

# In Oakland County ... Building Slump Ends Decade on Low Note

Building in Oakland County hit a low for the decade in 1959 with the issuance of only 5,141 building permits (20.8 per cent below 1958's 6,494, and far below peak 1954's 12,709).

Bloomfield township was the only Oakland county community to be listed among the 10 most active Detroit-region communities.

THE COUNTY'S totals are indicative of a trend in the region, according to Detroit Regional Planning commission spokesmen. Only 21,372 permits were issued in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe and part of Washtenaw counties in 1959, compared to the previous low of 24,206 in 1948.

Wayne county issued only 9,182 permits, 16.9 per cent below its 1958 total. Macomb county showed the only increase—a scant 450 permits or 8.1 per cent.

BLOOMFIELD township issued 476 permits, followed by Farmington township with 444 and Southfield township with 417.

Regional planners attributed the lag to scarcity of mortgage money and—particularly in Oakland County—a lack of sewer and drainage facilities.

the state told the committee, would not be accepted by the state or the Federal Bureau of roads.

THE FEDERAL government has approved the corridor for Interstate route 696, Irving J. Rubin, executive aide to Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie, said.

Southfield so far has refused to approve its leg (1.8 miles) from Inkster to the Northwestern-Telegraph intersection.

## Broomfield Adds Weight to Question Of Airport Need

A five-man Pontiac delegation and Rep. William S. Broomfield (R-Oakland county) have added their weight to the demands for regularly-scheduled airline service in Pontiac, caused by the shift of population and industry to the northern part of the metropolitan Detroit area.

Broomfield's plea was delivered in a 30-minute address to the CAB in connection with Chicago and Cleveland service (a work-in-progress) by North Central airlines. There is also hope for inclusion of Pontiac in a proposed Detroit-Sault Ste. Marie route.

Regular service would serve 50 per cent or more of the people in

## It's Hard To Count The Hats

Two Democrats have thrown their hats into the ring for the post of state senator from Oakland county, while a third possible candidate is hanging on to his, and says he

has no plans "for seeking office."

One, Leo P. Meagher, 51, of Farmington, a former pharmacist and currently a realtor, won the Democratic nomination in 1958, but lost to incumbent L. Harvey Lodge. He lives at 29079 Utley, Farmington township.

S. JEROME BRONSON, 29, a Madison Heights attorney said he felt "this was the year for new talent" in the state senate, and offered himself as the new talent.

Donald A. Brown, Royal Oak attorney and politician, and 1958 running-mate of Paul D. Hawwell, when Hawwell was candidate for governor and Brown for lieutenant governor, resigned his position in the Oakland county prosecutor's office Feb. 5.

An extended meeting between Brown, State Republican Chairman Lawrence B. Lindemer and Bagwell last week in Lansing fed speculation that Brown was after an office.

## Heads State Press

New president of the Michigan Press Association is Jack C. Sinclair, publisher of the Hartford Day Spring. He was elected at the 92nd annual meeting of MPA Jan. 30 at Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Other officers are Dale Stafford, Greenville News, president; first vice president, Vidian Roe, Fremont Times Indicator, treasurer; Elmer E. White was re-elected executive secretary. Elected to the



Heads State Press

Board of Directors were John Hatdorf, Traverse City Record Eagle; John P. Parks, Highland Park; Walter J. Rummel, Sebewaing Blade.

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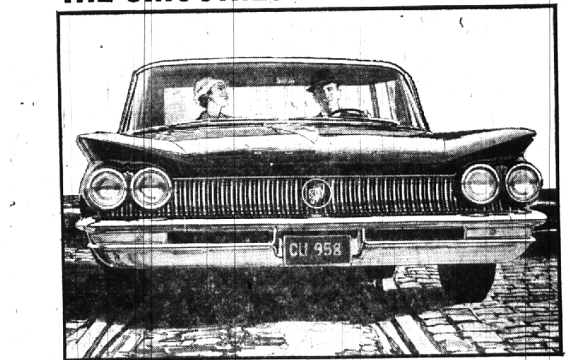
## Automatic Dialer Saves Time—Lives!

The switchboard of the Birmingham branch of Telephone Answering Service Inc. was the scene of an "exploratory installation" card-dialer system by the Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

"This is the first time that since a system has been installed on a switchboard," said Basil C. Verrier, communications representative for Michigan Bell as he instructs the founder and president of the answering service, John Engerson, 17159 Kirkshire in the operation of the system. Mrs. Pauline Fear observes the procedure.

A card is inserted into a slot which automatically dials the number punched on the card. It will save the operator several seconds a call, and in a 24 hour operation will save a considerable amount of time.

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