

\$6.8 Million Sought for New Schools

Includes New Junior Hi; Vote Set for June 10th

In its race to keep up with the rapidly expanding school population, the Birmingham board of education in a special meeting Tuesday night incorporated a special \$6,800,000 bond issue proposition as part of the annual June 10 school district election.

The money would be used to construct a new 1,500-pupil junior high school, a new elementary school, rehabilitate Baldwin elementary school, and erect a service building for school buses and storage of school equipment.

The program would be financed with no increase in the amount of the debt service levy—now at 8.5 mills, according to Board President Ernest W. Seaholm.

He said the present levy would merely be extended another four or five years at the 8.5-mill level, instead of decreasing in 1958.

The board's action was based on a recommendation from the citizens' committee on education, which only last January recommended a continuation and an increase in the special millage for school operation. The electorate approved it at a March 25 election.

CHAIRMAN Louis A. Bauer, 3140 E. 12th, Bloomington, in a special meeting Tuesday night, revealed that the committee's studies—which have just been submitted to the school board—show additional classrooms needed over the next three years to meet swelling enrollment can be financed with no increase in the present millage levy for school debt service.

The citizens' committee is an independent fact-finding group of residents representing all thirteen schools in the district and sponsored by the PTA Council. It makes its recommendations to the school board, which may accept or reject any or all of the proposals and which is the only body legally empowered to set tax rates.

The board accepted the committee recommendation to ask voters in the June 10 election for authorization to sell \$6,800,000 worth of unlimited tax bonds.

THESE WOULD finance a building program that will meet needs through the 1959-60 school year. The money would be spent for:

- 1) A new 20-room elementary school to be built on a site already owned in Westchester Village south of Maple and west of Cranbrook road, with administration and auxiliary building facilities.
- 2) A new junior-senior high school to house 1500 students and 1000 teachers, with 2000 seats of capacity, on a suitable site yet to be acquired. Included will be a gymnasium, athletic plant, swimming pool, driver education area, and parking lot.
- 3) REHABILITATION of the 40-year-old Baldwin school to extend its useful life as an elementary school as long as needed and for other uses beyond that time, as the board may designate.
- 4) A modest service building on a site now owned near Eton and Lincoln roads in Birmingham to house a garage for school buses, a cafeteria and other school supplies, and consolidation of several shops.

These recommendations represent the minimum requirements for the next three years, Bauer said, and are based on current enrollment facts. If population trends continue at the same rate as in the past, Bauer added, another study should be made before the expiration of that time.

THE COMMITTEE also told the board that if population growth in the district should level off, eliminating or greatly reducing the need for further building programs, some measure of school debt relief is a distinct possibility within a few years. It strongly recommended that the board seriously consider reducing the debt levy at the first evidence that scheduled payments and reserves can be met by less than the present 8.5 mills now levied for bond retirement.

"We recognized early in our deliberations that we must again confine our projections to the next three years and that any recommendations we made to the board must be attainable with no increase

She's Spelling Bee Bound

DEMONSTRATING HOW she won the district spelling bee, Carol Johnson, 12-year-old sixth grader at Pierce school thinks it over while Walter Piel, the school's principal, holds the word she won on. Carol won over spelling champs from 34 public and parochial schools in Birmingham, Troy and Bloomfield Hills in Friday's competition at Baldwin school. She'll compete May 17 in the Detroit metropolitan bee, winner of which goes to Washington. District runner-up was Bruce Berry, Derby junior high school-eighth grader.

'Carp Carnival' at Quarton

It's not just a fishing derby, it's a "Carp Carnival," that Birmingham area youngsters will participate in Saturday at Quarton lake, on city park property along the east bank.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., boys and girls through 17 will be provided free bait by the sponsoring recreation department. No license is needed.

PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN for the longest fish and largest catch to a boy and girl in the 12 and under group, and to a boy and girl 13 through 17. Youngest boy and girl fishermen will also receive prizes.

Judges will be Warren Kendall, county conservation officer; William Spence, board of education member; William Averill, Birmingham Eccentric managing editor; Roland Reese of the recreation board; and Mayor William Roberts.

Asks \$89,782 Budget Boost

Saturday morning will see the first of several special committee sessions Birmingham city commissioners will hold in the next few weeks as they carefully go over City Manager Harold K. Schone's recommended \$1,625,417.60 budget for the next fiscal year which starts July 1.

Schone submitted his detailed 51-page report to the commission Monday night. The budget, as finally determined, must be adopted by June 10.

Unless commissioners can trim about \$30,000 from the recommendation handed them, the tax rate would have to be upped to the full 20 mills allowable under state law.

