

'Trouble Shooter' Takes New Aim

By DOROTHY ZATELL
Lathrup Correspondent

SOUTHFIELD—With a reputation for trouble shooting, Southfield City Administrator Robert J. McNutt admits he finds the "shooting" good in the City of Southfield.

He began his target practice on Southfield's troubles the first of the year, when he resigned the post of Harper Woods city manager to take over as the new city's second administrator.

We asked if he found his new job challenging, McNutt agreed it was that, and more.

THE CITY NOW faces four major problems: water, sewers, streets and zoning—McNutt said. Over his desk in the city offices is a map, a constant reminder of the water problems at hand. Considering the extent of the city and the few thin red lines marking water supplies, Southfield is dry.

With a population of 14,000 dwellings, the city has only 4,700 customers receiving Detroit water. There are four community wells serving about 900 families. All other residents must rely on private wells, ranging from 15 to 190 feet in depth, for their water supply.

SEWERS AND drainage present even a greater problem. A battle rages over the Eight Mile

road drain. The 12-Town and Evergreen interceptor are still to come.

Heightening the street problem, McNutt said, is the fact that the city's road maintenance equipment inherited from the township, is inadequate. Purchase of a single large road machine can take a bite as high as \$30,000 from the budget.

On Southfield zoning troubles, McNutt believes the city must control development through zoning to maintain a rural atmosphere. He believes that non-conforming uses must be watched carefully. Lately he has been eyeing private signs that clutter public rights of way.

"OF COURSE, we are having growing pains," says McNutt. "We have a city starting from scratch in many ways, but we will work things out administrative-wise and operation-wise."

"As we iron out these problems," he said, "we will develop a city our people will want to live in."

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MARSHALL H. WOLFE: No previous public office held.

"I have been preaching good government for a long time and now wish to put words into action. I am an idealist. I wish to make sure we get the most value for our tax dollar and yet promote the township to one of the most desirable communities in this country. These things can be accomplished through a program of 'good government' and substitute common sense."

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Feb. 5, 1959

THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC 5-D

People's Column

Says Schools

Must Be Judged In Many Ways

To The Editor:

It has been with great interest that many have followed the articles by Mr. Graupner. The very fact that he has expressed opinions quite different from the usual laudatory ones is commendable. There should be more participation by experts in guiding the educational needs of Bloomfield Hills Schools. This suggestion is excellent, but it is not enough, and it marks my point of departure from the ideas presented by Mr. Graupner.

The finding of experts provide one criterion of evaluation of school needs, but the findings are extremely restricted if they are limited to Mr. Graupner's notion of "less teaching, more learning, and more home study." Any evaluation of a school system or curriculum, if it is to be truly representative or valid, must include criteria and information regarding the needs of the community, and the local community, and the findings of specialists.

It is only after analysis of the latter that one must ask: Are children graded according to concepts generally agreed upon? Are they also being graded on the basis of the local community, and the findings of specialists?

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EVEN THOUGH EXPERTS may assist a community, there is a strong need for contributions and analysis from the community itself. The evidence indicates that Bloomfield Hills Schools have very active P.T.O. groups, and that parents are encouraged to participate in educational activities such as the Citizen's Advisory Committee.

What, then, is this concept of "New Thinking"? Is new thinking the process that defeats the continuation of a direly needed educational program? Does it suggest that children must pay the unfair penalty of half-day sessions and a drastically curtailed educational program? It is designed to offer parents an "out" or a "logical" reason for shirking their responsibility.

The real problem involved here is essentially the question of what we value most. In part, we value our children for their potential contributions as future citizens in a free democratic society. It is well that schools consider the future of their educational programs.

However, there is a perennial dilemma: how can schools predict future roles when society experiences dramatic rapid changes? Dr. Cunniff, (whose recent report I have read) and a host of other experts, if anything, would agree that the curriculum should be a continuous changing pattern to meet the pressing needs of our culture, and it should be rooted in the central values of that culture. However, if a school system anticipates and

is facing Bloomfield township are related to its growth. To solve them is simply to acknowledge them, but to remedy them requires that they be made known and understood by the residents and toward that end I would seek their solution."

JAMES E. GRISSON: No previous public office held.

"I want to obtain the experience and procedural knowledge incident to the office and to offer to the office the advantage of my close association with the theory of the law and its application."

"The most important problems

sincerely tries to keep abreast of this society in perpetual flux, it can change no more than that very society allows it to change.

I AM CERTAIN THAT any interested persons would agree that the history of the world? Who would challenge its dedication to the high purpose of helping each and every boy and girl develop into the best that he is capable of becoming? Who would deny that the schools are the common denominator of the American way of life and the greatest single unifying force at a time when so many other forces tend to divide us? In spite of the fact that we come from a different religious, political and economic background, we have a common loyalty and take in our American ideals, institutions, and freedoms.

A high quality program requires that a class size be such that it allows the teacher adequate time for groupings and regrouping, and a variety of purposes. In short, one does not treat 1000 children as though they were 1000 individuals. Admittedly, "growing pains" are evident, but the need for just maintenance of the existing curriculum and a well-rounded program are crucial—and urgent!

