

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eclectic

BIRMINGHAM MICHIGAN

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

Tall, Soft Spoken Principal Wins the Heart of Franklin

By NITA HARD

FRANKLIN—Everybody looks up to Daniel Welch, principal of Franklin school—he's six feet four!

But his height isn't the only reason. The gentle, soft-spoken administrator has earned the admiration of all 319 pupils and the 11 teachers on his staff.

Since September, the 32-year-old principal has been handling daily problems with such thoroughness and thoughtfulness as to warrant unqualified praise. "He's a wonderful person to work for!"

Welch's post at the Franklin school is his first principalship. Before that he taught sixth grade teacher training at Eastern Michigan college and was a director of a farm and gardening program and school canvassing in Battle Creek where he taught sixth grade for four years.

THE OLDEST of Welch's own children, a twelve-year-old kindergarten child, was born on this fall at the Webster school in Pontiac. Welch confesses that being a father has certainly put a new light on the situations that confront him as principal.

A graduate of Central Michigan college, Welch earned his master's degree in elementary administration and supervision at the University of Michigan. He has also done advanced work at Wayne but hesitates to declare any plans for a doctorate, at least right now.

The teachers who work with him have been pleased with the quiet consideration he gives every problem they bring before him. "Even though he doesn't say much at the time," one teacher said, "you have the comforting feeling that he is thinking the matter over very carefully. Sure enough, in a little while he comes up with a solution."

PTA OFFICERS also enjoy working with him. He has studied the needs of the school carefully and is helping plan a better library, they report. He has enlisted the aid of the student council to promote a fund raising project for more books.

And the students themselves, have developed an allegiance to the quiet, gangling young man. Last fall Welch accompanied the Franklin sixth graders on their week of camping at Proulx Lake. He earned a few gold stars for himself then as a good sport and teacher, and again at Christmas time, when disaster threatened the all-school Christmas program because of inadequate lighting.

Welch proved resourceful and the program was an artistic triumph. As the last little boy was hustled off to bed by proud parents, Welch stood in the empty school hall and sighed, "I feel like a principal. They told me you had to live through a Christmas program before you really could qualify for the job."



He Sits to Conquer

Tall, gangling Daniel Welch, principal of Franklin school, wins the hearts of "his" youngsters by such thoughtfulness as to warrant unqualified praise. He is shown explaining an algebra—latest wrinkle in mathematics teaching—to third grader Andy Jim Sutherland.

Receives Award

Fred Muenchinger, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Muenchinger of Pleasant Street, became an Eagle scout Monday night during Troop B's Court of Honor at the Quonset school gym. Asked if he was one of the youngest ever to receive the award, Fred replied, "Oh, no, my brother was an Eagle scout when he was 12."

Youth Admits Theft At S'field Station

SOUTHFIELD—A former employee of the Speedway 73 station at 12 Mile and Telegraph roads has admitted the robbery there Oct. 7, according to Southfield township police.

Charles Durbin said LaVerne L. Venetra, 20, admitted taking about \$30 from the till of his former employer, a young man who lives in Farmington, and turned over to police on Saturday, Durbin said.

\$200 Charges Okayed To Pay Cost of Sewer

SOUTHFIELD—A \$200 connecting charge was established Friday as Southfield township's method paying its share of the Evergreen interceptor sewer.

The charge will be made to every home in Southfield except those in the Royal Oak drainage district along the eastern edge of the township.

Owners of existing homes may pay their \$200 in 10 equal annual payments, with no interest charged. Builders of new homes must pay in a lump before building permits can be issued.

THE TOWNSHIP board approved this plan after a public hearing Friday. Only five citizens attended, three of them to urge that the Evergreen proposal go through, and the others to clarify the position of Westwood.

Westwood residents will vote Feb. 5 on a charter to merge the part of the township a separate village, Harold Stone, director of the Oakland county department of public works, and the Southfield board established that if the charter is accepted, Westwood could make its own contract with the department for paying the Westwood portion. Westwood's share of the interceptor's cost is to be \$216,000.

SHONE EXPLAINED to the board that the \$200 fee would cover Southfield's share, including present costs, interest, and liquidating the loan.

The township's share is about \$160,000 without the Westwood figure. The township board also voted \$10,000 to pay for engineering of trunk line sewers, needed to connect areas of the township to the main line.

