

Broomfield Works For Abolishment of Auto Excise Tax

Abolishment of the 10 per cent excise tax on automobiles was sought today in a bill introduced by Congressman William S. Broomfield (R-Oakland County). Broomfield called the tax "discriminatory and an anchor around the neck of our national economy."

"One of the main reasons that we aren't selling more passenger cars is because many potential purchasers would rather make the old car do for another year rather than pay the \$200 to \$300 Federal

tax," said Broomfield. Lagging sales in the auto industry have hit not only Michigan, but also many other areas of the nation as well, he said. "The auto industry is steel's biggest and best customer," said Broomfield.

"GLASS, RUBBER, fabrics, aluminum and plastics also depend upon a sound and vital auto industry to keep the wheels of industry turning and to stimulate more em-

ployment." Broomfield's bill has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee for study. "I am asking the members of that committee to give prompt consideration to this plan to stimulate auto sales and return our workers to the job," he said.

Broomfield said the excise tax was imposed during the Korean War "as a temporary tax, and we have never been able to get rid of it."

January Traffic Toll Less Than December Total

Traffic accidents in Birmingham in January showed a very favorable reduction from the December traffic toll, according to a summary released by Police Chief Earl W. Moxley. The month's toll was 71 accidents as against 92 in December.

Moxley's report noted, however, that there was an increase over January, 1960, during which 63 accidents occurred. Right-of-way violations continue as the number one causative factor in these accidents, with a total of 23 accidents showing this violation.

Moxley said personnel have been instructed to take positive enforcement action when observing this violation.

Total property damage accidents were listed at 52; personal injury accidents totaled 19 with 28 persons injured. No fatalities occurred in traffic accidents in January.

NINETEEN violations for following too closely contributed to accidents. Other traffic violations indicated in accident reports were 13 for improper over-taking; four for making improper turns; four for other improper driving; two for too fast of speed; two for driving left of the center line; and one violation for drinking.

Nike Site Officer To Speak Monday On Air Defense

First Lieutenant Jack Bradshaw, Battery Executive officer of the Nike site at Commerce Lake will speak at 8 p.m. Monday in the Mary Griffith Lounge of the Community House.

The Commerce Lake site is one of 15 Nike sites protecting the surrounding area in case of attack. Twelve of these are Nike-Ajax sites. Four are Nike-Hercules sites. As part of his discussion, Lt. Bradshaw will show a film illustrating the role of the Nike Hercules in protecting the community. There will be no admission charge.

THE PRESENTATION is one of a series of open meetings sponsored by the Altrusa Club of Greater Birmingham on subjects of timely or educational interest to the community. Miss June Keil, chairman of the club's public affairs committee, will be in charge of the meeting.

GOP Headquarters Looking for New Birmingham Home

Oakland County Republican Headquarters at 351 S. Woodward, Birmingham, will move to new quarters in the near future. The present headquarters building will be torn down to make way for a proposed \$500,000 parking lot.

Although no specific location or date have been set for the move, it is anticipated within the next 30 days according to Charles Perry, public relations director. "The move will take place," he said, "as soon as we find a centrally located area within Birmingham which does not pose zoning problems."

HEADQUARTERS officials have considered several locations, but have encountered conflict with zoning ordinances. The headquarters must be located within a business or commercial zoned area, said Perry.

Under consideration is the area of Adams near Holland which is commercially zoned. However, officials are still negotiating price, said Perry.

A couple locations on Hunter-north of Maple are also being considered. Republican Headquarters have been at the present location since the summer of 1957.

NATURE NOW Nomenclature Vital For Accuracy in Studies

"But what's its common name?" "Why bother with Latin names?" These are of repeated queries to the naturalist who is much afraid of the Latin language. The present-day nomenclature one can go back to Materia Medica, an early classical nature book written in 77 A.D. by Dioscorides, a Greek physician. Plants, animals and minerals used as drugs, became a "bible" of knowledge for more than 14 centuries.

WHILE some of this early information was too incomplete and nevertheles was called science, it has opened the way to many succeeding scholars. It is a large, ordered superintention of the Dark Ages to become a kind of nestegg of information for the Renaissance. It is a Renaissance to be regarded with awe and reverence by the old herbalists of the 16th and 17th centuries.

However, a classical chaos of living things reigned until the middle of the 18th century when the English naturalist, Carl Linnaeus, made his classification of the then-known plants and animals, assigning to each a genus and species name.

He used Latin because it was then the accepted language among the learned. So sound was this system that it has served us well throughout the years, bearing the weight of our ever-increasing

BECAUSE COMMON names are after picturesque and descriptive it is easy to see how they came into usage. Because they frequently arose in isolated communities, many are local in meaning and usually lead to confusion. Figwood (Amaranth retrofractus) which grows in barnyards, alligator horehound (Nuphar advena), a water lily which grows in the swamps of the south, chicken crabs (Vitis rotundifolia) a wild grape which bears unisexual flowers and will not fruit unless a male plant is planted nearby, Kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate (Polygoum) and species of smartweed which drapes its pink flower spikes over old fences and garden gates; one could thus go on for pages enumerating local names.

More meaningful and less colorful in usage are flytrap, pitcher plant, leather leaf, cinquefoil and snow-on-the-mountain, all plants named from their leaves. Bloodroot, goldthread, coralroot and snake-root are so called because of pronounced root characteristics. Skunk cabbage, carrion vine and pepperwort are labeled for their odors.

BLACKBERRY, blackberry. Major Alberts Ends Duty Tour in N. Y.

Major John C. Alberts, 678 Westwood, Birmingham, recently completed a two-week active tour of duty at Griffis Air Force Base in Rome, N. Y.

He was assigned to the military training in the air materiel area. Major Alberts is a member of the 98th Air Reserve Squadron located at Pontiac, and serves as Air Force liaison officer for the Greater Pontiac area.

A 19-year veteran of the Air Force, he flew 146 missions in the China-Burma-India theater during World War II.

Volunteers Gather

Members of the Woman's Service Committee of William Beaumont hospital met Monday to hear Robert Thum, internationally famous artist, speak on "Progress in Medicine." He is the creator of the series of paintings titled "Great Moments in Medicine."

May apple, blueberry are named by their fruits. Angel's tea (N. p. e.), catnip, skullcap, monk's hood, turtlehead, Jack-in-the-pulpit, all owe their names to the particular shape of their flower.

The student's confusion mounts when he finds a single species variously named in different localities. Persea is called "smartweed" in the north; "garden grass" in the south; Centropogon is "goosefoot" in the south and "plaster" along the Atlantic coast; Phytolacca is "poke berry" in the north, "rouge plant" in the south.

EVEN MORE confusing are completely erroneous names such as sweet "fern" for a shrub (Camptonia), Spanish "moss" for a flowering plant of the pineapple family (Tillandsia), "reindeer moss" for a common lichen of the Cladonia family, club "moss", ground "cedar", "ground pine" for our various species of Lycopodium (low growing evergreen plants of our coniferous woods).

Common names have their own uses. However, my own learning and teaching of Latin names for such plant groups as mosses and fungi which have few common names, has led me to believe that for the interested person they present little added learning effort. And the resulting correctness is its own gratifying reward.

What's in a name? It may spell the difference between truth and error.

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