SEVEN CENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1956 • SECTION FIVE

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TWPS.

Sidelights

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

YOUNG DAVID HINMAN proved himself quite a fisherman when he and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Win Hinman of Wellington road, Franklin, spent a day fishing off Old Charity Island in Wild Fowl Bay.

It was his first experience, and an exciting one, for he not only caught the first perch, but also the most. They were bitin' so good for Dave that at one time he had two fish on his line at the same time.

WE MAY, FROM time to time, "borrow" information from the Southfield Kiwanian, (which we never return) but it is simply because that publication many times has little stories that we like to share with the general public.

Urban Hart in the Kiwanian, tells of inspecting a stretch of Western Pacific railroad track shortly before his retirement.

With him was the foreman in charge of the road gang. Hart pointed out to the foreman that shoulder beds were off, curves banked wrong, the foundation not right, and leveling far from perfect.

Finally, after listening patiently to the criticism, the old foreman shifted his tobacco, gave his superior a long, slow look and asked, "Well, how is it for length?"

HART SAYS philosophically that a man could retire nicely if he could dispose of his experience for what it cost him.

GIRLS IN THE Southfield township office, who handle the soft drink sales so they can have an occasional drink, have come up with a perhaps not too astounding fact after auditing their books a couple of times.

The till is short. Checking their stock before a meeting of one of the township's highly-respected bodies (I won't mention any names) and then counting the money the next morning, the girls found a difference of better than $1—not in their favor.

(I must admit, gals, that I am partly guilty. Someone told me the drinks were seven cents.)

SPEAKING OF the charter commissioners, it seems that we can, in good natured fun, accuse them of being absent-minded professors (of government).

At least two members last week tried to write into the charter, passages that had been previously enacted. Well, they've been workin' pretty hard, folks.

LATHRUP'S NEWEST youth group, composed of post-high school students, is open to all young un-marrieds in the neighborhood. Meeting for the first time at a barbecue picnic were (back row, left) Dick Nash, Joyce Jansen, Nancy Capp, Bill Schippel and Diane Grant. (Second row, left) Ed Schippel, president; Ralph Nash, treasurer; Jean Willson, secretary; Karen Larson, Kent Mackey and Carol Caddell. (First row, left), Georgia Myers, Barbara Clark, Larry Hedlund, Pat Thompson and Barbara Dewey, publicity.

Council Controls Govt.—Lathrup Mayor

New Plan For 'Little' Sewer

SOUTHFIELD—A $400,000 loan to a private corporation which does not yet exist, may be the answer to one of Southfield's major sanitary sewage problems, it was announced this week by Eugene Swem, township supervisor.

According to Swem, two investment concerns are studying the proposition, and "one wants it," said Swem.

THE PLAN, which evolved from a previous plan to allow private business to finance the $1.2 million sewer, calls for:

1) $400,000 from builders working in the Southfield area.

2) $400,000 loaned to the private corporation which the builders would set up.

3) $415,725 from users in the Acacia Drain and Lathrup areas. Swem said there were 1,717 possible users in the Acacia area and 1,608 in Lathrup.

AT $125 a tap-in, this would bring in the $415,725 from these two areas, and tap-in fees in other areas served by the sewer, to run from about the 13 Mile road, along Evergreen road to Eight Mile and on into the Detroit system, would be used to repay the loan and the builders.

"If somebody doesn't back off again, the 'little' interceptor will be on its way," said Swem.

The plan is just one of many attempts by not only Southfield but Lathrup, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield township and Troy to put through a sanitary line from Eight Mile on through to the Northern communities to take care of sewage. They have been working at it for about five years.

ALL OF THESE communities except Troy and Southfield are under court order to end pollution of the Rouge River by Dec. 31, 1957.

Southfield has generally been considered the bottleneck to the larger plan because of the township's inability to indebt itself (according to state law) ever since residents there voted for incorporation a year ago April.

Swem's plan to have private interests finance the little sewer and be paid back through tap-in fees, fell through two weeks ago when Rodney Lockwood, prominent Southfield builder, balked at the plan and led other builders away from the project, according to Swem.

One of the chief objections, according to Swem, was the three-year period in which investors had to wait for their money. Three years after completion of the sewer, tap-in charges would no longer be turned over to the private corporation.

An ordinance introduced by Swem, okaying the non-governmental Southfield Evergreen (sewer) corporation was passed by township board Tuesday night.

