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**Birmingham Room Becoming  
 Social, Cultural Center**

See related story, photo 1-A  
 By **IRIS A. DAVIS**  
 Staff Writer

The Birmingham Room at Demery's new department store promises to be one of the city's hottest spots on the local scene. In the avalanche of requests for its use is indication.

"If we were able to say 'yes' to everyone who asked, we'd be booked until September, 1962," says Charles A. Peck, president and general manager.

"We really have had requests that far ahead," agrees Esther M. Wagner, advertising and publicity director, who will handle future scheduling for the room.

"Right now all we can do is sort through the requests. Meanwhile, our policy is flexible. FROM CUB Scouts to church circles, local groups have asked to use the room for special projects and programs. A few events were scheduled before the trickle swelled to a flood.

THESE INCLUDE: an opening exhibit of art work, under the auspices of the Bloomfield Art Association; a second art show to follow shortly afterward; and, in the fall, a display of china painting and the traditional book sale by the local branch of the American Association of University Women.

"Although we're liberal and can't accommodate everyone, we're anxious to cooperate with local groups to make this a social and cultural center," Peck says.

"WE ORIGINALLY planned to use the room ourselves for fashion shows, lectures and trunk showings," he explains.

"But there's been such tremendous interest that we'll just play it by ear."

DURING the Christmas season, however, and for special events, the room will probably be used for "selling expansion and store purges."

The attractive quarters, with their mellow, sand-tone walls, lend themselves ideally to events such as the current BAA art show. The exhibit, arranged by member Carolyn Lyn Hall, features paintings and sculpture by local artists.

WITHIN MINUTES of the opening of the new department store, local art-lovers began drifting into the Birmingham Room. So did the customers, shifting their packages from arm to arm as they peered and admired and o-o-o-hed and a-h-h-h.

They puzzled over the abstractions, gazed at the still lifes, cocked their head at the studies in composition and smiled delightfully at the animal studies.

A MIDDLE-AGED man clutching a brief case as he "knew what he liked"—and he obviously liked it all.

A small child gazed entranced at a fused-glass mobile and posed "nice kitty" over a piece of metal sculpture.

THE ROOM will hold 125 people and Peck comments that "we worked nights and weekends to get it ready, because we promised it for this art show."

Draperies remain to be hung, finishing touches have yet to be made to the heating arrangements, but these are small matters to an appreciative public.

Finished or not, they've taken to The Birmingham room.

And finished or not, it's aptly named.

Two shoppers at Demery's new department store pause, in its Birmingham Room to admire a piece of sculpture, part of an art exhibit presented by Bloomfield Art Association. Future activities include a second art show in the near future and a china painting exhibit and book sale at the fall.

**City Considers Hiring  
 Plan Consultant Firm**

In an effort to secure federal financial aid for the future development of Birmingham, City Plan Board Chairman Eliot Robinson Monday requested commissioners to hire a planning consultant firm to work with local officials in the development of Birmingham's comprehensive master plan.

Robinson, in a letter to the commission, stated, "We have purposefully delayed further progress on the comprehensive master plan because of a new development on the part of the federal government which enables communities under 50,000 population to participate in financial aid if certain requirements and stipulations are fulfilled. This is known as the Urban Planning Assistance Program."

ROBINSON continued that local planners are convinced Birmingham will qualify and believe it would be in the best interests of the city to retain a plan consultant firm to work with the city planner and the planning board to develop the master plan.

The consulting firm recommended is Villan-Leman and Associates; they are presently retained by the Central Business District Development Committee and are acquainted with the city's procedures and personality.

"I BELIEVE," Robinson continued, "that we can better insure public acceptance and eventual realization of our planning if we draw upon professional assistance to help us avoid the federal government and public pitfalls that have beset other communities. An assortment of reactions, hot and cold, met the request."

COMMISSIONER Carl F. Ingraham

**Reappoint B'ham's  
 County Officials  
 To Former Posts**

Four Birmingham representatives on the Oakland County Board of Supervisors were recently reappointed to various positions.

David Levinson is again chairman of the ways and means committee and chairman of the inter-county committee.

Mrs. Hope F. Lewis was reappointed chairman of the welfare committee; City Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham is a member of the legislative committee.

**Dream**  
 (Continued from 1-A)

money began to devalue. Conditions became worse. Mrs. Brush and her brother "spent a part of every day trying to find a way to bring them to the United States."

Only four of the many, many packages sent to their parents were ever received.

"ABOUT FOUR years ago," Mrs. Brush said, "some Hungarians escaped and came to the U.S. They told us there was still hope."

Negotiations, applications and papers of all sorts started again with new fervor. In February of this year, permission was granted.

"THE PHYSICAL torture involved in coming to America is one of many cruel stories we have known," Dr. Szentkiralyi commented.

"The officials there even said our wedding rings might be too heavy" to take out of the country," he said, fondling the band he has worn for 50 years.

"But the most important thing," his daughter concluded happily, "is that they are here and they are safe."

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**MSUO Head  
 Addresses  
 Torry PTA**

Durward B. Varner, Chancellor of Michigan State University-Oakland, will speak to the Torry School Parent-Teacher Association Tuesday on "The University and the Community."

The public is invited to the program at 8 p.m. in the gym.

Varner will discuss some of the problems faced by MSUO in its first two years of existence. He will outline the educational responsibilities and challenges faced by MSUO with respect to the Michigan residents located within a short radius of the Rochester campus.

SINCE IT WAS established in 1960, MSUO has received worldwide attention because of its completely new approach to higher education. How this philosophy has been implemented at MSUO and future plans of the university are among the topics to be covered in Varner's address.

A graduate of Texas A. & M. University and former president of the American Bar Association, Varner is a member of the Michigan State Bar before assuming his current assignment.

**Con-Con**  
 (Continued from 1-A)

Service Commission and as a Michigan Member of the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report.

WOOLFENDEN HAS received recognition from his own profession by election as president of the State Bar of Michigan, member of the House of Delegates and Board of Governors of the American Bar Association, member of the Executive Committee of the American Judicature Society and trustee of the Michigan State Bar Foundation.

He is a life member of the Federal Judicial Conference for the states of Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee.

An Episcopalian and former vestryman of Christ Church Cathedral, he and Mrs. Woolfenden reside at 1775 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills. He is a partner in the law firm of Dahlberg, Simon, Yates, Woolfenden and Gawne.

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