

Land Swap Would Cost City \$5,900, Ritchie Figures

City Commissioner Chad M. Ritchie believes it would not be an even swap if the city traded six of its lots for 15 smaller lots at the Adams-Bowers corner, on

which to erect a fire station. Ritchie said he figured that at current rates of assessment and if the Bowers-Adams lots were rezoned to business, the 15 lots would be worth \$12,100. The city property he believes could sell for \$18,000 as residential property. Owner of the Bowers-Adams lots is Otto Beier. Commissioners decided to take at least another week to investigate the matter further.

Dedication Set For Bloomfield Village Fire Hall

The new \$15,000 Bloomfield Village fire hall will be dedicated at 3:30 Saturday afternoon, Dec. 30, according to Charles W. Wiggins, fire chief of the village department. Walter J. Simons, president of the Bloomfield Village protective association, will get the program under way and A. F. Pro, fire commissioner will hand the key to the hall to the honorary chief, Harry G. Corbet. Inside the hall, Wiggins will give the honorary chief's badge to Corbet. Various contributions to the project will be mentioned during the ceremony. A commemorative plaque also will be unveiled and an open house will follow the program.

WIGGINS SAID that all residents of the village have been invited to the ceremony. Among those to whom special invitations have been sent are Vern Griffith, Birmingham fire chief; Bert Bartholomew, Bloomfield Hills fire chief; Ralph Hemmerly, Clark Green and David Anderson of Bloomfield township; William Jones of the Franklin fire department; and Judson Bradway. The new fire hall is located on Bradway boulevard, southeast of the Bloomfield Village school. Men who will receive special mention during the ceremonies include William P. Howe, one of the first fire chiefs of the village; Gardner Vose, architect for the hall; and Dr. Robert J. Mason, who has frequently given medical attention at fires.

Big Beaver Family Killed in Accident Near London, Ont.

Canadian police authorities Saturday announced the deaths of Melvin Lewis, 23, his wife, and their two-year old son, Melvin, Jr. The family met instant death in a head-on auto collision near London, Ont., as they were returning to their home at 37 Birchwood, Big Beaver. Mrs. Lewis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Hazel, coming to spend Christmas with them, Harold and Margaret Hazel and Lewis' sister Edith, all were seriously injured in the crash. The Lewis family had been residents of Big Beaver since last July. Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

City to Purchase Three Additional Voting Machines

Purchase of three voting machines at \$1,240 each was approved by the city commission Tuesday evening. The transaction will be made under the purchase option of the voting machine rental contract. Because the three machines were rented for the Nov. 7 election, City Clerk Irene E. Hanley said that 6,399 persons voted in Birmingham that day and there was no serious waiting at any precinct. Two years ago there were lines in several precincts, although only 6,331 persons voted, she pointed out.

New Representative

Appointment of Robert E. Reese of Lansing as Eastern Michigan representative of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has been announced by Basil O'Connor, New York, president of the Foundation. Reese, who will begin his duties January 1, succeeds Donald W. Barton, of Detroit, who has become administrator for the Wayne county chapter of the national organization. In his new job, Reese will aid in the public patient care programs and in local March of Dimes campaigns in 22 Southeastern Michigan counties, including Oakland. For the past year, following his graduation from the University of Michigan, he has been executive secretary of the Michigan Junior Chamber of Commerce.

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Ground Broken for New First Methodist Church



Bishop Marshall R. Reed of the Detroit area of Methodist churches, breaks the ground Sunday afternoon for the new \$640,000 Birmingham First Methodist church. Approximately 200 persons braved the cold weather to attend the ceremony at the site at the corner of Pleasant and Maple. Excavation got underway this week in preparation for construction of the first unit. The project was approved by the quarterly conference Wednesday, Dec. 20. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

Report Postponed on Southfield Twp. Building Dept.

A report by three members of the Southfield township board on the actions and functions of the township building department originally scheduled for Tuesday's meeting, was postponed until the Jan. 9 meeting. Members of the committee said they wished to have more time to prepare the report "due to the serious nature of the subject." At the Dec. 12 board meeting a committee consisting of Hugh C. White, Thomas J. Langan and Urban U. Woodhouse was appointed to "thoroughly investigate the actions and functions of the building department."

THE COMMITTEE was formed after the board had received sev-

eral complaints from the Men's Club, Inc. of the township concerning alleged violations of the building ordinance by the department. A fourth member of the board, Arthur L. Jayne, was appointed to the committee Tuesday. In other business a letter was read from the township planning commission in which that group recommended that residents vote in the spring elections on whether or not to have an increase of taxes so two fire stations can be built. The letter pointed out that since the voters have stipulated that two fire halls be constructed by Dec. 31, 1951, they should be erected. At the present time, the township doesn't have sufficient funds to construct both halls. The letter was placed on file for further study and discussion.

C. D. Seidl Added To Police Department

Appointment of Charles D. Seidl, 24, to the Birmingham police department was made this week by Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley. Seidl, who will begin his duty with the department shortly after the first of the year, is a graduate of Mohonmie high school. With the Navy during World War II, he was discharged with the rating of fireman, first class. Now living in Clawson, Seidl was employed at the Mount road Ford plant. He is married and has one child.

Alien Registration Deadline Is Jan. 10

Residents of Birmingham who are not citizens of the United States have until Jan. 10, 1951, to file their registration with the bureau of immigration and naturalization. Form I-53 may be obtained from any postoffice. Persons who come under this classification are asked to complete the form and return it to the postoffice not later than the above date.

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