

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

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S'field Charter Election Recount Upholds Previous Tabulations

No Attempt Seen to Set Aside Election

SOUTHFIELD—Charges of 'irregularities' which brought about a recount of Southfield's Dec. 3 charter election, were disproved last Wednesday during the six-hour re-examination of the voting tallies.

Only one error was discovered in more than 8,700 votes cast and that was in ward one, precinct three, where election officials had written into the registration books the name of a voter after absentee ballots were cast.

ABSENTEE ballots, according to state law, are the last votes cast and written into the poll books after the polls are closed.

EDWARD A. Elsarrell, election commission member and advisor to the leaders of the petition movement, said he thought there would be time enough before June 7, 1957 for another charter election, and would be sought to set aside the recent charter election.



PARTICIPANTS in last week's recount of the Dec. 3 Southfield Charter election crowd around Township Clerk Fannie Adams (center) as the first tally is checked at the 13 Mile fire station. Complete recount showed no change in the ballot totals by which the charter was turned down by only 43 votes of some 8,700 ballots cast.

Precinct Officials Have Differing Reactions to Recount Investigation

SOUTHFIELD—Township Clerk Fannie Adams' election staff was cleared of any "irregularities" in connection with the Dec. 3 City of Southfield charter election when quizzed last Wednesday by charter commissioners acting as election commission.

For most—if not all of them—it was the first such formal questioning of their capabilities as election officials, and they faced the probe with varied reactions.

The chairman (all women) were brought to the 13 Mile fire station where the election commission questioned them for almost two hours before they began the recount.

THE WOMEN were required to wait outside the room where investigation of charges contained in the recount petition was held.

witty with their remarks; some were careful in their selection of words; and some were just plain scared.

MOST OF THE questions centered on instruction to the voters; whether model voting machines were used; if any instruction was given on the actual voting machines; and if any voters remarked that they had forgotten to vote on the proposition.

Beatrice Butler, precinct four chairman, led the parade of 12 election officials questioned. She, like most who followed, said they had stressed to the voters to vote first on the proposition and then on the candidates.

FICTITIOUS names on the model voting machine were removed early on election day, said Erna Packard, precinct 11 chairman, because it confused voters.

Mrs. Packard said not everyone was offered instruction on the model but each voter was instructed at the voting booth.

"HE WASN'T having any trouble, he said. He just wanted to find out how to get out of the booth," said Mrs. Packard.

Upon suggestion that the quizzing be speeded up Charter Commissioner Edward A. Elsarrell remarked that it had already cost the county \$25,000 for Southfield incorporation elections.

Marion Harding, precinct two chairman, was asked before the question. "He did not use the model because it confused the people when they got into the machine," said Mrs. Harding.

WHILE THE charter failed to carry by 43 votes, 533 persons did not ballot on the proposition. Many of these were in the south end where the proposition was favored three to one.

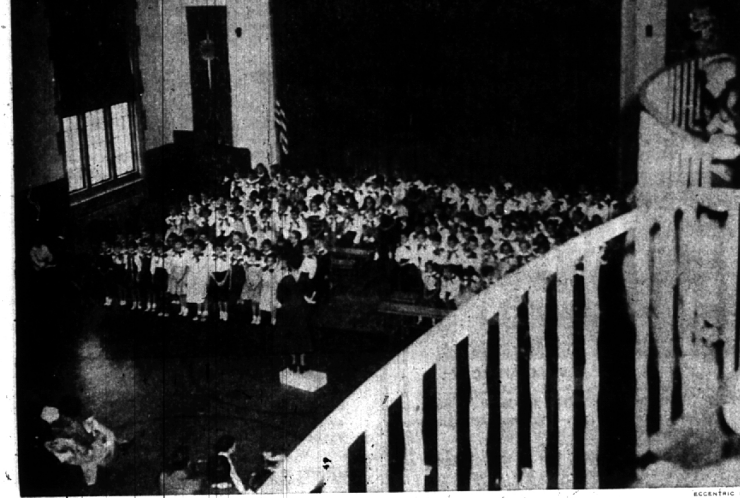
Ann Sanducky of precinct nine said one woman came out of the booth and then recalled she had not voted on the proposition.

"So often they will go in and vote for the candidates and forget the question," said Agnes Larson, of precinct one, which brought from several bystanders the comment, "Evidently."

"IS THAT 'em seat!" asked Leah Kreidler of precinct two. Mrs. (See RECOUNT, Page 2, Sec. 4)

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC Oakland County Areas to Assist in Detroit Evacuation Plan

Section 1, Page 1 Society Section 2 How Rev. John D. Rose Writes His Sermons Section 3, Pages 6, 7 BLOOMFIELD VILG. COLUMN Section 2, Page 6 NORTH ADAMS COLUMN Section 2, Page 3



"FEAST OF THE CAROLS", a traditional Christmas program at Lathrup school, was presented last Thursday at morning and afternoon programs. Parents and fellow schoolmates packed the auditorium for both presentations by the well-directed and talented youngsters.

Sidelights

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

Joy AND Happiness FOR THE New Year



I wish you a year filled with love, good health and good fortune. May it be the happiest you have ever known.

Jack White Leaving WJR for PR Post

BERKSHIRE HILLS—Jack P. White of Small wood court, has resigned his position as radio station WJR chief news editor effective Jan. 1, to accept a position as public relations director of Oldsmobile division, General Motors Corp.

