

For the processes of self-government to work best, the citizen must maintain an awareness of what the various agencies (by thoughts and actions of public officials) are doing; if he agrees with them, instead of being silent, he should let them know you approve? Too, if you disapprove, the duties and responsibilities of good citizenship demand that you let them know what you think... unless you do, why merely gripe, complain?

This and That

by George R. Averill

He Asks: 'What Is This U.S.A. Drift to Socialist State?'

Three weeks ago, in The Eccentric's "People's Column," a Birmingham reader took this column to task for its reference to the drift of the U. S. federal government into the practices of a socialist-welfare status.

He challenges me to a definition of Socialism. That's not too difficult. Briefly defined, it is a civic-economic status wherein the federal government owns and operates the tools used in the production and distribution of wealth, which are commodities and services.

Aside from the fact that Uncle Sam actually is engaged in more than 700 separate enterprises that compete with private business (and this is the result both of Democratic policies and Republican continuation of them), the uninterupted shift of power to Washington, D. C., together with its unceasing increase of federal spending on items other than defense, provides the evidence of this "drift," in the opinion of men who are greater authorities on this subject than I profess.

THERE IS A universal truth about governmental authority, and it is: No unit of government possesses greater power than the amount of money it has at its disposal.

The income tax has provided the governmental means of getting plenty of the public's income—the income tax plus the majority of most of our citizens in refusing to let their congressmen, and the White House, know that they oppose their continuous raid on their pocketbooks.

Indeed, although Socialism does not ultimately demand possession of the tools of production and distribution... until that condition is met (See THIS & THAT, 6A)

Set Memorial Scholarship For Kinnison

A memorial scholarship in the name of Charles S. Kinnison, who devoted his life to youngsters, has been established with the Birmingham Student Loan and Scholarship Fund Association.

The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered to support a \$100-a-year scholarship, which will assist an area student in obtaining a college education.

Kinnison, who died Feb. 7, 1960, taught Sunday school at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham for 20 years. He served on the school board and was active in Hi-Y and the Boy Scouts.

Says Bennett Koon, member of the school board and president of the loan and scholarship association:

"No one could have selected a better man in Birmingham to memorialize with a scholarship."

Additional donations are being sought for the Kinnison memorial scholarship, as well as for the association as a whole.

The association has been in operation for more than 40 years. It was originally open to Birmingham high school students and has since been expanded to the Birmingham school district.

Registration Deadline Is Monday for Villages

The voter registration deadline for electors who wish to cast ballots in the March 11 village election is Monday.

The village offices in Beverly Hills, Franklin, Bingham Farms and Wood Creek Farms will be open on the final day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. to accept registrations.

Filing deadline for candidates in Beverly Hills falls on Monday, also with a 4 p.m. curfew.

Beverly Hills voters will choose four councilmen.

VOTERS IN BEVERLY HILLS will also decide the fate of three road proposals and a charter amendment, which will then specify whether future village clerks will be elected or appointed.

Another proposal on the ballot will involve the annexation by Beverly Hills of nine acres presently located in Bingham Farms.

Bingham Farms voters will also cast ballots on the annexation issue plus electing a president and three



A FIRE IN THE NORTHWEST section of Birmingham sends the men of the Chesnutfield Fire Station into action. The 37-man first four-man department, only Assistant Chief Stanley Pepporell is still on the job.

ment, the city's first paid fire department went into operation on July 1, 1927. Of the first four-man department, only Assistant Chief Stanley Pepporell is still on the job.

History, Work of B'ham Fire Department Traced

This is another in a series of articles The Eccentric is presenting on the various departments in the city of Birmingham. It deals with the work of the fire department.

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Birmingham's Fire Department traces its history back more than 50 years.

The first known fire hall was at the southeast corner of Woodward and Maple, where the Briggs Building now stands.

The department shared the building with the library, police force and the dog pound. The fire-fighting crew consisted entirely of volunteer villagers who would drop whatever they were doing and go and fight the blaze when they heard the bells on the old ladder truck.

SOME PEOPLE insist that the equipment was pulled by a pair of horses that belonged to the local undertaker, but Fire Chief Park H. Smith, who has been around Birmingham all his life, said the horses were used only for parades and does not believe they were ever used at a fire.

