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This and That

by

George R. Averill

People, Food, Fun and Scenery Of Spain and Portugal Lure Tourists

SPAIN, PORTUGAL— If you have the desire to visit an old European nation that can offer you a pleasant climate, beauty in architecture, the loveliness of many public and private flower gardens, of art museums that display many famous painters' names, of a variety of land surfaces that include mountains, plateaus, valleys—and a people whose ancestry goes back many centuries . . . I suggest Spain. (Also little, but beautiful, Portugal.)

Although now occupying but a small portion of her former land holdings, Spain's colorful history goes way back to over a thousand years B.C., to the time when the Phoenecians occupied Spain and Portugal, through the days when they were driven out by the German-born Visigoths, who in turn gave way to the Romans; then came the Arabic Moors, and finally the Spaniards whose victories at Granada in the early 13th Century drove the Moors back into Africa. Since then Spain has been ruled by numerous Kings and Queens and the conquests of her early explorers once made her the largest holder of foreign lands.

TODAY GENERAL Francisco Franco, a former military leader, who led attacks against efforts to enthrone Communist controlled government in 1936, is the virtual dictator of Spain. Under Franco, all protestant churches were outlawed, since Roman Catholicism has been Spain's traditional dominant religion for centuries. But it now is rumored that Franco may relent soon and allow some protestant groups to return. But many Spaniards today credit Franco with doing many things to improve certain phases of the nation's life and security.

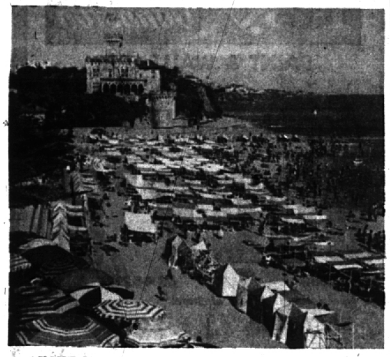
If you happen to fly into Madrid, as Herb H. Gardner and I did the first of last May, you will find this Capital City of two million enjoying warm spring weather.

Its hotels, assortment of good eating places, its flamenco night club shows, its ample shopping areas, its variety of residential sections — including "old Madrid" — and not to overlook its famous art museum and the Palace of its last King, Alfonso XIII . . . these and many other attractions can make one's visit to that city a memorable one.

For example, the Del Prado Museum itself has attracted people from every part of the world. In it are hung very large, medium and small paintings by such artists as Velasquez, Goya, Murillo, Rubins, Tintoretto, Titian and El Greco. Contemporary painters as well as many young students are privileged to set up their easels in the De Prado and copy whatever famous painting they desire. Some of the copies are said to be good enough to be purchased by other museums or private individuals. Over the years, Spain also has produced many famous writers and musicians, as well as sculptors.

In the Palace of the late Alfonso XIII, with 2,800 rooms, (whose widow now lives in Lausanne, Switzerland, and son Don Juan Carlos who some day may be restored to the throne of Spain, lives in Portugal) you will see proof that, while most of Spain's 30 million people

(See THIS & THAT, 5-CC)



ABOVE IS a picture of Portugal's famous beach resort at Estoril, on the Atlantic ocean, 30 miles from Lisbon. This fun-loving retreat is typical of most such places in Spain, too. Indeed, wherever one travels and meets with sun, water, sand and many human beings, is found a scene like this.

Ground Broken For Hospital To Serve Area

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the new $3,800,000 Botsford General Hospital (Osteopathic) in Farmington Township were held at 2 p.m. Saturday.

The new hospital, which is located on a 15-acre site near Grand River and Eight Mile, will serve the Franklin, Wood Creek Farms and Southfield areas.

Officiating at the proceedings were Dr. Allen Zieger, founder of the Zieger Osteopathic Hospital, and Murray W. Van Wagoner, chairman of the hospital board of directors and former Michigan governor. Presentation of the shovel was made by Adolph Roessling, vice president of Smith, Hinchman and Grylls of Detroit, architects for the new hospital. Just as the ground was about to be broken, Dr. Zieger handed the shovel to his 82-year-old father, Gabriel Zieger, to perform the offcial task.

THE INVOCATION and closing prayer was givne by Rev. John Forsythe of the Bushnell Congregational Church, representing the Detroit Round Table of Catholics, Jews and Protestants.

Providing 200 beds in a five-story tower, Botsford General Hospital will offer complete, medical and surgical facilities.

