

**Fluoridation Again Is Issue**

To the Editor: My husband just returned from the Monday night commission case street repairs. The number one item on the "Hearings" agenda, however, was fluoridation! He reported considerable debate on the subject, during which the majority of the audience seemed to be in opposition to such a program. It is our feeling that this group could not have represented public opinion in general due to the fact that a prominent article in last week's Eccentric (May 10), informed the general public that no such hearing would be held for at least a month.

AFTER discussing the meeting with my husband, it would seem that several comparisons and comments are worthy of presentation. First, consider the factors motivating the principal participants. Those against fluoridation seemed to be of a single mind in meaning that "milk" be used individually instead of an "expensive" ten cents per year per-

son program as recommended by the public health authorities.

SUCH an attitude could obviously emanate from sympathy to outside "commercial" interests, as was suggested by Dr. Wertheimer of the Michigan State health department in the Eccentric article. Furthermore, it was apparent that strong opponents present were not even residents of Birmingham and thereby had no possible personal interest in the medical effects which might result.

(On the other hand, however, several professional men (local prominent dentists primarily) and public health representatives (who had been invited by the commission) were outspoken and positive in their attitudes favoring fluoridation. Their commitment offers no possible personal reward but rather a sense of professional reputation which they fear in judgment plus an actual loss of business if they are losing the effects correctly.

LOOKING back at most of the medical advancements in history,

it is apparent that proper decisions were reached only by following the advice of sincere research groups.

Individuals whose true intentions were unknown and who opposed the developments by utilizing "boogie man" tactics have only served to retard medical progress at the expense of public health.

Finally, if fluoride were so dangerous in one part per million in drinking water, as claimed by those opposing the program, I certainly would not want any concentrated fluoride "pills" stored in my home to be used on the very children we are trying to protect.

MRS. DON KINKER  
1295 Stanley Blvd.  
Birmingham

**Roll Call Support Is Appreciated**

To the Editor: Now that the final follow-up work of the roll call drive is over, we want the friends of the House, whose support was so necessary, to know how much we appreciate their help.

We were very much pleased that you printed and gave such excellent placement to the historical series of interviews with past presidents of the Community House, though not a small one, with a sense of recognition and neighborhood, we also recognize that The Eccentric is another main channel for giving this "sense of belonging" to Birmingham people.

Thank you for allowing us to use this channel to bring the story of their House to the people in and around the town.

MRS. WALTER N. JACKSON  
Corresponding Secretary  
Community House board.

**Wentz In Germany**

Pvt. Alan W. Wentz, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Wentz, 1733 Graefield, left for Germany recently with the third armored division as part of operation Grosogroup. He attended Michigan State university before entering the Army last September. His basic training was at Ft. Knox, Ky.

**Make It Easier For Servicemen to Get Ballots**

New and simpler procedures for voting by Birmingham area servicemen are available this year for the first time, according to Secretary of State James M. Hare.

The legislature combined the processes of registration and application for an absentee ballot. It is not too early for parents, relatives and close friends of servicemen and women to take the steps necessary to assure them of their opportunity to cast their ballots," said Hare.

"Applications should be made to the clerk of the city or township in which he is a resident. This should be done by a letter to the clerk, asking for an absentee ballot, and if the serviceman is not a registered voter, it should ask for registration forms.

Applications should be sent to the city or township clerk so that they are received about a month before the election. It is suggested that requests for ballots for the August 7 primary be sent so as to arrive no later than July 6. For the November 6 general election it would be wise for the applications to be in the clerks' hands some time in September or early October.

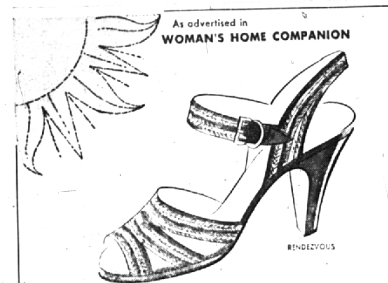
Once received by the serviceman the forms should be returned promptly to the clerk. However, this year it will be possible for the ballots to be counted, if in proper order, if they are received any time before the closing of the polls.

"Parents should start now to remind their servicemen to write their letters to city or township clerks. The procedure is simple enough so that anybody in the service can make sure of his opportunity to vote, if only he will take the time to write the letter of request."

**Jahn Is Promoted**

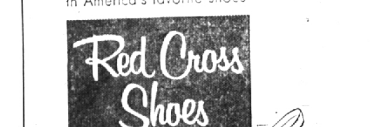
The navy department has announced the promotion of Jon W. Jahn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Jahn of Belleville trail, Birmingham, to lithographer third class, while serving aboard the Pacific fleet submarine tender USS Sperry. The promotion followed successful completion of a Navy-wide petty officer examination conducted in February.

As advertised in WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION

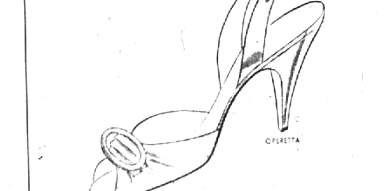


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**Wants Cobo To Continue Good Work**

To the Editor: It is my sincere wish, now that Mayor Cobo has made his decision to run for Governor of the state, that he will follow in the footsteps of Governor Williams, if he is elected, to the extent that he will use the same discretion and good judgment that he is using in running the city of Detroit so successfully.

Regardless of his health, he is able to put himself up for election, and, he is, in a way, paving the way for better leadership in governmental matters, and having had wide civic experience, can fully maintain a sensible, balanced

jurisdiction over as huge a state as Michigan.

Whether Mayor Cobo has foresight to see the labor problems of such an industrial state as Michigan, and can settle all disputes for the benefit of the worker, as Governor Williams has done, is to be seen.

However big the issue, the man handling that problem should be bigger than the problem itself. I am not concerned, as an American citizen, with the man himself. It remains to be seen whether the man who governs our state is the same man the trusting public elected.

EMMA TRUMBLE STEFFENS  
Pontiac



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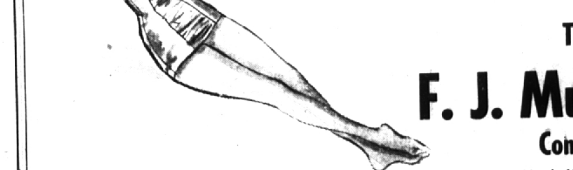
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