

## PEOPLE'S COLUMN

# Reader Discusses Vote On Hills School Mills

To the Editor:

It is not only your privilege but your duty to express your self on matters of public interest.

In order to vote intelligently you must gather information, evaluate it and then make your own decision. Information should come from different sources so that you will see all sides of a proposal. In order that you may see these various sides, I would like to call your attention to several points upon which you might not be informed.

The Board of Education has just sent out a three page mimeographed letter entitled, "Vote to continue your good school program." This gives considerable information but only presents one face from a certain standpoint. It is a sales talk of their product from their point of view. Be sure that you read this.

THE BIRMINGHAM Eccentric of November 29, gives another side which I believe is more informative in that it tells you exactly what it will cost you each year for different assessments.

It does not make the subtractions and tell you how much your taxes will be increased each year. If you vote "Yes" for the two proposals your taxes will increase about \$60.00 each year if your assessment is \$10,000.00 or about \$45.00 if your assessment is \$5,000.00, about \$68.00 if \$8,000.00.

There is another fact on which you should be informed. From 1953 to 1958 the Township of Bloomfield has had a certain formula for assessment of property. This seemed to be satisfactory. In 1957 the assessor adopted a new policy. All property was re-assessed by a new formula. My assessment was raised from \$5,900.00 to \$7,550.00 without a single change in the property.

THIS INCREASED the Township assessment by \$4,400,000.00 and gave the schools a larger base and an increase in income on the same rate. This increased my taxes \$45.00 on an \$5,900 assessment. You will find out how much your taxes increased from this change in assessment when you get your bill the week of December 1st.

In case the bank or mortgage company handles your taxes you can call Bloomfield Township office, Midwest 4-6161, with your lot number and they will tell you what your 1958 taxes are.

Do you know that the School Tax rate or millage is not applied to your assessment as it appears on your tax bill? The Township and County rate is applied directly to your assessed valuation. The State law states that the school millage is to be applied to an "equalized value."

THIS IS NOT mentioned in the School Board letter. It is well explained in The Eccentric and has been explained as the result of questions at the meetings. You can figure it two ways, the result is the same. The School Board is asking for 4 mills but they are getting over 7 mills which you pay. The equalization factor is about 1.8.

Multiply 4 mills by 1.8 and you get 7.2 mills. Now apply this to your assessment at the top of your tax bill and you will have a \$72.00 tax increase if your assessment is \$10,000.00. The other bond proposal will add another \$14.00, so your tax increase will be \$86.00 each year or \$45.00 increase if your assessment is \$5,000.00.

I believe I might as well give you a glimpse of several other facets if you will bear with me. This one is along a different line. The School Board proposal is built on an "anticipated program."

THEY ARE ASKING you to spend your money now for what may happen in the future. This may or may not be sound. It was stated at the meeting last Thursday that it takes 18 months to get plans and facilities completed. They are looking ahead to provide facilities for children who they expect will be waiting for these facilities "Statistically" in one, two, five or ten years.

Statistics play odd tricks. There

their educational plant. Many citizens seemed to think the tax limit has been reached. The Supt. of Schools said, "If you change the laws I will turn out better equipped students for less money."

Roger Babson, a noted analyst, has commented on the Educational System in a 1957 Reader's Digest. He advised many changes and stated that School Boards will break the taxpayers backs with their present programs.

THE READER'S DIGEST in several articles has stated that the school building programs are for the glorification of the school board members and the administrative staffs. This has resulted in a new approach in design of buildings which has saved taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in those places where, "they have seen the light."

Strange things happen in strange ways. A negative vote could be most constructive in that it would necessitate new thinking. "Necessity is the mother of invention."

A new citizens committee might make an entirely new approach. Children can be taught and acquire an understanding of how to live, act and earn a living in our society in many ways and I believe in far more efficient ways than are used at present and at a much lower cost.

FRED GRAUPNER  
6388 Dakota circle  
Bloomfield township  
in which it was proposed to enlarge

## Action in Germany

Army Pfc. John C. Acton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleopatra Acton of Catemole street, Birmingham, recently participated in a field training exercise with the third infantry division in Germany. He arrived in Europe last March. His wife, Paula, is with him.

DESIGNS FOR LIVING

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Dec. 2, 1958 THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC 5-B school and attended the University of Michigan.

## Serving in Korea

Army Pvt. Charles Weir, whose wife, Jean, lives at 21711 Hempstead road, Birmingham, recently arrived in Korea and is now a member of the eighth U. S. Army. Weir, son of Mr. and Mrs. Preston Weir of Bryn Mawr, is a 1953 graduate of Birmingham high school.

MEN'S NIGHT  
AT JACOBSON'S  
MONDAY, DEC. 8

No Women Allowed 7 to 10 p.m.

## STORE HOURS:

Mon. thru Sat.  
9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.



2-Hour Free Parking  
HAVE YOUR TICKET VALIDATED  
WHEN YOU MAKE A PURCHASE  
AT JACOBSON'S

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give luxury, give Luxite,  
give wonderlon...the new nylon  
tissue tricot with a silken hand,  
softer and more opaque than nylon  
has ever been. white forget-me-  
not ensemble with embroidered net  
overlay, lavish six-inch flounce.  
slip; sizes 32 to 38. 6.95  
half slip; sizes s,m,l. 4.95



Christmas togetherness...our exquisite change-  
about wardrobe of angolara (lambswool/angora) sweaters  
and their matching slim, trim skirts...to give as sets or  
separates! white, wheat, pecan, champagne, turf green, light  
blue, blossom pink. sweaters, sizes 36 to 40. skirts, 8 to 18.  
1. collared cardigan 14.98. fur-blend skirt 14.98  
2. crew neck pullover 12.98. wool plaid  
skirt 12.98. 3. brass-buttoned cardigan 14.98



MEMO TO MEN:  
Men's Night—Next Monday  
Dec. 8—7 to 10 P.M.

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Birmingham



1. TIARA TOILET WATER: The essence of French femininity in this lovely toilet water. Jingle bells ornament the exciting gift wrap. \$5.00 plus tax.

3. LIPSTICK PROU PROU: Inside this fluffy-feathered gadget that hangs on your tree, rests an elegant Alexandra de Markoff Magnum Lipstick. \$2.00, plus tax.

DELIGHTFUL GIFTS OF BEAUTY FROM ALEXANDRA DE MARKOFF

2. TIARA PHANTASY: The exquisite fragrance of French-made, bottled and sealed Tiara encased in a sparkling Christmas bubble. \$5.00, plus tax.

4. SKIN SMOOTHERS: Two beautifully packaged gifts, ideal for wintry weather skin care. Hand Beauty Cream, \$1.50. Tribute Hand and Body Beauty Lotion, \$2.00. Both plus tax.

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