

JA Sponsorship Drive Under Way

Junior Achievement's 1959 sponsorship drive got underway in Detroit this week with a full scale attempt by the "learn by doing" teen organization to demonstrate a variety of appeal for business and industrial firms to counsel one or more miniature JA concerns in business this fall.

The drive was spearheaded by James M. Roche of Bloomfield Hills, General Motors vice president and general manager of its Cadillac division.

Roche, who is serving his first term as president of the Junior Achievement board of directors, said that through JA, teenagers and adult advisers alike get a wide

variety of concepts and capacities of the American free enterprise system.

ROCHE APPEALED frankly and bravely to small and large business firms alike to "back the Junior Achievement program" and said that counselling a Junior Achievement company costs the sponsoring firm only the off-time of its three volunteer advisers.

Referring to direct benefits to companies sponsoring JA firms, Roche said that first, the JA organization provides a unique and challenging business refresher course to company personnel at no cost and second, that by imparting sound business judgment to America's present generation, the business world and the entire country would profit from the teenager's business experience.

Growing at the fantastic rate of 500 percent during its first 10 years on the national scene, Junior Achievement is being accepted as perhaps the only vehicle in America today to "mass sell" the idea of competition and free economy.

ROCHE SAID the JA program operates in exactly the same manner in Birmingham as it does in Honolulu, San Francisco or Boston, and that standardization of the international organization insures it a high level of excellence.

Roche also revealed that the aim of JA in southeastern Michigan is to have 350 miniature corporations operating this fall. For the past three years, southeastern Michigan's JA area has been the largest in the nation, he added.



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Retiring Al Clark looks over his "going-away" present — a table saw — in quiet amazement. Flanking him are Derby junior high school assistant principal Stanley Elya (right) and fellow custodian James Holland, 1706 Larkmoor, Berkley.

Though its Limits were Narrow, His was a Wide, Wide World

With a hint of a tear in its usually cold, official eye the Birmingham school system said "goodbye" last week to a man who has served it for 31 years.

Albert J. Clark, 65, whose title has been school custodian for a generation, retired. He commanded a sphere of influence that went far beyond what would be considered a custodian's field of operation, said his associates.

DR. RICHARD Featherstone, assistant superintendent of schools, was principal of Adams school, where Clark spent most of his tour of duty.

"He was — still is for that matter — one of those pure gems; I never saw a job too small for the man," Featherstone said.

Cranbrook Alumni Name Directors

CRANBROOK — Following the June meeting of the Cranbrook School Alumni Association, the Alumni Board announced its officers and directors for 1959-60.

Board president is Frederick R. Keydel of Grosse Pointe. Assisting him will be Vice-President Alfred M. Davock, Birmingham; Secretary Sherman J. Birnkant, Pontiac; and Treasurer Peter C. Highis, Birmingham.

Other directors are R. Thomas Austin, David C. "Dick" Breck, Ben K. Harniss, Charles S. Himmel, John E. Rice, and Bruce H. Smith, all of Birmingham; John F. Keydel, Grosse Pointe Farms; and Arthur J. Brandt, Jr., Detroit.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS of the alumni board include Carleton McLain, Jr., alumni secretary of Cranbrook school; John M. Sanders

of Bloomfield Hills, editor of the Alumni News, and his assistants Edward N. Schneider, Bloomfield Hills, and Robert N. Walter, Dearborn; and John R. Hunting, alumni member of the school faculty.

Alumni advisers to the board of directors are Robert H. Porter, Harry D. Wise, Jr., and William Ed Mosher, Jr., all of Birmingham.

Alumni who are members of the school board of directors are Edward H. Lerchen and L. James Schneider of Bloomfield Hills and Alan E. Schwartz of Detroit.

COMMITTEE chairmen include Breck, Detroit monthly luncheon club; Himmelhoch, alumni representative program; Austin, Cranbrook forum; David W. Burke, Jr., of Detroit, personal solicitation program; and Mosher, memorial scholarship fund-writing committee.

For Her, Music is Light

Ginny needs a piano. Music is one of the bright spots in her dark world. Ginny is blind. She was born blind. Though she has never seen a piano keyboard in all her 28 years, she hasn't let that stop her from learning to use it.

SHE MAJORED in music for two years — on a scholarship. Ginny plays well, they say; well for one who hasn't been able to practice.

She can't afford to buy her own. Her Aid-for-the-Blind pension won't go quite that far. She had an office job for a while but the difficulties became a little too great, even with the tremendous courage friends say fills her short, slight, 100-pound frame.

Ginny lives alone in a Detroit apartment and seldom sees her family, who live in a corner of the upper peninsula.

GINNY SINGS, too. She has performed with the Detroit Civic Choir. She has "perfect pitch" — strike a note, and she can tell

you what it is — just like that. But she's "rusty." She has a piano accordion. But even try Beethoven on a piano accordion? Doesn't work.

SHE'S SHY, too — terribly shy. Partly because she isn't up to standard when called upon to play for the League for the Handicapped.

She wants a piano — a small one. Couldn't get a big one into her apartment. That's small, too. Ginny, as you may have guessed, is not her real name. The league for the handicapped is a little touchy about revealing too many secrets about the people it works with.

THE LEAGUE for the handicapped is looking for someone with a piano he no longer wants, or even one he does want but is willing to sacrifice for someone else's happiness.

The donor could contact Mrs. Govan Hill at 530 Fairfax, or Mrs. W. M. Morgan, 454 Fairfax both of Birmingham. Got a piano? Ginny needs it.

Troy News Briefs

'Cuts' May Be OK at Troy Hi Next Semester

TROY — Troy high school students may have a shorter work day come September.

The school board and high school principal Roudolph C. Smith are faced with the problem of the day in most school districts — crowding.

SMITH ASKED the school board this week for permission to send some seniors home at noon — two and one-half hours early.

"I'll try to keep them all in school," Smith said, "but our gym and study hall class will be terrifically crowded next year."

Smith said he thought the cuts would affect about 175 students.

SENIORS IN shop and drafting classes may get the axe, he said, to give sophomores and juniors a chance.

School superintendent Rex B. Smith said North Central accreditation would be lost under such a program after the 1960-61 school year, when all high school students will have to be on a full-time schedule.

Troy can get by the next year by juggling schedules, but will "definitely" need more classrooms by 1960-61," according to assistant superintendent Boyd Larson.

The present board has considered the construction of an 18-room elementary school in north Troy and a 10-room addition to Morse elementary school.

Plan Group Waits For Appointment

TROY — City commissioners may be ready in a few more weeks to appoint a successor to Morris A. Wattles, who resigned last week from the plan commission after four years with no explanation and "no statement."

Mayor Robert J. Huber, said he needed two more weeks to study

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another recommendation for the post after his first nominee, Laurin Ford, service station operator and chief of the city's volunteer fire force, declined the offer.

Ford's appointment was also unacceptable to City Manager David W. Hesse, because of the token, administrative salary he receives as chief of the fire force.

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