

Managerial Abilities

Birmingham's city government is in a period of transition, which started two years ago with the termination of service as a commissioner by Mrs. Florence H. Willett. Since then, two new commissioners have been elected. The "old guard" is giving way, in a sense, to a new segment of community leadership.

Now the transition moves into a new phase, with the decision of City Manager L. R. Gare to retire at the end of this year. Because of Mr. Gare's managerial abilities, this phase of transition, we are sure, will go smoothly.

And we are more concerned in this discussion with the manager's service to his community than we are with the transition. The latter we will deal with in greater detail at another time.

A DEDICATED individual, Mr. Gare has achieved a reputation of always looking out for the good of the city, giving his support to those programs and goals that he felt were in accord with the high standards already set for this city. His championship of community causes going for the city is consistent and predictable.

One of Mr. Gare's abilities is that of delegating authority to others. A professional engineer by training, he has the wisdom to rely on the advice of those who possess abilities and knowledge that he does not.

Besides his loyalty to the city, Mr. Gare is known for his loyalty to City employees, giving them the kind of support that make them respect their boss.

THE CITY manager's position requires of him a sensitivity to feel the pulse of the commission, the administration and the people and to effect solutions to problems that will be accepted by all. This, too, he has demonstrated to have achieved with a great degree of success. And the ability and willingness to compromise has been a major factor in this respect.

Through his dedication to the city and to his office, he has been a constant source of inspiration to those working for and with him. For example, although it is not

required, he attends all meetings of the plan board and zoning board of appeals.

He is a man who respects a confidence, a man whom you can trust and who expects to be able to trust you.

THAT MR. GARE has been sensitive to the wants and needs of the people of Birmingham, is attested to in this comment from the announcement of his forthcoming retirement:

"You get no better city or government than the citizens want and the people of Birmingham have taken enough interest to insure that the community is the fine city that it is."

Mr. Gare has been responsive to their wants and has helped immensely in giving us a continuity of excellence in government.

MR. GARE, 61, has been an employee of the City of Birmingham for 15 years and its city manager since 1957. Before assuming the duties of chief administrative officer, he served as director of public works and city engineer.

"After nearly 40 years of service in municipal government, the last 15 have been the most gratifying to me," Mr. Gare declared.

Those 15 years have been gratifying ones too for the city of Birmingham. With Mr. Gare's leadership, the city has built municipal parking lots, improved streets and sewers, developed an outstanding recreation program, modernized the police and fire departments.

AN AVID sportsman, Mr. Gare is extremely proud of the new municipal golf course on Cranbrook Road at Lincoln. It was chiefly through his persistence that this project was achieved. Yet, when it comes to golf he only plays once or twice a year.

Mr. Gare has found the last 15 years gratifying. We submit that the people of Birmingham are indebted to him for his dedicated service. He has earned his retirement, and we hope that it will be as rewarding in personal satisfaction as have the years of work in government.

Yes, Widen Southfield Road

The Beverly Hills Road Commission has unanimously recommended to the Village Council that Southfield Road be widened between 13 and 14 Mile roads.

The council will act on the recommendation on Monday night, and since four of the seven councilmen are members of the road commission, it seems logical that the council would accept the recommendation. This is a sound decision. Southfield Road is not a residential street in that area.

When the bridge is completed at Greenfield and 8 Mile Road—thus making the freeway more easily accessible from 8 Mile—already overcrowded Southfield will carry more north and south traffic.

THE ROAD HAS ALREADY been widened south of 13 Mile, and each evening the bottleneck resulting from a narrower road has caused accidents and hot tempers. Improvement of the through road will also take some traffic off the side streets, which are residential.

While the council shows great foresight in this matter, we might suggest that it try to solve another traffic problem that arises out of the same congestion.

We are, of course, referring to the extension of 14 Mile through to Evergreen.

THIS AREA HAS SEEN an unbelievable increase in vehicular traffic in the last several years.

In proper planning, this traffic must be routed through residential areas as quickly yet as safely as possible.

The northern bound traffic is using residential subdivisions to get north of Beverly Hills and west of Southfield. This eventually will both destroy the value of that area and may cost the life of a child.

If the north-south route is designed to keep fast traffic away from the residences, why shouldn't the east-west route also be so designed?

IMPROVEMENT OF 14 Mile Road will keep the transit traffic where it belongs and eliminate congestion where we now have it.

We expect the council to take a constructive step forward on Monday night by approving the widening of Southfield, and we sincerely hope that they won't stop there and will take the necessary steps to improve 14 Mile within the very near future.

