

# THE BILLBOARD

BLOOMFIELD HILLS HIGH



By Tom Manhard

## Washington Here They Come!

"Let's see—where did I put that?" "Mom, where is my slip?" "I don't care if he does want to go too—get him out of my suitcase!"

These crises are no doubt exciting all through the homes of BHS seniors who are hastily preparing for the annual trek to Washington. There are only a few days left before the members of the senior class drive out to Willow Run, happily board three Capital Airline Viscounts and wing their way to the Nation's capital—climaxing the anticipation that has been building up ever since the seniors were bowly freshmen.

SEVERAL MONTHS ago, when the trip fever was just starting, the senior class advisors, Mr. Trot and Miss Geerlings, called the class together and outlined the basic itinerary.

The class was informed that once again the trip would be made by air—but lo! an innovation—not just an innovation, but a real one—Fete-a-Viscount that only takes two hours from Detroit to Washington!

This was great, but there were plenty other advantages too—staying at the Ambassador Hotel—visiting the Naval Academy—Annapolis—a romantic moonlight cruise on the Patomac—boy! Plenty advantages.

MANY OF THE SENIORS earned their trip money during their junior and senior years by selling candy and magazine subscriptions, and so, did not have to make up the difference in their fare. In fact one of the girls, Phil Drummond, had money left over (I don't know tho—she's also the class treasurer).

The full fare was quite nominal actually, only \$125 for the four day trip, and there was enough money in the class treasury to send Fete-a-Viscount, our exchange student from Germany, on the trip also, to the happiness of everyone, including Peter.

ALL IN ALL, the trip should be just as successful as in previous years. Of course, the chaperones will be hovering close around their flock, shielding them from temptation in the Big City, but in all seriousness, the class is happy to have as its chaperones this year: Mr. Velkoff, Miss Deschaine, Mr. Murray, Mr. Trot, and last but not least, Miss Geerlings.

## BHS Student Wins Ford Scholarship

A Birmingham high school student has been named one of 70 scholarship winners in the Ford Motor Company Fund's 1959 competition.

Philip R. Brown, 1321 Yorkshire, was notified Easter Sunday by a personal telegram from Henry Ford II, president of the Fund.

Scholarships are awarded to sons and daughters of Ford employees. They provide payment of tuition, academic fees, plus 80 per cent of normal living costs.

## Safety Course Set

Oakland County chapter of American Red Cross is holding water safety instructor training course, April 6, 8, 13, 15 and 20 thru 24 inclusive from 7 to 10 p.m. at Pontiac Northern high school, 1051 Arlene street, P. Mark Smith of Birmingham will be the instructor for the first group.

# Bird Census Explained By Local Naturalist

Why bother with a bird census? Isn't it enough that our feathered friends come and go with the seasons, sing their songs, court, build nests, and produce their young who go on with the same cycle?

Walter P. Nickell, naturalist at Cranbrook Institute of Science, says that while any such labor is basically motivated by curiosity, there are good reasons to inventory our bird populations.

Without a periodic census we cannot know whether a species is becoming more rare or more common, nor have a basis for judging whether reduction of a population is part of a natural cycle, of indiscriminate use of poisons, of hunting pressure, or of change in the character of the country.

SO IT TURNS OUT there are 25 active Audubon banders, observers, and census takers in this area who tabulate the spring and fall migrations to determine what birds are here, when they come, and in what relative abundance.

Some February, they begin a nesting bird census, which starts with the great horned owl, continues into October when the nesting season for all birds is over in this region. Some observers, however, check birds the year around through their private feeding stations or banding traps.

The Audubon census area covers the counties of Oakland, Wayne, Monroe, St. Clair and Macomb in Michigan; Lambton, Kent and Essex in Ontario. Of these our own county, Oakland, has made the best single survey.

IN 1958 the 25 observers made breeding records of 3,283 pairs of birds from 84 species. What did they find? For one thing, we know that the familiar robin has been

at a very low ebb for several years, which was particularly noticeable last summer when people in the vicinity complained they had seen no robins at all.

Nickell found no nests on the Cranbrook grounds where 25 to 30 used to exist. Also, he found only one nest in Michigan and one in Ontario last year. A total of only 13 were found in the region.

Why? Although spring was late last year and there were ice storms in the path of the migrants, Nickell says the only reasonable conclusion is that DDT has killed large numbers of birds. He has examined birds of 50 species, dead or dying from this poison.