THE 1956 tax rate was 19.60 mills.

Schone's recommendations are \$89,782 more than the city appropriated to start its current fiscal year. The 1955-57 amount was \$1,535,635.47.

Biggest increase is a proposed per cent across-the-board wage boost for all city employees.

About \$15,000 more in non-tax revenues is anticipated next year. Schone said, primarily because of higher building fees, additional police court fines, and greater earned interest on investments.

Here is the summary of the important figures in Schone's recommendation (Amounts in boldface type are the proposed 1957-58 totals; those in light face type are percentages):

of the current year's appropriation:	
8,600	Commission 7,660
4,925	Justice 10,505
(Includes additional judges' salary)	permitted in new judicial houses
9,300	Elections 4,670
15,130	Assessor 14,431
16,244.17	Treasurer 19,491
20,959.57	Finance 26,000
21,400	Engineering 10,000
(Includes transfer of salaries of public works director to general administration account, one employee transfer to DPW account, one equivalent new employee's salary less for coming year because of inability to fill replacement)	
11,612.96	Clerk 10,500
17,252	Police 18,428
21,190	Police 233,285
18,400	Public Works 17,052
18,800	Public Works 18,201
262,320	Dept. Public Works 273,200
16,150	Health 273,200
16,370	Forest & Parks 10,965
60,730	General Admin. 78,200
62,450	General Admin. 78,200
(Primarily reflect salary of DPW director, see engineering comment above)	
6,000	Planning 6,348
10,400	Civil Defense 8,190
46,900	Hydrant Rental 7,500
11,500	Street Lighting 11,200
26,600	Welfare 26,600
-0-	Building Insurance -0-
1,700	Liability Insurance 2,100
900	Compensation Insurance 2,200
8,814	Group Insurance 5,900
11,000	Retirement Fund 14,700
11,469	Social Security 56,000
0-0	Polo Insurance 9,000
-0-	Losses 3,000
700	Capital Improvements 150
100,000	City Saver Spec. Assessments 118,011.50
35,900	Special Projects 70,000
65,000	Chattanooga Reserves 70,000
25,116.84	Debt Service 16,000
109,200.37	Non-Tax Revenue 98,798.75
25,848.25	Required to be Raised by Taxes 1,625,417.60
1,611,649.52	

Girl, 17, Tells Of Rape Attempt East of Hunter

In a written statement to police, a 17-year-old Birmingham girl told Saturday how a man pushed her off a path near the city water tower on Hunter boulevard and attempted to rape her.

The girl said she was following the path toward Poppleton street after purchasing a Dairy Queen on Hunter boulevard when the attempt occurred about 3:45 p.m. on April 22. She described her assailant as approximately 23 to 28; 6'3" in height; 200 pounds; with dark, bushy hair.

HE WORE A blue gardening jacket, blue jeans and a white tee shirt, she said.

The man released her when she struck him, the report continued Saturday.

Detective Lt. Merlin Holmquist said investigation of the case was hampered because the suspect had not been notified of the incident until nearly two weeks afterward.

"The man had been notified immediately," he said, "we might have been able to track the culprit down through a concentrated manhunt."

No Major Change In Parking Rules Believed Likely

No change in Birmingham's "1-for-1" formula for determining commercial offstreet parking requirements appeared likely this week.

In setting a June 10 hearing date on a proposal for ordinance amendments, city commissioners indicated they may leave the "1-for-1" formula undisturbed until further studies can be made by the city plan board.

Presently, new and enlarged businesses must provide one square foot of parking space for each square foot of building floor area "devoted primarily to use by the public."

IN THE PAST several months, the commission has considered the advisability of demanding parking space to match the entire floor area of the building.

"They thought this might provide for the most demanding type of building use eventually made of the public."

But chamber of commerce representatives, while agreeing with the theory, said in practice it would hurt several types of business where much of the floor area is not accessible to the public.

COMMISSIONER Charles Renfro stated: "I feel we should leave the present ordinance as it is. We haven't used it long enough to see if it has major defects. We seem to be chipping away at it. I prefer to see it a while longer as it is."

Commissioners Carl Ingraham, Harry Dwyer and William Hutchinson, on the other hand, expressed the view that since the city attorney and plan board have recommended the changes as making the ordinance easier to apply, that the commission should adopt the amendments.

"These proposed improvements include lowering from 1,000 to 500 square feet the permissible building addition(s) which can be constructed without having to provide parking; and a new provision that spells out the duty of property owners to continue to provide and maintain parking requirements."

This and That

by George R. Averill.

