

Research Chief Predicts Michigan Progress Pickup

Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties, comprising the Detroit metropolitan area, will share in the continuing economic progress which Dr. Paul A. Herbert forecasts for Michigan in 1963.

Dr. Herbert, research chief of the Michigan Economic Development Department, predicts that Michigan's economic progress in 1963 will exceed the national average and should be greater than in most states.

Although Michigan will show additional improvement in 1963, Dr. Herbert warns that this will not necessarily mean that Michigan has solved its employment problem or its dependency on a single industry, primarily automobile and truck manufacture.

"The mild recession for the United States forecast last year by some economists for the latter part of 1962 did not occur in Michigan. Other experts held the viewpoint that a drop in business could certainly come early in 1963. This also is not likely to happen in Michigan."

"Most forecasters now do not expect a dip in business in the United States until next summer and then only a mild drop before business starts upward again. Whatever happens nationally after mid-1963 will also take place in Michigan. If there is a decline, it will not be as serious here as in some states that compete with Michigan."

"This will be a refreshing reversal in form because in late years our nationwide decline was particularly severe in Michigan. Indeed, since 1947, we lost more industrial jobs than any other state—172,000 or 16.5%. Some

other states lost heavily, too, such as Pennsylvania—149,000; Illinois—145,000; Ohio—140,000. Now it appears that while Michigan will not regain all of the ground it has lost, it will do better than many of its competitors in 1963.

"THE LAST THREE months of 1962 will turn in such a satisfactory economic performance in Michigan that 1963 itself will bolster the state's economy for the remainder of the winter. The record in Michigan of 1962 will be the best since 1957."

"The bright economic picture is sparked by the continuing high level of personal income in the United States and the steady, if not spectacular, confidence of the consumer in the future. For this reason, the market for automobiles and trucks has remained unexpectedly strong. It is too much to expect that the 1963 model year will surpass that of 1962 but it still may well be the third best year in the history of the industry."

"If so, Michigan will show a distinct increase in state income from existing revenue sources and employment will definitely increase. There have been 25,000 new jobs more than the average in 1962. However, even another good year will not end Michigan's unemployment problem. The rate of unemployment being the rate of unemployment close to the national average."

Of the Detroit metropolitan area, Dr. Herbert says:

"The automotive industry in 1962 led the Detroit metropolitan area out of its economic doldrums. Unfortunately, it is not likely that this industry will continue during the entire year of 1963 to make the rate of gain it made in 1962. However, the production and sale of cars this fall has been so strong that it will sustain Detroit's economy at least at its present level during the first half of 1963."

"It is likely that there will then be a slight decline in economic growth in the Detroit Area next fall. Indeed, the higher the demand for 1963 car models and therefore the higher the economy during the first half of the year, the greater will be the slackened pace toward the end of 1963. Regardless of the probable fluctuations, Detroit's economy for the year 1963 should be as good as it was in 1962."

"CONSIDERABLE revival of business confidence in the Detroit metropolitan area is indicated for 1962 by the marked improvement in the percentage of favorable industry movements. During this year the favorable movements—local expansions, new starts, moves, etc.—will equal about 80% of the total industry movements. This compares with only 58% in 1960 and 1961."

It is expected that the marked favorable balance of industry movements in the Detroit area will continue during 1963 but it is not likely that it will be any better than 1962. Nevertheless, per capita income and employment will be slightly higher in 1963. The unemployment rate should be lower, not only because of the added income, but also because of the continued out-migration into southeastern Michigan and other regions.

Around 1940, the Men's Group

The Birmingham Eccentric Features

DOWN TO EARTH Shane Glorifies Holiday Season With 'Holy Pace'

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

If, in the confusion of the holidays, you feel that your family has forgotten you, we celebrate Christmas Day, join them in the car and park the vehicle near Shain Park. I hope that there will be snow on the ground; better yet, lace the snow falling on a clear night.

Walk slowly across the diagonal lawn and approach the large creche. The figures are beautifully placed. The community tree, lighted, stands by in a dignified manner.

