

# 1953 HIGHLIGHTS

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Birmingham board of education members learned that the school district would have to pay over \$60,000 in premiums to sell the district's voted \$2,200,000 bond issue for school expansion. A flooded bond market was blamed for the poor sale of the issue.

The mayor's fire hall committee of 16 members were ready to hold the first of several sessions in studying the city's fire protection, its needs and the locations of possible additional fire stations. Department of Public works

Superintendent Norman T. Knapp and Administrative Assistant Earl Sandquist tendered their resignations from the city payroll for other positions and Robert Kenning was named to succeed Knapp.

Announcement that the Birmingham branch of Detroit Edison had purchased four lots within the block bounded by Merrill, Woodward, Brown and Pierce for off-

street parking spurred interest in gaining adequate off-street parking facilities in the southwest quadrant of the city's business district.

Issue of March 5 The Birmingham League of Women Voters was awarded a first prize in the 1952 Register and over the previous year's evaluation.

American Heritage Foundation for the most intensive and most effective register and vote campaign by a women's organization in cities between 15,000 and 20,000 population.

City Assessor Elmer Maack set Birmingham's 1953 valuation at \$45,502,480, a 10 percent increase over the previous year's evaluation.

Birmingham's Congregational church was formally founded Sunday, March 1, at a ceremony in the First Presbyterian church. About 85 persons attended the ceremony with 41 signing the Covenant as founding members of the church.

When the closing date for candidate filing for city commission seats was reached, eight residents were lined up for the three vacancies on the commission. Foster Toothacker joined incumbents Dean G. Blair and Charles Bonfrew for the two three-year terms while Robert S. Owen, Mrs. Elsie Goode, Joseph W. McClanahan, James C. Allen and Carl F. Ingraham sought the one-year term.

Volunteer workers on the 1953 American Red Cross drive in Birmingham swung into action to raise the city's quota set at \$14,037.70.

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ELABORATE PLANS WERE BEING MADE in May for a coming-out party for the little-seen Cicada, a small locust-like insect that comes out of the ground every 17 years to bear its young. Walter Nickel, Director of the Cranbrook Institute of Science natural science department announced the preparations and in the heat of mid-summer millions of insects made their appearance in the woods of Bloomfield Hills.

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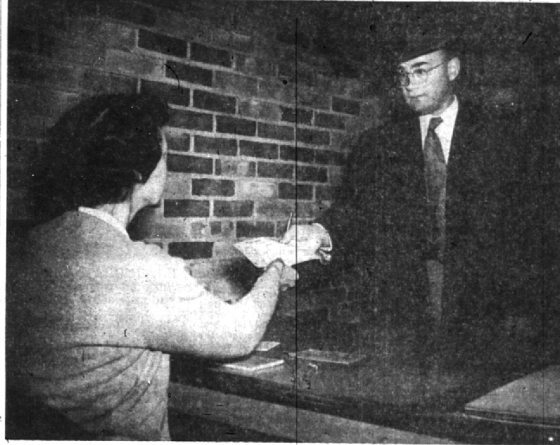
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TO HELP FIRE-FIGHTING OPERATIONS of the expanding Bloomfield township in 1953, township fire department received the above pictured 1,000 gallon pumper. Addition of the pumper brought the township's fire department to three trucks. Inspecting the new vehicle are, left to right, Police Chief Clark Green, Supervisor David E. Anderson, Treasurer Arno L. Hulet and Fireman Lester Allen.



BALLOT BOXES WERE BUSY in the Bloomfield Hills school expansion bond issue early in March but voters refused for the second time to approve money for additional school facilities. Margin of defeat for the proposal for this, the second such election within a year, was 16 votes.

Happy New Year

Each year we strive for a new way to say it, but we always come back to our simple, friendly "Happy New Year".

**BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION**

OUR OFFICES WILL NOT BE OPEN THE EVENING OF THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31



CLYDE CYPHERS BECAME THE NEW MANAGER of Oakland Hills Country Club early in April and is shown here with Chef Francis Hervieu in the club's kitchen. Cyphers filled the manager's job left vacant after the death of Theodore Heineman in 1952.

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