

Franklin Group Will Sponsor Christmas Fete
 Dec. 22 at the Franklin Community Hall. A larger program is being scheduled for this year, taking children from Franklin school, taking part. The association also discussed some details of the President's annual Christmas party to be held at the Ball, planned for February, 1952.

Birmingham, Hills Tax Receipts Top \$158,000 During First 10 Days

Birmingham school and county tax collections are about normal, according to City Treasurer Russell Berger, while in Bloomfield Hills, present returns are slightly above last year. Robert Stadler, Bloomfield Hills clerk, said about 25 per cent of \$44,658.12 had been collected during the first 10 days. In Birmingham receipts total \$113,714.13 for the same period. Local residents, for the first time, are paying taxes without the former one per cent collection fee. A resolution abolishing the fee was passed by city commissioners last December.

Debt

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 \$34,570; 1967, \$24,010; 1968, \$13,956; 1969, \$13,390; 1970, \$13,150.

WATER REVENUE bond debt service requirements for principal and interest is \$485,106.90. In addition, the sewage plant revenue bond debt service requirements are \$23,600 for principal and interest. Payments will be made on the water bond debt through 1979; while the sewage plant revenue bond will be paid in 1956.

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Traffic

(Continued from Page One)

be materially aided by two new overhead signals suspended in the center of Woodward at a cost of about \$1,600, Moxley said. The second alternative, or "three-way" phase, was quashed from the recommendation of the consulting traffic engineer's report, would cost \$2,100 for the new overhead signals and an array of red and green arrows, plus conversion of present three-way signals to two-way signals. Commissioner Milton F. Mallerer got Moxley to insist that the new overhead signals, if operated on the "two-way" plan, would merely be better realization of the present control pattern at this intersection.

BUT THE "three-way" phase got commissioners into a lively discussion of pedestrian movements, one-way proposals for Oakland and Willets, widening of Willets, general downtown traffic congestion, and finally to a vote. Mallerer saw four commissioners favoring, two opposed to, and one on the fence regarding Egbert's suggestion to go ahead anyway with the purchase of the two new overhead signals for "two-way" operation. Commissioners Mallerer, Richard Patterson, Dean Beier and Frank Rising voted to purchase the new equipment, while Lance Minor and Charles Renfrew voted "no." Commissioner Egbert said he wasn't ready to vote on the matter yet—and he didn't.

RISING SAID the complicated "three-way" operation would "be terrific education job for the driving public. It is a bad intersection and really needs some re-arranging. Also, perhaps it is time where we will have to prohibit traffic from going any place it wants to go."

Rising suggested perhaps the commission should seriously consider making Willets a one-way street east. "There seems to me to be very little traffic turning into Willets except a few left turns Woodward," he added.

"Yes, but they that would mean a blank all the way from Maple to Harmon," pointed out Mallerer.

"THAT'S TRUE." Rising admitted. "It's my observation that quite a bit of traffic goes into Willets from Woodward," Mallerer then commented. Lance Minor joined the discussion with a sharp criticism of the commissioner's plan to purchase additional signals. "We've got a mess downtown," he began. "Before we spend even one cent, we should get these engineers or someone else to analyze the whole downtown traffic problem and come up with some recommendations."

Egbert said every street paving or widening changes traffic patterns. "IT IS a progressive thing. I feel we should go ahead with the two overhead signals and the widening of Willets between Woodward and Gates," the manager said. Minor immediately commented, "I know that a man can't come up with all the answers—but he can come up with some kind of a report and recommendation on this area. Before we spend any money, we should have a report. We should have a report. We should have a report. We should have a report."

Rising agreed with Minor on the advantage of having an overall plan, but added, "I still feel that this proposed installation would do some good."

REFERRING TO a recent committee meeting of the commission, Rising stated, "We talked about streets and you might say 'cared' the whole town. Maybe we could get an over-all study on traffic and get started on the solution." Minor came in with, "You voted for the lights—but you are just picking at the problem and not trying to solve it." Renfrew moved that the manager cause a survey to be made of downtown traffic problems. "A review and recommendations are okay, but a review in a nice book won't be any good," declared Mallerer. "Comrade, change. We can get more done by going at it with a series of project recommendations and accomplish something. A nice, big report probably will get 'filed' and when we get around to it again, we'll find conditions have changed and the report is no good."

MAYOR BEIER suggested, "What about Renfrew's motion to have the city manager investigate the costs, etc., of a survey?" Renfrew responded quickly, "Not from me! That's not the way my motion was stated."

Rising then came up with the proposal that "perhaps the plan board and we can meet with these engineers to see what the latter have in mind regarding downtown traffic problems and their possible solution."

When commissioners apparently agreed upon this point, Beier said he would try to arrange such a meeting on some Saturday morning in January.

In a further comment Tuesday morning, Minor stated, "That proposal Monday night was a phantasm plan. Even a novice checker player looks far enough ahead to plan his future moves."

Hills Taxes Payable Before March 1

Bloomfield Hills City Clerk Robert Stadler announced this week that county and school taxes are payable without penalty by March 1. However, if they are not paid by that time, they are turned over to the county.



FRONTAL ATTACK—Wide-eyed Siodna O'Brien, four-year-old displaced person from Germany, en route to Libertyville, Ill., gets in some close-range work on a piece of cake after landing in New York aboard the Navy transport Gen. W. C. Langitt, an IRO ship.

Ten Persons Injured In November Accidents; Property Damage Is High

Birmingham police filed reports on 31 accidents during the month of November, resulting in estimated \$9,950 in property damages. Ten persons were injured in five accidents, none seriously, and no fatalities were recorded. A total of 49 traffic violations were indicated, with excessive speed being nearly twice as high as any other contributing factor. Speeding, in 12 accidents, was followed by failure to yield right of way and following closely behind another vehicle, with seven each. Other violations were improper parking, five; disregard stop sign or signal, improper turn and improper passing four; driving under influence of liquor and improper starting from parked position; two; car not under control and failure to signal stop or turn, one.

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Plan Board

(Continued from Page One)

the plan board must get into include, according to Dwyer: "Reamping of the zoning ordinance to strengthen several weak points, including stricter definition of what can be permitted in industrial areas; SETTING UP a new zoning classification to permit neighborhood shopping centers that would not be objectionable to surrounding residential areas. Several changes in the city building code to permit it to work more closely with the zoning ordinance. A study of city-owned property to see if better use should be made of it or whether it should be sold, and; Street widening, etc., including the Oak street extension to Hunter Blvd. and the advisability of closing Oakland between Worth and Adams."

Chemical Odor Is Basis Of Vicinity Gas Scare

An oversupply of the chemical used to give a warning odor to natural gas supply kept Birmingham firemen and police on the jump early Friday evening. Numerous reports were received at the city hall of "escaping" gas.



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mainly from the southwest section of the city. Berkeley, sections of Royal Oak and Ferndale also were reported affected, as several families left their homes until the fumes could be cleared out. Consumers Power crews checked complaints and traced the cause to the chemical, which gave out a strong odor while being burned. Although many persons were disturbed and frightened, no damages were reported.

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