COLD AND INCLEMENT weather for two spring seasons has also been responsible for a greatly reduced number of the small birds: phoebe, robin, bluebird and chipping sparrow.

Drainage and the subsequent drying of the marshes has been a major factor in reducing the population of herons and bitterns for the last two years, also the low lake levels, the lowest in 23 years.

Can anything be done about it? Dr. Robert T. Hart, institute director, says, "Yes, through citizen interest. Before you spray for em-diseases, consider the safest method."



These Audubon census takers were busy at Cranbrook Institute of Science recently tabulating migration material for a quarterly report to the Audubon Society. There are 25 active Audubon banders, observers and census takers in this area. Left to right are: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wright,

Neil T. Kelley, Walter P. Nickel (standing), Douglas S. Middleton, Mrs. Harriet R. Woolfenden (standing), Douglas S. Middleton, Elsie W. Townsend, Mrs. Neil T. Kelley, Miss Helen Blanchet.

Do not condone aerial sprays with DDT against mosquitoes, but do not countenance sprays along the roadways, by which some of the best wildlife cover is destroyed."

THE UPSETS caused by weather and poisons are of intense interest to the scientist, who goes on tabulating and recording and drawing his conclusions, which often are put to some practical use.

Most people in the vicinity of Cranbrook know many good reasons for becoming members of the Institute of Science: members' lecture and film programs, nature study walks, the monthly newsletter, observatory and planetarium demonstrations, Members' Nights,

than we presently have, and some of the heron group would undoubtedly be extinct."

Oakland County has the highest percentage of nesting birds in the Audubon survey, with 118 species out of a 399 total of migrants and nesting birds in the entire state of Michigan. Why? Because we still have a greater variety of habitat, including many wild areas, we are the largest county, and harbor the largest number of census takers.

THESE, incidentally, cover a wide range of professions and interests: engineers, naturalists, farmers, educators, housewives, students, Oakland county members include Ralph A. O'Reilly Jr., an

engineer at General Motors; Lee M. Hundley, biology teacher at Bloomfield Hills High School; Wilfred Botham, farmer; Norman Chesterfield, milk farmer; Lawrence Lenz, procurement engineer with Chevrolet, whose wife writes the annual banding survey. This group, which has numbered 75 observers over the years, meets several times between fall and spring at Cranbrook Institute of Science, to tabulate migration material for quarterly reports to the Audubon Society, two on fall and spring migration, one on banding, one on nesting. Six of these observers also participate in Nickell's field work, which lasts all summer.

## Troy High Students In Math Program

Monica Wynne and John Duncan, both Troy High juniors, have been selected for the senior demonstration class that will run concurrently with the summer institute for high school and college mathematics teachers.

The event is sponsored by the National Science Foundation and will be held at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.

## Dearborn Center Programs to be Outlined Here

Educational opportunities to be made available through the University of Michigan's new Dearborn center will be outlined at two meetings scheduled in Birmingham on Wednesday, April 8.

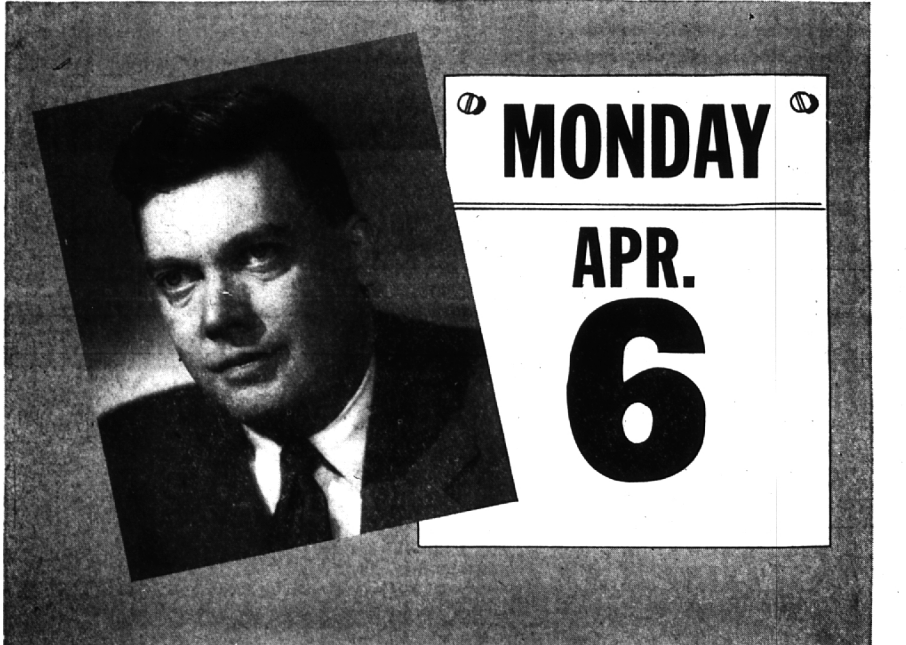
The meetings will be held at 3:15 and 8 p.m. in the Little Theater. Two representatives of the university's admissions office, Director Clyde Vroman and Admissions Counselor John T. Prentice, Jr., will be present for both the afternoon and evening meetings.

