

Being director . . .

of a Christian friendliness program means helping people of different cultures, races and nations get acquainted. And it's interesting work. See "Lathrup Woman Helps People", P. 6-D.

Teen-agers settled the world's problems in a short day and a half of serious negotiations Thursday in Birmingham high school's mock United Nations. See P. 5-B, "Mock UN".

Children's building got blocks . . .

great big, sturdy ones that outlast generations of children, are the brain-child of a Lathrup man. Find out how his idea got started and spread all over the world. Turn to page 1-E, column 2.

The Sputnik movement . . .

in Westwood is over. Rocketry is dead in the area's newest village. How the police in Westwood control the air is told on page 1-E, at the bottom of column 2.

Merry Mayhem with a Mexican Flavor . . .

was the top item on the menu at Lathrup Monday night when the Lathrup Players presented "The Case of the Weird Sisters." Details of this rollic will be found on P. 1-B.

It's been going on . . .

for nine years . . . nine straight years without a break . . . year after year . . . and from the looks of what happened last week, it'll now be 10 straight years . . . it all has to do with water, the chlorinated kind, and some lads by the names of Bechtel, Sintz, Smith, Rider, Baick, Driver, etc. For the lowdown, see column 4, P. 6-E.

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This and That

by George R. Averill

Southern weather note: During the recent cold wave in Florida thieves twice broke into a church in Green Cove Springs and made off with both gas and electric space heaters.

It's the job of the chairman of our two major political parties to claim credit for whatever is right and proper, and to attack the other as the possible organization as author of whatever is wrong and improper. Here, you see, is advice of the people's organization as author of its very worst. If merchandise were advertised as loosely and as extravagant claims made for various items as the politicians do—the old Federal Trade Commission would call a quick halt . . . maybe put 'em out of business. Politicians, however, have a sort of "license" to out-talk a circus sideshow barker. (Did you say something about intellectual honesty?)

With the ever-increasing number of students for public schools, from kindergarten to university, something eventually will have to be done to make more efficient use of their physical assets. More school terms, on a year-round basis, elimination of non-essentials from the curriculum are two important phases of the problem that will have to be solved. Taxpayers are approaching a state of rebellion.

A radio broadcaster for the UAW, living in nearby Flint, recently was fired because he broadcast arguments in support of a state of rebellion. (See THIS & THAT, Page 8-A)

Human society, from time immemorial, has witnessed its creators, its dreamers, its reformers . . . persons who were not satisfied with certain phases of living, and wanted "to do something about it." Without many of these people society certainly would not have made the advances it has. There also have been those, selfish such persons, they must be guarded against.

BOTH YEAR—NO. 52

The Birmingham Eccentric

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



Town Hall Gets Stewart Alsop, Oleg Cassini Signing of Pair Completes 1958-59 Season Program

Stewart Alsop, co-author with his brother Joseph of the newspaper column "Matters of Fact," and Oleg Cassini, fashion designer of Paris, Rome, Hollywood and New York, who has an independent philosophy about women's clothes, have been signed up to appear on Birmingham Town Hall next year.

These two speakers, added to a roster already including Cornelia Otis Skinner, Madame Patti, Alistair Cooke and Arthur C. Clarke, complete the six-lecture series which is presented in duplicate on Thursdays and Fridays at 11 a. m. in the Birmingham theatre. It is sponsored by St. Anne's guild of St. James' Episcopal church, and all proceeds are devoted to church and charitable works.

The Town Hall office announced yesterday that all tickets have been sold for their 1958-59 season. Stewart Alsop, a great-nephew of Theodore Roosevelt, graduate of Groton and Yale, winner of military medals for machine-gun platoon leadership in Italy and parachute exploits behind the lines in France during the last war, travels constantly to see for himself the conditions and affairs about which he and his brother write in their column.

THEIR JOINT authorship has won high awards for "best interpretation of foreign news" and "best consistent reporting from abroad." The Alsops also write frequently for magazines, notably the Saturday Evening Post and Harpers, and have won awards in that field also.