LATHRUP—Six changes to make the area near the Lathrup school safer have been asked by a special committee that has been studying traffic conditions along Southfield road.

The city council in a special meeting Jan. 17 agreed to ask the Oakland county road commission to operate the traffic light in front of the school from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The committee pointed out that group activities, such as church and scouting meetings, keep the school busy during these hours. The light has been operated from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

THE COUNCIL also will ask the county road commission to remove non-standard signs on the Southfield right of way and replace them with standard signs.

Because the city now has 24-hour police protection, the council said the third proposal can be followed easily. Lt. Francis Murphy will watch for speeders near the school, particularly when children are crossing the street.

The committee also claimed the 40-mph speed limit in front of the school was too high, especially during the hours when children are crossing.

A SPECIAL safety control device was recommended which will post a 30-mph limit during critical hours. If permission for the use of this device is granted by the state police, installation and financing will be worked out by interested organizations.

The committee also asked that signs be posted when the parking lot in front of the school and the service drive there are reactivated. The group's sixth request was continuation of a sound safety education program, including distribution of the new control regulations and traffic pattern to every city parent.

Members of the committee are Mrs. Vaughn S. Egley, president of the Lathrup PTA; Mrs. Elmer S. Craig, president of the Lathrup Woman's club; and Mayor Pro. Tom Richard Cogger.

Bloomfield Plans New Fire Station Year From Now

BLOOMFIELD—Supervisor Arno Hulet said Tuesday that he hopes to have a new east side fire station built and occupied a year from now on property at Eastwood school which Bloomfield Hills school district voters approved for the purpose in a special election Monday.

Hulet said the township was checking and selecting plans for the station which, he promised, will blend with existing buildings in the area. It is expected to resemble a ranch-type home.

He estimated that the station would cost about \$40,000 and that an additional \$40,000 would be needed to equip and man it. A half-mill additional tax for fire department facilities was collected for the first time this year bringing in \$42,000. The tax can run for 10 years if needed.

At present the entire township is serviced by the station in the township offices at Telegraph and Long Lake roads.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC

Ireland Refutes Hutchins' School Ideas

New Telephones

Birmingham Congregational Announces Purchases

Gold's Golden Era

1-A

1-B

7-D

1-B

Elms in Lathrup To Get More Aid

LATHRUP—The committee to save the 4,000 elm trees that shade Lathrup's streets in summer hopes to step up the program this year. Alvin B. Plumtree was named chairman of the group by the city council Monday. He succeeds Robert Gilmour, who resigned. The council asked Gilmour to continue on the committee.

Mayor Lantz Mackey asked Plumtree to report at the next council meeting what steps the city might take this year to save the trees from Dutch elm disease and other troubles.

MACKAY SAID the city had \$1,300 left in its tree fund, enough to buy spray for one spraying. Two spraying treatments are needed, one in early spring when the disease is epidemic as it is in Lathrup. After the disease is controlled, one is enough.

Plumtree said the program was started three years ago and accelerated last year when the city voted funds. So far Lathrup has budgeted a special spraying and started a program of spraying the trees along the streets and clear-cutting the dead ones. The committee also urges property owners to take care of off-street trees on their property.

THE BOARD also approved a petition for blanketing all the streets in Westwood Village subdivision. A date will be set for a public hearing in February. The board decided to request the county road commission that in the future it require alleys in commercial areas to be blanketed.

Harold Stone, director of the Oakland county department of public works, explained a resolution which the board passed for financing and lay-in-fees in the Farmington interceptor. The resolution will be sent to the Oakland county board of supervisors meeting Feb. 21.

Building permits for seven new residential buildings were estimated value of \$145,000. Donald McNabb reported on the activity of independent ZOI Lakeside fire department at Cass Lake. The department is seeking aid in buying a new siren.

Man Badly Hurt As Car Overturns On Northwestern

SOUTHFIELD—Seriously injured when the Volkswagen was driven rolled six times, James Leslie Lobdell, 26, is in fair condition at William Beaumont hospital.

Southfield police said Lobdell lost control of the car. He was thrown out when the car overturned. The accident happened at almost 5 p.m. Jan. 15 on Northwestern road near Lahser. Rush hour traffic was backed up for almost a mile until police were able to clear the road.

