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NEW YEAR GREETINGS



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EULOGY FOR JOHN CAMPBELL

'Few Achieve Such Excellence'

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following eulogy, in memory of John G. Campbell, first mayor of Hazel Park and a former mayor of Lathrup Village who died Saturday was written by Kathryn V. Feyerisen, Ph.D., professor of education at Wayne State University. Dr. Feyerisen was a member of Lathrup's charter council and served two years while Mr. Campbell was mayor.

By DR. KATHRYN V. FEYERISEN

With the departure of John G. Campbell, the metropolitan community feels a deep sense of loss — of the man, the builder, statesman and nationalist. In the span of a lifetime few of us achieve such excellence and contribute so greatly in so many fields of service.

John Campbell was a man who stood tall. His faith in himself was unshakable and seemed to spring from deep wells of inner strength.

The oldest of five children in his Kentucky family, he was catapulted into adulthood at the age of 10, when upon his father's death, he assumed the role of head of the house. As such he sought work and always found not one job but several which he carried simultaneously and successfully.

This was to establish a pattern for future years. During World War I, the young man in his late teens, served in three branches of the service, and upon honorable discharge applied for the right to earn a commission in the U. S. Army which was granted. As a lieutenant he went to Texas and subsequently earned a captain's commission.

After the war his interests and abilities in the construction industry brought him to Detroit where he was employed as a carpenter to work on the building of the Art Museum. When knowledge problems developed in the marble on the project, the resourceful John solved them, drawing the attention of the overseers to his capabilities.

This led to his appointment of construction superintendent with the firm. Supervising a building for the Detroit Saturday Night Paper, he proved his ability to direct working teams of men to get things done.

In the years of the depression he served as construction superintendent for Bryant and Designer, building the Hiram-Walker Distillery in Peoria, Ill. There were four years in Columbus, Ohio on similar projects.

In those days, it is told, that only those firms which bid low secured the contracts, and it was to John Campbell's credit that he never lost money on any job and was never out of work.

IN THE YEAR 1945, when the J. L. Hudson Co. undertook the renovation of their downtown store building, it was John Campbell's idea to keep the store open and going while major additions and changes were made including the installation of escalators.

This was accomplished through round-the-clock, seven-day work schedules for John and the crews of workmen and a system of outdoor elevator lifts designed by the ingenious John.

His building projects of which he was most proud stand as monumental evidence of his genius. At the time of his completion, each of them was known to be the largest in their class.

They were Northland shop-

ping center with its 15 acres of basement area; the Willow Run bomber plant with its sixty-five acres under one roof; the Ford Pressed Steel building with its 39 acres under one roof; the Hiram-Walker Distillery; the 1,000-bed Veterans Hospital in Brecksville, O., a suburb of Cleveland; and the 80-inch Hot Steel Strip Mill in East Chicago, Ind.

The mill is known to have the longest strip mill and the longest motor room in the industry.

JOHN CAMPBELL did not rest from his labor in the usual sense of the word. To him, rest meant a change of activity, which accounts for his many interesting hobbies and projects in addition to his regular work.

While engaged in major construction enterprises, he found time to renovate two farms in Indiana on which he set up two families in the business of raising beef cattle, hogs and soybeans. The same families have occupied his farms for over 20 years.

He built a home in Lathrup Village for his family and a cabin near Pradenville, Mich., creating a two-acre, enclosed experimental plot for raising pine trees.

Qualifying as a registered nurseryman, he acquired a lot adjacent to his home in Lathrup Village and raised hybrid corn, fruit trees and unusual shrubs. He lovingly named it "Hobbs Gardens."

HIS DEVOTION to community service led him into politics and he had in writing two charters for home-rule cities. He served as the first mayor of Hazel Park and the second mayor of the City of Lathrup Village.

As a charter member of their city councils he gave intense leadership to governmental organization and the writing of needed ordinances. Characteristic of his way of working was to study each problem, gather the facts and statistics pertaining thereto and project a solution in the light of probable consequences to the people.