Oleg Cassini, born in Paris, sketch artist for Patou at the outset of his career, opened his own salon in Rome at 20. He then came to the United States to design for Jo Copeland and other houses and later became top designer for a major Hollywood studio, where he created the clothes for 30 important motion pictures and several Broadway productions.

He believes in simplicity and wearability and the provocative yet very American "Cassini Look" stems from his philosophy that women should primarily dress for men and that the first aim of a dress is to flatter the figure.

Youths Admit Area Garages

Area police are clearing 75 to 100 garage breaking and entering cases from their files since the arrest at 5:30 a. m. Saturday of two Birmingham youths.

The pair were seen leaving a home in Troy, and a description of their car was radioed to all area police. A short time later the Oakland county sheriff's department stopped Jack Wells, 20, of 1653 Bates, and Herbert Kannel, 17, of 112 Ruffner, at the corner of Pierce and Bird streets in Birmingham.

They were arraigned in Lake Orion justice court on charges of larceny from a motor vehicle. The first arrest was made by Gerald Gravin, 20, of 2754 Hartline, Troy; Allen Arner, 18, of 2922 Park street, Birmingham; and Kay Hill, 18, of 708 Davis street, Birmingham.

THE YOUTHS' admissions have cleared up the series of garage breakings and January thefts in Birmingham, Southfield and Bloomfield townships, and Troy. State were items ranging from food, clothing and money to cameras, tools, beer, golf clubs, plus \$400 worth of liquor from one garage.

The five youths are now held in Birmingham police custody in Oakland county jail, and police are seeking warrants for the arrest of three other youths implicated. Det. Lt. Merlin Holmquist said one of the three had fled the state, and a second was now in the U. S. Army.

HE SAID THE arrests had cleared up all of the recent garage lootings in Birmingham, and the breaking and entering of several homes as well. He said \$80 cash had been taken from a Puritan Norman home. Bloomfield township Police Chief Norman Dehake said most of the cases there occurred in the Westchester area. He added that several cases of beer had been stolen from garages since the youths' arrest Saturday, indicating another gang may now be in operation.

Board of Review Meets March 10-11

Tax assessment rolls will be publicly reviewed March 10 and 11 in the auditorium of the city auditor's office, from 9 a. m. to 12 noon and from 1:30 to 4 p. m. each day.

The three-member board includes Arthur Hinkley, 1060 Woodlea, and P. C. Burnett, 563 Hanna. Hinkley is president of the Detroit board of commerce and Burnett is an assistant cashier with the Detroit Trust company's Hamilton branch.

City Commission, Library Board Candidates File

No new nominating petitions for the April 7 city election were filed by Saturday's deadline, leaving a field of three candidates, John S. O'Gorman, William H. Merrill and Harry M. Denyes, Jr., in the running for two vacancies on the city commission.

O'Gorman is a former commissioner, Merrill is a member of the city planning board, and Denyes is an incumbent.

Three candidates filed for the library board's vacant seats: Edwin S. Snyder, and James E. Tobin. With only three seats at 112 Ruffner, at the corner of Pierce and Bird streets in Birmingham.

Kass and Snyder were appointed to the board following resignations by Merrill Adams and Mrs. John Lambie in 1956 and last spring, and Snyder and Tobin were appointed after the death of Harry Allen and is a candidate for Allen's two-year unexpired term.

Rechecking State Attitude on US-10 Access Drives

Whether the state highway department will participate in cost of US-10 access drives between Lincoln and 14 Mile is being rechecked by Birmingham city officials.

In a letter this week from Lansing, the state said it would pay 25 per cent of such drives on Hunter boulevard, former Commissioner Charles M. Ziegler had committed his administration to costs of the drives south of Lincoln.

The Birmingham city commission is being urged to halt the US-10 access drive project, which would be permitted to continue through the US-10 island, and merge with Woodward traffic.

A divider strip would be extended south to Lincoln to better separate Hunter and Woodward traffic. The divider would use a new lane to merge with US-10 traffic.

