

# BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

**BIRMINGHAM'S 1953 Red Cross campaign chairman** DeHull Travis, will speak at the March 9 meeting of the Rochester Kiwanis club when he delivers his lecture on "The Man without a Smile," an account of Travis' work as a former chairman of the Michigan Board of Pardons.

**CITY COMMISSIONER** Lance Minor is hoping the city gets through the winter season with little or no further expenditures for snow removal. So far, the city and for this purpose still has quite a bit remaining in it. Minor proposes that any unspent money be turned into the development of Eton park. "I'd like to see that project pushed and made into a real park," he explains.

**NOTICED ANY DIFFERENCE** in the atmosphere? Does the sky look any clearer or bluer? It should, according to City Building Inspector Jack Walker, who says the city's new and unofficial smoke abatement committee has made noticeable strides in eliminating smoking chimneys. "The city's No. 1 problem is expected to be cleared up when the property owner installs a new heating system, which the committee has proposed." The city's own Municipal Building also is not as smoky as it could be. And Walker admits that it sometimes is embarrassing during the course of his conversations with other offenders.

**ANYONE HAVING** negatives of the Lawson lumber yard fire of Feb. 14, can perform a real service to the Birmingham fire department by loaning them for reprints. In an effort to compile a pictorial record of fires in the city, the department is processing whatever negatives it can acquire. They may be left at the department office and will be returned to the owner if requested.

**A NEW DEVELOPMENT** may be on the horizon in the proposed widening of the 18-foot strip Lincoln pavement between Pierce and Southfield. At least one resident reports that a petition is being circulated to have the street widened. The last official action city officials heard from Lincoln residents was a petition signed by practically all the residents protesting the widening. Things have gone as far as the hiring of an attorney to lead the fight. If the new petition report is correct, city officials are wondering if there has been a change of heart.

**EVERY DOG HAS** his day and according to reports from the annual Detroit Kennel club show, three Birmingham dogs had their day Sunday. Best of breed included Ch. Fascinating Little Dandy, Boston terrier owned by Mrs. R. H. Calbeck; Jason of Van Bie, Keeshonden, owned by A. H. Apsey; and Siefenjagenheim (Guide, longhaired dachshund owned by Siefenjagenheim kennels.

**HERMAN KLEMM**, 30329 Bristol Lane, and Allen K. Parrish, 35601 Beech, Troy township, were fishing companions of Fred Missal of Farmington off Fort Lauderdale, Fla., recently when Missal landed a prize-winning 19 1/2 pound sailfish.

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## ESTIMATED COST of this Building Program

A	WING LAKE ADDITION	\$ 260,000
B	HIGH SCHOOL	1,100,000
C	2 SITES—FUTURE ELEMENTARY UNITS	30,000

**PROPOSED BOND ISSUE \$1,390,000**

## BOND RETIREMENT AND ITS EFFECT ON YOUR TAXES

YEAR	TAXES	REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	EXCESS
1953	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00
1954	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00

## OUTSTANDING BOND ISSUE

YEAR	TAXES	REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	EXCESS
1953	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00
1954	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00

## OUTSTANDING AND PROPOSED BOND ISSUES

YEAR	TAXES	REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	EXCESS
1953	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00
1954	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00

## SCHOOL DISTRICT GROWTH IN TERMS OF EQUALIZED VALUATION

YEAR	TAXES	REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	EXCESS
1953	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00
1954	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00

## HOW \$1,390,000 WOULD BE PAID

Expected millage high would be 21

# Debt Requirements If Hills School Bond Issue Passes

**Ed. Note:**—This is the fourth and last in a series of articles outlining the needs of the Bloomfield Hills School District No. 2, and explaining the district's \$1,390,000 bond issue that will go before voters on Tuesday, March 10.

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

Taxpayers of the Bloomfield Hills School District No. 2 will be asked to approve the levying on an additional three mills for the year of 1954 and eight mills each year from 1955 to 1970 when they vote March 10 on the district's \$1,390,000 school expansion bond issue.

The school board seeks passage of the bond issue to finance construction of a new high school, an addition to the Wing Lake elementary school and the purchase of two school sites. Of this \$1,390,000, \$1,000,000 has been asked for the building of the new high school, \$260,000 for the Wing Lake addition and \$390,000 for the two school sites.

