TEN CENTS THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1959

SECTION E

'round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM MICHIGAN

WESTWOOD • BINGHAM FARMS • FRANKLIN • WOODCREEK FARMS • LATHRUP • BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • SOUTHFIELD CITY

S'field Township Eyes Settlement

SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP—Approval of the financial settlement with the City of Southfield neared Tuesday, when board members slated a special meeting Jan. 27 for a final decision.

SOUTHFIELD city approved the settlement figures Monday at their meeting. Based on a ratio of 74.8 per cent for the city and a 24.2 per cent for the township, auditors totaled $252,773 in equipment, buildings and land to be divided.

The township's slice amounts to $63,720. Southfield city's share is $189,053.

The township board will also consider fire protection and a salary-guide questionnaire at the special meeting.

IN OTHER action, the board voted to invest $175,000 of water department funds in six month treasury bills. A total of $236,000 as of Dec. 30 was registered in the fund.

Township Supervisor Hugh G. Allerton, Jr., recommended the investment even though water department jurisdiction may be shifted in the future. Board members agreed that the money should be "put to work."

They also voted to send $60,000 of special assessment money out for investment. Beechwood, Beverly Hills No. 1 and Beverly Hills No. 3 should prosper from the venture.

COUNTY PUBLIC works easement requests brought about much map reading and discussion when Allerton informed the board members that a slice of land 24 feet across the township hall's 150 frontage would have to make way for the Evergreen interceptor.

Another easement in front of the 10 Mile road-Evergreen fire hall will run 16 feet deep across the frontage of the station.

People's Column

Urges Schools For Learning, Not Teaching

EDITOR'S NOTE: The man who urged Bloomfield Hills school district voters to encourage "new thinking" by the school board, Fred W. Graupner, is a teacher in the Detroit schools. Since voters turned down the school district's bid for increased tax millage to pay for additional teachers, Graupner is sending a series of "Letters to the Editor" of The Birmingham Eccentric. He states he is presently formulating a letter with his recommendations on measures the Bloomfield Hills school board should adopt.

TO THE EDITOR:

Evidently the "No" vote on the recent millage and bond proposals in the Bloomfield school district did not result in constructive "New Thinking."

Our leading educators have a different answer. Recently Dr. John A. Hannah, president of Michigan State University, appointed five leading educators to meet in four seminars at Oakland university. The purpose was to determine the type of university for this area. The meetings have been held and the report given. Our board of education should secure a copy of this report and study it. It suggests an institute of learning with less teaching, more library work and more home study.

A committee for the six-county Metropolitan Detroit area has been appointed to investigate the need for community colleges. It has 85 members, educators, as this is an educational problem.

HOW GOOD is your High School" is the title of an article in Jan. 9 U.S. News and World Report. This study is by noted educators and was financed by Car-

(See SCHOOLS, Page 6-E)

Ask Road Closing At 14 Mile Exit

FRANKLIN—Residents of Captain's lane petitioned the Franklin council to close the western egress at 14 Mile road, Monday night.

Signed by 15 residents, the petition states that the short curved road is being used excessively by through traffic going into the village.

The Council instructed Councilman Eugene Kaess, safety and traffic director, to make a recommendation at the next regular council meeting.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

'Small Town D. A.' Comes to Town

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Birmingham and Bloomfield community leaders filled the Hunt room at Kingsley inn Friday night at a private reception in honor of State Supreme Court Justice John D. Voelker. The affable justice from Ishpeming talks with Mrs. James M. Wienner (left) of 3483 Sutton place, Birmingham, and Mrs. William Clemmons, of 455 S. Williamsbury, chairman of the Bloomfield Democratic club which gave the reception for Voelker, author of "Small Town D.A." and "Anatomy of a Murder." It was the first social function of the newly-organized club. (See story on page 1-A.)