Around 1940, the Men's Group

of the Holy Name Church presented a creche to the City of Birmingham as a gift from Mrs. James Cozzens. The scene had beautiful detail and was used for many years in the park. As the years went along, it was replaced due to damage by the elements.

But this thoughtful gift had found such a warm place in the hearts of the townspeople that they knew they would never be happy without this dedicated "holy place" in the center of our Shain Park for all to visit at Christmas and renew their conception of the manger and the holy story.

GIFT PLANTS are in order this time of year, and two selections are favorites of mine. We are seeing Kalanchoe as a newcomer on the scene.

This plant was spotlighted at a Michigan State College as being a possibility of being a holiday plant, when I was in their greenhouses, and since has received national Mrs. Burlingame acclaim as being appropriate, with its abundance of small crimson-orange-colored flowers.

It belongs in the succulent family, which means it won't enslave you for its constant water demands. Although this pot plant normally will flower in the spring, you can have your flowers at Christmas if you cover it up like a canary, from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. to shorten its day. An alternative is to place it in a room which does not have electricity at night. This is the story for azaleas and poinsettias when forming buds in September, October and November.

Those who possess this plant will enjoy making cuttings from the leaves for future plants. You would use the same technique as you would when rooting an African violet leaf.

THE SECOND FLOWER for this time of year on my favorite list is cyclamen. This pot plant will give more days of pleasure than other well-known plants used as gifts. This beautiful flowering plant comes in shades of red and pink as well as snow white. You can really admire the mature plant when you realize that it took 18 months of daily loving care to bring it into flower from seed.

From South Africa comes a scientific marvel which can be added to the water of cut flowers and results in them lasting twice as long; and many will increase in size. It is supposed to make the flowers more fragrant.

This time of year we begin to hear about the new developments which were tested successfully last summer. Generally, after they have gone through the hands of a promotion firm, I "slice down" the results a portion of the whole. This field of horticulture is very competitive and this situation assures us of growing ideas which constantly change our methods of culture.

Next week I will tell you about my Christmas gift to myself, ladybugs.

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Account Numbers Go on Tax Return

R. I. Nixon, Detroit District Director of Internal Revenue Service, said that under a recently enacted law, Michigan's taxpayers are required to enter their identifying account numbers on their 1962 income tax returns which are filed in 1963.

For the individual taxpayer, this is his Social Security number, or similar number issued for tax reporting purposes if the taxpayer has never had employment under social security coverage. Use of identifying numbers is essential to the electronic processing of returns which is now being installed nationwide by the Internal Revenue Service.

Nixon stated that during the year of 1962 many Michigan taxpayers were assigned account numbers based on the lack of a number on their 1961 income tax return.

However, those taxpayers still needing an account number should apply for an application to the District Director, Internal Revenue Service, Detroit 31, Mich., or to the District Office of the Social Security Administration, or by writing to Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Post Office Box 211, Baltimore, Md.

Exchange Club Elects Falvey

New officers for the Birmingham Exchange Club, installed Dec. 18, include Don Falvey, president; John Townsend, first vice president; Richard Turner, second vice-president, and Fred Korte, social security coverage.

Elected to the board of control are George Scott, Vernon Haagenstad, Robert Thorson, Ernest Whinnoff, Harry Aten, Richard Wilson and Harlan Ritze.

The Birmingham Exchange Club was chartered in April, 1924, and is one of the country's first such organizations. Fifty members met each Tuesday noon for a luncheon program at the Community House.

The club's main fund-raising activity is an annual toothbrush sale each spring. Supported in part by the club are Camp Oakland and Wolverine Boys State, model airplane meet, dedication of freedom shrines at the three area high schools and various other youth activities.



WRAPPING UP a Christmas present for Camp Oakland are Mrs. Ben D. Mills and Director William J. Matus. They tie a ribbon around a model of a new home for boys who receive job training at the camp.

Labor Reports Show Rise in White Collar Jobs Here

In what way has the labor force in Birmingham changed in the last few years? How much job shifting has there been due to automation? What properties do workers are now in white collar occupations and what proportion in blue collar?

A special series of reports by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

Plan New Building For Job Trainees

A do-it-yourself project for boys who have dropped out of school will provide year-around quarters for them at Camp Oakland.

