

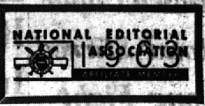
Personal product that millions found hope in...
...a population of 2,500,000. This figure compares with \$3.33 in 1962.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Thursday, February 6, 1964

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



This and That

by George R. Averill This Man's 'Estate' Beyond Grasp of Tax Collector

He had been employed by this newspaper for 22 years—had this kindly, gentle man whose material remains were laid to rest a few days ago. He had started in the humble—albeit it might be necessary to say—job of maintaining our establishment in neatness and orderliness; then he became an aid-in-the-Eccentric's pressroom.

Whenever he was found, you could bet that his face was wreathed in a smile, his lips ready to toss off a witty rip. Over many years he said this reporter, "You know, many bits of repartee—with never a real sting in them."

He retired from the company payroll two years ago. This 75-year-old "youngster" left this world without the encumbrance of much in the way of material wealth... yet, in the realm of the inestimable riches of friendships and love he left an estate beyond calculation.

Yes, I've known a good many human beings; some of them very wealthy in material things, some of them average, many of them with few saved dollars. Among them the person and personality of John F. Dunn will always stand out.

I still can hear him start to say, "Oh, I say, G.R.A., did you hear about... and what followed afterwards were words that you might find amusing and chuckles. John F. Dunn was that rare gentle man who, I'm sure, never really disliked another human being! Need one's epitaph say more?

Never allow your thoughts to become so condemnatory of a fellow man that you fail in your ability to make improvement. Prompted by a sincere desire to make progress toward a better life, you may suddenly be surprised (as also will others) that you have become a better man or woman.

Don't fall victim to self-deception, either from your own or others' criticism. Man's destiny is the High Road. Travel it!

B'ham Fire Loss Lower in 1963

Per capita fire loss in Birmingham dropped slightly in 1963 over the previous year.

Fire Chief George S. Scott said the per capita loss for the year was \$6.52, based on a population of 25,000. This figure compares with \$6.58 in 1962.

During the year there was a total of \$11,653,845 in the form of claims for fire and theft losses exposed to fire, Scott said.

"Of this amount \$8,790 was estimated to have been lost by fire," he said. The chief noted Birmingham's loss compares favorably with the national per capita loss of \$7 and the state per capita loss of \$6.83.

Scott said he was "happy" to report there had been no loss of lives due to fire in 1963.

THE DEPARTMENT made a total of 474 runs during 1963. Of the total, 288 were alarm runs for fire and five investigations; 11 were for investigation of suspected gas.

First aid runs last year amounted to 80 calls. The department counted two general alarms and two false alarms.

Scott said of Birmingham's total fire loss, \$72,000,000 accounted for in the city's six major fires.

In order of their occurrence the fires were:

Andrew O'Keefe home, 583 Mahogany; William Downey home, 1480 Suffolk; Michael Michaels residence, 860 Aubrey; Birmingham Psychiatric & Medical Association, 511 Bates; and the George R. Levere residence, 929 Southlawn.

SCOTT SAID the department spent a total of 190 hours in actual fire-fighting and rescue work and traveled 1,233 miles en route to the fires and on the first aid runs.

Automobile fires with 58 in number topped the list of causes of losses in Birmingham. There were also 40 grass fires, 37 caused by defective electrical appliances and 37 runs for investigation for fire and smoke.

In addition to his fire chief duties, Scott is also head of the city's bureau of water production.

He said water consumption reached an all-time high in Birmingham in 1963.

A TOTAL of 1,121,408,626 gallons of water was used in the city for domestic and fire purposes. All but \$2,900 gallons, which was produced from city wells, was purchased from the Southeastern Regional County Water Authority.

The City of Troy was sold 69,180,000 gallons of water from the Walker well.

It was noted that the water authority in the city during the year was 42,694 gallons and the daily per capita use was 116 gallons, Scott said.

The peak production day was July 11, when 9,672,341 gallons were produced.

"At no time during the year did we experience a water shortage or even come close to it," Scott said.

It was a maximum potential output to Birmingham, Royal Oak and Beverly Hills of 50 million gallons per day and the three cities together averaged, throughout the year, five million gallons per day.

Beverly Hills Has Surplus

BEVERLY HILLS—A solid financial condition, with a surplus of \$30,481.91 for the year ending Dec. 31, 1963, was the report of Councilman Chester F. Guilmet at the regular council meeting Monday.

Guilmet brought the council to date on the financial status of the village, with total revenues of \$174,870.50 to report, \$17,429 more than the estimated \$157,441.

EXPENDITURES were \$131,294.79, which was \$15,000.11 less than the estimated \$146,294.79.

The total over estimates was \$30,481.91.

The increase in revenue was due to the large number of new homes and other buildings put up in 1963—the biggest building boom to date in the village—and the consequent broadening of the tax base.

Robert Squires, 23, of Bloomfield Township, and Charles Poole, 25, of Union Lake, both pleaded guilty to a charge of breaking and entering before Circuit Judge Rupert Stephens in Manistee County.

A charge of felonious assault against the two was dropped.

Squires and Poole were apprehended by Oscoda County sheriff's deputies after they allegedly attacked a Reed City policeman who caught them attempting to open a safe in the supermarket.