Oops! Pardon! Right Work, But The Wrong School

SOUTHFIELD—The new high school's chimney nearly had its face lifted last week when workmen from the International Chimney corporation got their schools mixed.

With so many workmen buzzing around on the new addition to the high school, no one paid much attention to the scaffolding that went up around the chimney.

About $300 worth of labor later, someone called the mistake to the attention of the chimney fixers, who should have been at Lathrup school.

Monday the school board voted to send their regrets, but refused to pay the $300.

Franklin Officials Meet Public Apathy

Voter Wants on Sewers, Roads Still Undecided

FRANKLIN—Village officials Monday night were twice confronted with the problem of public apathy—the voter who didn't express a preference on two civic issues. The issues are Franklin's road financing problem, and village participation in the Evergreen interceptor sewer.

Village President Grant Sivier told the council Monday that the November Evergreen interceptor vote has been ruled inconclusive by bonding attorneys. Because 66 persons who cast a ballot neglected to record their vote on whether or not Franklin school should join the sewer authority, the village is denied participation in it.

A two-thirds majority of all votes cast March 9 must approve village participation before Franklin can join the authority.

THE SECOND issue, village roads, may be placed on ballots for the March 9 village election.

Though the councilmen wondered if the 186 replies to road questionnaires gave an adequately representative opinion, the officials reasoned that voters should have a chance to formally express themselves at the polls.

They unanimously approved placing a proposal for a tax of up to eight mills for road maintenance on the ballot. The councilmen agreed, however, that if late-arriving questionnaires show an overwhelming opinion against road taxes, the question might be dropped.

IN THE hope that more people would submit their completed forms, regardless of the stated deadline, councilmen agreed to consider late-comers' opinions.

Fifty of the returned road questionnaires indicated willingness to accept between two and seven-and-a-half mills tax for automatic dust control and improved road maintenance.

In his report on the tabulated questionnaires, Street Administrator Stanley Hunter said, "The comments revealed a lack of information and erroneous opinions. It's amazing how many think we are now paying a village tax. We aren't!"

SIVIER added that residents evidently didn't understand that special assessment districts for road improvement could be set up now. It is expected that a charter amendment on the March ballot will make it possible for the village to issue interest-bearing bonds to help pay for such construction over ten years. But the creation of a district is possible now, if residents petition the council and are prepared to pay the costs within five years.

Hunter said he felt residents living on perimeter roads, maintained by the county, felt no responsibility to the interior roads, since 20 of 63 who wanted no tax or change from present road conditions live on Inkster, 13 or 14 Mile roads.

Councilmen Edward Green and William Worcester interpreted the disappointingly small percentage of returns as indicating that Franklin residents were not as concerned about their roads as the council had been led to believe.

"CERTAINLY there is not enough sentiment for a tax at the present," Worcester said.

Green stated that he felt the questionnaire results were 'inadequate.' Questionnaires were sent brought unanimous approval of the village millage question.

Bloomfield A Safe Place, Reports Show

That Bloomfield township is a comparatively safe place to live was revealed in annual police and fire reports released this week. And that people know this and are continuing to flock to the area is substantiated by $13,000,000 worth of home building permits issued this year.

The permits covered 507 houses. Average cost was $25,000 per home, but permit figures are usually under actual cost.

According to Police Chief Norman Dehnke's report, the over-all crime rate in Bloomfield township was 40 to 50 per cent lower than other outlying townships. Fire Chief Ralph Hemmerly's figures show that again this year there were no fire fatalities.

FIRE LOSS on dwellings in '58 was reduced to $29,000 from $53,000 the previous year. Loss on buildings other than dwellings was $400 in comparison to $900,000 in '57. That figure was abnormally high, however, due to the costly fire at Kirk-In-the-Hills.

Grass fires accounted for 111 out of 288 fire runs made in the past 12 months. The fire department al-

(See REPORTS, Page 5-E)

Police Arrest Teen Gang In Burglaries

SOUTFIELD — Three teenagers will appear today before officials at the Pontiac court of no record on a series of burglary charges while four other youthful accomplices await action by the Pontiac juvenile court.

