



That Would Have Been

by George R. Averill

'Soapy' Has New Reason to Cut 1958 Michigan Budget

Governor Williams, in making up his budget message for the State Legislature's perusal, plans to cut out from it all provisions mentioned in the natural resources budget which he is favoring his budget to meet economy-minded Republicans who, experience has shown during the past eight years of Williams' Governorship, have trimmed his enlarged budgetary items.

I believe the Governor when he makes his current budgeting on this important subject... however, I also think that his chief motive has been national significance, too.

'Soapy' knows, in trying for the nomination as a conservative candidate for the Presidency, that a record of high taxes, extravagant budgets, etc., as a Governor, is a political handicap, both for the nomination and for the potential presidential campaign.

Were he planning only to run for Governor, I think he would go after the higher budget figures... using Republican economy cuts as political arguments against Republicans candidates. Governor Williams has learned a considerable number of political strategies for entering Michigan civic affairs back in 1947.

These new porcelain coated cast iron frying pans and similar cooking utensils are much heavier than their predecessors... and certainly must require a greater amount of muscle for throwing purposes. If the average man is hit with one, it should raise a large bump, and if an angry lady misses the target, one of these flying missiles certainly ought to knock off quite a bit of plaster.

Here's a memo to the golfer: The game you play is what letter-carry, it's a disgraceful, and a carpenter would be if all three tasks were played on any given day.

Mid-age is presumed to be that period of one's life when responsibilities should be met, when the foolishness of youth ought to give way to the wise follies of later years.

Comparative few children want to do more either or both than their parents by being better than the examples revealed in the home.

Somehow, it seems to me, of the use of secondary public education system is out of place. Since it includes colleges and universities, and since these latter scholastic areas are under tremendous criticism, it certainly is lower than... well, what?

Do you ask your school-age youngster if he or she is being brought up much more than American history, and how to become a good, responsible citizen in a democracy? What you ought to find answers to such questions... as you witness the "decline and fall of cities" which standards in the good old U.S.A.

Show Doesn't Show, AAUW To Refund Price of Tickets

The Children's Theatre group of AAUW, for the first time in 15 years, was forced to discontinue the production of the Birmingham area last Thursday, and cancel their scheduled play, "Treasure Island."

Due to the death of the New York producer of the show, a substitute professional production had been hastily scheduled, but failed to appear or give notice. In this emergency, the children with given a free hour of cartoons to entertain them, and happily accepted the substitution.

The Children's Theatre group had to refund the price of the cancelled show, "Treasure Island," to all children who present a season ticket for the next play. This will be done at both performances of "Hansel and Gretel" on Monday, Jan. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Theatre.

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Revolt's Success Surprise to Exec Contractor Comments On Venezuela Uprising

By LES LINE

Last week's Venezuelan revolution came as only a partial surprise to Birmingham construction executive George Bass. The real shock would have been if the revolt had succeeded.

Bass is more qualified than most Detroit area people to express his views on the current political situation in the natural resource-laden Latin America. He has spent three of the past 11 months in Venezuela, has met the country's president and has become acquainted with many of the government's leaders. And since he is contemplating opening an office there, Bass has taken it upon himself to become familiar with nearly every phase of the country's economy that has a fabulous income of \$2 1/2 million daily from oil—most not counting virtually untapped iron deposits.

BASS SEES two or possibly three reasons for the recent Venezuela, a revolt which was generally confined to Maracay, was some 60 miles from Caracas, the Venezuelan capital. This situation he compares with a rebellion of Seville, Spain, against the United States. This is the "juicy plum" Venezuela would make for a ruler concerned only with filling his own pockets and those of his political chums.

Then, there is the inherent nature of the Latin American to "go off the loose end" anytime someone is in the neighborhood.

BASS ALSO believes university students who are so peculiarly open to the influence of Communist countries to any form of soap-box oratory may have been instigators in the Venezuelan revolt.

