

City Approves Decontrol of Rental Units

Copy of Resolution Sent to Washington For Processing

Centuries ago Aristotle said: "Give me seven years in which to study the truth and I will give you an additional fourteen years to develop a technique or method by which the truth which it can be given to the people."

What he meant, of course, was that the vast majority of men are not given the truth about any given situation is harder than finding it.

Today, for example, the nations of this earth are confronted with the possibility of a third and most terrible World War III. There are many reasons that cause war, but they root dominantly in mankind's desire for power, his selfishness and greed, his ignorance of right answers, his innate barbarism.

When the same similarities and qualities eventuate in the creation of human problems.

Rent controls in Birmingham will be lifted just as soon as a Monday night resolution by the city commission is processed through the Housing Administration in Washington.

City Attorney Forbes S. Hasell believes this may be in about 30 days," depending on how much red tape it must go through.

In a public hearing Monday evening at the municipal building, the city commission took the step of decontrol rental properties in the city under recent federal legislation which permits cities to lift rent controls after July 1 and before Dec. 31, 1950, when they automatically expire.

The Housing Administration extended until July 1, 1951, if a city requests this of the federal government.

COMPRISING the biggest majority of the audience attending the Monday meeting, about 50 persons were present to hear the commission's deliberations. Most of the interested people were landlords. It was evident.

Several landlords or their representatives told commissioners that the difficulties under which they have operated for ten years since the controls were established.

Speaking for several clients, John McKay declared, "In the early 30's elderly couples invested in rental properties insure them as income in their old age.

"BUT RENTS" were frozen at such nominal levels that their incomes now have been threatened. Repairs today cost three times what they formerly did, and many houses need repairs which the owner can't make because of the low rental figure."

He warned that many owners are being forced to sell their properties, thus removing rental units from the market entirely.

"The statistics in the coming election are high, and we should all vote in November," he said.

Senator Robert Taft told me recently that if the 82nd Congress was as far left as the 81st Congress was in the 1920's, then the national court would become socialist overnight."

LINTZ CALLED attention to the "Seven D's to Socialism," any one of which he said would jeopardize the nation's free enterprise system.

He said that the Brannan farm plan, U. S. aid to education, repeal of the Taft-Hartley act, federal housing for middle income groups, valley authorities, socialized medicine, and uncontrolled deficit financing.

The Brannan plan is a one-man idea, promoted by him, and opposed by most farm groups," the speaker pointed out.

Farm groups have branded this plan, he said, as highly socialistic and one which would bring the country to its knees economically because of its staggering cost, some billion dollars a year.

"THE U. S. CHAMBER of Commerce knows that just good business to have good schools, but each state constitution was expected to provide that education is a state responsibility," Lintz said.

"But to have it, as some labor leaders demand, is disastrous. We can see this by comparing today's comparatively few days lost through strikes by the staggering black days of 1946."

State Mailer: "There is not one who is not just good prices, taxes, wages and the rest were frozen like rent."

BUT IT IS grossly unfair to keep only rent controls instead of controls on the owner's own level as have other things."

"Until someone can advance controls on the owner's own level as have other things."

O'Gorman, Jr., seconded the motion. A question was called for, and the five commissioners unanimously voted for lifting of rent controls.

Commissioners Garland Tait and Dean Beier were not present at the meeting.

Birmingham, Keego Harbor Fire Chiefs To Appear Before Gas Study Committee

Fire chiefs and any other interested city officials of Birmingham and Keego Harbor will appear before the next meeting of state, long-range gas investigation committee on Aug. 13, Chairman Howard R. Estes announced this week.

Also scheduled to appear will be officials of the Consumers Union, which serves these communities with natural gas.

Representative Estes made these statements following last Thursday's organizational meeting of the new committee. The scope of the study was outlined by Estes in the following manner:

1. Distribution of gas in mains throughout the state.
2. Distribution of gas in high-pressure pipelines that enter and go out of the state.
3. Distribution of liquefied petroleum or "bottled" gas locally.
4. Distribution of gas by truck.
5. Distribution of gas by rail.