Swem said the corporation backers don't want to operate the sewer because of entanglements with the Utilities commission, and would

(See PLAN, Page 2, Sec. 5)

No Dissention to Franklin's Proposed Zoning Ordinance

FRANKLIN — First public hearing on the new zoning ordinance for the village was heard Monday night with no dissention and few questions from the audience, composed mostly of zoning ordinance drafters.

The new ordinance, explained Harold Roseberry, village president, is a re-write and clarification of the old ordinance that villagers have been living with for years.

It was drawn up, he said, to express the desires of Franklin residents and was representative of the spirit and character of the community.

WITH NO STARTLING changes, the new ordinance is, however, more restrictive. Basic requirements for cubic content remain the same, but land area requirements have increased.

For the highest residential classification, R-1, 30,000 square feet are now required; R-2, 22,500 square feet and for R-3, 15,000 instead of the former 7,500 square foot minimum for homes.

Most of the lots in the R-1 classification, Nicholas J. Fosiello, zoning commission member, pointed out, are over the 30,000 square foot requirement.

HARRY ROTTIERS, Franklin councilman, explained that sewage drainage and water problems make the increase in square footage necessary and the State legally requires these distances between septic tanks and wells.

The square foot areas for each residential zone, he said, complies pretty much with the platting which already has been done.

Under the new zoning ordinance, commercial areas are approximately the same, but have been deepened 200 feet to the east to provide additional space for off-street parking as suggested in the ordinance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS said Franklin has been notified by State police and Oakland County road commission that Franklin road be posted for no parking because of traffic hazards.

Large shopping centers and super-markets are discouraged by the zoning ordinance and new businesses will be of the kind to serve the needs of village residents only. "Stick out" business signs are prohibited and only flat ones allowed by the new ordinance.

Only one hearing is needed on the new zoning ordinance, Rosiello explained, at a later date. Franklin council members will meet to consider the ordinance and if satisfied with the ordinance will vote to pass it. The ordinance is then published and becomes law.

'Slow Down That Traffic' —Lathrupites

LATHRUP—Two petitions, submitted to council last week calling for traffic "slow" and "stop" signs in the Lathrup blvd. area to curb speeding, were referred to the road committee for study.

Seventeen persons signed one petition requesting two "slow, children at play," signs in the Wiltshire-Southfield-Lathrup streets area.

A second request, presented by Norman B. Jackson, 28611 Lathrup blvd., and signed by 54 residents, called for stop signs on the southwest, southeast and northwest corners of Lathrup at Wiltshire, Avilla, San Rosa and Roseland.

COUNCILMAN Richard N. Cogger suggested a barricade at 12 Mile and Lathrup blvd. to block through traffic seeking to by pass the 12 Mile-Southfield light.

John J. Olszewski, 17411 San Rosa, asked the council to consider "deadend" signs for the streets leading east from Southfield as a method of deterring through traffic.

Thomas N. Reed, 28684 Blackstone, road committee member, told the council that police were spending too much time on Southfield road.

"I recommend the police spend more time on the interior roads . . . and ticket Lathrup residents," said Reed.

Several members of the audience blamed Lathrup residents, rather than outsiders, for failing to observe traffic rules, and strongly recommended that police start writing tickets against them as well as "outsiders."

One of those who accused fellow residents and nearby subdivision dwellers, Mrs. Marvin R. Mead of of 18355 Rainbow, asked the council to utilize residents in traffic enforcement.

"A stop sign, unenforced, is more of a danger than no stop sign at all," said Mrs. Mead, who said careless motorists, failing to stop at the Rainbow-Meadowwood stop street, have almost hit three youngsters on bicycles since school vacation started.

Campbell Answers Pylkas

LATHRUP—After an hour and 15 minute delay in the start of Monday night's adjourned meeting, Mayor John G. Campbell fired what is hoped will be the final shot in the feud which has engulfed the volunteer and paid police, the city judge and the council itself.

After the meeting Campbell explained that the delay was caused because the council was discussing with Judge Leonard V. Pylkas the causes behind the squabble.

Campbell, reading a prepared statement at the meeting, said, "There must be more to this burst of adverse publicity, against the council and the police force, than the exercise of a sincere desire to remedy legal or administrative problems."

LAST WEEK Judge Pylkas brought the feud onto the council floor with a letter of resignation in which he charged that the council "either through neglect or intent failed to comply with our city charter."