Lobdell who was alone in the car, suffered head injuries and many bruises. He lives at 2086 Cleve, Walled Lake.

Mackie Sets Timetable For X-Ways in County

Adult Education Classes Are Set

SOUTHFIELD—Adult education classes will be held in Southfield from Jan. 27 to March 31.

Enrollments will be accepted all this week, or on the opening night of the class at Southfield high school. Fees are \$6 per person each of the three-hour courses which are \$8. Body culture and investment classes are \$5 for the session.

Courses offered under business are typing, shorthand, investment guidance and bookkeeping. In the field of crafts the program will offer woodworking for both men and women, painting, ceramics, interior decorating and china painting. Under homemaking, there is millinery, pre-fabricating, sewing, cake decorating, knitting and needlework. For those looking for more fun for self-improvement, there is public speaking, dramatics, body culture, bridge and social reading.

New to the adult education program this spring is a course on playing the Hammond organ. At a cost of \$125.00, anyone wishing to learn will receive 10 lessons on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Two courses are offered without charge, first aid and home nursing. Further information may be obtained from the high school.

Two Major Roads In Five-Year Plan

Two major highways will be built in southern Oakland county the next five years, according to a schedule announced Monday by State Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie.

Mackie lists 53 miles of expressway for the county among the 11 Detroit area projects to cost almost \$400 million.

Oakland county will get \$73 million of the total, Mackie said, by June 1962.

Mackie's schedule for the Chrysler expressway includes 25 miles from a point east of Pontiac to the Ponton-Clio expressway south of Flint to be under contract in the spring of 1960.

An 11-mile section between Steubens and 11 Mile road in Royal Oak and Pontiac, to be under contract by winter, 1960.

The part of the Walter P. Chrysler expressway about 35 miles from a point east of Pontiac to the Ponton-Clio expressway south of Flint would be under contract by spring, 1960.

Bringing Stephenson up to expressway standards from 11 Mile to 11 Mile would be started after 1962.

The timetable for Lodge-Northwestern work is: The proposed Northwestern expressway which Mackie proposes to build along 11 Mile for about 9 1/2 miles between Northwestern and the Brighton-Farmington expressway will be under construction contract by winter, 1960.

The John Lodge expressway will be extended from Wooming, where it now ends, along the James Couzens (Northwestern) route to 11 Mile.

The section of 8 Mile between James Couzens and Grand River would be converted to an expressway this year, pending the Lodge extension.

Converting 12 miles of Southfield road from the Detroit Industrial expressway as far as Northwestern to a superhighway, not a limited access road, would start in winter, 1959.

MACKIE EMPHASIZED that his schedule allowed time for acquiring the right-of-ways, but not for extended legal proceedings that might occur. The schedule also depended on whether state and federal aids are increased or reduced. The plans use presently available funds "to the limit" he added.

Another contingency that would slow up the program is failure of state and local authorities to agree on exact routing of roads and curbs and shoulders, Mackie said. Cities of more than 30,000 population, according to the 1950 census must pay part of the costs of roads through their areas.

"ANNOUNCING this schedule," Mackie said, "is part of my policy in being frank with the public about what can be done by way of new construction and when they can expect these improvements."

Mackie said the Oakland county section of the Chrysler expressway was scheduled late in the program because he expected it to take time to agree with the affected communities after the proposed alignments and most studies are finished.

He added that the highway officials would work closely with local planning officials and county highway commission in developing the plans.

Add Time to Pay Property Taxes

WEST BLOOMFIELD—Deadline for the payment of real property taxes without penalty was extended from Jan. 20 to Feb. 28 at the January meeting of West Bloomfield township board last Wednesday.

Treasurer Lillian S. Warner emphasized that the deadline was extended only for the payment of real property taxes and deadline had not been extended.

Tax collections are at an all-time high for January, Mrs. Warner reported. Six times, James Leslie Lobdell, 26, is in fair condition at William Beaumont hospital.

By last week \$67,769 had been paid. The total tax roll of \$1,273,477, Mrs. Warner said, is 6.2 per cent better than last year at this time.

THE BOARD also approved a petition for blanketing all the streets in Westwood Village subdivision. A date will be set for a public hearing in February. The board decided to request the county road commission that in the future it require alleys in commercial areas to be blanketed.