Michigan's Dept. of Conservation is a tough line getting the Legislature always to pass desired legislation, whether it be for better controls or for increasing hunting and fishing license costs. I well recall, back in 1947-48 when I was the late Gov. Kim Sigler's executive secretary, that the late "Pete" Hoffmaster, Director, and his deputy, Wayland Osgood, came to the Governor's office with a list of suggested new bills and amendments to existing ones they sought to educate Sigler and some of his staff on the items involved, and to win the Governor's support for them. I presume the same procedure continues with "Soapy" Williams. But the real problem, insofar as winning support from a majority of the Legislature on a specific bill is this: practically every Legislator (just like practically every hunter and fisherman) thinks he is the world's greatest authority on the subject. So I really sympathize with the Dept. of Conservation when it has to come before a Legislative Committee in dear old Lansing.

Insofar as the rough and tumble of life goes on the market places of America, I'll wager that Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey knows more about the subject in a minute than he and his White House "palace guard" know in an entire Presidential administration. Or, to be sure, maybe in half an administration. Humphrey knows what it is to make and meet a payroll in a competitive society. That's why his warning against continued inflation, against a high federal budget, in worth paying attention to. Humphrey is dedicated to the principle of thrift; the "palace guard" is dedicated to high



Abandoned Dog Finds Home

RIGHT IN THE MIDST of "Be Kind to Animals" week, Candy, a beautiful boxer, was pushed out of a car which sped away down Quarton road last Friday. Mrs. Karl R. Kocher, secretary of the Birmingham humane society, found a home for Candy with the C. C. Pendaris, of 528 Abbey, Birmingham. Four-year-old Gail Lynn and two-year-old Cap Pendaris needed no urging to observe "be kind to animals" week. Note attached to rope around Candy's neck read: "My name is Candy. I'm three years old. I love children. I need a bath and a home."

Math Work Wins Him \$250 Prize

A Castle Heights Military academy cadet from Birmingham this week was named first place winner in the Middle Tennessee high school mathematics contest.

James R. Walter, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Walter, 1671 Yosemite, was presented a \$250 check and a trophy for winning first place in the comprehensive division of the contest.

"Cadet Walter is the best mathematic student I have ever taught," Maj. J. B. Lefwich, instructor in senior mathematics, said.

Young Walter is valedictorian of the senior class. He is vice president of the National Honor society, vice president of the Key club, and a member of the academy band, the newspaper staff and the Heights Christian fellowship.

Man Attempts Armed Robbery Outside Home

As she stepped out of her car in the driveway before her home, Patricia Grabendike, of 1587 Yorkshire, Birmingham, was approached at 2:20 a.m. Sunday by a masked man with a gun.

She told police later that the man demanded her money. She got back into the car and locked the door, she said, telling the man she would blow the horn to awaken her father inside the house if he didn't go away.

Just then a car drove near the house, she reported. The man ran to a car at the curb and drove off.

WHEN QUESTIONED later by Birmingham police, Patricia said she thought the man might have followed her car to the house. The car could have been a toy one, she said.

Patricia's father, W. B. Grabendike, notified police immediately. He apprehended a suspect near the car's license and an incomplete description of the vehicle. The man was released when police were unable to connect him with the attempted robbery.

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STRICTLY FRESH

If all that junk mail that the post puts in your mailbox for us, our mailbox was piled in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, it would be perfectly all right with us.

Wanted: an easy-to-apply thumb splint for home handy men.

April showers bring May flowers, April showers in turn prove to be blossoming evidence of large, vigorous weeds that had must dig up all during June, July and August.

It's not the prices of the new cars that bother us. It's the lack of money to meet them that has us going by bus.

To Show Stamps

Birmingham stamp club will elect new officers Saturday at its meeting at the Community House at 8 p.m. Officers are: President, J. H. Pionier; vice president, J. H. Pionier; secretary, J. H. Pionier; treasurer, J. H. Pionier.

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Tapped for Mortar Board

A MORTARBOARD CAP, symbolic of scholastic and extra-curricular achievement which leads to membership in Mortar Board, senior women's honorary society, is presented to Carolyn Ann Shattuck (right) by Michigan State University Mortar Board President Jean Laug. Daughter of Mrs. Ruth M. Shattuck, 590 Henrietta, Birmingham, Carolyn was one of 21 MSU girls tapped for membership in traditional ceremonies last week in front of MSU's Beaumont Tower.

All makes of loose spring mattresses available in our store. ROYAL MATTRESS COMPANY, 1000 N. 13th St., Birmingham, Ala. 35203. Tel. 2-2434.