

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

A LETTER OF THANKS has come from the Oakland County Society for Crippled Children to the Birmingham Rotary Club, which sent to the OCSCC the more than \$500 proceeds from the Rotary square dance and ice cream social held here last month.

THOSE INTER-CITY bus drivers may be disgusted with the city of Birmingham, now that it has these big buses using Hunter Blvd. rather than Woodward avenue. Else how could you explain their over-the-speed-limit speeds? Friday evening at 6:30 p.m., this Wanderer paced one bus from Oakland avenue to Long Lake road. As soon as the driver got the green light at Oakland, he got up to 60 mph as fast as he could, held it there through Bloomfield Hills.

BACK FROM WHAT HE SAYS was "a wonderful two weeks' vacation" is Birmingham City Manager D. C. Egbert. In seclusion at his cottage on the east side of Saginaw Bay, Egbert said he "didn't even turn on the radio."

DRIVING ALONG MAIN ROADS only hints at the residential growth of the Birmingham area. To really discover its amazing development, one must take to the "side roads." In the Northeastern portion of Southfield township, for example, entire new well-populated neighborhoods have, are, and will be springing up.

NEARLY ALL OF US take patriotism for granted and feel that we are as true as the next fellow when it comes to a question of loyalty to our country. Only a few of us take time to show our regard and love for our country, though. One of these is Robert Ball of 1590 Fairway, who sees to it before leaving for work each morning that the flag is in its proper place at the side of his home. C. Secretary Charles Mortensen, who told of this practice, adds this comment: "Too bad more of us don't do the same."

A WEEKEND IN DETROIT proved such fun for three Birmingham mothers that they are going to make such an event a regular feature of their lives. They checked in at a hotel and lived the life of the idle rich for a couple of days while daddy stayed home with the small fry. We understand a trip to Chicago may be in the offing.

IN A RECENT column of a national magazine, someone asked if any record existed of a golfer having ever made a hole-in-one a second time at the same hole. The answer given was to the effect that if it had been done it was on some "small, unknown course." How about it, golfers? Anyone here who can lay claim to the record?

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The Birmingham Eccentric Series Explains 2 Proposals for Reapportioning

(As a public service to the community, this week The Birmingham Eccentric begins the first in a series of four articles concerning the two reapportionment amendments which will appear on the Nov. 4 ballot. The information is being supplied by the Oakland Citizens League and the Civic Research, Inc., of Pontiac, both of which are non-profit, non-partisan organizations devoted to research and education in government.)

Michigan voters will be asked to decide at the Nov. 4 election which of two proposals they want on reapportionment of the state legislature. Each of the proposals is the result of initiated petitions backed by interested groups. How Oakland County will be affected under the proposals is important to understand, in order to cast an intelligent vote.

Proposal No. 2 on the ballot (backed by the CIO) seeks to set up a legislature based on population alone.

Proposal No. 3 (backed by the Michigan Committee for a Balanced Legislature) has an area population concept to create a legislative body. It is necessary to vote "no" on one amendment and "yes" on the other, depending on the voter's choice.

UNDER THE present state constitution the legislature consists of a Senate of 32 members for two-year terms, with not more than one senator from a district, and a House of Representatives of not less than 64 nor more than 100 members, chosen for two-year terms, under a complicated "population" procedure.

Since adoption of the state constitution in 1908, the population has shifted tremendously. In 1900, 50 per cent of the people lived in the 23 counties south of the Bay City-Muskegon line and east of Kent County.

Today, nearly half of the state's population is contained in only three counties—Oakland, Wayne and Genesee. Failure to keep pace with the shifts in population has caused an unbalanced representation in the state legislature.

THE STATE constitution requires that each 10 years after 1913 the legislature is to reorganize the senatorial districts and "apportion anew" the representatives among counties and districts, according to the latest U. S. census.

Since 1943 no reapportioning of the House of Representatives has taken place. The last time the Senate was "rearranged" was in 1925.

In the intervening years numerous proposals have been advanced to amend the state constitution and correct some of the evils of reapportionment. There is no means of compelling the legislature to do so. The courts have refused (by mandamus) to interfere. By petition two plans must now be decided on by voters.

FOUR MAJOR objections have been raised to the present constitutional provisions on apportionment.

Transportation Provided to Polls By Auto Dealers

Registered Birmingham voters will not be able to use the "I can't get to the polls" alibi this year.

Backed by a resolution of the National Automobile Dealer Association, a number of Birmingham car dealers are already working on plans to provide free transportation to the ballot boxes for those voters who have no way of getting to the polls.

In a nation-wide program to get out the vote, the NADA is distributing posters and pamphlets urging citizens to exercise their franchise on November 4.

IN BIRMINGHAM, dealers who have already decided to provide transportation are Carkner Motor Sales, Inc., Sumner Motor Sales, Inc., Sam Reeves, Inc., Mike Welsh, Inc., Chloset-McCutcheon and Tom McDonnell.