Squires also must face trial in Oakland County Circuit Court in connection with an earlier break-in in Bloomfield Township.

Have you been aware that The Eccentric Classified Ads are a great source for that second family car? P.S. Why not ask about our low 3-time insertion rate with cancellation privileges.

Seek Police Report on Teen Smoking

City Commissioners Carl F. Ingraham and David F. Breck have called for a report from the police department concerning the youth smoking problem in Birmingham.

Ingraham said he had been surprised at the number of teen-agers he had seen smoking on Birmingham streets recently.

"Since the recent publicity on the effects of smoking, we have all seen the results of people fighting with the problem of trying to stop smoking," Ingraham said.

"It seems to me we have an obligation to save young people from suffering withdrawal symptoms," Ingraham said.

STATE LAW prohibits the use of tobacco by persons under 21 years of age, but in recent years there has been little effort made to enforce the statute.

"There seems to be little excuse that we do not enforce the law," Ingraham said.

Breck added that he would like to look into the possibility of adopting a city ordinance governing smoking by minors.

Wilson to Lead '64 Community House Campaign

A businessman and long-time resident of this area, Edward E. Wilson of 116 Chesterfield, Bloomfield Hills, has been named chairman of the 1964 Community House Fund Drive.

"We welcome the proven capabilities and enthusiasm of Ed Wilson to meet the requirements of this challenging responsibility," stated Bob Thom, president of The Community House.

"The House With a Heart," an affectionate synonym for The Community House, is striving to attain a \$55,000 goal which is based on an estimate of administrative and maintenance requirements for the coming year, according to Bob Bogan, executive director.

WILSON IS president of Wilson Pontiac-Cadillac Agency, 1850 N. Woodward, Birmingham. The agency was started in 1949.

Wilson attended Cranbrook Academy, Michigan State University and Cornell University. His interests have included the ownership and operation of dairy farms in Oxford, Metamora and Birmingham.

He has current interests in radio station WJZO and television station WILX, serving the Lansing and Jackson areas, and is president of the Television Corporation of Michigan, Inc.

WILSON ACTS IN an advisory capacity to The Boy Scouts of America. He was county chairman of the Republican Committee for three years and is a member of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce.

Burglars Get Mink At Dimas Fur Store

For the second time in three weeks, burglars have struck at Dimas Fur, 227 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

Police Lt. Merlin Holmquist said the front window of the store was smashed early Wednesday morning and an \$800 mink stole was taken.

At about 3 a.m. Jan. 15, two stoics worth an estimated \$1,650 were taken from the store.

In Perilous Path

When progress comes, it sometimes takes an unpopular course. Residents in the western part of Bloomfield Township want the conveniences of Detroit water but are loath to part with this landmark on the northwest corner of Maple and Franklin roads. The pine trees, which Mrs. Earl Weston, 5655 Forman Drive, wagers is "over 100 years old" lies directly in the path of a main transmission line proceeding down Franklin. "What history it must have seen," says Mrs. Weston, only one of several residents concerned about the fate of the 75-foot tree.



History of Home Rule In Michigan Related

Fifth in a series
By SHELLEY SPANN
Public Relations Chairman
B'ham League of Women Voters

Prior to the Constitutional Convention of 1962, county home rule had a somewhat disastrous history in the state of Michigan.

Inasmuch as there was no provision for county home rule in the constitution of 1908, any such proposal had to be made in the form of a constitutional amendment.

As early as 1922, the Citizens' State Committee on County Reorganization attempted to secure such an amendment. The state commission studying school district government made a recommendation for county home rule. This led directly to an initiative proposal (petition by the electorate) for county home rule on the ballot of November, 1934.

THE 1934 PROPOSAL was self-executing. It authorized the legislature to set up alternative plans of county government. It authorized the board of supervisors of any county, upon obtaining a two-thirds majority, or obligated them, upon being petitioned by 10 per cent of those voting for governor at the previous general election, to develop a form of government for submission to the voters.

It required that the adoption or amendment of a county charter be by a majority of electors voting on the question.

These requirements are also included in the provision for county home rule in the new constitution.

Because it was self-executing, however, it made further stipulations which could be considered the essence of enabling legislation. It stated that any plan could eliminate any constitutional county officers and provide for the number, selection, powers, duties, term and compensation of the board of supervisors and all other officers.

Boy Killed In Franklin Car Accident

FRANKLIN—State police continued today to investigate a traffic accident here Sunday morning that claimed the life of an 11-year-old boy who was thrown from a car driven by his mother in a two-car crash at Franklin and 18 Mile roads.

Paul Lawrens was dead on arrival at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. His mother, Mrs. Blanche M. Lawrens, 46, of 30405 Rosemond, Franklin, was released from the hospital.

According to state police from the Redford post, Mrs. Lawrens was driving north on Franklin when her car collided with a westbound car on 18 Mile driven by Albert E. Querton, Jr., 50, of 543 Pilgrim, Birmingham.

Comments from... CLASSIFIED



"I was simply amazed," said Mrs. Weidman, "everyone of my callers wanted my car... and they all came over at the same time!"

1960 FALCON 4 DOOR RADIO, AUTO-MATIC transmission. Original color. When her car crashed on 18 Mile, 1960.

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