Harold Stone, director of the Oakland county department of public works, explained a resolution which the board passed for financing and lay-in-fees in the Farmington interceptor. The resolution will be sent to the Oakland county board of supervisors meeting Feb. 21.

Building permits for seven new residential buildings were estimated value of \$145,000. Donald McNabb reported on the activity of independent ZOI Lakeside fire department at Cass Lake. The department is seeking aid in buying a new siren.

Meeting Cancelled

SOUTHFIELD—The Southfield zoning board of appeals Wednesday cancelled a meeting to meet Feb. 20, Chairman Robert Wuerfel has announced. The meeting was cancelled because of conflict with the public hearing on the proposed charter for the city of Southfield.

THE DISEASE that threatens Lathrup's 25 year old elms has wiped out most of the elms in Europe and is spreading across the United States from the east coast.

Charles Gale, Birmingham city forester, said that unless Lathrup controlled the disease the city would be virtually bare in a few years.

Gale said the elm blight is particularly hard to control because it requires particularly thorough spraying and fast and complete destroying of infected trees. Gale explained that it is a fungus that kills the trees and a beetle that carries the fungus. To save an elm, Gale pointed out it is necessary to protect the tree before non-infectious insects get on it.

Plumtree reported to the council that his committee is increased to five members, and the council asked him to suggest a few names. Other members of the tree group include Charles Kelley and A. E. Little.

S'field Sets 2 Hearings On Charter

SOUTHFIELD—Southfield residents will have a chance to ask all their questions on the charter proposed for the city of Southfield at two public hearings planned for Feb. 20 and 21.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.

Dates to be set include a registration period for residents to register to vote in the special election, a deadline for filing petitions of candidates in the election, and a date for the election and the election of the city council.

The charter commission, nearly finished with the drafting of the document, is scheduling the steps the proposal must go through in hopes of presenting it to the voters in April.



Debbie Gets a 'Fairy Godmother's' Gift

If a doll is a perfect present for an 8-year-old girl, what about 35 dolls? That's the gift Debbie Dugan's godmother brought her—35 dolls from different countries. Miss Margaret Wallace, Pittsburgh, Pa., collected the dolls in a special suitcase as she toured Europe and the middle and far east. Debbie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Dugan, have provided a special cabinet in their living room on Thurber road, Wing Lake, where Debbie now has the dolls on display. Mrs. Dugan and Miss Wallace are sisters. Among the dolls are three Swiss guards, replicas of the guards Miss Wallace saw on her visit to the Vatican, where she had an audience with the Pope. There are boy and girl dolls from Holland with removable wooden shoes, a can-can doll from Paris, a French artist doll, Hummel dolls, a Viennese poodle, three Italian dolls from Florence, Italy, and Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Japanese and Burmese dolls. The British Isles are represented by London Bobbies and a Scot in a kilt. One of Debbie's favorites is a doll from Belgium, which she is holding in the picture. This is a lace maker doll, dressed in Brussels lace and holding her own tiny bobbin. Could any girl have had a more wonderful Christmas present?

If a doll is a perfect present for an 8-year-old girl, what about 35 dolls? That's the gift Debbie Dugan's godmother brought her—35 dolls from different countries. Miss Margaret Wallace, Pittsburgh, Pa., collected the dolls in a special suitcase as she toured Europe and the middle and far east. Debbie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Dugan, have provided a special cabinet in their living room on Thurber road, Wing Lake, where Debbie now has the dolls on display. Mrs. Dugan and Miss Wallace are sisters. Among the dolls are three Swiss guards, replicas of the guards Miss Wallace saw on her visit to the Vatican, where she had an audience with the Pope. There are boy and girl dolls from Holland with removable wooden shoes, a can-can doll from Paris, a French artist doll, Hummel dolls, a Viennese poodle, three Italian dolls from Florence, Italy, and Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Japanese and Burmese dolls. The British Isles are represented by London Bobbies and a Scot in a kilt. One of Debbie's favorites is a doll from Belgium, which she is holding in the picture. This is a lace maker doll, dressed in Brussels lace and holding her own tiny bobbin. Could any girl have had a more wonderful Christmas present?

My Neighbors

"You'll love living in the United States. We've got everything—except keep the money we earn!"



CHIEF NORMAN DEHNKE