Willing to help any voters stranded are Suburban Motor company, North Chevrolet, Harold Turner, Inc., and Wilson Pontiac-Cadillac.

A phone call on election morning to any of these dealers will provide you with a free trip to the polls in your voting district.

Troop B-5 Scoutmaster Appoints Assistants

Troop B-5 Scoutmaster Tom Austin has announced the appointment of Robert Gove, Charles Starr and Fran McMath as assistant Scoutmasters for the troop.

Gove, a former member of Troop B-4, is a graduate of Baldwin high school and Northwestern university.

Starr, an Eagle Scout and Brownie, is a graduate of Baldwin high school and has considerable experience with Detroit and Lathrup Scout units.

McMath, a Cranbrook graduate, is a former Scoutmaster at Harriburg, Pa.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Lt. Timm Reports Model Plane Fans Need Flying Field

Police Lt. Henry Timm has asked Birmingham's recreation board what can be done to establish a flying field for model airplane fans among the city's youngsters.

He reported that he had had probably 40 or more boys and girls, some with their parents, contact him, asking if a field could be prepared.

"They have no place to fly their planes now," Timm said. "He described the area as ideally suited for the purpose and assured board members that should a club become possible here, a charter would be obtained and the group conducted according to national rules."

"It's a year-round sport," Timm said, "with just about as much flying done during the winter as the summer months."

At the request of the board, he will prepare a more complete report with definite figures and requirements for a future meeting. The board will then, if deemed advisable, forward a recommendation to the city commission.

Veterans Council Marks Birthday

The Oakland County Council of Veterans will celebrate its 20th birthday at the annual past commanders' banquet Thursday evening, Oct. 2, at 206 Auburn, Pontiac.

Among the past commanders who will participate in the celebration will be Joseph P. MacGregor, 710 Ruffner, and Justin Ellis, 304 Starr road.

Present Commander Keith R. Bigger of Pontiac is in charge of the banquet with Edward Finn as master of ceremonies. Fletcher Renner, Royal Oak attorney, will be guest speaker.

Tickets and reservations may be made at the Veterans Service Center, 1 LaFayette, Pontiac, or through the Veterans Service office, 111 South Troy, Royal Oak.

Keep trespassers off your property by posting NO HUNTING—NO TRESPASSING signs for sale at The Eccentric office, (27-30)

Seek 700 Volunteers To Aid Torch Drive

Nearly 700 volunteers are needed to assist in the United Foundation Torch Drive which opens in the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin area October 14, according to Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, division campaign director.

One of the keys to the campaign is the team of volunteers who will work on a door-to-door basis, carrying the UF story to every home in the community and providing the opportunity for everyone to share in this important united effort, Mrs. Quinn said.

"Neighbor-solicitors will again emphasize the part the homemaker wants to play in the drive. The lion's share of the family contribution is usually made at the resident's place of business, and while it all goes into the same fund, the homemaker deserves the right to a personal part in the support of health and community services."

"And, of course, many other individuals do not have an opportunity to contribute."

MRS. QUINN pointed out that one of the factors in the extremely low relative cost of raising UF funds is due to the free services of the unpaid volunteers. With a full quota of residential solicitors, she said, each worker need devote only a few hours to the job during the campaign.

While the bulk of the volunteers are needed for the over all canvass, the need for general office assistance at UF headquarters in the Briggs Building also becomes acute as the campaign develops.

Volunteers, who will work under area and district captains, are urged to call Mrs. Quinn or any of the chairmen and captains.

BIRMINGHAM is divided into five districts for the campaign, while Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Village, Franklin, Wing Lake, Foxcroft, Oakland Hills and Beverly Hills make up separate districts.

Mrs. Paul Penfield is Birmingham's residential chairman, aided by five captains: Mrs. Robert F. Watt, Mrs. William P. Kennedy, Mrs. E. L. Vincent, Mrs. Uri B. Grannis, Jr., and Mrs. Willis D. Cooper.

Mrs. J. Hawley Otis is Bloomfield Hills chairman, with Mrs. G. J. Huebner, Jr., as co-chairman. Mrs. J. Graham Gurney and Mrs. Janis M. Martin, captain residential solicitation in Bloomfield Village; Wing Lake captain is Mrs. Luther E. Lawrence, and Mrs. R. John Heber is Foxcroft captain.

Mrs. Bernard F. Magruder leads the Franklin campaign, and Mrs. George R. Wright is captain of the Oakland Hills area.

Five captains handle districts of the widespread Beverly Hills area: Mrs. Richard Stites, Jr., Mrs.

Male Chorus Seeks Additional Voices

The Birmingham Male Chorus needs voices.

Tenor voices are always at a premium, but other sections are also in need of support.

The chorus holds weekly practice sessions at St. James Episcopal church, 355 West Maple, on Monday nights, 8-10 p. m.

Men interested in joining the chorus are invited to attend rehearsal Monday night, Sept. 29. Otto Brown is the director.

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