Outstanding bond issues now carried in the district include a \$1 1/2 mill debt for the year 1953-54 and a two-mill levy that will be assessed from 1955 to 1960. School board members hope that increased valuations within the district will bring a downward adjustment in the tax rate if the bond issue were to be passed now.

**A FURTHER HOPE** of the schools is that the highest levy assessed in any one year would be 21 mills if operating millage held constant with a continual increase in equalized property values.

According to a report on the financing methods of repaying this bond issue, the payment for both outstanding and proposed issues would cost the taxpayer \$4.50 per thousand dollars of equalized valuation in 1953, \$7.50 in 1954, \$8 in 1955, \$10 from 1956 through 1960 and \$8 from 1961 through 1970.

Quoting further from the report, the school district growth since 1948 in terms of equalized valuation has brought a \$7,716,597 increase to the district. School authorities expect this climb to continue, easing the burden of school debt on residents.

The Parent-Teacher Organization mailed the second in a series of

## Committee of 100 Urges Defeat of Bond Issue

Opponents of the Bloomfield Hills School District's \$1,390,000 school expansion bond issue—to be voted on March 10—have mailed over 1,200 brochures to district residents outlining the stand of School Board Member Mrs. L. H. Mackenzie who submitted a minority report opposing the issue.

The 13-page pamphlet was printed and mailed at the expense of a committee of 100 who have backed the opinion expressed by Mrs. Mackenzie.

The text includes the statement made by Mrs. Mackenzie at the public hearing on the bond proposal at Kirk-in-the-Hills church Feb. 16.

In the statement, Mrs. Mackenzie elaborates, step by step, on every phase of the school board pamphlet, "Why... Our Children Need More School Rooms... Today," also recently mailed to every resident in the district.

She agrees that the school enrollment has doubled within the past five years but also points out that school rooms have also doubled within that time.

MRS. MACKENZIE also states that the district should delay the building of a high school only as long as it takes to carefully plan the new building.

She lists several vacant rooms in the school day at the high school and believes the present school can adequately provide for high school students until thorough plans for the new high are completed.

## PEOPLE'S COLUMN

# Endorses Hills' School Expansion

To The Editor:

Who do we want to direct the policies of our schools? According to law, our school board elected by the people of the district, should be directing these policies.

We have capable men on our board and to keep capable men at the head of our schools, we must support them. They have spent many hours in planning and analyzing the needs of our schools.

As a former teacher, school principal and new Michigan district manager of a publishing firm, it is my job to visit schools throughout the state often. Comparisons I have made of other school districts and the Bloomfield Hills District No. 2 make the writing of this letter advisable.

The school board recently completed and presented to us a realistic report on the urgent need for school expansion. One of the outstanding authorities in school planning, the University of Michigan Bureau of School Services, was called into our district and this impartial authority directed the study and approved our school board's recommendations that we build a new high school and current the Wing Lake school building.

**THE WING LAKE** school has no kindergarten room, second grade room or fifth grade room. Because some of us still seem confused on the Wing Lake proposal, it has been suggested that you again refer to Prof. Vreese's letter to the school superintendent, John Jacobs.

The report states, "The building of the secondary school (high school) will not eliminate the need for some construction in the Wing Lake area according to our data." We are the wealthiest school district in Oakland County with \$27,000 in tax dollars behind each of our school children. Birmingham has \$16,100 and the other districts less.

**OUR NEIGHBORS** in Waterford township, Birmingham, Southfield

and Farmington townships are all

paying more for their schools than we are.

No MORE rooms are available

in our schools.

Our schools are overcrowded.

Our schools are old and dilapidated.

Our schools are unsafe.

Our schools are inefficient.

Our schools are a disgrace.

Our schools are a shame.

Our schools are a blot on the landscape.

Our schools are a disgrace to our community.

Our schools are a shame to our children.

Our schools are a blot on the future.

Our schools are a disgrace to our state.

Our schools are a shame to our nation.

Our schools are a blot on the world.

Our schools are a disgrace to our race.

Our schools are a shame to our humanity.

Our schools are a blot on the universe.

Our schools are a disgrace to our God.

Our schools are a shame to our Creator.

Our schools are a blot on the face of the earth.

Our schools are a disgrace to the King of Kings.

Our schools are a shame to the Lord of Lords.

Our schools are a blot on the throne of God.

Our schools are a disgrace to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our schools are a shame to the Church of Christ.

Our schools are a blot on the name of Jesus Christ.

Our schools are a disgrace to the Gospel of the Kingdom.

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