They will be joined for the evening program by U-M Vice President William E. Storton, director of the Dearborn center.

THE MEETINGS in Birmingham are part of a series of 23 which are being held throughout the Detroit metropolitan area. All persons interested in any way in the Dearborn Center, will be welcomed at either Birmingham meeting. A special invitation is extended to prospective students and their parents.

Provided the legislature makes a specific appropriation to cover Dearborn center operations, the university plans to open the center this fall with programs at the junior, senior and graduate level in business administration, engineering and the liberal arts and sciences.

ADVERTISEMENT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



# MONDAY APR. 6

# VOTE FOR JAMES C. ALLEN Circuit Court Judge

CONTINUE A TRADITION OF FOUR GENERATIONS OF SERVICE TO OAKLAND COUNTY

Southfield City Attorney • Birmingham City Commissioner • Mayor of Birmingham • University of Michigan, B.A., LL.B. Commissioner, Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission • Over 15 years legal practice.

### WON'T YOU JOIN US?

- Marion Allen
- Jack & Bob Allen
- Howard Arnold
- Morris & Harriet Arnowitz
- Mattie Baker
- William A. & Lawrence Best
- Norman & Frances Boston
- Wills & Ruby Brewer
- Salvatore Brun
- Mildred Burns
- Robert G. & Grace Campbell
- Mit & Elizabeth Coulson
- John Emery
- Robert L. Fenton
- Leonard Field
- George F. Fisk
- W. Galbraith
- O. D. Gilmore
- James M. & Sallie Ginn
- Alexander & Charlotte Gow
- Frank & Beatrice Halsema
- Alan & Gloria Harris
- Earl & Joyce Horvath
- Gordon & Paula Harrison
- John H. & Lillian Hoppin
- Earl & Joyce Horvath
- William & Nancy Hutchins
- John E. & Elizabeth Ingraham
- John E. Kronenberg
- Rixanne Lambie
- Miss Clara Lane
- Arthur Law
- James P. & Betty Lawson
- Donald & Jean Lee
- Richard Van Dusen
- Stephen & Nancy Bauer
- Noel & Sue Buckner
- David Levinson
- Jan Loud
- Fenton & Jeannie Ludtke
- John E. McClellan
- William & Jean McDonnell
- Don & Pat McCre
- Paul W. McGovern
- Harry & Mary McGowan
- John & Betty McVay
- Leo & Mae Mesinger
- William Merrill
- Nathan & Esther Milstein
- Thomas Montgomery
- Jack & Faye Moskowitz
- Simone Nemon
- Dorothy Olson
- Gordon & Harriet Phillips
- Gordon & Connie Pitcher
- P. K. Rikshim
- Carlo G. Richardson
- Anthony & Ann Ripley
- Dorothy K. Roosevelt
- Charles & Louise Renfrew
- Jacqueline & Carl Siegel
- Frank & Rose Sierawski
- Assa Smith
- Jean L. Smith
- Paul Smith
- Morris Stein
- Mayor & Mrs. Donald L. Swenson
- Garland Tarr
- Merle P. Voss
- Christopher M. Ward
- Harry Weberman



## A Sure Sign of Spring!

Even though spring has been "here and there," these four Beverly Hills youngsters take advantage of a sunny afternoon to test jump rope ability. The only noticeable change in technique is the use of a new synthetic rope. Jumping for spring is "nearly here" are (left to right)

Janet Palmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Palmer; Margaret Vibbert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vibbert; Patty Muradian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nishon V. Muradian; and Sandy Weston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Weston.