'Well, You Wanted to Go First Class'



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Sees LBJ, Humphrey Winning in November

To the Editor:

With two weeks to go it is not too early to forecast the outcome of the coming election. President Johnson and Senator Humphrey will get between 60 and 70 percent of the popular vote, between 70 and 80 percent of the electoral vote.

This prediction is based on the following conclusions or facts:
1. The majority of American voters have too much good sense to be able to entertain the prospect of Goldwater and Miller in the White House. This would be a national and global disaster.

2. Senator Goldwater will not carry the South. He may carry a few southern states.

3. The so-called northern "white-backlash" is largely a myth. Senator Goldwater and Congressman Miller are not close to the pulse of the majority of the American people.

4. Congressman Miller will not capture the Catholic vote as was hoped.

5. Never before in history have so many newspapers and other publications declared for the Democratic ticket. In other years

some would not have been caught supporting the Democrats.

Let us hope the Republican Party can recover from the impending debacle in time to put up a ticket in 1968 that will give the American people a real choice. The current choice is between sanity and insanity.

WILLIAM LYMAN,
5865 Hickory Bend,
Bloomfield Hills

Yesteryear Happenings

50 YEARS AGO
October 16, 1914

The initial run of the Bloomfield Hills Hunt Club association will be held Saturday, October 24. Already sufficient land privileges have been granted to insure a riding territory of over 2,500 acres. The bounds of the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club will be knelled in the vicinity and the members' horses stabled nearby. Considering the number of enthusiastic riders in the neighborhood, good-sized crowds are assured.

Ellsworth Plumstead at the Family Theatre last week Friday night played to S.R.O. Both performances were well rendered and loudly cheered. He's a winner in his own home town. The pictures as usual were fine. "Classmates" last Monday night drew a full house. John Schram has started "The Million Dollar Mystery" which is a continued story, the second installment was given Wednesday night. You can't miss it if you saw the first one.

Henry Welch, being obliged to dispose of his personal property, will sell at public auction on the premises known as the Adams Farm on Maple avenue, one mile east of Birmingham, Tuesday, October 20, five horses and a lot of farming tools and household goods. Edgar A. Free is the auctioneer.

30 YEARS AGO
October 18, 1934

Charges that Governor Cusick attempted to interfere with his campaign to rid Oakland County of slot machines were made by Sheriff Roy Reynolds yesterday afternoon in the course of a political talk at a meeting in the Community House, sponsored by the County Republican Women's Club, Dimitry Z. Manuilsky, presiding officer of the U.N. Security Council 1949.)

The Security Council office has always been occupied by USSR agents, a concession granted to them by Alger Hiss.

(Continued on 4-B)

Cites Meager Audience at BAA Concert

To the Editor:

It was a shock for me to find only a handful of BAA members present at the recent concert presented at the Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road.

One somehow expects different action from the people in an area such as this. Members of the Instrumental Ensemble numbered 10. The program was a delightful musical treat, but one could only be saddened by the thought that it was heard by so few.

How discouraging it must be to the people who work long and hard in order to perfect their art! Perhaps the BAA should apologize for such lack of interest.

I TRUST your paper will give some note of encouragement to this group of competent musicians and its gifted conductor, Arthur Sheehan, personally, would love to hear them again.

Let's appreciate and support our local artists!
M. L.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Listen to American Writers, Not to the Internationalists

To the Editor:

We need more and not less of the enlightening and informative writings by that sage of our times, George H. Averil, author of the "This and That" column and former publisher and editor of Birmingham Eccentric, under whose leadership the paper became one of the finest weeklies in the country.

It is our misfortune that there are far too many Americans who are confused, befuddled or unaware of the insidious ways the enemy is working its way into the bloodstream of our land with the help and cooperation of false prophets.

TO PRESERVE the freedom and liberty, we must safeguard it and not fall for honeyed voice of propagandists who have been planted by the enemy in our government departments, our institutions of learning and also our churches, too, to brain-

wash us far surrender of the heritage won by the blood of ancestors, whose courage and love for land we need to emulate if we are to survive as a free nation.

Freedom and liberty once lost are hard to recapture from a bloodthirsty enemy. As one who has lost all to the invading hordes and had to flee on foot seeking refuge from enemy bullets or degradation, I can better appreciate what this land of freedom and liberty has bestowed upon us without taking anything for granted.

OUR FOREMOST duty and first line of defense for self-preservation is being well informed: Reading books and writings by loyal Americans and not listening to propagandists who come to us through various means of communication, be it radio, TV, lecture hall or pulpit. Intelligent and well-informed

Americans will not be put to sleep by spectacular peace movement on record and cooperate in his own destruction, leap at another chance to be friends as soon as his guard is down to be smashed with clenched fist."

