

Ruling May Affect City's Liability

A recent Supreme Court ruling may have an effect on City insurance matters, Birmingham city commissioners were informed this week.

Howlett, Hartman & Beier, the City's legal counsel, reported that the high court's Sept. 22 ruling in the Williams vs. Detroit case "as a practical matter, will eliminate governmental immunity as a defense in future claims against the City."

This decision, the firm reported, indicates "the potential of greater governmental liability in the future."

UN Official Reviews Day-to-day Work of United Nations

The unpublicized work of the United Nations was discussed Oct. 26 at First Methodist Church of Birmingham by T. J. Natarajan, special consultant to the UN secretary general.

Natarajan addressed the Oakland County chapter of the American Association for UN as it observed UN Day last week.

He noted that little is known about the day-to-day work of the UN although much is heard about the wars and political friction in the Congo.

UN relief agencies work in all depressed countries, he said, to alleviate conditions thus leading to reduction of world tension.

Natarajan cited the work done by the UN in the fields of health, labor and education.

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Library

(Continued from 1-A)

American Library Association that every public library should be part of a coordinated system of libraries, sharing materials and services, in order to obtain the maximum and quality needed by their users.

Without joint action, most communities probably will never be able to come up to the needs of their people.

WHAT ARE SOME of the problems of an unaffiliated library?

First, one thinks of the library's book collection, and realizes that a small library hasn't the financial resources to supply a comprehensive and balanced collection of books, or the physical plant to house it.

Library staff and board are well aware that our own Baldwin Library has many weaknesses in its collection frustrating to the researcher or student who finds only a paragraph or a page when he needs whole chapters or books.

A SMALL LIBRARY is similarly limited in the area of reference service. It can't afford the encyclopedias, the dictionaries, the manuals, indexes, the microfilm, the directories and guides which the larger library provides through a staff of trained librarians.

The need for specialized magazines for business, scientific and investment services is recognized; but alas, the library budget in a city like Birmingham is stretched to cover the diverse and costly needs.

When this is true of a library in a city of Birmingham's size, how many times over is it true of the smaller one!

In services, too, the small unaffiliated library is at a disadvantage. Each makes its own book purchase; does its own processing and cataloging of books.

THIS DUPLICATION is, of course, costly in time and money. On the other hand, experience of libraries participating in a system shows that funds can be saved to other services when directed through centralization of purchasing and cataloging.

The small library has further problems, in providing staff personnel. Two often its budget is such that it cannot compete in salary scale with the large libraries for the services of professional librarians.

Consequently, use is made of non-professionals, limited by lack of training. In a system of affiliated libraries, the staff can benefit through acquiring services of some professional help with the result, naturally, of better library service to the community.

HOW DOES all this affect Baldwin Public Library, which to the casual observer seems to be a beautiful installation, expertly staffed, efficiently run, and with well-stocked shelves?

Were it not for the pressing non-resident problem and resultant rising costs, it is possible that the trustees would be sitting snugly content with the status quo.

But we do have the non-residents who do have rising costs, and we have been forced to look at things squarely. What we see is three-fold:

a) that Birmingham is the hub of its own metropolitan area, bound by social, economic and cultural ties.

b) that Baldwin Public Library is itself subject to the problems inherent in a small unaffiliated library.

c) that the development of a library system has been found through experience to be the most practical way of securing the best library service at the lowest possible cost.

IT IS WITH these realizations firmly in mind that the trustees are seeking the solutions which will be best for Birmingham and for all users of Baldwin Library.

We have set the July, 1964, deadline to exclude our Birmingham neighbors, but to include them before that time.

It is our hope that the Baldwin Library, and its future affiliates, may, like Titanic, cast a spell—this one for the educational and cultural enrichment of the whole community.

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Plan

(Continued from 7-A)



2 Area Men Move Up at Chrysler

After last Thursday's meeting of the Board of directors, the election of two new vice presidents of Chrysler Corp. was announced by Lynn A. Townsend, of Bloomfield Hills, president.

Elected by the board were Robert Anderson, 995 S. Glenhurst, Birmingham, director of product planning and cost estimating; and Alan C. Looftourrow, 1365 Country Club, Bloomfield Hills, director of Engineering.

Anderson also was named a member of the corporation's administrative committee and Looftourrow a member of the operations committee.

ANDERSON JOINED the company in 1946 as a graduate student in the Chrysler Institute of Engineering. In 1950 he was placed in charge of engineering liaison with Briggs Manufacturing Co. and in 1951 was appointed supervisory body contact engineer at the Kercival plant.

He became chief engineer for the Plymouth division in 1953 and in 1955 was appointed executive engineer-chassis, electrical and trunk design in the Engineering division. Anderson was named to his present position in 1958.

LOOFTOURROW joined Chrysler in 1935. He was assigned to the engineering division's mechanical laboratory in 1937. During World War II he was chief engineer of Chrysler's atomic program and at the Lynch Road plant.

Subsequently he was chief engineer at the Chrysler division and vice president of the marine and industrial engine division. He was appointed chief engineer for chassis design in the engineering division in 1952 and was named executive engineer-chassis, electrical and truck engineering in 1955.

Looftourrow became director of the company's engineering division in April, 1958, after serving as executive engineer-product development and planning for more than a year.

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Birmingham Child Hurt When 2 Cars Collide in Troy

A 2 1/2-year-old Birmingham boy, who suffered a fractured skull and jaw in an automobile accident Oct. 26, was reported in satisfactory condition at William Beaumont Hospital Wednesday morning.

Stephen Eagloski, 2612 Dorchester, was a passenger in a car driven by his mother, Lelia E. Eagloski, 24, when her auto was in a two-car collision on Stephenson and 15 Mile Road, Troy, police said. The accident occurred at 11:55 a.m. The driver of the other car was Donald B. Varcoe, 31, of Farmington.

Police said Mrs. Eagloski was attempting a left turn from the northbound lane of Stephenson when the collision occurred.

COMMISSIONERS agreed that shelters should be at least partially exempted from property taxes, depending on what is determined as to what is determined as to what the information can be obtained.

Consensus was that Gare make such a study and report on plans and costs in two weeks, or when the information can be obtained.

So, they directed City Clerk Irene Hanley to write to state supervisors' legislative committee, Michigan Municipal League, the state Civil Defense director and other officials asking them to seek necessary legislation.

"The present state law lists specifically the types of construction and property to be exempt, and bomb shelters are not among them."

Mayor Florence H. Willett stressed a need to clarify the value of fallout shelters as compared to regular bomb shelters.

A PAGE POINTED out that two neighboring communities have fire warning signals that are identical to Birmingham's signals for nuclear attack.

Commissioners directed Kenning to seek from the county Office of Civil Defense clarification of CD signals and uniformity of procedures.

Actually, commissioners avoided a direct discussion on the question of whether shelters should be built.

"This is probably one of the most controversial subjects in connection with Civil Defense at this time," said Gare.

"Residents have been told by the Federal Government to look to their city government for direction and guidance. Whether we like it or not, we are regarded as experts."

Commissioners took the attitude that they should proceed on the basis that the Federal Government has emphasized that responsibility for shelters lies with individuals and their families.

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