

Village PTA Observes Open House for Parents

On Monday evening, Nov. 12, a large attendance visited Bloomfield Village school open house held in observance of National Education week. Paul Carter spoke on "Are we over-organizing our children?" Mrs. Mary Ann Hartwick explained her work in the school music program and N. J. Rakas spoke briefly about Cub Scouting and asked for volunteers to help organize Cub groups.

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FINAL TWO CONTRIBUTIONS which sent the League of Women Voters drive "over the top" are received by Mrs. Thomas Snelham, LWV finance drive chairman, from William Torrence (left) and George R. Averill, editor and publisher of The Birmingham Eccentric. The local league's quota was \$1,500, two-thirds of which will be spent locally for voters service and other activities. "It is most gratifying to the league to have such sincere support from the people of Birmingham," remarked Mrs. Snelham.

Inflation

What can be done about it? What can each individual member of this community do about it? For the past three weeks, The Eccentric has presented the opinions of Birmingham residents on inflation. Everyone generally agrees that something should be done about it. But what? In a "Town Meeting" at the Community House November 27 at 8 p.m., the League of Women Voters will present to the public a group of experts in their fields who may have the answer.

The League emphasizes that the meeting is free to the public and that the audience will be invited to participate in the discussion. It believes that public opinion is still a mighty force in this country and that the American people can stop these rising prices if they will.

TO PRESENT the facts of the present-day inflation, G. D. Andrews, vice-president of Dearborn Motors, will present a brief chart talk. To bring the relation of these facts to the individual citizen,

will be Fred J. Beckman who has been a farmer in Groveland Township, Oakland County, since 1918. Beckman is a member of the executive committee of the Michigan State Grange, a life member of the Michigan Farm Bureau, president of the Oakland County Board of Education and active participant in many other organizations.

THE AMERICAN Federation of Labor will be represented by Andrew S. McFarlane, president of Local 324 in Detroit. He is president of the Detroit Building and Trades Council, executive board member of Detroit and Wayne county Federation of Labor, Wayne county supervisor, and on the governor's advisory housing committee.

From the Federal Reserve Bank will be Gordon W. Lamphere, secretary of the Michigan Regional Credit Restraint Committee, who will answer questions in connection with the voluntary credit restraint program. Lamphere is assistant to the general counsel of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and acts as counsel for the Detroit Branch of the bank.

Rudney S. Lockwood, a home builder since 1938, will represent building and construction. He is chairman of the production and distribution of materials committee of the National Association of Home Builders and past president of the NAHB.

TO PRESENT the views of an economic analyst will be John Sagan who was formerly on the economics faculty of Wesleyan University, is a member of the American Economic Association, is now with the Ford Motor Co. Sagan served with the U.S. Navy Sealab in the South Pacific during World War II.

To complete the round table will be Dr. Morgan Thomas, assistant professor of political science at the University of Michigan. Thomas has his AB from Lafayette College, an AM and PhD from Harvard University and was employed by the OPA and the WPB in 1942-43. He served in the United States Army in the control council in Berlin and taught at Swarthmore College, Pa., in 1946-48. He has been at the University of Michigan since then.

Four more Birmingham citizens were interviewed by the League of Women Voters for their opinions on inflation and here is what they are saying.

Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, 964 Pierce, said: "Public choice."

Q 1: "What do you think about inflation?" A: "I think inflation is one of the gravest problems which the citizens of the United States face today. The national debt is increasing at a phenomenal rate. Counter to the statement that this debt will be paid off with cheaper dollars is the awareness that the huge armament program is being paid for by inflated costs. Such a spiral in personal finance would soon approach bankruptcy. There is no reason for believing that federal finance is any different from one's personal finance. It is a poor heritage to pass to our children."

Q 2: "Who do you think has been hurt by inflation?" A: "Although everyone is hurt by inflation, I believe the salaried worker is hurt the worst. As a member of the teaching profession, I see all advantages of salary increases which come in too small an amount to be of any help wiped out by the spiral of inflation. The present average salary of Birmingham teachers is \$3850 as compared with \$1875 in 1942. If the dollar is only worth approximately one-half of what it was worth a decade ago, what has been the financial gain of the teacher during this period of time?"

"The teacher also retires on an allowance which approximates one-half her salary if she teaches fifty years. The maximum she can receive on retirement is \$1800. That is not even sufficient to live on. The same thing is happening to the pennies she has regularly placed in the bank in E-Bonds and in insurance."

"As a result of all this how high can we expect the morale of this teacher to be in the classroom? With the additional demands constantly made upon her, why does the public seem surprised that it

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