My Neighbors



"Every New Year it's the same thing—wires screaming... snow screeching... curtains hanging and cats stamping around!"

People's Column

Clerk Fannie Adams Wins Election Bid

UPON the completion of the recount recently held on the charter election of Dec. 3, one of the petitioners requesting the recount and who was present during the entire time, remarked, "The election boards have done a perfect job and they should be highly complimented. I am now satisfied."

IN view of all the publicity over ratio and in the newspapers, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to each and every member of our election board for the splendid work they are doing in all elections.

FANNIE ADAMS Southfield township clerk

Stone Will Handle City's Bookkeeping

LATHRUP—Building Inspector Gerald Stone has been assigned the city's bookkeeping chores as well as preparation of monthly financial reports, it was announced last week by City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski.

Watchowski was criticized last week by Councilman Kathryn Feyereisen for letting auditors do bookkeeping work on auditors' fees.

Optimist Party

SOUTHFIELD—Optimist club members and wives were entertained last week at Rotonda Inn on Pine lake at the club's annual Christmas party.

Form Auxiliary Police Corps in Southfield Area

SOUTHFIELD—A "hard core" of auxiliary police will be formed in four area municipalities and will come under the direction of Southfield Police Chief Philip LaVigne, it was announced last week by Mary Hershey, Southfield civil defense director.

Other communities in the area CD plan are Bingham Farms, Lathrup and Franklin Village. Heading their own auxiliary units and acting with LaVigne as policy-making body will be Bingham Farms Village Marshal William Miller; Franklin Marshal Jack Roberts, and Lathrup Police Chief Kenneth Farnham.

AUXILIARY officers will be trained to meet everyday problems as well as natural or man-made disasters headon, said Mrs. Hershey.

Training, which will start after Jan. 2, will include schooling in riots, traffic direction, first aid, prevention of looting and sabotage, and other safeguards which might be required.

Anyone interested in joining this auxiliary group may do so by contacting the police department of the communities listed above, Mrs. Hershey added.

Goodfellows Provide Brighter Christmas For S'field's Needy

SOUTHFIELD—Christmas became a lot more meaningful and brighter—for some 251 needy persons Sunday—including 221 children when Southfield Goodfellows' helpers made their annual distribution of toys, candy and clothing Sunday, said Mrs. William Kellinger, 19457 Hillton, purchasing committee chairman, said she and her committee valued at about \$25. Optimists followed up the package gifts with each home on the Goodfellows' list.

To raise the money Southfield Goodfellows sold 13,250 papers and collected \$4,548.24. This cash in Kansas, 11 Mile road, and 140 men sold 12 papers.

Extra money collected this year will go towards purchase of next year's baskets.

Three Sewer Lines Require Repairs

LATHRUP—Immediate repairs to sewers in three locations—Rainbow drive, Saratoga and Glenwood, were authorized last week by city officials.

City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski said there may be some major repairs needed. Some cave-ins along the sewer lines indicate some of the pipe may be broken, he said.

Kiwanis Board

SOUTHFIELD—Kiwanis board of directors will meet Jan. 4 at 8 p.m. at the home of R. V. Snyder, 2680 Wilmet.

High Court to Hear Gas Station Appeal

LATHRUP—City Attorney Everett F. Hayes said the city's appeal in the Michigan Supreme Court against Highland Oil Co. will be heard Jan. 8.

Highland Oil won the first round in Oakland county circuit court last week in their attempt to force Lathrup to issue them a permit to construct a gas station at the northeast corner of Glenwood and Southfield.

FRANKLIN COURT NEWS staffers gather for a group portrait just before settling down to the business of putting together their last issue (coming out this week) before going out of business. From left to right are: Jim Jones, sports editor; Hoyt Hill, Franklin editor; Gordon Clark, Bloomfield editor; Art Plaxton, editorials; Rich Marsh, meteorologist; Dick Bailey, literary editor; Bob Treadway, editor-in-chief, and Harlan A. Davis, assistant sports editor.



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Franklin Court News Passes Into History

BY NATALIE YINGLING

Regret and sadness that old subscribers of the Woman's Home Companion and Collars have felt at the announcement that issues now on the newstands will be the last, are felt to an even greater degree here in Franklin at the news that Franklin Court News will sing its swan song with this week's issue.

This bright little news sheet, edited by local boys, is welcomed into more than 40 homes each week. There are 15 out of town subscribers, including one each in Kansas, Illinois, New York, Ontario, England and Indonesia.

The paper was founded in November 1950 by Bob Treadway of Franklin court and Hoyt Hill of Bonney road, who were then age 11 and 8. Since then the staff has changed several times and in November now there are 10 boys working each week.

BOB'S DUTIES as editor-in-chief include collecting and writ-

winter. He has taken over other jobs if one of the boys is sick or out of town.

Hoyt Hill writes the Franklin news and in the fall he predicts the college football games. This week he's out on a limb with his bowl predictions. Dick Bailey is the TV critic and entertainment editor who keeps readers informed on the best shows. Under the pen name of Lance Cavanaugh he is sometimes the vacation editor and writes of interesting places to visit.

JIM JONES, sports editor, writes the BHS sports news and reviews. Gordon Clark is the Bloomfield editor and helps with the typing. Harlan Davis, associate sports editor, covers the national sports and predicts the professional champions in each sport.

Editorials are written by Art (See FRANKLIN, Page 2, Sec. 4)