

Report on Artificial Rinks Heard by Board

A report on costs involved in acquiring an artificial ice skating rink for Birmingham is currently being prepared by a committee of the City recreation board in preparation for submitting plans for the rink to the city commission.

At its meeting last Thursday night, the board heard a report from Roland Reese on what is available in the way of inexpensive portable equipment for constructing a rink.

Reese described three rinks that now are in operation in Detroit and reported that the probable cost of one for Birmingham would be from \$40,000 to \$60,000, depending on the size selected.

ONE OF THE rinks described by Reese is located at St. Hedwig park in Detroit. This rink was installed this winter, and in its first month of operation averaged 1,087 skaters a day. It is 85 by 185 feet.

Cost of a rink this size would be about \$60,000, Reese said. He added that he received an estimate of \$40,000 for a rink 100 by 125 feet.

These rinks can be laid on almost any level surface. Piping for the freezing agent is plastic and can be easily handled, Reese said. He reported that there is a possibility of securing from war surplus a compressor for the refrigerating process.

REESE SUGGESTED that a tabernacle type structure might be purchased as a shelter for the rink, that could then be converted into a roller rink in the summer time.

Board Member Norman Wolfe said he felt that for the time being, plans should be confined to an outside rink in order to keep costs down.

Drivers Warned Of Stiffened Licensing Laws

A program to warn drivers that they must obey traffic laws to keep their licenses was under way this week throughout Michigan, announced Justice Herbert W. Alden, Troy Township Justice.

In cooperation with the office of the Michigan Secretary of State, the program is being conducted by the Traffic Safety Association and local police departments and courts. In addition hundreds of posters are being erected this week which warn "Obey Traffic Laws. Keep Your Licenses."

Under Michigan's new driver license law, all authority for driver licensing rests with the Secretary of State. It has been centralized under a new unit known as the Division of Driver and Vehicle Services.

THE NEW LAW both centralizes driver licensing and also strengthens procedures. A new 17-man staff of examiner-supervisors has been trained and assigned to eight districts in the state.

These men have two basic duties: the supervision and training of examiners in local police departments and sheriff's offices, and the conducting of driver improvement boards which consist of re-examining and interviewing drivers whose records call for a warning, suspension or revocation.

Part of the job is to handle the problem drivers who repeatedly chalk up bad records, Judge Alden said.

UNDER THIS program, the Secretary of State in January suspended the licenses of 99 drivers, revoked the licenses of 276 drivers and placed 108 drivers on probation. An additional 453 Michigan drivers also were warned that they were in danger of losing their licenses unless their driving records improved.

Judge Alden also disclosed that several hundred applicants were denied licenses under the new and stiffer examination, while another large group throughout the state lost their licenses as a result of court action.

Announces Appointment Head of editorial department of the Jam Handy organization, William Selmeier, 2000 Rockingham, has announced the appointment of Ray Wilson, Hollywood script writer and director, to his staff at the company.

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When the "pull to go back home" is more than the pull that starts you on a vacation, then you are domestically balanced. Someone or other, it seems to me, mankind was made to perform more of work than he was to go through too much of life merely loafing.

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM BACKGROUND

Local History in Story and Picture

As Compiled and Written by RUTH ANNE SILBAR



WEST MAPLE AVENUE has undergone quite a change since this picture was taken 25 years ago. There was one majestic elm which probably had been planted by the Village Improvement Society, still left in the block west of Woodward. The old landmark, the Methodist church steeple, still dominated the landscape and the Wabeco and present Hanna building had not as yet made their appearances. Two "no parking" signs on the

left side of the street indicate that traffic was a problem on West Maple in 1928 as it is today. Merchants on this busy street hung their electric signs out over their business establishments—a practice now prohibited by city ordinance. From a study of the picture, it appears that only two businesses, Shain's drug store and Williams Boot Shop, have remained in the same location during the ensuing 25 years. (Photo from the J. Bert Peabody Collection)

Citation Awarded Birmingham Man For 4-H Club Work

The 4-H Club department of Michigan State College has awarded a special citation for outstanding service to John Endicott, retired business executive of Birmingham, Mich.

Endicott, 57, for many years has been active in promoting 4-H Club work in Michigan. As a member of the board of managers of the Michigan State Fair at the time when 4-H was in its developmental stages, he gave wholehearted support to the youth program, says A. G. Kettunen, State 4-H Club leader at East Lansing.

As a Guernsey breeder and an active member in the Michigan Guernsey Cattle club as well as

With Tank Battalion Now In California

CAMP IRWIN, CALIF.—Pvt. er. William H. Henning, 22, son of Private M. Henning, a photographer, Mr. and Mrs. Lester A. Henning, 1048 Ridgedale, is training with entered the Army in April 1953 the 44th Tank Battalion at Camp and completed basic training at Irwin in California's Mojave Desert-Fort Knox, Ky.

In recent years, Endicott has been interested in the International Farm Youth Exchange program and has made generous contributions towards carrying on this project since it was established in 1948.

The 4-H Club program has had no finer friend than John Endicott, a man genuinely interested in 4-H Club work, in youth and in agriculture," says Kettunen.

Are you thinking of buying a new home? Then read the "For Sale—Houses" columns on the Classified Ad page of this week's Eccentric.

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Ypsi Manager Speaks The benefits which he feels come from "just being an American," were discussed at the Wednesday meeting of the Southfield Kiwanis club by Anse Damoose, Ypsilanti city manager.

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