Cranbrook to Take Part in Mock Democrat Convention

Friday afternoon, March 15, eight Cranbrook boys will depart for Kalamazoo where they will represent the school in a mock Democratic convention rally at which college and high school delegates from six mid-western states will nominate their choice for the Democratic presidential candidate in the coming campaign this November.

The Cranbrook group, which was selected by Dr. R. D. Lindquist, Mr. G. T. Nickerson and Mr. R. J. Hill, who will act as faculty advisor for the group, includes Lee Bishop, Chairman of the delegation, Don Fine, press representative, David Ketelhut, Eugene Mandel, Paul Van Keuren, Glen Ballagh, Bud Summerfield, and Frank Rowland. The entire convention will take place at Kalamazoo College, and will be conducted in the manner of the regular party conventions of the rival political groups which are soon to take place in Chicago and Philadelphia. A party platform will be drawn up after much discussion and eventually a candidate will be chosen.

De Molay

March 17 — Devotional day. Services to be held at 10:30 o'clock at the Franklin Community Church. All DeMolay will gather at the Masonic Temple and then proceed to the Baptist Church to hear the Rev. Howell Gum. The service will be of special interest to DeMolay and they will be seated as a group. This is one of the four obligatory days that the Order provides must be observed.

March 20 — Dinner and initiation at Pontiac Chapter. The Pontiac Chapter is celebrating the 21st anniversary of DeMolay and 21 candidates are to be initiated that evening. One candidate from Birmingham will take part in the initiation and approximately 45 local DeMolays, their fathers and friends will witness the initiation and after the dinner to be held at 6:30.

March 27—Father and Son banquet.

On the Road

It is not an uncommon thing nowadays to see two roadsters neck and neck with the occupants of both of them doing the same thing.—The Louisville Times.

Of Course

Anyone who has learned how to change from a business suit to a bathing costume in a coupe, and mind dressing in a Pullman berth. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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Perry Vaughan Wins Nomination

Opposition to Perry A. Vaughan, who if elected at the April 1 poll, will begin his tenth year as supervisor of Bloomfield Township, was responsible Saturday afternoon for the large crowd who gathered at the town hall for the township Republican caucus.

Electors were estimated at more than 500. Opposing Vaughan was Edward Sikorski.

Floyd Beardslee was nominated for clerk; David Anderson, treasurer; Delbert C. James, justice of the peace; highway commissioner, Jacob Baumann; Robert J. Brennan, Board of Review. Constables nominated were F. C. Matthews, William Forman, Ralph Hemmerly and Bernard N. Gillon.

In Bloomfield Township, nomination by this caucus virtually amounts to election as there is no Democratic opposition.

What Your School Board Is Doing . . .

Regular meeting of the Board of Education March 12, 1940.

Communication received from Felton & McGee advising the Board on the method of handling the special assessment levied on school property on which the Board cannot at legally pay.

Petition received from 32 people living in the Barnum and Pierce School area requesting the Board of Education to retain Alma McMinn Collins as a teacher in the school system.

Communication received from Mrs. Theodore Kaufmann expressing appreciation of the consideration of the petition.

Supt. Crull submitted a report covering the resolution adopted by the Board of Education June 7, 1934, providing for the following matters during period they are under contract.

Communication received from Mrs. Crull advising the Board of her desire to return her teaching position.

The president appointed the Board as a committee of the whole, to investigate the advisability of rescinding the resolution or withdrawing it and to report at the next regular meeting.

Mrs. Spiegel reported on the progress the Quarton P.-T. A. was making regarding the development of the playground at the Quarton School and submitted a plan which was referred to Mr. Randall to check and advise the committee.

Communication received from Mrs. Gertrude Corson thanking the Board, Mr. Randall and Mrs. Halladay's business practice group for the co-operation and service given during the Child Health series lectures. She also expressed her delight to Mr. Crull of the editorials published in The Eccentric a few weeks ago.

Report of treasurer received.

Reports of Mr. Crull and Mr. Randall received.

The following motions were passed:

Bills to be confirmed in the amount of $9,419.06 and Accounts Payable in the amount of $3,143.31.

Requisitions, including pay rolls, in the amount of $21,763.66.