One could be sure he had done his "homework" before each session or committee meeting. Once determined upon a line of action, he pursued the course with all the tenacity of his Scotch ancestry.

At times this angered his associates and made enemies of those who sought compromise or expedient solutions. So totally did he reject Machiavellian theory and behavior that he was considered by some to be out of step with his time.

But to him, there was no end to be justified by devious means and might did not make right in the use of power.

LATER, elected to the board of education of the Southfield School District, he stirred up a hornet's nest with his insistence upon competitive bids for contracts, strict compliance with state statutes which he studied assiduously, and open meetings on controversial questions.

He viewed boards of education as composed of dedicated laymen of various competencies and experience backgrounds, acting in the interests of the school district, not as rubber stamps of the educational bureaucracy.

Gratefully, we remember John G. Campbell for what he was and what he did to build better communities in a self-governing society. May other men of vision, character, enterprise and devotion to duty and public service follow in his footsteps.

Reflects

(Continued from 1-A)

have lived in Birmingham since 1931. Their present home is at 1441 Penitence.

He expects to spend his leisure time pursuing his hobby which is lapidary work, and traveling around the country in a newly-purchased trailer.

The Beers are especially looking forward to a trailer club rally planned for July. Beers said over 2,000 trailers are expected to gather somewhere in the Midwest "as soon as we can find a place big enough."

He was one of the founders of the Birmingham Auxiliary Police Force and has served as its chief twice.



Awarded Medal

Seaman Brian L. Fitzgerald, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Fitzgerald of 1480 Old Salem Court, Birmingham, received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal while serving aboard the anti-submarine aircraft carrier USS Kearsarge in the Far East. The medal was awarded all crewmembers of the U. S. Seventh Fleet carrier which provided anti-submarine warfare protection for ships of the fleet operating in the South China Sea off the coast of Viet Nam after communist Viet Cong PT boat attacks against U. S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin.

A million American school children transfer from one school to another during a year.

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'People's Epic' Is Topic by Detroit Poet

Detroit Walter Field, poet, author, and manufacturer will be presented Wednesday in a review of "A People's Epic," his own 400-page history of the Jewish people.

Written in verse, the history spans a period of 4,000 years. This is the third in the series of Shaarey Zedeck Sinterhood Book Reviews. Scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., the review will be preceded by a Continental Breakfast in the Rabbi Morris Adler Social Hall of Congregation Shaarey Zedeck, 27875 Bell Road, Southfield.

Information and tickets may be procured by phoning Mrs. Albert Schweitzer, or Mrs. Joseph Lieberoff, Mrs. Julius S. Meskin is President of the Sinterhood.

FIELD'S FIRST published writings entitled, "More Truth Than Poetry," appeared in 1954. Walter Field is a devoted student of Jewish history and conceived the idea that young Jewish people might be encouraged to study and retain the history of their people more readily by committing to memory lines in rhyme.

Hills Man Ends Navy Training

Seaman Recruit Mark H. Bourdon, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard L. Bourdon of 443 Henley Drive, Bloomfield Hills, completed basic training Dec. 4, at the Recruit Training Command, U.S. Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif.

The nine-week recruit training period covers physical fitness, basic military law, military drill, customs and etiquette of the Naval service, swimming and survival, first aid and a basic knowledge of shipboard routine.

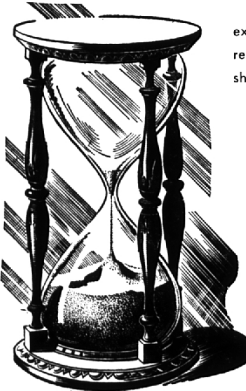
Twp. Restaurant Looted of \$3,300

More than \$3,300 in cash and \$321 in checks were taken from Bedell's Restaurant, on Woodward north of Square Lake Road in Bloomfield Township, Christmas night.

Township police, who discovered the theft during a routine check of the building, said entrance was through a hole knocked in an office wall. The cash and checks were taken from a floor safe.

A whole soybean is 37.9 per cent protein.

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As 1964 draws to a close, we wish to express our deep appreciation for the fine reception you have given us in the few short months we have been open.

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