However, Smith said he can recall several times when other horses were hitched to the rig and he also remembers several private autos that were called in to help get the equipment to the scene of the fire.

In 1927, the first paid fire department was set up with headquarters on Brownell Street, with a four-man crew. Of that group Assistant Chief Stanley Pepporell is the only one still with the department.

Before the paid department came into existence the "volunteers" had to pay a \$5 membership fee and 10 cents a month dues before they could fight fires.

WHEN THE MEN of the early full-time department weren't fighting fires they were busy making toys for underprivileged youngsters.

During the depression days the fire hall served as a relief depot for 250 families to get food and groceries.

During the first 25 years of operation, each for a two-year term and a clerk, treasurer and assessor. The latter three posts are for one-year terms.

Filing deadline for candidates is 4 p.m. Feb. 23.

Franklin will pick three councilmen, each for a two-year term and, in addition, will vote for a clerk, treasurer and assessor. The latter three positions are held for one year. Filing deadline for Franklin candidates is 4 p.m. Feb. 23.

A SPECIAL ELECTION will be held in Franklin on Feb. 20 in which voters will decide whether or not to give the Consumers Power Co. a franchise to provide gas service to the village. Deadline for voter registration in that election has already passed.

In Wood Creek Farms, electors will choose a village president and two councilmen, all for two-year terms. The deadline for candidates to file petitions will be Saturday.

opened in 1955, the whole department was housed in the municipal building. The portion of the building that now is the Violations Bureau served as the kitchen for the fire department.

The men work a 63-hour week or about three days out of eight. Each man is qualified to handle several jobs on the truck.

Birmingham's fire department trains all of its own men, patterned after the Oklahoma A & M University procedure.

About 400 alarms are answered by the department each year, including false alarms and rescue work.

THE MEN DON'T just sit around waiting for fires. During the day they have housekeeping chores to perform, equipment to maintain and various types of drills.

In addition, the department does all its own work as far as keeping the two station-houses in top shape.

The men eat dinner and supper at the station when they are on duty. The food is purchased from their own money but the department furnishes cooking utensils.

IN ADDITION TO fire-fighting duties the department has had control of Birmingham's water production since 1952. At one time the city's water supply came from wells.

At the present time two of the three wells that still exist are inactive (one well supplies water to part of Troy), but the department still controls the lines that bring Detroit water into Birmingham.

The department's equipment has grown from a hose cart to two pumps and two ladder trucks, a rescue truck, a civil defense unit, emergency generator, pickup truck and a chief's car.

Next week's article will deal with the history and work of the Birmingham Police Department.

3 Proposals On Ballot for Lathrup Vote

The Lathrup Council has approved three charter amendments for the April 1 ballot. Approval by a majority of residents will enable the city to provide library service which would probably be achieved through contract with a neighboring city.

The first amendment would allow Lathrup to levy up to three-tenths of a mill on the state equalized valuation of property. The levy would be used for library service and would cost about an average \$5 per family each year.

THE SECOND charter change would allow creation of a library board to procure the service and the third amendment would give the council more specific powers to provide such service.

The latter amendment would also give the city power to provide such services as municipal buildings, police station, water works and other such facilities as the city may need in the future.

A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity to freshen into smiles. —Washington Irving

MISS PRICE TAUGHT second and English for 13 years, beginning in 1929, in the Louisiana. (See AWARD, 4-A)

Beverly Hills Home Looted by Burglars

BEVERLY HILLS — Burglars broke into the home of Donald Pella last week, taking about \$5,000 in furs, jewelry and money. Entry was made through the front door, police said.

The burglary took place between 11:35 a.m. and 2:45 p.m., Jan. 31, when the family was away, police said.

3 PHASES OF PROBLEM

Requests to Approve Subs Give Rise to Conflict Again

By KAY SMITH
Special Writer

BEVERLY HILLS—The continuing battle between the residents' concept of this village as a rural haven and the council's practical problems with progress and public safety erupted in several skirmishes at Monday's council meeting.

Three subdivisions up for approval presented three different phases of the problem: downward-type zoning, recreational areas and connecting roads. Sidewalks, always a red-flag issue, also got into the act.