Collegiate Swing Seen in Men's Easter Styles

Styled for Easter wear are these young men's suits and hats in collegiate fashion. Snappy plaids so popular with undergraduates have come off the campus to outdistance the ever popular chalk stripe, appearing even in conservative every day suits like one at left. Spring topcoats show strong designs as in single-breasted bold herringbone at right. Snap in the new topper is provided by soldier-stitched felt, above, with ostrich plume, or by puggaree band of pleated silk worn on lightweight "telescope" felt, below.

Michigan Mirror

NON-PARTISAN STATE NEWS LETTER

LANSING—The wobds are full of deserving causes.

But few of them have the heart-throb appeal of old age pensions.

Here is an issue for politicians that is made to order, and it is becoming of greater importance each year. Pension checks have been known to increase suddenly on the eve of a state election; nominees shed salty tears as they pledge oratorically to give better treatment to the aged and infirm. In Colorado a generous pension for the aged nearly bankrupt the state treasury; California had its "ham and eggs" scheme and Ohio its Bigelow amendment last November to entice old age voters and to scare conservative businessmen.

In Michigan all public officials apparently agree that the state should find funds, somehow and somewhere, to put 25,000 to 30,000 persons on the old age assistance rolls who have already been qualified to receive such aid.

The merit of the cause is conceded.

No one is going to argue about that.

McPherson's Forecast

When the chairman of a state tax commission predicts that both the old age assistance toll and the amount of individual payments will be increased by the next legislature (it convenes in regular session in 1941), then it's time to reappraise the plan and inquire how it is going to be financed.

Furthermore, Melville B. McPherson, who holds this tax job at Lansing, confidently believes that the next step by state government will be the granting of an adequate pension to all elderly people whether they need it or not. In a talk at Michigan State College recently he explained its justification as follows: "The present method penalizes those who have saved their money during their productive years, and such a system cannot endure."

The original federal social security act (modelled upon European experience) became a law August 14, 1935. Although it contained provisions for relief of seven different kinds, the public thinks of the act usually in terms of two: old age benefits (pension and assistance) and unemployment compensation.

Old age benefits are paid to retired workers on the basis of their previous earnings and are not to be confused with relief payments to aged indigent persons—this relief being called "old age assistance" in the federal act and the Michigan act which complements it.

Michigan and the federal government each pay one-half of these last mentioned payments as "pensions"; that is, provided the total per amount is not in excess of $30.

1939 Amendments

The old age assistance part of the Social Security Act was materially changed by 1939 amendments made by Congress. The reserve feature was mostly eliminated, the basis for benefits changed, and benefits included for dependents and survivors. The rate was frozen at 1 per cent for the next three years, both employer and employee paying 1 per cent. Except for this amendment it would have been 1½ per cent for 1940, 1941 and 1942. However, it still will go to 2 per cent in 1943 unless another amendment is made in the meantime.

The former basis for old age pensions (apart from assistance for the indigent infirm) was largely dependent upon the total wages earned over a period of years; also no benefits were payable until 1942.

Now the basis for benefits is the average monthly wage, and the length of time worked is an insignificant factor in the benefit, being only an addition of 1 per cent of the benefit for each year worked.

Furthermore, benefits for the person of low monthly wage are made larger in proportion to said earning, and benefits are payable beginning January, 1940, of two years before the time set in the original law of 1935.

Requirements

As the average reader of "Michigan Mirror" expects to live to 65, here are the requirements for your benefit payments at that age.

Minimum requirements for benefit payments are now only one and a half years of work. Those over 65 years of age are now required to pay tax and are eligible for benefits after completing at least six quarters and retiring from gainful employment except a monthly earning of $15 or less is not deducted from the benefits allowed.

The benefits to the wife who is over 65 is one-half of her husband's allowance, which allowance is called the "primary insurance benefit" and each dependent child under 18 receives the same. A widow over 65 receives three-fourths of the primary insurance benefit and dependent children one-half in case of the death of the death of the husband and father.

It will be noted that the word "insurance" is contained in the 1939 amended act, and it seems that the present law is similar to an insurance policy wherein the original act was more like an annuity policy.

Pensions and Taxes

If the 1941 legislature is going to increase the appropriation for old age assistance, providing funds to add a minimum of 25,000 persons to the assistance roll, then how is this deserving cause to be financed?

Mr. McPherson points to the intangible tax revived in 1939. The state association of township supervisors, meeting recently in Lansing, went on record as favoring a return of on-third of the sales tax revenues to the township for unemployment, relief and welfare purposes.