Construction bids for the hospital were awarded to A. Z. Shmina & Sons of Dearborn, general contractors; County Electric Co., electrical contractors; Glanz & Killian Co., plumbing contractors; Reichle Sons Co., kitchen equipment; and Haughton Elevator Co., elevators. Construction will require about 16 months.

In March, Botsford General was awarded a Federal aid grant in the amount of $1,152,585 through the Hill-Burton hospital construction program. The balance of the $3.5 million construction cost will be provided through mortgage funds, hospital operating funds and loans from staff physicians.

BOTSFORD GENERAL Hospital will be operated as a unit of Zieger Osteopathic Hospital which serves Detroit's populous near-west side. Its operation is directed by a seven-man board of directors headed by former-Gov. Van Wagoner.

Other board members include Robert G. Surridge, attorney; Joseph Schoenith, president of both W. D. Gale, Inc., electrical contractors, and the Roostertail; Hobart Taylor Jr., former assistant Wayne County prosecutor now serving as chief counsel for the President's Commission for Equal Employment Opportunities; Dr. Ellis Siefer, chairman of Zieger Hospital's department of surgery; Bert Livo, a retired National Bank of Detroit executive, and Dr. Allen Zieger, the hospital's founder and medical director.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Working Schoolmen

Birmingham's Board of Education didn't waste any time at its organizational meeting last week. After electing E. Ross Hanson (sitting) board president; George W. Coombe, Jr. (left), vice president, and after seating Dr. Charles Leach, newly-elected board member, the group passed a $7.9 million budget for the 1963-64 school year.

City to Consider Eliminating R-7 Zoning Category

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

The Birmingham city attorney has been instructed by the commission to draft an ordinance establishing a new zoning classification for multiple-family dwellings.

The new ordinance, if adopted, would eliminate the R-7 multiple-family classification and set up a 4-A grouping.

"A 4-A classification would provide more open space in multiple-family dwellings, according to Plan Board Vice Chairman Linn Smith.

SMITH TOLD the commission the plan board had been considering for several months the ultimate use of multiple-family property in the southwest quadrant of the central business district.

He noted that the R-7 classification was designed for areas near the CBD in that it permits a higher density of development and a four-story structure.

He said recent developments in the area indicated the land was being utilized to near maximum density, but not to maximum building height.

"The result," Smith said, "is an apartment house utilizing more ground area than should be permitted."

This, he said, reduces the amount of open space to where the health, safety and welfare of the community could be jeopardized.

"THE 4-A classification would provide for a four-story development, permit greater design flexibility and at the same time make allowances for ample open space," Smith said.

If the new classification is adopted by the commission, all property in the CBD now zoned R-7 would have to be rezoned to R-4A. A small parcel of land that is zoned R-7 in the vicinity of Eton and Dorchester should be rezoned to R-6, Smith said.

He also said in the opinion of the plan board no nonresidential use of R-4A property should be permitted.

THE PLAN board is concerned, Smith said, over the conversion of open spaces in multiple dwellings into parking lots and is studying the definition of open space as it relates to side and front yards.

He said he believes the new definition would restrict the use of front and side yards to green areas or garden type developments.

The board is also considering an amendment to the ordinance that would allow for a greater development in the floor area of multiple-family developments provided parking is supplied either below ground or under the structure, Smith said.

"In essence, a builder will be given a bonus of additional floor area if he maintains open green space," he said.

Sell City Property To Local Realtor

City Commissioners Monday night agreed to sell a small piece of property the City of Birmingham owns at the northeast corner of Maple and Lake Park.

Elliott S. Kinney of Snyder, Kinney & Bennett had sought the property to add to land the realty firm owns abutting it. The purchase price for the property which fronts along Maple will be about $200.

City Manager L. R. Gare told commissioners the property was of little value to the City as it was inadequate to meet any zoning requirements.

New Insurance Contract Let By W. B'field

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Financial matters including award of an insurance contract covering township employees were handled at the meeting of the township board last week.

The board awarded the contract to American United Life covering some 20 township employees with life and accident insurance and sickness benefits. Bid cost of the insurance was $152.60 per month.

The board also authorized an expenditure up to $800 for refurnishing fire headquarters. Furnishings will include new sleeping facilities.

A NEW FILING system instituted by the building department at the request of the township appeals board will require an extra filing cabinet. The board agreed to its purchase.