The five-man committee also listed the following groups, state and national agencies from which they plan to secure information for their study:

1. State fire marshal—information about local communities through their fire chiefs.
2. Public service commission.
3. Legislative service bureau.
4. Pipeline operators.
5. Public utilities—there are about ten in the state distributing gas.
6. Michigan gas association.
7. Distribution of bottled gas distributors.
8. American gas association.
9. National bureau of standards.
10. Engineering departments of insurance companies underwriting gas explosion liabilities.
11. Motor transport system of Michigan as applied to gas.
12. Gas systems of the state as applied to gas.
13. Underwriters' laboratories.

Few Renters Evident at Hearing on Decontrol of Rents Here



BIRMINGHAM LANDLORDS DEFEND REQUEST FOR LIFTING OF RENT CONTROLS. H. B. Holmes tells commission why he believes lid should be taken off. (Joe Wheeler Photo.)

November Vote May Be the Last, Speaker Warns

November's general election may be the last time Americans will have a chance to express their citizenship by voting, believes Harry A. Lintz, national affairs director of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Speaking before Monday noon's Federal Housing Administration hearing, Lintz stated, "I don't want to alarm anyone with this statement, but it is my honest opinion based on our national situation today."

"The statistics in the coming election are high, and we should all vote in November," he said.

Not Enough Butter in a Pound Brings \$50 Fine to Dealer

Trouble often comes in very small quantities.

Roll butter being sold in a local grocery at from one-ounce to one-half an ounce short weight brought a \$50 fine to G. S. Coffman, official of the Coldwater Dairy company. The case was heard Friday in the Birmingham justice court before Judge John J. Gaff.

Henry Johns, of the city health department, seized the butter Thursday and asked that a warrant be issued against Thomas S. Rosco who had made delivery of the butter.

The prosecution of Coffman, an official of the dairy, was turned over to Inspector Carl Williams of the Michigan State Agricultural department's weights and measures division, who signed the complaint.

Further Discussion Due Before Lincoln Parkway Is Removed

Although the city has discussed the possibility of removing the center island on W. Lincoln between Southfield and Cranbrook, no actual plans are being developed to accomplish this, City Manager Donald C. Egbert told city commissioners Monday evening.

His comment came after the city clerk read a letter from the Northlawn Heights association protesting such city action.

"There is some need for traffic relief along this arterial street, we know, but how or when we are going to proceed has not been given more than preliminary consideration," Egbert explained.

City Planners Will Discuss Land Space

City planning commissioners will meet tonight at the Municipal Building to discuss the proposal submitted to them by Charles Barr, suggesting establishing a park and area around the land space for any multiple-dwelling unit erected in the city.

In recommending this figure, Barr said he felt it was the smallest lot size available in order to avoid creating a residential area and avoid overcrowding.

He is conducting a survey here now of the area before the committee city development.

Mrs. Peter B. Loomis, chairman of the commission, said the annual election of officers also would take place at this meeting.

3 Hospitals, Not 1, Statement Called 'Misleading'

E. A. Tomlinson, president of the proposed Oakland Hospital, yesterday labeled as "misleading" The Eccentric's story last week concerning the possibility that South Oakland county may have three hospitals instead of one because a program has not been agreed upon that resolves the three plans into one.

"His statement declares: 'The statement in your July 20th issue to the effect that three hospitals instead of one may be constructed in Oakland county is in my opinion, misleading.'"

"Of course, I don't know how many hospitals will be built in Oakland county in the future. I have no doubt, however, that Oakland county is a better place than Troy township site which it owns."

"It will be built with funds to be obtained from the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund with which it has a contract. No other hospital group has such a contract in Oakland county."

The Bloomfield Medical center group also plans to build a hospital in Oakland county.

"However, that group has been inactive for several years pending developments in the project approved by the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund which now turns out to be Oakland hospital."

The fact that its trustees have agreed to ask the contributors to Bloomfield Medical center to authorize making its funds available to Oakland Hospital Fund through the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund speaks for itself and hardly justifies your statement that Bloomfield Medical center may proceed to build a separate hospital in Oakland county."