No-Contest Ballot

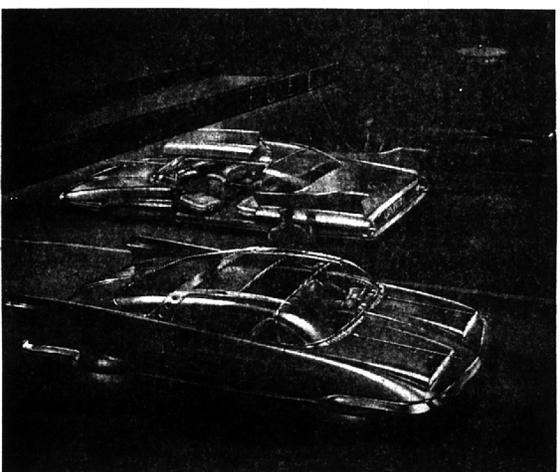
Bloomfield Hills city commission incumbents James Bereford and Henry L. Woolfenden virtually are assured re-election by a no-contest nomination petition were filed with the clerk by the deadline until April 8, 1959, to no other issues are on the ballot.



Area to be Represented in New Embassy

With her latest completed work beside her, Mrs. Leo Hagan works on a portrait of her children at the studio in her home at 244 Townsend, Birmingham. Adele Hagan painted the portrait of her uncle at right at his request, and the large oil painting will be hung in the new American embassy now under construction in England. The new embassy was designed by another Birmingham area artist, Architect Eero Saarinen. Mrs. Hagan's uncle, Walter Gifford, was formerly American Ambassador to England. He is the retired president of American Bell Telephone company, and lives in Connecticut. The portrait was painted from a photograph.

FRIDAY'S FAVORABLE senate action was due primarily to information The Birmingham Eccentric provided him, and which he took to the other members in a seat-by-seat information campaign, said Oakland's Senator L. Harvey Lodge of Drayton Plains.



Local Designer Predicts Flying Car

The U. S. Navy's flying platform gave local product design consultant Carl Reynolds the idea for this flying car of the future which aroused nationwide interest last week. Reynolds, of 784 Shepard drive, Birmingham, says the car would have no wheels, but would fly at about two feet above ground. For parking, it could be steered sideways by the gas turbine driven ducted fans which keep it above ground. The car would settle to the ground gradually as the mechanism slows to a stop. Reports that the car would fly to a height of 100 feet are erroneous, Reynolds said. "It wouldn't be capable of such maneuvers as flying over fences, for legal reasons of property rights," Reynolds explained.

SEN. LODGE said he was aided greatly in his effort by Sen. Elmer B. Roberts, who introduced the bill in the senate appropriations committee. Bills similar to those passed by the senate and now under house consideration have been introduced in either of the two chambers. Opponents' principal reason was that they believed more accidents would be caused by the new procedure than under the old.

School Bus Bill Gets Senate OK; Up to House Now

Eccentric's Aid Provided Margin, Says Sen. Lodge

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL Managing Editor

Untold numbers of Michigan school children may get a new lease on life next week if the state's house of representatives approves a vehicle code amendment that would stop oncoming traffic whenever school buses load or unload students.

In an unexpected but welcome turn of events Friday, the Michigan senate approved the measure, 24 to 6. It was sent to the house, and referred to the judiciary committee.

Birmingham-Bloomfield's representative, Farrell E. Roberts, is a member of this committee. Earlier in the session he had introduced a similar bill. It is this bill, presently on the floor of the house, which will come up sometime next week for a vote, Farrell expects.

The Eccentric's furnishing of charts and information on 17 deaths—particularly the two from the Bloomfield Hills school district—was invaluable. Without it, seriously believe the bill would not have passed," Lodge told The Eccentric Monday afternoon.

A week earlier, the senate had voted 15-14 to return the amendment to committee, where it was to be pigeonholed.

But Sen. Lodge succeeded in having it reconsidered, and kept on the senate calendar for a week more. This time it was with an overwhelming majority.

