



Birds-Eye View of Birmingham

Eccentric staff photographer R. Alan Mitchell and Birmingham Fire Marshall George Scott took advantage of the nice weather recently and went for an airplane ride over Birmingham. With Scott at the controls snapper Mitchell

got this impression of our city from the air. Looking south along Woodward and Hunter the First Congregational Church can be seen in the center foreground. In the middle of the photo Demery's, Jacobson's, Lake Jewelers and

Cunningham's are visible. The photo was taken with a crown graphic 4x5, set at 1/400 second at f 5.6. The film was plus X pan rated at 200 ASA. A medium yellow filter was used.

CON-CON REPORT

Harmony Reigns (Usually) at Convention

Bi-partisan action has been an on-again, off-again thing in Michigan's Constitutional Convention, but a close look at the votes of individual committees and the convention reveals an surprising amount of harmony.

At one point in the convention when many people both inside and out of Constitution Hall were declaring that nothing in the way of an acceptable new document could be agreed upon because of the vast amount of partisan strife involved, one delegate, who believed that the cry of "politics" was being amplified out of proportion to fact, decided to "take a look at the record."

DELEGATE HENRY Woolfenden (R-Bloomfield Hills) requested of research assistant Sarah Leuders a compilation of figures concerning the number of votes taken in committee and general sessions, the percentage of unanimous votes and the number of those votes which were definitely controversial. The results of this survey raised more than one eyebrow and many who had been deploring the fact that the delegates were in a stalemate because of continued haggling between political parties were forced to revise their perspective. Woolfenden's report showed that 327 sections of the old and proposed new constitutions had been introduced to the convention through the ten substantive committees. These sections were in the form of committee proposals or exclusion reports.

The committee proposed exclusion (or removal) of 87 sections. They recommended the other 240 sections be included in the proposed new document. The committee of the Whole (convention general session) approved 325 sections on first reading. This was an adjusted figure, providing for deletion of eight of the originally proposed sections and six new sections proposed and passed.

And now for the shocker that opened the eyes of all except the more optimistic delegates in the convention: Of the 327 sections to come out of the respective committees, 244, or 75 per cent, were voted out unanimously or without objection. There was a split vote on only 83, or 25 per cent.

THE PERCENTAGE of unanimity was nearly as great in Com-

mittee of the Whole action. Passed with a unanimous vote, or without objection, were 182 sections, or 55 per cent; those which were controversial, but passed without amendment, totalled 52 sections, or 16 per cent and sections which evoked controversy and were passed as amended totalled 98, or 29 per cent.

To put it more simply, in Committee of the Whole 71 per cent of the sections were passed unanimously, without objection, or without amendment. The other 29 per cent proved controversial and were amended before winning approval.

Action within the committee reflected considerably greater unanimity. Members of the Committee on Declaration of Rights, Suffrage Elections sent 89.7 per cent of their proposed sections to the convention without objection. Following closely were the committees on Miscellaneous Provisions and Schedule with 85.4 per cent solidarity. Executive Branch with 83.9, Legislative Powers with 83.7 and Emerging Problems with 80 per cent.

Slightly more controversy prevailed in the committee on Judicial Branch, where 77 per cent of the sections proposed were by unanimous vote. Following was Education with 73.9, Local Government with

57.5 and Legislative Organization with 57.1 per cent.

MOST LACKING in a united front was the Committee on Finance and Taxation, only 39.4 per cent of whose proposals were the result of unanimous committee action. These proposals fared much more successfully on the convention floor, where 66.7 per cent of the sections passed without dissent.

This committee was the only one in which more sections were the result of split votes than of unanimous action.

Due to the length of debate when controversial proposals were

discussed in Committee of the Whole, visitors to the convention may have had the mistaken impression that partisan or area bias overcame the delegates' honest intent to produce a lasting and workable constitution.

A study of the report compiled by Delegate Woolfenden and Miss Leuders and of the recorded votes in convention journals and committee minutes, proves that much more of the proposed new document will be the result of united acceptance than of divided action.

None of the lost has been recovered.

Golf Equipment Stolen in Township

Bloomfield Township — Golf equipment valued at \$600 was stolen early last Thursday from Ralph Yankee's Miracle Mile Golf Center, 2241 Franklin Road. The burglary was discovered by patrolmen of the township police on a routine check.

None of the lost has been recovered.

May 10, 1962 THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC 5-F

Seaholm Students Complete Training

Six girls from the junior and senior classes of Seaholm High School will be honored in a pinning and capping ceremony next Sunday afternoon at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital for completing their four-month training and orientation in the Youth Service in Hospitals program of the Oakland County chapter of American Red Cross.

The ceremony will include presentation of certificates, pins and uniform caps by Mrs. W. C. Spruill, 808 North Adams, Red Cross Gray Lady Chairman responsible for their training and supervision, and my Mrs. Alex Barazani, 1560 Cal-tapia, Royal Oak, volunteer coordinator of the Youth Service in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, where the girls completed their training.

Birmingham girls being honored are: Sandi Elliott, Debbie Love, Linda Scott, Nancy Spittle, Maurcen Johnson and Margaret Mangold. Eight others in the class are from Pontiac high schools.

The group receiving awards will continue their volunteer service in the hospital during their remaining high school years.

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