In Venezuela in March and April 1957 and again in September, Bass paints a graphic picture of the country's president, Marcos Perez Jimenez, a dictator with an iron hand but nevertheless loved by his people and has done much for his country.

While the words "dictator" and "military government" immediately strike a negative response in the United States, Bass states Venezuela can be governed properly and successfully only in this manner.

Latin American history books out this statement, for the majority of the Latin populace is uneducated and does not know it has been repeatedly in that part of the world for that very reason.

JIMENEZ proclaimed himself president in 1952 following the ouster of a craft-ridden democratic government. He is an army officer, a dictator, a national pride and devoted to the rebuilding of Venezuela into an outstanding country.

The Venezuelan president, Bass states, is definitely anti-Communist, and his regime, called by the Birmingham executive a "beast without fangs," has been responsible for carrying out vast reforms.

The Venezuelan government has cleared all slum areas, has commenced the long overdue elevation of education standards and has built modern hospitals and modern buildings of various types, together with unbelievable construction of highways throughout the country.

All-in-all, the Venezuelan president has been responsible for pulling the country all the way back into the modern world, and has done so in a matter of days from the sale of its fantastic oil and ore resources to other countries.

Donald S. Bell Still in Coma at Hospital in N. Mex.

Latest word from Roswell, New Mexico, reveals that the condition of Donald S. Bell, former Birmingham citizen and mayor injured in an automobile accident near Roswell Dec. 19, still is very critical.

He has been in a coma ever since the accident, when his car flipped over four times after it left the road, hurtling 42 feet through the air.

Hospital doctors diagnosed his condition as suffering from multiple contusions, facial cuts, a fractured thigh and a fractured wrist. They also assert they are not optimistic of his eventual recovery.

BELL OWNS and operates the Lazy Cow ranch near Benson, Arizona. With 25-year-old Gordon H. Getzwiller, of Benson, Bell was on his way to Roswell to pick up his son, Tom, and a friend of the New Mexico Military Institute. Getzwiller also was thrown out of the car, resulting in his death a few hours later.

New Mexico state police could not determine who was driving the car. Bell was born and raised in Birmingham, and for many years was associated with his late father, O. C. Bell, an actor and comedian. He had a funeral home on E. Maple. He operated the business for some years. (See COMA, Page 8-A)



Here's The C of C Contest Winner

He's the first baby of the year, but he's not the first child at the home of the Joseph M. Ryan, 2121 Dorchester, Birmingham, born at 10:19 a.m., New Year's Day, John Douglas Ryan becomes the winner of the 1958 baby contest sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. He and his parents will be showered with gifts by Birmingham merchants. On his first day, the couple moved here two years ago.

B'ham Fire Loss Lowest In 20 Years

The lowest per capita fire loss in 20 years was recorded by Birmingham in 1957.

The city's loss, based on an estimated 25,000 population, was listed as 21 cents a month, low in a report released by The Eccentric Wednesday by Park H. Smith, Birmingham fire chief.

It was the lowest since 1933 when the per capita loss was 46 cents.

Total estimated fire damage in 1957 was \$8,150,000. The breakdown of this figure showed \$2,800 damage to buildings and \$5,350 to contents.

THE BIRMINGHAM department made a total of 419 runs during 1957—254 for alarm, 165 for fire and fire investigations, 30 for fire investigations, 61 for first aid and 71 for miscellaneous reasons.

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Working Model

Birmingham is helping provide beauty for the Birmingham Auto Show Jan. 14-17, when Pat Morris, 2043 Yorkshire, lends her talent and charm to the beauty exhibit.

She will be driving along in it, when she is spotted by a patrolman. She'll be suddenly realized it wasn't his.

She'll identify the car and white '57 car of the same make had been parked two spaces away from Dufco's.

She'll have known it wasn't his, if it hadn't been for a one in a thousand or so coincidence. She'll identify the car and white '57 car of the same make had been parked two spaces away from Dufco's.

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Unknown Youth Rescues Man From Drowning

Non-Swimmer, Tractor Go Thru Wing Lake Ice

Albert B. Dickerson, 30, has made his new year's resolution—be'll sweep no more snow from the frozen surfaces of lakes.

