

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM

MICHIGAN

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BER KSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TOWNS.

WESTWOOD

Sets Budget Attorney, Treasurer

WESTWOOD—The village council in a flurry of activity Monday night selected a village attorney, appointed a village treasurer and adopted an interim budget of \$40,100. Howard I. Bond, who was attorney for the charter commission, will serve as village attorney for a fee that will be negotiated later.

Donald C. McCobb is the new treasurer. To him will fall the job of getting the new village on its financial feet, making and keeping the tax rolls and keeping the village budget in balance.

McCobb is 26 years old and a certified public accountant. The village will pay him \$200 a month for part time work as treasurer.

COUNCILMAN Theodore Sara said that McCobb had applied for the job after seeing the newspaper notice that the village was looking for a treasurer. A public accountant for Touche, Niven, Bailey & Smart accounting firm, McCobb said the firm had given him the position on his application and had offered to cooperate.

McCobb lives in Westwood at 15355 Kirsching. He has a bachelor's degree and a masters in business administration from Cornell. The interim budget is for the period between the village's birth until the beginning of the first fiscal year, July 1. The budget totals \$40,100.

THIS WILL MEAN a tax of about 4 mills, compared to the 5 mill limit set in the charter. Marvin Cline, village president, said the money will be raised in July along with the funds for the first regular year of operation.

Cline emphasized that the budget figures were estimates based on anticipated expenses with a reserve included. This reserve is necessary, he said, so that the council can take advantage of any opportunities to buy equipment or other facilities that might become available at a bargain.

In the budget are \$15,000 for public safety; \$2,500 for salaries (not set yet) and office; \$1,100 for the council (set by the charter); \$5,000 for the treasurer and assessor; \$9,000 for legal fees; \$5,200 for rubbish collection; and \$5,300 for contingencies, including village office, insurance, telephone, office supplies and mailing.

Robert Reed, chairman of the council's road committee, reported that no change would be made in the paving program to be completed by the end of the year. The township has contracted for some paving, and this program will be completed by the end of the year.

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The 10 children of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith, 32075 Arlington, East Beverly. From the top of the stairway down: Kathleen, 12; Patricia, 10; James, 9; Lucy, 8; Susan, 7; Gerald, 6; and Judith, 4. On around the neural post are Matthew, 2, and Mary Sharon, 3, and perched on top, 3-month Tommy.

Family's 2 Hands Full; Five of Kind, Full House

MORE PICTURES ON 1-D

By MARY H. SCHMIDT

EAST BEVERLY—The Kenneth Smiths have a real step-family—10 children ranging in age from 12 years on down.

And what does it take to raise a family like that?

According to Mrs. Smith it takes 7 loaves of bread and 20 quarts of milk every other day. It takes a dining room table that measures 44 by 88 inches. It takes an increasing number of bedrooms.

But most of all, it takes faith.

"If it's going to work out, it will," she says. "This family is a living example. I really don't worry. When we had five children I couldn't have imagined how we could afford 10. But with each child there have been added blessings; and really, it's easier now than when we had five."

"Oh yes," she adds, answering our unasked question, "I don't mind going through. People quit their cars in an unplanned family. It isn't God planned our family. It's just a high school I used to think I'd like to have ten or a dozen children. And look at me now!"

YES, LOOK. Mrs. Smith is a stunning, prematurely grey-haired woman. And the children are all bright-eyed lively youngsters.

In descending order on the Smith staircase, they are Kathleen, 12; Patricia, 10; James, 9; Lucy, 8; Susan, 7; Gerald, 6; Judith, 4; Mary Sharon, 3; Matthew, 2; and on the newest post, 3-month-old Tommy.

The oldest five go to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs school. Gerald is in kindergarten. And they all come home for lunch.

HOW DOES Mrs. Smith handle all this? She says her most important jobs are keeping her husband happy and raising the children. She gets up at 6:45 a.m. and "just goes" as fast as she can until about 11:15 p.m.

She doesn't schedule her work, she says, because "too much all ways comes up to disrupt my plans. I accomplish more if I do what I feel like. I wash nearly every day, iron as little as possible and drop everything to clean when I feel I can't stand the way a closet looks any longer."

The only outside help the Smiths have is a cleaning woman one day

every other week. Each of the members of the family pitches in to do what he can.

SMITH, chairman of the aeronautical engineering department at the University of Detroit, helps wherever he's needed. He also is the family's handyman. He built a big, sunny family dining room off the kitchen, and now is working on an extra bedroom for the family's three boys.

The oldest six children make their own beds. The little ones run countless errands. Kathleen and Patty do their own ironing; Jimmy cleans the basement and table (which houses two cars, six two-wheelers and three tricycles) and tends the yard. Kathleen and Jimmy alternate with Patty and Lucy in washing the dishes. Lucy and Gary iron most of the family's clothes.

And all of the children are independent. Most of them started dressing themselves at 2 years. Even the baby co-operates, just by being good.

SCIENCE helps too. Mrs. Smith shops with ease-of-care in mind. The family uses plastic dishes. Every-day clothes are of ordinary cotton knit or synthetic materials that don't need ironing. A big bulletin board keeps everyone's appointments straight and displays genuine Smith primitives. Roasts

and casseroles form most of the family's meals.

In the midst of all this activity and all the noise made by 10 normal children, Mrs. Smith is an island of serenity. Says she:

"It's just what I always wanted to do."

Then, with a perfectly straight face and tongue in cheek, he presented the Finlay Alternate Plan.

"If one inch of rain falls in an hour," he said, "Lathrup receives

25,150,000 gallons of water. If each of the 1,000 residents of the city could dig a hole in his back yard 25 feet long, 15 feet wide and 10 feet deep, the water could be drained off the roofs and into the holes and no sewers at all would be needed for sale.

Never at a loss for words, and usually a soft word, Mayor Lathrup and Charles H. Kelley, Lathrup's subordinate, worked each other down over sewers and sewer extensions.

Kelley seeking to have sewers extended to property he owns in the northwest and south-east corners of the city, shouted that it was the city's job to see that sewers were extended to open his property for sale.

Mackey, supported by ex-councilman Tom Reed who was in on the Lathrup charter writing, told Kelley that the charter prohibits the city from spending taxpayer's money on new sewer lines to unutilized property. It is up to the subdivider, he said, to refer to existing lines if he wishes to open the property.

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Mackey replied, "The subdivider wants to bargain. But your council is not made up of horse traders. We refer to dicker with your tax money."

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'No' Vote on Storm Sewers Disappoints Lathrup Council

Large Majority Keeps Surprise on Agenda: Mackey vs. Kelley

By DOROTHY ZATELL

LATHRUP—Lathrup residents packed into the city's council room Monday and monopolized the council meeting with a heated argument about the storm sewer bond issue they were to vote on Tuesday. At stake was a \$550 per thousand tax increase.

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