

Embury Defeated by Flint '5' in State Church League Race

Although paced by Rog Reynolds' 15 points, Birmingham's entry in the Michigan YMCA Church League Tournament, Embury Methodist Church, dropped its first game Friday afternoon to Howie Littleton.

Flint's Court Street Church, 33-27, at Hamon Memorial YMCA in Detroit.

Flint's representative went on to win the State Championship Saturday night.

Embury's team was made up of Rog Reynolds, Walter Allison, Herb Tewilliger, Ed Smith, Harry Sagan, Chester Myren and Howie Littleton.

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ELECTION NOTICE

To the Qualified Electors of the City of Birmingham, County of Oakland, State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held in the City of Birmingham, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, on

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1947

at the place or places of holding the election in said city as indicated below, viz:

- Precinct 1—Quarton Schol, Corner Chesterfield and Oak Streets
- Precinct 2—Holy Name School, 629 Harmon Ave.
- Precinct 3—Adams School, Corner Adams and Oakland
- Precinct 4—Municipal Building—151 Martin St.
- Precinct 5—Bell Funeral Home, 820 E. Maple, Elm Street Entrance
- Precinct 6—Pierce School, 1828 Pierce Street from seven o'clock in the forenoon until eight o'clock in the afternoon Eastern Standard Time for the purpose of electing the following officers:

STATE OFFICERS

Two Regents of the University of Michigan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Member of the State Board of Education, Two Members of the State Board of Agriculture.

NON-PARTISAN OFFICERS

Two Justices of the Supreme Court (Full Term), One Justice of the Supreme Court (To Fill Vacancy), Three Circuit Judges for the Sixth Judicial District.

CITY OFFICERS

Two City Commissioners, Two Members of the Library Board, One Justice of the Peace, One Associate Justice of the Peace, One Constable.

And to Vote on the Following Amendments:

1. "A Proposed Amendment to Section 23 of Article VII of the State Constitution, Relative to the Non-Partisan Primary Election of Judicial Officers in case of No Contest."
2. "A Proposed Amendment to Section 5 of Article XII of the State Constitution, Relative to the Length of Time Corporations shall be permitted to hold Real Estate."

IRENE E. HANLEY,
City Clerk

March 27, 1947



By Gene Allen

Among the favorite indoor sports of American citizens is the privilege of criticizing our public officials.

The Michigan State Legislature, now in its fourth month of session is not immune. The Legislature has been under periodic fire from critics because of the relative small record of bills to date.

Activity of the finance committee of the House and Senate has been almost at a standstill, as legislators await the outcome of the supreme court's consideration of the sales tax amendment, now on appeal. It has been impossible to proceed in the normal way because of the uncertainty of whether this controversial amendment would be sustained or held invalid by the court. This situation has been entirely out of the Legislature's control, thus there would appear to be no justification for criticism directed at the Legislature accordingly.

What seems to be more important recently what we spend an evening conversing with Michigan's new budget director, John Perkins. Mr. Perkins started us by declaring that the Office of the Budget devoted its entire attention to only 30 per cent of the state-collected revenue. There was little to be done, he pointed out, about the remainder of state funds—70 per cent—because this money had been earmarked by law through the state statute of the state constitution and hence automatically was reserved by the state treasurer for specified expenditures.

The idea that the state budget director and the Legislature must confine their consideration and energies to only 30 per cent of funds collected by the State of Michigan does not make much sense to a business man. It would seem preferable that further saving of such constitutional earmarking of public funds will reduce the State Legislature to the absurd position of expending but a small fraction of public taxes. Surely the founders of the State and the authors of the State's constitution never envisioned this situation when they created the basic charter which now governs our activity.

State Treasurer D. Hale Brake has declared repeatedly that Michigan's financial situation due to constitutional earmarking of its leading source of revenue, was unique in the United States to the extent that no other state was so plagued.

As has been pointed out repeatedly, the public has been compensated by the collection of large sums of money by the State of Michigan with its resultant deposit in the State Treasury at Lansing. Governor Kim Sigler pointed out in February, in a message to the Legislature, that while state expenditures had increased 151 per cent since adoption of the sales tax, the large bulk of this had been returned to local governments in the proportion of \$138,000,000 to the \$30,000,000 retained by the State.

It is the thesis of Governor Kim Sigler that Michigan's tax problem is due in part to the crazy quilt pattern, built up through the years, whereby government attempts to finance additional public services in a make-shift fashion.

To quote Governor Sigler, "From the time Michigan ceased to be exclusively an agricultural state until its full bloom industrially, there has been an ever-increasing spiral of demands for money."

"We have completely overloaded our antiquated tax structure, and the props we have put under it from time to time are threatening to give way and let the financial house fall down upon our heads. Now you and I did not create this problem. We only inherited it."

Declaring that "Michigan cannot long continue to grow and prosper under the handicap of an antiquated tax and financial structure," Governor Sigler recommended to the Legislature that steps be taken to revise the State constitution in the light of modern industrial conditions.

In so doing the governor declared that we should give "full understanding to the problems of the schools" as well as "the present financial plight of the cities of Michigan."

In the reasoning the Governor urged the Legislature to create a Constitutional Revision Commission which will have authority to study the problem of revising our basic charter to the end that "a revised and modernized constitution containing a coordinated system of taxation shall be submitted to the people of Michigan in the general election of 1948."

It is likewise evident that the beneficiaries of earmarking of funds will oppose such a move to revise the State constitution.

In the meanwhile, unless a solution can be forthcoming from the State Legislature, the Legislature will be crippled in its duties and limited, along with the State Budget Office, to the consideration of how 30 per cent of our state-collected public funds shall be expended.

City's Realtors to Take Active Part in House Campaign

Foremost topic at last week's meeting of the Birmingham realtors discussion was the report of the publicity committee concerning the efforts of realtors for their participation and sponsorship of the Voters' Rally held March 31 in the Community House for the purpose of providing voters with an opportunity to meet and hear the several candidates for election to Birmingham's city commission.

President Ferd Brock stated that the board had agreed to aid the forthcoming Community House drive for funds by furnishing volunteer workers to solicit first-hand business in Birmingham.

He stressed the importance of this effort as shouldering the proper share of civic responsibility to the community.

Up for discussion was the proposed move to increase the brokerage charges for realtor sales of individually owned vacant lots. Advocates believe that by increasing the fees, the vacant market as a whole would be much more active and felt that certainly some such stimulation was necessary in order to better service the private vacant holders.

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ROLL BUTTER Lb. **69¢**
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Phila. Cream Cheese 2-Pk. **25¢**

Cheddar Old English CHEESE 1/2-Doz. **31¢**

Seafoods

ROSEFISH FILLETS Lb. **29¢**
COD FILLETS Lb. **35¢**
VEIN-X SHRIMP Lb. **79¢**
SALMON STEAKS Lb. **49¢**

Canned Foods

FRUIT COCKTAIL No. 1 1/2 3-Can. **38¢**
SLICED PEACHES No. 1 1/2 3-Can. **29¢**
ORANGE JUICE 3-Can. **21¢**
TOMATO JUICE 3-Can. **25¢**
TOMATOES No. 2 3-Can. **15¢**

Bakery

LAYER CAKE Each **59¢**
COOKIES 2-Doz. **23¢**
COOKIES 3-Doz. **33¢**
COFFEE CAKE Each **39¢**
PEYQUEEK 3-Can. **42¢**

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Lb. 53¢

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Large 60 size, Crisp, Solid
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Tender, full pods
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