

So long as we keep freedom as the sacred right of American citizenship, we need have no fear of becoming enslaved by foreign or domestic enemies. Therefore, each of us must be determined to fight all encroachments of tyranny.

# \$18 Million in Area Property Valuations

## THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

### He Bequeathed More Than Money!

Here is a wonderful "last will" of an Ohio-born man, William F. Whelan, although published first in Harper's Weekly in 1898, still is worth your reading.

**A LAST WILL.**  
I, Charles Lounsbury, being of sound mind and disposing mind and memory, do hereby make and publish this my last will and testament, in order, as justly as may be, to distribute my interest in the world among succeeding men.

That part of my interest which is known as law and recognized in the sheep-bound volumes as my property, being inconsiderable and of no account, I make no disposition of in this my last will.

My right to live, but not a life estate, is not at my disposal, but these things excepted, all else in the world I now proceed to devise and bequeath.

**ITEM:** I give to good fathers and mothers, in trust for their children, all good little words of praise and encouragement, and all quaint pet names and endearments, and I charge said parents to use them justly, but generously, as the needs of their children require.

**Item:** I leave to children exclusively, but only for the term of one year, all the flowers of the field and the blossoms of the woods, with the right to play among them freely according to the customs of children, warning them at the same time against thieving and mischief.

**Item:** I devise to children the banks of the brooks and the golden sand beneath the waters thereof, and the odors of the willows that dip therein, and the white clouds that float high over the giant trees.

**AND I LEAVE** the children the long, long days to be merry in, in a thousand ways, and the nights and the train of the Milky Way to ponder at, but subject, nevertheless, to the rights hereinafter given to lovers.

**Item:** I devise to boys jointly, all the useful, idle fields and commons where ball may be played, all pleasant waters where they may swim, all snow-capped hills where one may coast, and all streams and ponds, where one may fish, and where, when grim winter comes, one may skate, to hold the same for the period of their boyhood.

**AND I GIVE** to said boys each his own place at the fire-side at night, with all the pleasures that may be seen in the burning wood, and enjoy without, let or hindrance and without any incumbrance of care.

**Item:** To lovers, I bequeath the bloom of the Hawthorn, the sweet whiff of music, and aught else which they may desire to figure to each other the lastness and beauty of their love.

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## 13 Petitions Filed For City Commission

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

If all nominations are accepted by noon Saturday, Birmingham electors on April 4 will select three city commissioners from a baker's dozen who have filed petitions. When last Saturday's nomination deadline arrived, petitions had been filed for 12 candidates, including three who got into the race as late starters.

And Monday night the city commission-sitting as the election board decided that Sidney Sullivan, 47, of 271 Westchester Way, would be permitted to file.

He had left his petition with the police department Friday evening, expecting it to be delivered to the city clerk sometime Saturday. Commissioners decided the city charter's intent has been fulfilled.

**ONE WOMAN** is out for a spot on the city commission. She is Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., who already has filed her nomination acceptance.

She seeks the two-year vacancy resulting from the recent resignation of Commissioner Robert E. Navin, who is moving from the city.

Acceptances also have come from Incumbent V. B. Watkins, 51, of 280 Henley, and Donald K. Phillips, 42, of 1693 Banbury, both of whom seek one of the two three-year terms which are available.

**THE LATE** starters are Manley Bailey, 47, of 905 Shirley, a local engineer; Frederick W. Winderer, attorney for the Michigan-Wisconsin Pipeline Co.; and John J. Smith, 46, of 1617 Sheffield, an industrial engineer with a Detroit architectural firm.

The other seven are Harry Denney, Jr., 38, of 300 Warren court; Frederic Wassenaar, 51, of 2500 Larches; Omar Hansen, 35, of 523 E. Southlawn; Carl F. Ingraham, 42, of 140 Harmon; Dr. Bernard O'Dell, 33, of 1921 Wakefield; Sidney Sullivan, 47, of 271 Westchester Way; and Wats Wacker, Jr., 28, of 1234 Bates.

**OTHERS SEEKING** election to a three-year term are Hansen and Wacker.

Filing for the two-year vacancy, besides Mrs. Willett, were Eissel, Manley, Smith and O'Dell.

Still to make up their minds by Saturday whether to file are two of three who are Denney, Ingraham, Sullivan, Bailey and Reid.