A public hearing on allowing a trip of residential 1-A zoning in the southwest section of Westwood subdivision at 13 Mile Road and Evergreen brought only one objection.

EDGAR STRETEN, 19600 W. 13 Mile Road, stated that five lots would affect his property but he was satisfied to learn that while the R-1-A will affect the lot size, reducing it by 24 feet, the builder, Coleman and Moss, has agreed to construct the larger - type R-1 houses of 1,600 square feet on the lots. R-1-A allows 1,400-square-foot houses. Both zoning classifications carry 100-foot front restrictions.

Final approval of the plat will depend on the inclusion in the deed restrictions of the minimum 1,600-square-foot house on each lot.

THE OLD QUESTION of whether roads in adjacent subs should connect with each other came up in connection with request for approval of Beverly Hills Subdivision No. 5.

The planning board recommended connecting roads so as to provide better traffic flow and improved public safety procedures.

In a meeting with the planning board, the residents of the two adjacent subs — Beverly 12 and Huntley—and the village public safety department discussed the problem.

The Beverly 12 group did not want the roadway to be completed

nor were the Huntley people actively seeking connection.

The village public safety group stated that the connecting roadways in question would not improve the accessibility of these areas to the public safety officers and equipment.

The sub was approved without the connecting road.

Providing some recreational area in subdivisions for children was the issue when the Metamora Green sub, at 13 Mile and Lahser came up for discussion.

"We have recreational poverty among the well-to-do," remarked Councilman Edward M. (Ted) Shurtliff who campaigned for the lots.

The builder, William J. Pulte, countered that residents don't want empty lots and said they quickly become weed patches.

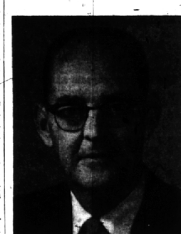
Dr. Douglas J. Wood felt that millage should be provided for a maintenance fund. A discussion between Shurtliff and Planning Board Chairman Edward F. Dolan over the master plan followed.

Approval of the plat without the recreational area was passed with six ayes and one nay from Shurtliff.

The council requested that Pulte provide sidewalks for the busy area fronting his subdivisions. Pulte said that although he knew the sidewalks were in the ordinance, he thought they were a forgotten issue.

A public hearing was set for April 2, to hear objections to building sidewalks on 13 Mile from Beverly Hills Estates No. 3 subdivision west to Evergreen.

Barr Succeeds Chayne As GM Vice President



HARRY F. BARR

A Franklin resident has been selected to replace a Bloomfield Hills man in the top echelon at General Motors.

The GM Board of Directors Monday elected Harry F. Barr, 25620 Meadowdale, Franklin, to succeed Charles A. Chayne, 5159 Clarendon Crest, Bloomfield Hills, as vice president in charge of the engineering staff.

The change is effective as of March 1.

Chayne, who will be 65 on Feb. 6, is retiring under provisions of the GM retirement program after a 35-year career with the corporation.

BARR has been chief engineer of the Chevrolet Motor Division since July, 1956. In that time, the division has introduced the Corvair and the Chevy II, as well as significant developments in transmission, engines and suspensions.

Barr has been with GM for 34 years, starting as a laboratory technician with Cadillac Motor Car Division in 1929. He became a Cadillac project engineer in 1937 and subsequently held various engineering posts with that division, including chief engineer of the Cleveland (Ohio) Ordnance Plant.

HE WAS assistant chief engineer of Cadillac from August, 1951, until June, 1952, when he was named assistant chief engineer of Chevrolet in charge of engine and passenger car chassis. He served in that capacity until his appointment as chief engineer four years later.

Born in Enid, Okla., Barr studied mechanical engineering for two years at the University of Maryland and in 1919 with a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering.

CHAYNE JOINED GM in 1920 as staff engineer in charge of the engine division of Buick Motor Division. He became a assistant chief engineer of Buick in 1933 and the latter position in 1936, serving in that capacity until his election to his present position.

CHAYNE was graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University in 1919 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.



CHARLES A. CHAYNE

awarded him a bachelor's degree in automotive engineering in 1929.

He is a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, the Detroit Engineering Society, American Ordnance Association and Cleveland (Ohio) Ordnance Club.

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