The teenage gang was uncovered last week when Southfield police investigated a robbery at the William Bertera home, 21751 Midway, Southfield.

LESLIE LAHNER, 18, of 17645 Cooley, Detroit, and two of the juveniles admitted entering the home about midnight Jan. 4 and taking a shotgun, .22 rifle, .38 revolver and a strongbox containing insurance papers and cash.

One boy dropped a glove, which police traced to the Lederle junior high school student. Through an investigation and cooperation of school officials, the guns were recovered.

FURTHER QUESTIONING cleared up seven other break-and-enter complaints in the Southfield area.

According to Southfield police, at least five more persons may be involved in the gang with bearing on an additional five or six burglary complaints.

APPROXIMATELY $100 cash and $200 worth of property was taken by the youths.

James Remosier, 18, of 20298 Westover, Southfield, and Frank Thomasick, 18, of 15106 Chatham, Detroit, and Lahner may be put on probation by the court, police said, with a provision that they can be prosecuted if involved in any more trouble.

Group in Franklin Seeks Candidates For Village Office

FRANKLIN—Satisfied that the results of last year's efforts have benefitted the community, the Franklin citizens' committee is reorganizing to obtain candidates for village offices in the March 9 election.

Meeting Wednesday at the Franklin Community church, the group consisted of current officers of every known organization in Franklin, or their representatives. They named as temporary chairman Nicholas Rosiello, last year's chairman.

The committee will seek qualified and interested residents to serve on the village council for the next two years. Councilmen whose terms are expiring are Jack Roberts, Don Hunter and William Worcester (completing the unfinished term of Robert Yingling).

Candidates' petitions must be filed with the village clerk by Feb. 21.

Bloomfield Township Plan Group Approved

The first step in obtaining a planning commission for Bloomfield township was taken Monday night at a meeting of the township board.

A motion to appoint a citizens' committee to study the advantages and disadvantages of an over-all master plan for the community was unanimously adopted by board members.

Five citizens will be appointed by Arno Hulet, township supervisor, after agreement to the formation of the study group is obtained from the township zoning board which meets Jan. 26.

MONDAY NIGHTS meeting was conducted before a larger than usual audience. With primary elections scheduled for Feb. 16, candidates for township offices were much in evidence as were representatives from various subdivision organizations.

Further action at the meeting included a raise in water rates from $10 to $12 per quarter to customers who have no meter installation. The move brings rates more in line with actual costs to the township. These customers will also be charged $5 per quarter toward having a meter furnished them by the township when they have paid in a cost of approximately $50.

FEB. 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. was set by the board for an open house at the new fire station at 1065 Westview. Pleased comments came from members of the board over the report that the first day the station acquired an inhalator it was used to save the life of a two-month-old baby.

Automatic renewal by the state of existing liquor licenses in the township was assured when the board offered no objection to their continuance.

For $8000 Economy, Westwood Planners Will Go Visiting

WESTWOOD—A do-it-yourself project on a village-wide scale is being embarked on by the Westwood village planning commission.

It will mean a savings of at least $8000 to the village whose residents will soon be receiving visits from members of the planning commission as they survey for a Westwood master plan.

After professional planning consultants told the Westwood planners that they would charge $8000 to $17,000 to prepare a master plan for the village, the planning commissioners voted last week to do the job, including a population survey, themselves.

EACH OF the nine members of the planning commission will call on every third house in an area other than the one in which he lives. The staggering task means each commissioner will contact about 90 homes before the March 1 deadline set for completion.

"This will help each member of the commission become more familiar with other sections of the village," explained Planning Commission Chairman Herbert Herzberg.

"This is going to be a tremendous task," said planning commission Secretary Herman J. Drazick, who said the group would begin canvassing Westwood's 2400 dwelling units immediately.