This culminated a dispute as to who should control the police department, the volunteer police chief, Kenneth Farnham, or the paid, fulltime police lieutenant, David J. Bourgeois.

Bourgeois followed Pylkas' resignation with one of his own, which becomes effective July 23.

IN ANSWER to Pylkas' charge that council interferred with City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski's performance of his duties, Campbell said, "The council appoints the administrator to handle the administrative functions of the city government, as established and defined by the charter and the council.

"If the council as a body, or any member thereof, believes that the administrator or any city employe or delegate, is not functioning according to the regulations, rules or expressed policies of the council, it is the established duty of the council or the member thereof, to make inquiries in an effort to determine what may be wrong so that legislative remedies may be suggested.

"NO PROVISION," Campbell emphasized, "in the Charter permits the administrator to establish or operate departments or functions of city government which are beyond the control of the council.

"No provision in the charter permits the judicial officer to dictate the type of ordinance that must be enacted by the council."

This last paragraph pertains to Pylkas' request that an ordinance, establishing a police force and police head, be adopted. This the council introduced for first reading at the first part of the recent meeting which was held a week ago Monday night.

"IT SEEMS our volunteer police were belittled in their efforts to keep law and order," said former councilman David Hedwood. That disturbed me because they have leaned over backwards to give the citizens of Lathrup the atmosphere they enjoy today. I thoroughly believe in our volunteer police department.

"The charter specifically names the city administrator head of all departments," said Thomas N.

(See CAMPBELL, Page 2, Sec. 5)

Studies 10 Acre School Site

SOUTHFIELD—Board of education is considering purchase of a 10-acre school site in Section 16, north of Riverbank Golf course. Board action was delayed until details could be worked out with the owner.

A special meeting will be called by the board sometime after the 23rd of this month to discuss millage needed for school expenses. There is a possibility that the board might ask for a bond issue from the people to carry on with expansion plans.

A new architectural firm of Dolgner and Rollinson of Detroit, will design the 12 Mile-Southfield school.

ACCORDING to Superintendent of Schools Glenn Schoenhals, the school, if designed for 13 class rooms and a multi-purpose room, will cost $330,000.

If three class rooms are deleted the cost will be lowered to an estimated $280,000 and dropping two of the classrooms and the multi-purpose room will drop the cost to $275,000

Construction should begin immediately to insure completion for the 1957 school year, Schoenhals told the board Monday night.

IN A communication to the board, Irving Yackness, executive secretary of the Detroit Metropolitan Builders association, said his organization would make arrangements for water lines to the proposed 12-Mile road school if the association could use the school parking lot during construction of the 1957-58-59 ideal homes in the nearby Rodney-M. Lockwood subdivision. School board took no action.

Lathrup May Surrender on Gasoline Suit

LATHRUP — An Oakland county circuit court order was entered July 5 which requires Lathrup to give a building permit to Speedway Petroleum Co., for a gas station at the southwest corner of 12 Mile and Southfield, if the city decides not to carry the court fight any farther.

There were indicatiops Monday night that Lathrup might not contest the suit further if certain conditions are met by the oil company.

Mayor John G. Campbell said he told the company's attorney, when asked if Lathrup would take the case to the State supreme court, that if sanitary, lighting and building code restrictions were followed, and if the court would rule that only the zoning ordinance was in conflict in this one particular case, "it might make a difference."

"A CONFUSION of plans submitted," has led to a misunderstanding as to which of two sets of plans have been okayed by the court. One set of plans was submitted for a permit and additional restrictions were placed on the building by the oil company which they said, in court they would be willing to follow.

The court order read, "as submitted," but did not specify those plans submitted to the city or to the court.

City Attorney Everett F. Hayes has 20 days from July 5 to file application for appeal to the Supreme court and in the same length of time he must obtain from the high court a stay of execution. Otherwise, said Hayes, Speedway would probably press for a permit based on the lower court's ruling.

Show Interest In 'Private' Sewer Line

LATHRUP—Lathrup must combine with private interests to build an interceptor to take care of sanitary sewage, Mayor John G. Campbell told council Monday night.

At the same time he announced a meeting to be held with Southfield Supervisor Eugene Swem and some of the builders who have shown interest in putting up money to build the privately-owned sewer line which would run from about 13 Mile to 8 Mile road along Evergreen.

Councilman Richard N. Cogger pointed to Oakland County Drain Commissioner Ralph A. Main's position in the Acacia Drain area in northeastern Southfield, where Main has been ordered by the courts to build a sewage treatment plant for that area at an estimated cost of $540,000.