ROBERTS SAID he welcomes formal resolutions by local groups of supervisors' legislative committee in the next several days, and if it's the bill for the public good benefit, I wish they'd pass an emergency resolution and get it to me right away." Roberts said.

"I will use it in my efforts to get the bill passed."

IN THE PAST 10 years, according to state police statistics, 17 children have been killed getting on or off school buses. Ten of these fatalities involved oncoming cars which under present law do not have to come to a halt.

Two of these deaths involved Bloomfield Hills elementary school students. Michigan and Connecticut are the only two states which do not require oncoming traffic to halt for loading or unloading school buses. Only cars approaching from the rear must stop.

Traffic would only halt outside corporate limits and on two-lane highways and roads, according to the senate and proposed house bills.

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THE ECCENTRIC more than a year ago urged the legislature to enact more adequate school bus safety regulations. The urging came immediately after a Bloomfield Hills elementary school boy lost his right leg as the result of an accident. He had gotten off the bus, waited for traffic from the rear to clear, then stepped into the path of an oncoming car.

A number of Birmingham and Bloomfield organized PTAs, Birmingham and Bloomfield school superintendents, the county board of supervisors' legislative committee—all have gone on record supporting the bus safety amendment.



JA Keeps Them Busy

Keeping company finances in the black are these teenage businessmen employed by Maple-Wood Enterprises, a Birmingham Junior Achievement company. The small corporation manufactures Caddy-O, an aluminum golfer's aid which holds golf tees, score pad and pencil and cigarettes. Part of the 20-member firm are pictured here with one of the advisers, Richard Gibson, 927 Ann, president of the counselling firm, Birmingham Kiwanis club. L-R are Lyn Scherer, 16, of 1225 Chesterfield; Elizabeth Schulte, 17, of 1623 Webster; Bob Downie, 17, Berkley; Gibson, and Geraldine Harris, 17, of 1848 Humphrey. Caddy-O sells for around \$1.75. Junior Achievement is now in the midst of a metropolitan Detroit fund raising campaign. E. L. Burkhardt, 884 Oakland, personnel director of Vickers, Inc., is finance committee chairman.



Reset Hearing On New Zone Law To Allow Changes

To allow time to make last-minute revisions called for in proposed new Birmingham zone law, city commissioners rescheduled the formal hearing on the law which it came up for hearing Monday night. New hearing date is March 17.

City planner Herbert Herzberg outlined changes which city commissioners and plan board members agreed should be incorporated in the law. The two bodies agreed on the changes at their own discussion of the law on Wednesday night last week.

'57 Report Shows Crime On Increase

Crime was on the increase in Birmingham last year, according to the detailed annual report released last week by Birmingham Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley.

The 37-man local police force's activities were at an all-time high in 1957, Moxley's report said. Though juvenile arrests rose approximately 25 per cent, Moxley explained that out of town juveniles were responsible for the increase. He said the number of juveniles for criminal offenses dropped 100 per cent last year, while out-of-town juveniles' arrests rose over 100 per cent.

MAJOR CRIMES increased 17 per cent over 1956. Also higher in 1957 was the number of reports of rape, robbery, burglary and larceny (under \$50).

Compared to none in 1956, two criminal homicides occurred in the city in 1957. They were the fatal stabbing of Elizabeth Hutton Shepherd, for which she was acquitted, and Sgt. Richard E. Brown's shooting of a bandit in self-defense, for which he was cleared.

Of the 9318 total complaints received by police, 1176 involved dogs and cats.

STRICTLY FRESH

Most uncomplimentary thing you can say about a woman: she looks good in one of the new sack dresses.

A "yes" man is lacking, usually, in know-how.

Follow me when you say that his midget car hasn't frozen up on you during the winter. Keeps it under his pillow at night.

Some men never argue with their wives. Good thing, she looks good to speak up once in a while.

All makes of lower writing mattresses can be reduced from 18 feet to 2 1/2 feet.