Renewal of a contract to furnish fire protection for Keego Harbor was delayed by the township board until its next meeting. A study will be made of cost increases in the operation of township fire department to determine if part of the increase should be borne by Keego Harbor. The city now pays the township a flat $6,000 per year plus extra fees for additional fire runs.

School Group Reports

The Troy School Study Committee last week submitted a progress report on the committee's activities and studies to the Troy Board of Education.

The committee has begun a long range study of the Troy School District's needs and problems. A citizens group of more than 50 members was formed in late December to identify problem areas and to consider possible alternative solutions.

THE ADVISORY sources utilized by the committee included faculty members of the Wayne State University College of Education; teachers, administrators and non-certified school employes from within the district, personnel from neighboring school districts, the Vilican-Leman studies, and a number of educational specialists such as Dr. Harry Hahn from the Oakland County Board of Education.

The four general areas of concentration were: enrollment and facilities, curriculum and programs, finance, personnel organization and administration.

Because of the long range nature of the study and the committee's desire to explore the many areas under consideration more fully, this first interim report contained no specific recommendations for board action.

The committee's activities have been suspended for the summer. They will reconvene in Sept. to continue this work.

Township Resident To Aid Olympic Bid

Detroit Mayor Jerome P. Cavanagh has announced the appointment of an advisory council of five leading public relations executives to augment and evaluate public relations programs of the Detroit Olympic Committee.

Those appointed were Anthony G. DeLorenzo, vice president of General Motors in charge of its public relations staff; John A. Ford, vice president-public relations, Chrysler Corp.; Carl Johnson, vice president, advertising-public relations, Parke, Davis & Co.; Theodore H. Mecke, Jr., vice president - public relations, Ford Motor Co.; and, John L. Rose, director of information, Burroughs Corp.

The five, with a combined total of 65 years in the public relations field, are all members of the Michigan Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and of the Detroit Press Club. The firms they represent employ a total of 304,000 in more than 110 countries outside the United States.

"THE PROVEN ability of these men, the necessity for the channeling of communications between the Detroit Olympic Committee and people throughout the world, combined with the fact that the firms represented by members of the advisory council are all international in scope, will assuredly aid in our success at Nairobi, Oct. 18," the mayor said.

DeLORENZO

"Carl Johnson will serve as chairman of this council which will be responsible for reviewing proposed publicity - public relations

(See OLYMPIC, 7-A)

Fence Permits Required In Township

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — Residents wishing to erect fences in their yards will have to obtain permits from now on.

The township board voted Monday night to require permits after building officials said that it would help enforcement of township zoning requirements.

"PRESENTLY, fences are being erected which do not adhere to township requirements, because residents don't know there are controls on height and placement of fences," Chief Building Inspector Harold Shoof told board members.

"If they have to get permits, they will have to comply with regulations," he said.

Exempted will be the fences required around swimming pools. They are controlled by permits obtained for erection of the pool.

Sept. 16 Hearing Set For Fairway Dr. Job

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

A hearing of necessity will be held Sept. 16 before the Birmingham City Commission on the proposed opening of Fairway Drive from Arden Lane east to 334 feet west of Pleasant St.

The proposed opening was brought before the commission on June 24 but no discussion was held and the administration was ordered to bring in cost estimates of the project.

City Manager L. R. Gare said preliminary estimates of the cost for the installation of pavement, water and sewer was $73,000.

He said he had discussed the cost of land acquisition of the right-of-way with City Assessor Clark Hagstrom and a rough estimate of the cost of the property involved was set at $26,000.

ONE OF the property owners in the area, Lee Showalter, is seeking the opening of the street. On June 24 he submitted a petition to the commission that indicated about 65 per cent of the property owners in the area were interested in the proposed opening.

Gare said that if a necessity would be declared on the project he would negotiate with the various property owners for the land acquisition.

Any parcels of land that could not be acquired through negotiation could be taken through condemnation procedures, Gare said.

He said that once the street opening had been acquired the cost of the project would be assessed back against the abutting property owners.

"ONE OF THE problems that must be faced if the project is approved," Gare said, "is the size of the lots in the area."

"If the lots are divided equally north and south from Northlawn to the south line of the proposed street and from the north line of the proposed street to Lincoln, many of them would be slightly less than the 9,000 feet required for R-1 zoning," Gare said.

He said the plan board and Vilican-Leman planning consultants had suggested a 10 per cent variance in zoning requirements for this area.

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