**Roll Call Short**  
\$20,000; Donald Ended Tuesday

A Tuesday morning tally, immediately after the closing of town hall, revealed that the roll call of the \$20,000 roll had been collected, but that the roll call for the \$20,000 roll had been collected, but that the roll call for the \$20,000 roll had been collected.

## Concrete Problem Before Mediators

Federal mediators hope to come up with the answer at a meeting today or tomorrow on whether carpenters or bricklayers are to install pre-cast concrete panels on the exterior of the fire station under construction at Adams and Bowers.



## Girl, Scouting's Birthday

Being noted in the Birmingham, Southfield and Bloomfield areas with mother-daughter dinners, church observances, and special projects. Franklin Girl Scouts are making children's garments and bean bags, as shown, and mitten washcloths for the Needlework Guild, for use in the Sister Kenny hospital in Farmington. All Tween-Hi members of troop 324, at Mrs. David Falconer's home on Jackson Park in Franklin, they are from left, Nancy Broders, Karen Altmanberger, Joan Troutaud, Nancy Sampson, Gale McIntosh, Barb Falconer and Sue Stout. Aiding is their leader, Mrs. V. A. McIntosh.

## To Hear Aims of Groups Involved in Youth Work

Work of the youth committee of the Birmingham, Southfield and Bloomfield Council of Community Services got underway last week when members agreed to invite representatives of various community organizations working with youth to explain their organization's program and activities.

## No More Tickets For Town Hall; Sign 3 Speakers

Three of next season's speakers for Birmingham Town Hall series have signed on the dotted line today. They are speakers disclosed Tuesday and contracts for three others now are being negotiated.

## Funeral at Noon Today For Carlton M. Higbie

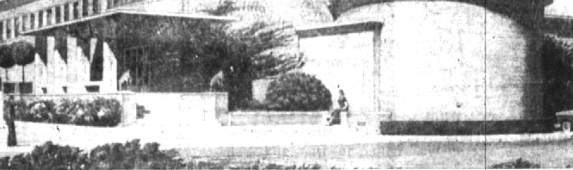
Defunct banker, individualist and financier Carlton M. Higbie, 65, died Tuesday in St. Joseph Mercy hospital, Pontiac. His home was on Kensington road, Bloomfield Hills.

## Confessed Killer to Stand Trial

Jurisdiction of the confessed killer of 3-year-old Kathy McLaughlin of Farmington township, was waived yesterday during a hearing by Oakland County Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore.

## STRICTLY FRESH

Men's Pajamas Institute appeals to the ladies, who are currently enjoying the "let's wear men's pajamas" craze. The institute says their small size buying is throwing production planning out of whack. Take a tip from the shoe industry, fellows. There just aren't any gals who require large sizes.



## Truck Driver Arrested in Memphis

Truck driver arrested in Memphis, Tenn., for a 900-pound overload was released when he told bouncer it must have been all the snow on deck. Take a tip from his truck. From some of that new-fangled heavy water, perhaps?

## Tentative Increases Obtained

When the tax boards of review for six area municipalities begin their sessions next week, they will have before them tax assessment rolls which will total more than \$18 million higher than last year's property valuations, a survey by The Birmingham Eccentric indicated today.

Largest of the increases will be for Southfield township, where the unshaded building activity will cause about \$9 million to be added to township assessment valuation.

All SIX assessing officers emphatically pointed out that these figures are tentative and subject to adjustment by their respective tax boards as a result of public hearings.

At the present time, for 1955 assessed valuations it looks like this: Birmingham—approximately \$52,700,000, up nearly \$4 million, according to City Assessor Elmer V. Kephart; Troy—approximately \$21,500,000, an increase of slightly more than \$2 million, according to Supervisor Norman Barnum; Southfield township—somewhere in the vicinity of \$60 million or better, up \$9 million or more, according to City Assessor Leonard Watcowski.

Lathrup Village—around \$6,200,000, up nearly a half million, said City Administrator Leonard Watcowski.

Troy township—approximately \$12,500,000, an increase of slightly more than \$2 million, according to Supervisor Norman Barnum.

Board of review meetings for the various communities will be during the daytime: Birmingham: March 8, 14-15; Bloomfield Hills: March 12 and 19.

Lathrup Village: March 8-11 and 13 tonight sessions also on March 8 and 14.

Troy township: March 8 (the first meeting was held Wednesday, 1954).

Bloomfield township: March 7-8; Southfield township: March 8, 14-15.