The reason: Dickerson almost lost his life in Wing Lake shortly after noon Saturday when the snow-sweeping tractor he was driving went through the ice into 15 feet of water.

IF IT HADN'T BEEN for the quick thinking of an unknown high school boy playing hockey with some pals nearby, Dickerson believes he would have gone down that third time and stayed under.

"I don't know who he is—he got away in the excitement without anyone finding out who he is. But I sure am grateful to him—he saved my life," the near-victim stated.

Dickerson works for Sam Reeves Service station at Telegraph and Maple. For some years, Reeves has provided this free snow-sweeping for Wing Lakers. And Dickerson has swept various portions of the lake half a dozen times, he estimates.

BUT THAT'S ALL OVER now, Dickerson, who can't swim, is staying off lakes. And Reeves has decided to end the lake sweeping.

Still numbbed by the water and the shock, Dickerson was sent by taxi to his home at 1335 E. Lincoln, where he related his harrowing experience to his wife and three young children.

"I sure am grateful to that boy," Dickerson repeated.

The incident occurred from Bloomfield Township acting police chief Norman Dehnke that both skaters and fishermen should give the ice on lakes and ponds in the area "every chance" to harden.

Dehnke said Tuesday that the low temperatures of the past several days have had a beneficial effect on most lakes, but he advised an extra check of ice on spring-fed lakes and streams. In these, he cautioned, always is thinner where the water is bubbling underneath.

Hills Citizens To Study Their School System

BLOOMFIELD HILLS — How does a school district go about re-assessing its curriculum and assessing in terms of value to students, the community and the nation in the light of such recent scientific advances as the Russian "moon"?

Bloomfield Hills school superintendent Eugene L. Johnson, with permission of the Hills board of education, presented this problem to the Hills board of education Monday. Feeling there are interested and able patrons of education in the area willing "to help us do better," Johnson invited a group of PTO officers and key citizens to an initial meeting in the high school library.

He asked the 60 attending to "take a hard, cold look at our school system and tell us how you want us to do better."

AT HIS REQUEST an eight-man central advisory committee was named to study preliminary suggestions made at the meeting and to report at a second meeting in about two weeks. Mrs. William (See REPORTS, Page 8-A)

Blood Bank Slated At Community House

The Birmingham American Association of University Women is sponsoring a visit of the American Red Cross blood bank to the Birmingham Community House Tuesday, Jan. 21, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For an appointment to give life-saving blood at the community blood bank, donors should call Mrs. A. Barlow, Jr., 1224 Fairfax, Birmingham.

IT'S hard to believe that "Nine Men Against America" are in a position to strip you of many of the historic freedoms and liberties presumed to be guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

Turn to this week's editorial page in Section D and learn how recent decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court have shackled some of the traditional protective processes of state and federal governments.

"... the future of your country — the country you love — is at stake!"

We suggest that you clip this editorial for future reference, and for showing to others.

STRICTLY FRESH

Smile, as puzzled as many of today's homemakers when the thawing instructions have been scraped off the frozen food carton.

If you don't think that cats are intelligent, consider this: Can you get three square meals and a place to sleep, just by purring?

THE STRANDED FIRST accident involved four automobiles and costed an estimated \$100,000 damage to them. It occurred the afternoon of Jan. 3, when two Detroit motorists collided at the corner of Brown and Dates, veering one of the cars into two parked vehicles. There were no injuries.

Other "firsts" recorded for the year were:

The first fire department run, an investigation of a gas leak discovered by a route patrol at 3:30 a.m. Jan. 1.

THE FIRST TICKET of the year issued New Year's morning for violation of a traffic signal, to James H. Desimpel, 215 Pembroke, Birmingham.

The first occupant of the Birmingham jail, Charles Pick, Jr., 22 E. Birmingham, was arrested by Birmingham police as he was driving a car stolen from the Pontiac area. He was later turned over to Pontiac police.