

### How Are Your Financial Affairs?

Residents of the Birmingham area have been urged to strengthen the financial affairs of their families during May—Personal Affairs Month.

The local program is part of an area-wide educational drive to encourage men to make adequate provisions for retirement and proper provisions for heirs.

Less than 20 per cent of Detroit area adults have executed wills, said Donald F. Lau, of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, associate general chairman.

THIS IS THE FIRST time four groups have joined in such an endeavor in the Detroit area.

Joining in the activity are: The Metropolitan Detroit Chapter of the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, the four major Detroit area banks, the State Bar of Michigan, the Detroit Bar Association, the Detroit Life Underwriters Association, the Detroit Association of Insurance Agents, and the Greater Detroit Board of Commerce.

Speakers from each group will appear at luncheon club and other functions throughout the month.

### Von Braun Speaks Friday at MSUO

Wernher Von Braun, head of the Army's space and missile program, will speak Friday at Michigan State University, Okla.

He will speak first at a morning meeting of the MSUO Science Club and will give a public talk, "Why We Must Conquer Space," at 2:30 p.m. in the Student Center.

MORE THAN half the student body is planning to hear Von Braun, Okla. officials say on a sale at the Center.

Von Braun's talk at MSUO is one of very few the sciences has not cancelled since the Soviet Union's first space test.

His appearance is an event in the Lecture Concert Series directed by Dr. Gerald Sprague, assistant professor of history and chairman of the student-faculty committee.

Von Braun came to Birmingham in February for a speaking engagement with the Detroit Section of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

## Over-65 Residents Prove Factor in B'ham Economy

(Special to the Eccentric)

NEW YORK—Emerging as an important element in Birmingham's economy is the plus-65 portion of its population.

This group, which has been growing steadily in number as well as in financial strength, now represents 7.1 per cent of the local population.

As a result, it is becoming the sales target of merchants, manufacturers and others who are making a deliberate effort to cater to its particular wants and, in the process, boost their own sales volume.

A wide range of goods, designed especially for that age group, is now on the market.

In the Birmingham population, which was set at 255,526 in the recent census, were 132,132 people 65 or over. This is based on data

just released by the Census Bureau.

In 1940, when the previous tabulation was made, there were only 974 in that age group locally.

The rise, which amounts to 80 per cent, was greater than that experienced in most sections of the United States, where it averaged 54.7 per cent. In the East North Central States it was 29.4 per cent.

As a result of the rapid growth of this age group in Birmingham, the current ratio shows that one in every 14 local residents is 65 or over.

Nationally, there are now more than 16.5 million of these senior citizens, a dramatic increase from the 12.8 million that were counted in the previous census.

Although they have much less cash to spend than they had before graduating into the over-65 class,

they have much more than the previous generation had at that age.

Their comparative well-being is due principally to private pension plans, social security payments, personal savings and investments and that most common and valuable asset of older persons—Ownership of their homes.

As to income from employment, only a fourth of them are in the labor force.

All in all, the Department of Commerce finds, the median income of American families of that age is \$2,831 a year. Many families enjoy much more than this but an equal proportion fall below that figure.

Despite the modest buying power of the individual family, as a group they are now able to make their influence felt by weight of numbers.

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### Welcome Jane Hart

Along with 200 other Oakland County women who are members of the Democratic party, Mrs. John H. McVay (left) and Mrs. Dorothy K. Roosevelt (right) welcomed Jane (Mrs. Philip A.) Hart when she returned here for a visit.

### 67 Seaholm Students Inducted by Society

By CRAIG COOLEY  
 Special Writer

Ceremonies of induction were conducted for 29 juniors and 38 seniors at Seaholm High School Friday as the National Honor Society announced the new members for the year. NBS president Stewart Hasley presided over the ceremony.

Membership requirements for National Honor Society were discussed by Carolyn Rosenberger, Linda Wells, Mike Morden and Masby Harvey in speeches on service, scholarship, leadership and character. All elected members of the honor group must meet the strict scholarship rules of a 3.2 grade average for juniors or 3.3 average for seniors. Only 10 per cent of the junior class is eligible and only 15% of the senior class.

CHARLES HARPER, herald, read the list of new members which included juniors Susan Abernathy, Janet Brown, Craig Cooley, Emily Edwards, James Emmett, John Emmett, Sandra Erwin, Daniel Fox, Patricia Gordon, Herbert Green and Virginia Gleason.

Other Juniors were Victoria Hammer, Kay Heikkinen, Sara John, Jill Johnston, Robert Kennedy, John LeFevre, Margaret Ann Lourie, Mary McCarthy and Duane Nelles.

Also included Mary Randall, Joyce Root, Kathryn Ruhl, Robert Sigler, Mary Stelling, Thomas Stevens, Constance Stewart, Nancy Turner and Harvey Wallace.

Seniors inducted were Mary Benson, Judith Ann Bishop, Kay Buford, Judith Burns, Bruce Cameron, John Clark, Karen Clark, William Collins, Deborah Davies and Christine Diekoniski.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN for the ceremony was Dorothy Ellis with Donna Schwab, Barbara Burege, Becky Black, Thomas Sweeney and George Johnson heading sub committees. Officers of the group include Sally Ryden, Jan Brundage, Patricia Hall and Barbara Burege. Advisers are Mr. Eugene Hubbard, Mr. Charles Thumser and Mrs. Henrietta Cortwright.

ME A Dinner Set

Scheduled to attend the dinner meeting of the Waterford Township District of the Michigan Education Association, Tuesday, is Frank W. Garland, 1427 Villa, Birmingham.

Garland is a past president of the Waterford M.E.A. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the C.A.I. Building, 5640 Williams Lake Road, Waterford.

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