

Circumnavigators Plan Annual Feast

Nine Birmingham-Bloomfield area members of the Circumnavigators Club are expected to attend the "Around the World in Eighty Days" annual banquet of the Michigan branch of the world-wide club Dec. 1 at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit.

They are Dr. C. F. Ekland, Frederick E. Booth, Robert F. Butler, Charles C. Curtis, Charles DeJure, John W. Kinsey, William A. Kent, Charles R. Landring and Donald W. McKay.



Highlighting the exotic hors d'oeuvres to be assembled from all parts of the world for the banquet will be the Humamankunakunpusan, an articulate tropic fish that grunts like a pig.

OTHER DELICACIES to be served some 250 circumnavigators, wives and guests include South African ostrich eggs, stuffed Komodo dragon from Indonesia, grilled Emperor crab from Japan, breast of abaloot from the Indian Ocean, pickled Mediterranean squid and sliced conger eel from the North Sea.

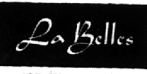
The Circumnavigators Club, founded in New York in 1902, has a world-wide membership composed of men who have circled the world and who take a special interest in foreign affairs.

A dull job of cutting with a sharp knife costs many a housewife a badly lacrated hand or finger. The Institute for Safer Living says that any chore involving the use of kitchen cutlery should be handled with complete concentration. Remember that a day-dream is a distraction while working may cause disaster or, at the least, a painful injury.

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Reproduction of old brass Chestnut Warmer. \$20.00
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On mahogany base. Conversation piece. \$26.00 and \$38.00
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Smart crystal-like. \$12.50
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New silver-leafed coffee pot with warmer. \$75.00
- GREAT LAKES TRAY
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Evaluation for Accreditation

Groves' seniors Sue McClanathan, 31355 Kenworthy, Beverly Hills, and Mike Bearden, 4935 Malibu, Bloomfield Township, discuss school facilities and programs with members of a 14-man inspection team which evaluated the high school Nov. 14 for accreditation. Dr. Lester Anderson (left), chairman

of the North Central Association for Michigan, and G. Sutherland Hayden (right), assistant chairman, will report on the school's qualifications for accreditation in the North Central Association. Groves graduates its first senior class in June.

Alternatives to Contractual Library System Explained

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the sixth in a series of articles prepared for The Eccentric by officials of Baldwin Public Library. This story explains what possibilities exist other than a system of contracts for operating a library. Next week: How an area-wide library system would work.

BY ARTHUR UNDERWOOD, JR.
Library Trustee

The Board of Trustees of the Baldwin Public Library has signed a contract with the Village of Beverly Hills to provide library service to all Beverly Hills residents. This is the first step toward forming a cooperative library system designed to serve communities in the Birmingham area.

proposed in 1960 by the Michigan State Board for Libraries. It is a long range, statewide plan to provide library service to every resident of the state.

Its goal is to have every library a part of a system which is supported by at least 100,000 people.

The plan calls for library systems in which local libraries would be tied to a school district, with the district handling many of the processing and service functions (such as cataloging and ordering) for all of the libraries in the area.

In addition to providing full library service to the residents of neighboring communities, such arrangements will increase the service the library is able to render Birmingham residents. Among other things, a larger book collection and more reference materials will be available.

A LOT of study, planning and discussion preceded the board's decision to cut off non-resident service on a family fee basis as of July 1, 1964, and to enter into contractual agreements with the other communities interested in furnishing library service to their residents.

However, it was apparent right from the start that if Baldwin Public Library is to grow and provide the books and services constantly being requested, it must take the lead in setting up some kind of a system with a broad population base.

There were other alternatives, and these were considered during the many sessions the board de-

vised on the non-resident problem. The principal alternatives were: 1) library authority; 2) a district library; 3) The Michigan State Plan; and 4) a county library system.

PERHAPS the most intriguing of the alternatives is a library authority. This was recommended by the Citizens Library Study Council after a two-year study of all phases of the library situation in Birmingham and the surrounding area.

It was the recommendation of the Citizens' Committee that a library district encompassing the school districts of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills should be established with the authority to own, operate, and maintain libraries.

Under enabling legislation proposed by the Citizens Committee, the library authority would be a separate governmental entity, similar to a school district, with the power to tax the residents of the district for the purpose of buying or building, and operating whatever libraries would be necessary to serve the district.

MANY PEOPLE feel that a library authority will, in the long run, be the best solution; but such an authority cannot be established without the passage of enabling legislation at Lansing. A vote of the people in the areas to be incorporated would then be required.

All of this takes time, and while it may be the ideal solution at some time in the future, the board feels that contractual agreements present a more immediate solution to the problem.

A district library system could be voted into existence by a majority vote of the governing body of each municipality.

THE GOVERNING body of each municipality then chooses from its citizens two trustees to serve on the library board of the district. Unfortunately, with two trustees on the board, the resulting board can be too small or too large, depending on the number of municipalities involved.

It can also make for an even split on issues and decisions. A State Library consultant has suggested, therefore, the possibility of amending the law so that representation on the board be apportioned according to size of population of participating municipalities.

ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE considered was that of a county library system. State law authorizes county supervisors to set up a library system and collect taxes to support it.

Despite the fact that the Michigan State Library has approved the plan of Oakland County and its public libraries in the last five years, it did not recommend a county system for Oakland.

It states that, because of the 23 existing libraries in the county, such a county-wide establishment would not be maintained unless the benefit to existing libraries could be demonstrated.

One of the advantages of this type of system for Birmingham residents is that they would be taxed twice for library services: paying a county library tax in addition to their present city tax, while paying little or nothing additional service. Needless to say, Birmingham's Board has not favored this plan.

Teachers to Attend Fall Area Meeting

Some 75 teachers in Area 7 (Oakland County) of the Michigan Department of Classroom Teachers will attend a fall area meeting at Michigan State University-Oakland, November 30, at 7 p.m.

MEA staff representative to Area 7 Donald Giese.

The largest department of the Michigan Education Association, the DCT has a state-wide membership of more than 47,000 classroom teachers.

The program will center around a discussion of the proposed revision of the MEA constitution and the DCT's "Teacher-to-Teacher" project on the promotion of international understanding among teachers.

Presiding at the meeting will be Melvin Lee as a r.e., Madison Heights, director of Area 7.

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Highway Dept. Ready for Snow-Fighting

Snow removal equipment valued at more than \$20 million is ready to fight winter storms on Michigan's 6,400 miles of state highways.

"This equipment—owned by the state, counties and cities—is ready to go at a moment's notice," said Dr. Orville S. Highway Department maintenance operations engineer.

Graves and his staff are hopeful Michigan will have a mild winter, but he said the Highway Department is always ready for severe winter weather.

MORE THAN 100,000 tons of sodium chloride, 8,000 tons of calcium chloride and 25,000 cubic yards of chloride treated sand have been stockpiled for the job of keeping ice and snow off state highways this winter.

If a heavy snow were to blanket the entire state tomorrow, the Highway Department could call on a taskforce of more than 1,000 pieces of snow-fighting equipment. An average of \$5.5 million is spent each winter in keeping state highways free of snow and ice. "Adequate snow removal is vital to commerce and industry throughout the state," Oravac said.

"We are always geared for the worst, but we hope for the best."

"WE KNOW, for example, that a 30-minute traffic tieup on state highways in the Detroit area would mean a \$1 million economic loss to business and industry in the city.

The job of snow-fighting is a full-time responsibility and an important service to the motoring public, commerce and industry," Oravac said.

"We are always geared for the worst, but we hope for the best."

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