

Brownie Troop 395 Hold Flag Ceremony

Adams Brownie troop 395 held a flag ceremony Monday, given by the American Legion Auxiliary, Charles Edward Post No. 14. President is Mrs. Edith McHugh, Ruffin avenue, Birmingham. Mrs. Agnes Lyons, Telegraph road, Southfield township, was acting chaplain and Mrs. Helen Capron, Royal street, Royal Oak, was acting sergeant-at-arms.

Cocktail Party Precedes Pete

A cocktail party preceding St. Dunstan Guild's 25th anniversary formal dinner dance Saturday night will be hosted by Mrs. Wherry Martin of Townsend, Birmingham.

Guests include Mrs. and Mr. Edward T. Bennett, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Poy, Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Brock, Mr. and Mrs. Dietrich Kohlfant, the John W. Sanders, the Ois Thompsons, the Donald F. Huttons, the Henry M. Jacksons, the Graft Armstrongs, Frederick K. Vester and S. Gordon Saunders.

Volunteer League Sponsors Benefit

Women's Hospital Volunteer League is sponsoring a benefit performance by the Theater Arts club at the Players, East Jefferson avenue, Detroit. This will take place Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Two plays will be presented, "Twelve Angry Women" and "To Fall in July."

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Experts Discuss Modern Schools At AAUW Meet

Members of Birmingham branch, American Association of University Women, and guests prominent in local educational work, heard Dr. Dana Whitmer, superintendent of schools in Pontiac, and Louis Schimmel, tax expert and Oakland county delegate to the White House Conference on Education, speak on "Our Citizens and Their Schools" at their monthly meeting last Wednesday.

THE CONSENSUS of opinion in the White House conference, both speakers agreed, is that financing problems should be solved at the state level. Backward states, that do not meet the minimum requirements on education, might be eligible for federal aid. Michigan is not eligible for this classification, and should not ask for, nor want, any part of it.

If states were given \$5 per child in federal aid, they could meet minimum requirements. If all states were given that same aid, it would develop into a "pork barrel" type of government spending and would be \$20 instead of \$5.00 on your tax bill.

"Taxes now," said Mr. Schimmel, "are still based on school districts which were originated in the days when the farmer who had an extra room for the school teacher made the district."

TODAY MICHIGAN has 3,900 school districts. Each is taxed separately. One may have a big industrial plant, with a large tax revenue. The district next to it may have hundreds of small homes, with many school children, and a small tax revenue. The state of Maryland has 24 school districts. Thus they get a much more equitable tax revenue.

"The great problem in Michigan," says Mr. Schimmel, "is that the educators, who know the problem, feel that what has been must be. Businessmen, professional men, community leaders, know this is not so. What has been can be changed by legislation."

"Our problem is to get these men together with the educators, who know what is needed. That can be done by electing true community representatives to the school boards. That is the citizen's responsibility. That is what you, as an individual, can do."

FIRST, SAID Dr. Whitmer, they emphatically affirmed their faith in education as a means of developing the best citizens. Second, they defined the scope of education, as including not only the "three R's," but also social studies of our time, moral standards, recreational facilities and faith in the American way of life.

The practical aspects of education were dealt with by Schimmel, who pointed out that the need for increased building for the rapidly increasing population, more teachers and better teachers (meaning more pay for teachers) could only be met by taxation. Schimmel made a highly important point—that Michigan does not need to increase taxes to gain this end—the taxes should be better distributed.

THE ULTIMATE solution to all educational problems, both speakers agreed, is in a coalition of educators and business and professional men (who are also fathers). The educators know what is needed. The other men know how to get it—through the state legislature, through bond issues. Both want the same thing for the children.

Guests of the AAUW for this meeting included Dr. Dwight Ireland, superintendent of Birmingham public schools; Dr. Paul Carter, assistant; Eugene Johnson, Superintendent, Bloomfield Hills schools; Irving Menacci, assistant; Mrs. Peter Loomis, Birmingham board of education; and Mrs. John VanderRoot, President, PTA Council of Birmingham.

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