With a red ink deficit of $21,000,000 in Michigan's general fund, the well meaning need of more old age assistance presents a real problem to Michigan taxpayers. It is not our function to suggest the answer; we only present the facts as we find them and try to interpret the trend.

Broke Game Law 20 Years Ago; Man's Confession a Puzzler

LANSING.—Conservation officers whose duty is to match wits with unregenerate violators of Michigan game laws are just a little the uncertain what they ought to do in the case of a man who voluntarily confesses he is guilty of like misdemeanors committed 20 years ago.

The confession has been received from a former Michigan resident now living in Ohio and was accompanied by a letter from the writer's pastor who testifies to the man's conversion and willingness to make amends.

If his confession shames other visitors, officers are inclined to think he will have made sufficient reparation.

Interesting Case

"Beg pardon, sir, but I've eaten nothing for a week."

"How very interesting. Well, come back later and tell me how long you were able to hold out."

Congressional Comment by Representative George A. Dondero 17th Michigan District

Prying Into Private Affairs

On Feb. 26 I introduced a resolution directing the Director of the Census and the Secretary of Commerce to withdraw questions 22 and 23 in the schedule for the 16th census, in the U. S. House of Representatives because I do not find any authority in the Act of June 18, 1929 (providing for the 17th and subsequent censuses) nor in the Act of August 11, 1939 (providing for a national census of housing) for prying into the private affairs of our citizens.

Later I appeared before the Committee on Commerce of the United States Senate in support of an identical resolution introduced in the Senate by Senator Styles Bridges, Republican, of New Hampshire. These resolutions refer to question 22 which calls upon you to disclose the amount of money, wages or salary that you received in 1939 and to question 23 which seeks to ascertain if you received any other form of income in the same year.

There is a penalty including fine and imprisonment for any one over 18 years of age who refuses or wilfully neglects to answer questions or who falsifies the answers to questions put by census enumerators.

Two Censuses

There are two censuses to be taken this year, one on population and unemployment and the other on housing. The last organizing the 1940 census restricts the population inquiry to 21 questions, but the employment authorizing the unemployment census left the questions to the discretion of the Federal authorities. They have exercised it in a way to bring the legitimate protests of thousands of our citizens.

Questions 22 and 23, objected to in my resolution, as well as to Senator Tobey's, relate to income. It is my contention that this money item is not authorized by the law and not pertinent to an unemployment census.

While the theatre of the housing census is little designed because Congress made it specific and the courts have not questioned the right of Congress to make as broad a census as it may wish, some parts of this schedule have aroused indignation and opposition. For instance, inquire other things, you will be asked to state whether or not you have a bathtub or shower and whether or not you share it with others. If the owner of a home, which you yourself, will also be called upon to estimate a rental value.

About Mortgages

The type of inquiry that is going to ask you a number of questions about the nature and conditions of the mortgage on your home, in the event that it is mortgaged, or the nature and condition of your land contract, in the event you are buying on land contract.

In addition the housing census seeks to discover the number of refrigerators and types of refrigeration, radios, cost of utilities and fuel, and other items.

The American people have heretofore taken the view that none of this is a government's business. This housing census, particularly those parts delving into subject-matter which every American citizen rightfully considers to be his own private business, had my active opposition when it was under consideration in the House in the first session of the 76th Congress.

"How was the picture?" asked mother.

"Terrible," said son, "I had all I could do to sit through it the second time."

Give Rattlesnake Artificial Buzz

Several exhibits newly completed at the museum of the Cranbrook Institute of Science have just been opened to the public. A wax rattlesnake that realistically buzzes a warning at the press of a button; a crowded colony of nesting gulls on a remote Lake Michigan island, are among the scenes.

The big timber rattlesnake, basking in artificial sunlight at the foot of a rocky fern-decked cliff excites interest, but it was noted that visitors often step back quickly when the rattle sets into action. Doctor Robert Hatt, the Institute director, explained, "We put a button in front of the glass, with the label, 'Please do not touch.' Most visitors press it out of curiosity and are not a little surprised when the snake answers the summons in a characteristic fashion."

Geologic Discovery

A surprise contribution to science was a by-product of the group. It was noted in laying the ground-work of this group that several of the rocks collected by Dr. Hatt at the gull colony contained interesting fossils.