Tomlinson said this statement of his has the approval of the Oakland Hospital executive committee.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information obtained by The Eccentric last week was to the effect that important members of the Woodward General Hospital Authority and the Bloomfield Medical Center project approved dividing the \$3,000,000 of the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund between them, a request granted by the Detroit group.)

Apparent according to the above statement by Tomlinson (that situation has since changed.)

Blanche Breakey, City Health Nurse, To Retire Aug. 1

Announcement of the resignation of Miss Blanche B. Breakey as city health nurse, was made Tuesday by Russell Berger, head of the city retirement board. The resignation will be effective Sept. 1, although Miss Breakey will leave on vacation Aug. 1.

She entered the service of Birmingham on Jan. 6, 1932 and continued until Sept. 15, 1943, when she was granted a leave-of-absence to enter service in veteran hospitals.

From that time until her return to Birmingham in 1944, Miss Breakey served in Biloxi, Miss., Dayton, Ohio, and the Veteran's Hospital in Dearborn.

She returned to Birmingham as a veteran's caseworker, working in that office until its abolishment, when she returned as city health nurse, working with Mrs. Anney Gillette.

Miss Breakey said she has no immediate plans for the future, other than an extended vacation at first.

John Littleton Heads Legion Post

John Littleton, 187 Merrill, was elected commander of the Charles Edward Post, 14 American Legion last Wednesday evening. Littleton succeeds Robert J. Emerson.

Others who will direct activities of the post during the year are: Bernard Fowler, Benno Brown and Myron Collins, vice-commanders; Clark Groves, adjutant; Max Wilson, manager; Richard Dewey, historian; Hugh McHugh, sergeant-at-arms and Chester McMillan, chaplain.

Past Commander Emerson, Vice-Commander Bennett Brown and Wallace Spahr were named to accompany Littleton at the state convention at Grand Rapids, Aug. 24-27.

The members of the local post agreed to offer the use of the American Legion home on South Woodward to John Hamel as a meeting place for civilian defense committees in Birmingham. Hamel has been named director of defense activities here.

To Conduct Poll On Disposition of SOHA Donations

Contributors to the South Oakland Hospital fund will be brought up to date on efforts to have the Woodward-13 building erected around the SOHA, Chairman W. Lloyd Clawson of Royal Oak said this week.

"The board last night to discuss the content of the letter which will be used to convey the latest information, Clawson said."

"We also are asking them to mail their expressions on what should be done with their contributions," he added.

IN PREVIOUS discussions, the board has considered the advisability of abandoning the authority and having contributions transferred with the donor's permission to the Greater Detroit Fund, or sticking with the original SOHA campaign and seeking some means of obtaining the remaining \$3,000,000 and erecting the Woodward General Hospital.

The SOHA has attempted to obtain the aid of the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund in getting additional monies for the Woodward.

(See HOSPITAL, Page 2)

All makes of inner spring mattresses are available in the new SOHA PANY. Dial 9-ask for Enterprise 6-118.

Citizens Starting to Stock Shelves, Merchants Report

By ALICE MORGAN and AL SELBY

Americans moved, en masse, last week to enjoy another freedom and privilege offered in no other country in the world. Through many sections of the country a wave of over-buying of articles expected to be scarce due to war conditions, took over, in spite of the fact that it is frowned upon and criticized by many.

In Birmingham this buying is repeating itself, though on a minor scale to that reported in many areas, including nearby communities.

A survey by The Eccentric this week showed the following facts: Grocery stores were packed closer than usual Saturday morning with people who seemed to be concentrating on large quantities of a few particular items.

By mid-morning in Sifers market, the shelf for sugar held only 50 or 65 pounds in two-and one-pound packages. A large bare space on the shelf held only some 100 or 150 pounds of sugar.

The market's manager said that the scarcity in his store was partly explained by the failure of a shipment to come in on Friday. He said the incoming canned season fruit was expected to be shipped but admitted a lot of it could be "panic" buying.