EACH OF the canvassers will cover an area containing approximately 270 homes. At each third house he will ask the householder for information about the number, occupation and age of residents, and where they shop.

Householders called on will be asked to give the same information, except for shopping facts, about their neighbors on either side.

The information will help the planners to forecast what the eventual population of Westwood will be, and what shopping facilities the community may need eventually. Population forecasts will be based on the per-acre population of already developed land.

"The present make-up of the commission and its members' present knowledge of planning is such," Chairman Herzberg said, "that they can do the planning themselves. We don't want to spend $8000 to make up that plan. We feel that we can save money, do the job faster, and learn a lot about our own community by doing it ourselves."

Herzberg, a graduate of Michigan state university where he majored in community planning, is Birmingham city planner.

Drazick said most of the planners would have to do their canvassing evenings and Saturdays.

Besides Drazick and Herzberg, other planning commission members are Clifford N. Wright, Oliver C. Lilly, John C. Secrest, Maynard Beukema, George W. Wright, Robert C. Engel, and Mrs. Maurice (Virginia) Rogers.

Herzberg said planning commissioners would welcome help on the extensive survey, and said interested groups or individuals should contact Village Clerk Alice Spencer at Westwood offices between 9 and 11 a.m. daily.

DEVELOPMENT of a master plan will guide the village planning commission and village council in deciding on zone change requests. The master, or comprehensive plan, also strengthens community cases in zoning suits.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC

New Birmingham B of E Member Has Been Selected 1-A
High Twelve Founder To Be Guest Speaker 7-B
Worker Volunteers For 19 Years 1-C
Term Paper Madness Sets in at BHHS 1-D
Local 'Red Wings' In Full Swing 8-E

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Feet Are Too Small

FRANKLIN—This one's a little large, decides ten-year-old Tyler Madge as he places a man-sized skate near the camera in a trying-on session preceding the Franklin Community association's annual skate exchange. Also trying a skate for size is Tyler's three-year-old sister, Janice. Used and outgrown skates will be on sale at Franklin Community church Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Len Madge, chairman of the youth activities group of Franklin community association, is conducting the sale. Madge, of 7045 Ten Hill road, Birmingham, said skates should be taken to the church cloak room through Friday. Skates donated outright will add revenue to the association's recreation program.

Westwood Councilman Won't Run

WESTWOOD — His decision not to run for another term on the Westwood village council was announced Tuesday by Robert G. Larsen, 32200 Arlington.

Larsen said job pressures made it impossible for him to consider another term.

Of his service on the council, Larsen said, "This has been one of the most enjoyable experiences I have had the pleasure of having."

"I THINK more people—even if they can only do it for one year —should become a member of some village governmental group," he said.

He added that he thought the council to date has "made great strides in establishing the village, getting along wonderfully with themselves, and also with the citizens."

Larsen is assistant principal of Cadillac school, Detroit. Like many in the teaching field, he holds two jobs, selling insurance on weekends and vacations.

HE WAS defeated by 60 votes in his bid for a seat on the first village council last spring. In June he took the council seat of Ted Sura, who resigned to become justice of the peace.

Four council vacancies will be filled in the March 9 village election. Two other council incumbents have announced their decision to run for re-election. A fourth, Dr. Douglas J. Wood, is still undecided.

Talk of the Towns

By JULIE CANDLER

Even my mother has trouble with zippers, she reports to me after seeing my column about back-zipper dresses. In it I reported that delivery men in Westwood are sometimes called upon to help women customers zip up dresses as the gals hurried to get ready for a luncheon or shopping trip.

But rather than seek the cleaning man's help, my mother once tied a string to the end of the zipper. Pulling the string over her shoulder got the zipper up all right. But then she couldn't get the knot untied. So she went out with a string hanging down her back.

BUT MY FRIEND Dean Coffin, of 1775 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, has found the solution, in fact several of them. Dean and I used to make movies together at Jam Handy organization (he was a big wheel and I was a flunky).