Knowing that the geological map of this island was made on complete, the fossils were shown to Dr. George M. Ehlers of the University of Michigan, who found by these dated remains that the actual basis of the island was completely different than had been supposed.

The gull group was arranged and its background painting by Mr. David Fothers, artist on the museum staff. Plants in the group which are so accurate that they would fool a bee, are done by Miss Mary Lambke of Birmingham, also a staff member of the Institute.

Exhibit Explains Exhibits

Not the least interesting of the new displays is a temporary exhibit telling the story of how the habitat groups are made. Here are shown the steps in planning the subject; the selection of a site to be reproduced; the process of field study, including painting and photography of the locality; the making of color studies and molds of the flowers; the reproduction of the flowers in wax, celluloid, wire and cotton; the architectural planning of the halls and cases; the planning and making of special lighting equipment.

State to Continue Deer Feeding Pens At Cusino Station

LANSING — Michigan's famed deer feeding experiments, conducted at the Cusino wildlife experiment station in the upper peninsula, are to be continued under the direction of Adolph Stebler, biologist of the game division of the department of conservation.

Stebler's assignment, dating from February 1, was announced today by H. D. Ruhl, chief of the division. With the department since 1925, Stebler attended Michigan State College and the University of Michigan.

At Cusino, the largest deer feeding experiment in the United States, perhaps in the world, is being carried on. In 1936 a huge corral containing 14 individual pens was erected. Nearly 100 deer have been kept in these pens during recent winters and have been fed on various types of browse, hay, grains and prepared cattle foods. The food is changed daily, is weighed when placed in the pens and unconsumed portions are weighed again. Deer also are weighed at regular intervals, the procedure supplying information about diet which aids in guiding the department in its planting experiments.

Easter Styles For First Lady

If Easter lures chilly, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will wear this Balmain black wool ensemble. Long coat is finely embroidered with rabbit and rhinestone ribbing from shoulder to hemline. Hat is of matching felt. She carries a navy blue bag of calfskin and matching slipon gloves.

The Best Policy

[illegible] said the [illegible] dishes, [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] what will happen? [illegible] witness court.

"Well [illegible] Judge, [illegible]

Plain or Fancy Hot Rolls Easy

Any homemaker who appreciates the appetite response that homebaked fresh bread receives on the family table can utilize the suggestion of the home economics staff that baking day can include a few fresh rolls made from a portion of the bread dough.

It's true, say the food specialists, that some cooks find their work much easier normally by using neighborhood bakery goods.

It's also true, however, that company dinner always looks like a treat if the table contents include some homebaked rolls.

With all that philosophy, the usable suggestion the college staff members offer is that if plain rolls are on the cook's list of accomplishments, then some fancy rolls are nearly as easy to make.

There are dozens of ways to change the shape of rolls.

Finger rolls are one type. These are made merely by shaping pieces of dough into shapes about the size of a finger and the job is done. Or a type of crusty bread [illegible] possible merely by making the dough pieces longer and thicker. Three of the narrow strips [illegible] braided together for a [illegible]

There is the clover leaf, [illegible] tiny balls of dough placed [illegible] to emerge as the clover [illegible] two in a muffin tin [illegible]

Most delectable is the pinwheel roll. The dough is rolled out thin and [illegible] with soft butter and a mixture of sugar and cinnamon or [illegible] nuts or dried fruit. The rolls then are rolled [illegible] like a jelly roll and cut off in one-inch [illegible]

Holy Week At St. James Church

Holy Week activities of St. James Church will be initiated by the pastor, Warner F. Forsythe, at 8 o'clock Monday [illegible] with twilight service. Tuesday [illegible] Holy communion. Wednesday [illegible] Thursday [illegible] Maundy Communion, 7:45 twilight service.

Good Friday, 10 a. m. special litany. Easter Day, 8 a. m. Holy Communion. 9:30 a. m. church school. 11 a. m. Morning prayer and sermon. 7:45 p. m. evensong.

Other services: Saturday, 4 p. m. baptism. Sunday, 4 p. m. Holy Eucharist. 9:30 a. m. church school. 11 a. m. Holy Eucharist and sermon.

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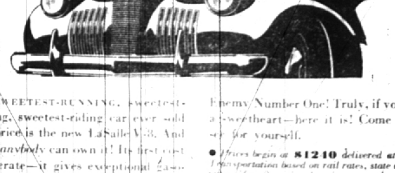

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