MANY MARKET BASKETS held four or five sugar packages of different weights and sizes. Meats were selling faster than usual. Salmon, paper items, and other paper items being grabbed off.

Leonard's reported a definite increase in the buying of household appliances that people feel will run short."

The reason that is usually held for television sales found customers buying into the store's "Christmas" stock. Ranges and refrigerators also showed high sales.

Automobile tires are becoming another scarce item in Birmingham. One dealer said his distributor had sold \$55,000 worth of tires two weeks ago and was "cleaned out."

OTHER TIRE dealers said the buying was "very fast and the demand terrific."

The various stores and shops, dealing in nylon and cotton goods, said that their stocks were low in a few hours which would have been normal conditions, carved them for several months. Some put on "voluntary rationing" of the item, asking their customers to buy only normal amounts of "scarce" items.

Mrs. Grace Glasford of the Glasford shop reported trade was "moderate and regular" with few requests for unseasonably large orders.

She added that she had been informed by her wholesalers that they would not honor excessively large orders in an effort to keep prices at a normal level.

The U. J. Healy shop said their buying was normal until an article in area dailies sent everyone into a monetary panic of buying. Their stock then went fast, with many orders for horse being placed for later delivery.

AT THE Kay Baum store nylon hosiery and under clothing took a jump between 300 and 400 per cent increase. Their spokesman said their re-orders would be handled strictly on an allotment basis, according to the manufacturer.

At the S. S. Kresge store, nylon hose stocks were completely sold out in a very short time, while the F. W. Woolworth company noted only a moderate increase.

"We thought it might be due to an order being placed on sale, showing the new colors," a store representative said. "The one thing we did notice was an increase of about 100 per cent in our hardware department sales. It is apparent some people feel there is a war on."

(See HOARDING, Page 2)

Adjustments Made On Car By Prowler

A new type of criminal hit the Tom McDonnell used car lot on South Woodward avenue last week.

According to a police report, someone entered a car there last Wednesday night and committed the following crimes:

1. Took the handles off the doors.
2. Took the sun visor from over the driver's seat.
3. Placed the above items under the car.

For good measure, the prowler bent the choke handle.

Pair Arrested After 85 Mile Per Hour Race Through Hills

John J. Hutchinson and William Weber, both of Pontiac, were arrested early Monday morning by Birmingham Hills police after a 85 mile per hour race through hills. Both men were driving nearly 85 miles an hour and "apparently racing."

They were released to appear in court Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Three drivers paid fines totaling \$225 in Bloomfield Hills court Friday and Saturday for reckless driving. Clarence Stubbs of Royal Oak paid a \$75 fine Friday. Roy George of Flushing was fined \$50 Saturday morning and Hank Sanger, Hickory Grove road, Bloomfield Hills, appeared in court Saturday and was fined \$100.

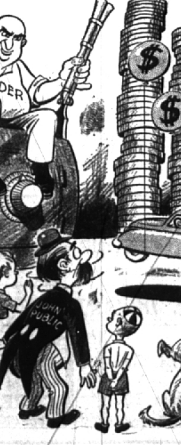
VIEWING OUR WORLD OF to (See THIS & THAT, Page 2)

A BIG HELP!

The enterprising young gentleman above might not be very helpful at the moment. But if you need some aid in locating the ring, a house and other necessities coming up—try advertising in THE ECCENTRIC'S Classified Section.

PHONE MI 4-1100 Ask for the Want Ad desk

The Home Front



PART ONE	
Classified Ads	Page 8
Obituaries	Page 4
Society	Page 3, 5
This & That	Page 1
PART TWO	
Bits of B'ham	Page 1
Beverly Hills	Page 2
Lakhrup	Page 4
Walter Lake	Page 4
Recreation Roundup	Page 4
Horse Sense	Page 6
PART THREE	
Ball Interview	Page 1
Church	Page 2
Editorials	Page 2
Looking Ahead	Page 2
Michigan Mirror	Page 4
One Thing or Another	Page 2
Society	Page 3, 4, 5