CAN WE EVER VALUE the educational future and happiness of children in terms of dollars and cents, when at the same time, people will not hesitate to spend—far in excess of the millage rate—on such things as television sets, cocktail parties, cigarettes, and other luxuries? Education is often at the mercy of an apathetic public who receive more for their money than any other service rendered. The greatest tragedy is the knowledge that even though the needs can be demonstrated, the response to these needs becomes a negative plea for "new thinking."

If operating and building costs are not provided, I doubt whether many of our youngsters will have the opportunity to think at all. The crucial question remains: which do we value most—the sound education of a child for a happy future, or the frivolous wastes of material values?

The Bloomfield Hills School system, like any other school system, or even industry, is not perfect by any means. Certainly, the way to improve our schools is not to deprive our children of the basic tools of education. Depriving the schools of money will accomplish nothing more than the lowering of teacher morale standards and increased pressures which will destroy the effort of years of hard work accomplished by the community as a whole. Whether they are young or old thinkers, I doubt that a thoughtful, progressive community such as Bloomfield Hills will deliberately turn their backs to the needs of their children.

Sincerely yours,
GEORGE FARRAH
2509 Colby Lane
Birmingham

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Barbara Reason—MI 4-4411

Westchester WNFGA To Name New Officers

WESTCHESTER—Westchester WNFGA held its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. John A. McCall of Dalebrook lane. Because election of officers is coming up, a nominating committee was selected. Nominating committee members are Mrs. Robert Dewart, Mrs. Byron Terriere, Mrs. Ed Shlee and Mrs. Robert Dewart.

Guests at the meeting were Mrs. John Garner, Mrs. Stanley Buckley and Mrs. Eugene Hampton. A member is Mrs. Melvin W. Goodell. The club discussed the coming bridge party at 8 p.m., March 31 at the Hospitality House at Northland. Reservations can be made by contacting Mrs. Dewart.

A coffee was given by Mrs. Sol Garber in her home on Westbourne court yesterday. Mrs. Garber hopes to form an art group.

TOLOGANS faced up and down the Westchester.

A dinner party was given Jan. 31 by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Far-218 got together Jan. 29 for a roll in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Powell of Chicago. Guests at the home of the Henry C. Detlefs of Bellevue Trail. Afterwards the Mr. and Mrs. Henry Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. David Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Pamir Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Emory Peterson.

James Bostwicks Return From Holiday in New York

BERKSHIRES—New York was the Jan. 29 destination of Mr. and Mrs. James Bostwick of Old Mill road. It was a business trip for Bostwick and strictly pleasure for Mrs. Bostwick. After checking in at the Sheridan East, they had cocktails and dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Dick Stark, the television personality.

Friday they were met by friends, Mr. and Mrs. Overeide. Grandchildren from Washington, who joined them for the weekend.

Saturday evening the foursome went to see "The Belle Are Ringing" which was followed with a stop at Toots Shores. The Bostwicks returned home Sunday evening.

Busy, busy, busy are the words for Mrs. Robert Dent's of Wedgewood road. She will be modeling in the fashion show given by Bloomfield Country Day school Feb. 14 at the school. Fashions will be by Julia's in the Fisher Building, Fur by Roberts, shoes by I. Miller, teen clothes by the Village Store of Birmingham and children's apparel by the Wee Moderns. Following the show there will be a tea. Anyone interested in attending the show should contact Mrs. Wentyl.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Fecarty recently entertained at a dinner party in their home on Wedgewood road. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Clair Le-Rol Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. Art Gramshaw and Mr. and Mrs. John Kioskie both from Dearborn and J. Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Webster returned home Sunday after a two-week vacation in Fort Lauderdale. Guests were Mrs. Walter Rodger, the Jolly Rodger is where they Mrs. Hope Clarke. Mrs. Harber have their hats.

Fireplaces Warm Town Time Forgot

FRANKLIN—With icy side roads making hills difficult to navigate, suburbia's social life was put in deep-freeze this past week. Aside from the Spartan spirit that bestirs bread-winners to forage for their families and motivates dedicated doers to pursue their noble projects... the rest of us capitulated to self-preservation and a cozy fireplace.

Given a baptism of ice, John and Nancy Donaldson have spent their first two weeks as new residents in Franklin valiantly struggling to maneuver their hill driveway on Wellington road.

Here from downtown Detroit with 2½-year-old son, John, Jr., and 1½-year-old daughter, Jane, the Donaldsons are settling things in the house that was "home" to a whole string of fine families, the Humphreys, the Mitts, the Irv Whites, the Chuck Moores and lastly the Charles Lenhas.

A hunter and wood-working enthusiast, Donaldson is with the Ludington News company in Detroit.

Winding up his campaign for Oakland county Circuit court judge, Wendell Brown and Mrs. B. have invited friends and well-wishers to join them Sunday for coffee at their Ardmore road home.

Mark Lackner launched himself into the teenage crowd by hosting a group of good buddies for lunch and a movie as he attained 13 years last Saturday.

Postponed last week because of difficult driving, cut scouts are expected to make good their plans for a dad-lad outing at Ivory Farm this Saturday morning.

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Findings

(Continued from Page 1-D)

a legal background, which I feel is certainly a basic need. The majority of our money problems will be solved in 1960 when the township will get a larger share of the Federal Highway funds population. But, an overall plan is needed."

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