(Excerpts from: a speech by Dimitry Z. Manuilsky, presiding officer of the U.N. Security Council 1949.)

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IF YOU find that your local libraries do not carry informative books, get in touch with patriotic societies and they will be glad to be of help. Steer away from the internationalists and nefarious do-gooders.

God Bless Americans who have not lost faith in their land and God bless GRA.
ONE OF YOUR SUBSCRIBERS

Eccentricities

By HANK HOGAN



The other night I was down in Detroit and went into a building that looked like an apartment house in order to use the phone.

I was met at the door by a young girl who was dressed like a rabbit. Well, not exactly like a rabbit; but if you ever dress rabbits, this is the way you should dress them.

The young rabbit, er lady, asked me for my key. Thinking that this was a rather unusual apartment house, I tried to humor her and took out every key in my pocket. One caught her eye, which I had been carrying around for a long time and never really knew what it was for. I remember my brother-in-law giving it to me one night and saying something about hiding it.

ANYWAY, APPARENTLY this key was what I needed because I was ushered into the establishment.

I asked the little rabbit where the telephone booth was, and she looked at me with a knowing smile and pointed to a long corridor. I guess she didn't get the message, because all I found were rest rooms.

WELL, I MADE MY WAY back to the front of the apartment house and got on the elevator. I pressed the button that said "Penthouses" because there were only three buttons and you wouldn't find a phone in either the "Living Room" or the "Playroom."

When I arrived on my floor I was escorted into a room full of rabbits and ushered to a table.

A little girl came up to me and introduced herself as my "bunny." I reached in my pocket for a carrot or a piece of lettuce out of embarrassment, because I had never seen a bunny in a low cut pelt before.

I ORDERED A DRINK, the lights went down and there in front of me was some pretty good entertainment.

When the lights came on again, my bunny asked me for my autograph on a little white ticket and I went downstairs.

There on a big board was a caption reporting the names of the playboys who were there that night, and there was my name.

I thought to myself if I ever leave suburbia and go back to apartment living, this was the type of apartment for me.

I got my car and headed home, thinking that some funny things sure do happen in a big town.



City Beat

By KEN WEAVER

Have you ever wondered what to tell your kids when they complain, "There's nothing to do?"

A juvenile court judge in Denver, Colo., has the answer. A recent newsletter of the Birmingham Rotary Club carried a letter written by Judge Phillip B. Gilliam under the heading "Teen-agers, Grow Up and Go Home."

It reads like this:
"The plaintive wail of the teen-ager is all too familiar to parents and all adults: 'What can we do? Where can we go?'"

"My answer to these kids can be summed up in two words: 'Go home!'"

"Hang the storm windows, paint the woodwork, rake the leaves, mow the lawn, shovel the snow, wash the car, learn to cook, scrub some floors, repair the sink, build a boat, get a job."

"HELP! The minister, priest or rabbi, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army. Visit the sick, assist the poor, study your lessons. And when you are through—and not too tired—read a book."

"Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your city or village does not owe you a living. You owe the world something. You owe it your time and energy and your talents so that no one will be at war, in poverty, or sick, or lonely again."

"IN PLAIN simple words, grow up and quit being a crybaby. Get out of your dream world and develop a backbone, not a wishbone, and start acting like a man or a woman."

"You're supposed to be mature enough to accept some of the responsibilities your parents have carried for years. They've nursed, protected, helped, appealed, begged, excused, tolerated and denied themselves so that you could have every benefit."

"You have no right to expect them to bow to every whim and fancy just because your selfish ego, instead of common sense, dominates your life, personality, thinking, requests, demands."

"In heaven's name—grow up and go home!"

THE GIST OF this message, is, of course, that there is required to do it someone really wants to do it. All that is required is a genuine desire to be active, an exercise of the thought processes and the expenditure of some physical effort.

Yes, even here in Birmingham "there is something to do." You're places like The Community House, the YMCA, the church, the schools and community service organizations can use some voluntary help.

And there is no greater satisfaction to be derived than that of lending assistance: Besides the self-satisfaction of actually accomplishing something, there is the pleasure of associating with people.

WHAT A JOY it is after a job is done to sit and talk about it while sipping a cup of coffee or a soft drink; to discuss yesterday's World Series game, last Friday's football game, the assignment in Civics Class, the dance coming up next week, the outcome of the November election.

What a pleasure it is to drive through town and look at the different kinds of houses and wonder who the people are who live in them and what they are doing; to stroll through Shain Park and observe the people coming and going from the library, city hall and post office; to stand on the banks of Quanton Lake and watch the

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