THE SAME area could join in an interceptor sewer, which would empty into the Detroit system, for about $225,000, said Cogger.

"Unless we're prepared to show the court we're moving forward, the same thing could happen to Lathrup," Cogger added.

Lathrup, along with Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Bloomfield township and Main, are under court order to end pollution of the Rouge River or be declared in contempt of court.

Originally the order called for a course of action by May 1. Not satisfied with Lathrup's answer that it would join with Southfield in the Evergreen sewer, Oakland county circuit court gave Lathrup until Aug. 1 to resubmit the city's course of action.

Appoint Homer Case Blm. Twp. Treasurer

BLOOMFIELD TWP. — Homer Case, 7125 Wing Lake road, was appointed township treasurer by township board to succeed Arno L. Hulet, 2355 Franklin road, who was appointed supervisor last week to replace the late David Anderson.

Anderson resigned the day before his death last Tuesday. This is Case's first experience in public office.

S'fld B of E Officers

Southfield's school board remained the same after the re-organization meeting Monday night with the following members serving in their former positions, Fred D. Leonhard, president; Mark W. Rehbine, secretary; Will J. Oliver, treasurer; Lew Larson, trustee and Ernest J. Coverdill, trustee.

Candidate Speaks

SOUTHFIELD—William Broomfield, Michigan state senator from this district and a candidate for member of the U. S. Congress spoke to Southfield Kiwanis members at their meeting last night.

At Press Time

SOUTHFIELD

APPOINTMENT of Thomas M. Costello, 27466 Lexington Parkway and Samuel A. Garzia, 30570 Longcrest, as attorneys to represent the township in justice court brought to three the number of such attorneys. Hugh G. Allerton Jr., 18585 Hillcrest, was appointed three weeks ago. Salary will be $15 per hour for the Saturday court sessions.

BURROUGHS representative George Moody appeared before township board Tuesday night to test reaction to change of zoning on 23.8 acres on Northwestern highway just west of Bendix Aviation Co. Moody said if his company can get the zoning switched from residential to ERO they will take up options on the land and build an office building to house 400 persons. Action was delayed pending more detailed plans.

TOWNSHIP Supervisor Eugene Swem said State board of health would send a letter stating that Rodney M. Lockwood's disposal plant in Cranbrook Village has been corrected to their satisfaction and that Southfield should take over the plant. Board voted to have disposal expert Floyd Vermette inspect the plant and give Water Superintendent Leonard Lamb instructions in maintaining the plant.

SUPERVISOR SWEM said Donald Goodfellow, 26250 Berg road, was asking $35,000 for 8 acres which the township has been eyeing as a possible site for a governmental building. The land is just north of the present town hall. Land planner James Hickey said the land was too small for Southfield's purposes.

BOARD okayed installation of radio equipment in Southfield Police Chief Phillip La Vigne's auto.

A FINANCIAL report for the three month period ending June 30 shows Southfield expenditures exceed revenue by $29,512.86

Will Wait 30 Days

FRANKLIN — Council members decided to wait 30 days before taking action on a request from John R. Faulkner, 26705 Irving, to increase membership on the zoning board of appeals from the present three board members to five or six. Council members wish to wait until the proposed Franklin zoning ordinance goes into effect.

We Heard It Said By:

PHILIP VAN DYKE, Franklin Village councilman: "There's commercial property in this village — little high, but it's there. If a doctor wanted to do business in Franklin, he could either buy a home in a commercial zone or build an office in commercially zoned property."

Charter Commission Showdown Gives Additional Power to City Administrator

SOUTHFIELD—Decision to include a city administrator in the charter left charter commissioners with possibly one foreseeable controversial issue on the agenda—taxation.

This might come up at tonight's meeting but will probably be held over until next Wednesday or Thursday to allow commission to finish the judicial chapter and clear away a chapter on finance.

Commissioners who wanted the city administrator to be nothing but a "leg man" were beaten by a five to four vote when the commission approved inclusion of the words, "direct, supervise, and coordinate," activities of department heads.

COMMISSIONERS Edward A. Elsarelli, Russell H. Cullen, Thomas M. Costello and Patrick Flannery voted "no" on additional powers for administrator, while commissioners Will J. Oliver, Henry M. DeMeyer, J. Leo Walton, Mrs. Elizabeth Molnar and Marvin R. Marsh voted "yes."