Plans for a home for 16 school dropouts receiving vocational training at the camp were announced today by Walter Gehrke, president of the Camp Oakland board of directors.

Instrumental in planning for the new building were Carl O. Barton, 586 E. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, and Oakland County Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore, both presidents of the camp's board. Barton is chairman of the camp's future planning and development committee.

Mrs. Ben D. Mills, 780 Vaughan Road, Bloomfield Hills, is chairman of the women's committee which has raised funds for new buildings by sponsoring several benefits for the camp.

THE NEW frame building will include a lounge, dining room, a front porch supported by white pillars and living quarters for 16 youths and a counselor. The design allows for future expansion to accommodate 16 more youths.

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Section Opens To Traffic on I-75 Freeway

A 12.5 mile section of the I-75 Freeway has been opened to traffic to complete the 35-mile-long Pontiac-Flint Freeway, the State Highway Department announced.

Pontiac City Manager Robert Storer, Oakland County Road Commission Chairman Sol Larson and assistant district construction engineer Lyle Lipp of the State Highway Department removed barricades in 3 1/2 ceremonies Dec. 14 to formally open the highway.

The new section extends the freeway from US-10 at Clarkston to M-24 at the northeast corner of Pontiac.

The Pontiac-to-Flint Freeway, built at a cost of \$26 million, will eliminate a number of traffic bottlenecks on the heavily traveled and well-known Dixie Highway (US-10).

By the end of next year, I-75 will be extended south 18 miles toward Detroit to the vicinity of 11 1/2 Mile Road. Completion of this 12.5 mile today gives Oakland County motorists a continuous 275 mile stretch of freeway as far north as the MacQuinn Bridge.

The I-75 Freeway is an extension of Detroit's Walter P. Chrysler Freeway. Eventually, I-75 will link Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. to Tampa, Fla.

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Happenings

(Continued from I-B)

30 YEARS AGO
Dec. 29, 1932

Opportunity for the public to voice objections and suggest revisions in Birmingham's proposed new city charter will be given at a hearing to be held in the Municipal Building at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 11. Calling for numerous vital changes in matters of taxation, finance, public improvements, powers of the municipal government, the proposed new charter provides for a seven-man commission, elected on a non-partisan ticket from the city at large, and for a manager as under the present village charter.

The first baby born in Bloomfield Township in 1933 will know nothing about the depression. In fact, it will experience genuine prosperity almost from the work of its entrance into the world. For The Birmingham Eccentric, in cooperation with nine local merchants support Camp Oakland and hope to encourage other counties or girls, to be presented to parents

Labor Reports Show Rise in White Collar Jobs Here

combined with data from the Department of Commerce, shed some light on the subject.

Locally, it is shown, many changes have taken place in the employment picture since 1950.

Most noticeable, in Birmingham, was a 77 per cent increase in the number of white collar workers. This was in line with the growing demand for clerical, management, professional and sales personnel.

"These occupations have attracted a large majority of the newcomers in the labor force as well as many of the blue collar workers who were displaced by machines and were no longer needed in their fields."

CLASSIFIED AS "blue collar" in the government's reports are craftsmen, machinists, foremen, operatives, farmers and other production workers.

In Birmingham, according to the findings, white collar workers now occupy 77.9 per cent of all jobs.

This is a higher ratio than prevails in most parts of the United States, where white collar jobs comprise 41.1 per cent of the total. In the East North Central States they amount to 40.0 per cent.

Locally, at the time of the Commerce Dept.'s 1960 tabulation, there were 7,141 men and women employed in white collar jobs and 2,926 in blue collar.

AS A RULE, the reports show, white collar workers enjoy greater job security than do others. They are more likely to hold year-round, full-time positions than are blue collar workers.

Even during the slumps in business activity, they are retained in their jobs, for the most part. Such is not the case in the other areas, where the blue collar workers are often laid off at such times.

It is noted that the highest rate of unemployment among white collar workers in the last 10 years was 3.2 per cent, in 1958. By comparison, it reached 10.1 per cent among blue collar workers.

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