to give the Democrats the business.

The neutrino, a nuclear particle without mass or electrical charge, turns out to be twins. Interesting—even though we can't understand it.

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