Here's his letter:

"Dear Mrs. Candler:

Actually your problem regarding zippers is quite easily solved. The way to handle this matter is to rig a large-ish safety pin on the end of a clothesline and flop this affair over a door, hanging the dress to it, connected at the zipper. That is to say, you place the safety pin through the hole in the zipper slide. Then, of course, the dress must be hung to this clothesline affair about three feet higher than it would normally appear when worn by you.

"THEN BRING a chair over to the door, or perhaps a small stepladder would do even better. From this stepladder you jump into the dress, and, naturally as you fall the last three feet to the floor, the clothesline connected to the shinbone—excuse me—connected to the safety pin will then pull the zipper up as you descend.

"An alternate version of this would be to take the clothesline with the safety pin attached and connect it to the zipper and run the clothesline to the pulley, at the far side of the room, returning one end of it to you. You then step into the dress, which is connected to the zipper, tie the clothesline, and lying down then on your stomach you pull on the end of the clothesline which runs across the end of the room to the pulley, and, of course, this line returning to the zipper will complete the operation.

"The only other way out of the matter is to go to a second-story window, raise the inside window and open the storm window, and then shout at your husband, who is obviously outside warming up the car just before you go out for dinner or wherever it is you are headed for in this zipper-type dress.

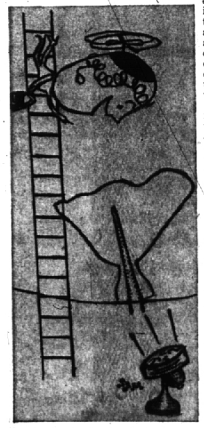
A FEW loud screams should be enough to attract his attention, which will bring him indoors and up to the second floor where he can do the zipping for you.

"I once knew a girl who was double-jointed at the shoulders and often think of her these days while I am warming up the car and receiving the signal from the second-floor window.

"If you need any additional help on this matter, we have quite a few automotive engineers in the Birmingham area who should be able to modify this basically sound system for zipping dresses up the back.

Cordially,
Dean Coffin"

Many thanks, Dean, from the delivery men and me.



Back Zippity-do-da

Bloomfield Slate Reveals Platform

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—Three candidates running as a slate for Bloomfield township's top offices this week announced the platform on which they will run in the Feb. 16 primary.

The candidates are Arthur J. Picotte, of 4019 Quarton road, who seeks the office of supervisor; Mrs. Margaret Begovich, of 1750 Ward, candidate for treasurer; and Harvey V. Beggs, of 5 Highland drive, running for clerk. The three are opposing incumbent Supervisor Arno Hulet, Treasurer Homer Case, and Clerk Robert F. Dudley, all of whom seek re-election.

Labelling it "a declaration of principles by Bloomfield candidates", the Picotte slate issued the following statement this week:

"The rapid change of the township from farmland to populated subdivisions requires a change to full time competent leaders.

AS CANDIDATES we are dedicated to:

"1. Greater economy and efficiency in the operation of the township government.

2. Cooperation and coordination between the township and numerous subdivisions and property owner associations, particularly in matters of zoning and the sub-

(See PLATFORM, Page 6-E)

Republicans Set 'Meet Candidates' Night in B'field

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — "Meet Your Candidate" night for Bloomfield township has been scheduled for 8 p.m. Feb. 5 by the Bloomfield township Republican committee.

Chairman of the committee, Mrs. Robert J. Eoff, Jr., of 5860 E. Millerway, said she is inviting all of the 18 candidates to speak briefly at the meeting at Bloomfield Hills high school cafeteria.

"We have made no endorsements whatever thus far" Mrs. Eoff said, "but we are sponsoring the 'meet your candidate' event to give people a chance to be heard, and so that voters can get to know the people who are running."

No democratic candidates are on the Feb. 16 primary ballot.