Thursday commissioners voted six to three to have various department heads, which they created, responsible to the city administrator. Voting with the majority was Cullen.

"We should not delegate responsibility to anyone who is not directly responsible to the people," said Elsarelli, who was backed up by Flannery and Costello in a losing cause.

THE COMMISSION with only until July 25 to complete a charter, were pushed by Chairman J. Leo Walton led off Thursday's session by pointing to the nearing deadline and asking the commission to adopt the remainder of the charter and then revise as necessary.

This suggestion was bypassed, but Walton interrupted the meeting a second time during lengthy discussion of various department heads with a plea that such inclusions were already covered by state law and were not necessary. Commissioners wanted to be sure, however, that specific duties and responsibilities were covered in the charter.

WALTON TOLD the group he would like to have a charter completed by July 18 so the remaining week before deadline could be used for clarifications and revisions, if needed.

Elsarelli introduced a motion to establish departments of law, parks and recreation, civil service, assessment, public works, and public safety, and others as needed by council.

Then Costello proposed the duties of the police chief and his department, and this is where commission ran into disunity on who should control the police chief.

"By making the police chief directly responsible to the city administrator you're setting up an autonomous government," said Flannery.

CULLEN THEN asked that the motion on the police department be tabled for a showdown on responsibility. A motion, stating city administrator may make recommendations to council for department head appointments but may have no power to hire and fire any city employe, was approved.

Cullen, asked how he thought these department heads should be selected, said, "I'm against any form of appointment (by mayor or city administrator). They usually wind up political plums." It was here that he switched to the majority.

A section was set up on fire department, again responsible to the city administrator, which allows firemen to pull down a building with consent of any two councilmen, which they deem may hamper fire-fighting operations.

WITHIN THREE months the building's owner may request reimbursement and if the council decides the building would not have burned if left standing, they may pay whatever they believe is just compensation.

DeMeyer, strongly in favor of department heads responsible to the city administrator, was on the losing side when the city planner was made responsible directly to the council.

A planning commission was established which calls for two members to serve for one year, two to serve two years and two for three years, with a council member to make the seventh member.

MRS. MOLNAR'S amendment, requiring representation of each ward and different professions on the planning commission, was approved.

Commissioners adjourned with intentions of studying differences between the municipal court and justice of the peace setups.

Elsarelli, present township justice, recommended that Southfield have a justice for the first four years, then switch over to a full-time, paid judge.

Ted Hughes, commission attorney, pointed out that only differences between the justice and judge were that a judge is a fulltime, paid employee and an area, to have a municipal court, must have at least 15,000 population.

"PRESENTLY, Southfield does not have a fulltime judge," said Elsarelli.

In last week's Tuesday meeting, commissioners refused to back Mrs. Molnar's motion that city administrator be required to establish Southfield residency within 90 days and sign a contract for no more than one year.

Powers of the city administrator as outlined by the commission are to: assemble budget; assume duties of department heads when required to do so by council; act as central purchasing agent; set up a central personnel bureau to screen job applicants; keep a city property inventory; attend meetings; make recommendations; furnish reports, including an annual report and other information to council, and be subject to other duties specified by council.

Completes Intensive Air Force Schooling

Lt. William Meyers of 18890 Rainbow drive has returned this week to his new assignment with the 98th Fighter Squadron at Dover, Del.

Bill, an Air Force radar operator, will fly in F89H Scorpions. Radar equipment in his plane alone costs $125,000.

Enlisting in the Air Force cadet program in Feb. 1954, Bill graduated from Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas after pre-flight training in October 1954 and was sent to Harlingen, Texas Air Force Base for navigation training and became an observer-navigator. Fourteen months after enlistment, Bill received his commission and wings.

Bill then went to radar observer school at Waco, Texas. Radar Observer training covers airborne interceptor work in locating unknown targets and identification through radar working in fog, clouds, darkness and completely from the interior of aircraft. Graduating March 20, 1956, Bill stood top in a class of 25 men.

At Moody Field, Valdosta, Geo., Bill spent 4 weeks in ground school studying emergency phases of jet operation, and 6 weeks of airborne interception in jet F94C Starfires.

After almost 20 months of concentrated training in classes meeting 40 to 42 hours a week, Bill is now a qualified radar observer

LT. WILLIAM MEYERS

whose training along with that of his pilot has cost the government $50,000.

At present Bill is giving serious thought to making a career in the air force.