

### Michigan Salt Can Last World 50 Million Years

ANN ARBOR— Pass the salt, please! There's no shortage of it.

That's the word from Russell C. Hussey, University of Michigan professor of geology.

By aerial measurement there is enough salt in Michigan to last the entire world, at the present rate of consumption, for 50 million years, he declares.

"As large as any in the world Michigan's salt beds provide the source for all the salt used in this area. The great deposits, which underlie almost all of the southern peninsula of Michigan, are known to reach a thickness of over 600 feet in some places," Prof. Hussey says.

COMMENTING on the origin of this salt, the geologist explains that during the Silurian period, about 200 million years ago, there was a great desert here, something like the region around Great Salt Lake today.

This was formed by the drying up of a great sea which once covered the desert.

During the drying process, salt was precipitated through excessive evaporation, while a small trickle of sea water coming into the Michigan basin through a channel, ocean channel, renewed the supply of brine.

THIS ALONG with a certain amount of low subsidence of the rocks, brought about the enormous thickness of salt found in many places.

Originally, Prof. Hussey says, the great salt basin extended from the Lower Peninsula of Michigan eastward through Northwestern Ohio, Northwestern Pennsylvania and up as far as Syracuse, N. Y.

An arid condition developed, the area which occupied the region now partly covered by the sea, evaporation and salt and gypsum were deposited over an area of about 100,000 square miles.

In Detroit, where salt has been mined for many years, layers of tunnels have been driven in solid rock salt. These tunnels extend for many miles under the city," he says.

HE DESCRIBES the Detroit salt deposits as beginning at a depth of 1,000 feet below the surface and then continuing horizon tally.

Blasting is the method used to obtain the salt here. One unusual feature of the Detroit mines is that, in place of the usual timbering, great pillars of salt are left standing to support the rocks.

In Wyandotte, Marquette, Midland and St. Clair, on the other hand, drill methods are in use. Professor Hussey explains that water is pumped down a well drilled into the salt.

When the water dissolves the salt, the brine is pumped out and the salt is then recovered through evaporation," he says.

"Brine is found wherever water has trickled down into the salt bed, dissolved it, and then has worked its way up again through cracks and fractures of the overlying rock."

**Save Lunch Nickel**

Lunches served students in the Bloomfield Hills schools will be cheaper by five cents for elementary students this year, the board of education has decided. Each lunch will be 70 cents for elementary and 35 cents for high school students.

### Varsity Nine Wins Playoffs

Varsity Shop made a clean sweep of the YMCA softball league by winning four straight post season games in the playoff series.

In the final game Monday night, the Varsity nine defeated the Merchants 2-0 at St. James field.

CONNIE ADAMS hurled one hit to set down the Merchants for the second time in a row.

The two teams played to a 2-2 deadlock last week, forcing the overtime game.

Varsity failed us to get run in the first inning when Bob Carnahan, on first, Carnahan tossed the sock and was sent home plate to reach a thickness of over 600 feet in some places," Prof. Hussey says.

CARNAHAN then scored Varsity Shop's final run in the fourth inning on a sacrifice fly to center by Adam.

The only hit of Adams was Howard Edlin's single in the fourth inning.

Dante Wiggazer allowed only four hits in suffering the loss.

IT ENDED a YMCA softball season for the season.

### Award Contract For Ice-Making Machinery

"Operation Engineers" got under way in Birmingham this week by offering a renovation board members, contractors and assorted interested citizens crossed the district on each hand and hoped that the municipal ice skating rink at Etowah park would not cost more than \$145,000.

Because that is all the money the city seems to be able to scrape up for the facility without shorting other city funds.

Monday night the commission awarded to the Charles E. Holtz Co. of Detroit a \$44,821 contract for installation of the ice-making machinery.

LAST WEEK the city spent \$80,000 for the buildings and skating rinks have yet to buy about \$6,000 worth of plastic pipe.

Available for spending on this project are \$25,000 from a special bond issue, \$13,333.88 from the park improvement fund, and \$7,297.12 in scavenger sales money, or a total of \$145,631.02.

Thus, about \$10,000 is left for a parking lot in connection with the rink. First estimates last spring listed \$15,000 for parking.

Primary 24,000 expenses are running on close to available cash is the commission's recent decision to include a larger "warming shelter" at the rink.

Household goods of every description are offered for sale in the Classified Columns of The Birmingham Eccentric.

**WATCH** for the Grand Opening of **GIL SCHAEFER'S** Water Sports Headquarters 1265 S. Woodward at Adams

### People's Column Fields of Grain Inspire Resident

To the Editor: The enclosed poem was written on seeing the figure of a huge cross outlined in green on the side of a grain-covered hill near Portoksey.

At the suggestion of friends, I am sending it in to The Eccentric. Have you ever traveled Northward?

By the road that hugs the Bay Through the hills and wooded country Green and fertile all the way? Have you seen the rippling wheat fields?

Stretching far, on either side, Golden in the morning sunshine, Pale in shadowy evening? Suddenly, upon a hillside Covered o'er with yellow grain, I beheld a shining symbol.

Traced in green, weed-stalk and pain. For a moment, I beheld it. For the memory lingers now Of the cross, by God imparted On the lofty hillside's brow."

MRS. W. CLIFTON RANDALL, 720 Shirley drive, Birmingham.

### Thieves 'Break Out' Of Store With \$150

John Kranick, owner of Birmingham Drug Store, 1220 S. Woodward, told Birmingham Police this week that thieves hid themselves in the store Monday and took \$150 in cash after store employees departed for the day.

To gain exit they broke two locks, taking with them about \$100 in money paid on Detroit Edison bills. The other money was in rolls of coins, Kranick told police.

### School District Has 8 Cafeterias


A total of eight cafeterias were in operation at the various schools in the Birmingham district according to the records of the Board.

There were five cafeterias when the school year started in 1954, but since then the Beverly, Franklin and Penitence cafeterias opened.

An average of 52 employees on the cafeteria payroll, of which eight are head cooks.

### ★ Smile A Minute

Long hair makes a man look either dignified or ridiculous, which depends on whether the hair is on his head or on his coat.



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