

# Safety Training Plan Keeps City's Approval

Birmingham city commissioners agreed Monday night to continue an education program with Holy Name School in regards to the Woodward-Harmon intersection. Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley said the program, designed to train students to use longer but safer routes to school, so far is proving effective.

The decision on a request to provide a school crossing guard at Woodward and Harmon could be delayed until the actual effectiveness of the training program is determined, city officials felt.

**MOXLEY OUTLINED** four different proposals that could be considered to make the crossing safer. One would be to install two, three-way, three-color overhead traffic signals at an estimated cost of \$3,000.

Another would be to provide a school crossing guard at a cost of about \$800 per year.

Extension of the center "left turn" lane on Woodward from Euclid to Oak St. is another possibility. This would give a buffer or "safe" area in the center of the street.

**THE FOURTH** possibility would be to install "School" signals such as are now used on W. Maple. The cost would be about \$900 per year.

A recent check at Woodward and Harmon, said Moxley, showed that only two children were still using the intersection since the educational program was instituted a few weeks ago.

Continuation of that program, he felt, would "reduce the accident potential for this entire area."

Another safety factor is the installation of a traffic signal at Woodward and Oak, authorized by commissioners last week.

This is designed to provide a gap in southbound Woodward traffic to give pedestrians a longer period of time for crossing the avenue.

At this week's meeting, commissioners appropriated \$115 for the installation costs involved to interconnect the Woodward-Oak signal with the Hunter-Oak light. The city also will pay a small rental fee to Michigan Bell Telephone Co. for use of its lines.

"This interconnection," said Moxley, "will result in a smoother traffic flow through the area."

Smith will address the group at 8 p.m. at the Birmingham Community House. He will point out ways in which Birmingham Democrats can begin now to work toward achieving success at the polls.

"We can elect Democrats in Oakland County," said Smith, "but only when Democrats in Oakland rally round as Democrats have in other areas across the nation."

Mrs. John McVay, 1678 Yosemite is the club chairman.

## Leland H. Smith To Address B'ham Democrats Meeting

Leland H. Smith, Democrat, who unsuccessfully opposed Pat R. Roberts for Michigan's 12th Senatorial seat in the recent election, will be guest speaker at next Tuesday's meeting of the Birmingham Democratic Club.

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## Coming to B'ham

One of the visitors to Jacobson's "Kids Night" tomorrow will be this charming young lady and her collection of hats. Children of all ages will be welcomed at the Children's shop at Woodward and Willits from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Also on hand for the kids will be Santa Claus and a Christmas choir.

# County Bows to State On Officers' Travel Pay

Oakland County's Board of Auditors has directed the county to end the advancement of travel expenses to law enforcement officers in the extradition of prisoners.

This is the first concession the county has made to State Auditor General Billie S. Farnum's audit report of Oct. 23 which charged Oakland County with the misuse of more than \$11,000 in tax money during the last 2 1/2 years.

Farnum claimed "advances for traveling expenses for county officials are not authorized by law." He "directed" that advances be stopped and that reimbursements be made after the expense is incurred.

**JOHN C. AUSTIN**, Board of Auditors chairman, said the board's ruling was based on a similar opinion of its corporation counsel, Norman Barnard, that advance payments for such expenses are illegal. Barnard offered his opinion after having studied Farnum's report.

Before Barnard's interpretation was issued, the county had advanced money to deputy sheriffs, State Police officers and local policemen who traveled out of the county to bring back prisoners.

Police officers were then required to file expense accounts upon their return with the prisoners.

County Prosecutor George F. Taylor, unhappy with the "directive," said officers assigned to such cases will continue to get travel money in advance despite the coun-

ty ruling. He said he would advance the necessary funds from his own pocket when needed.

Austin pointed out that the Legislature has passed a law allowing advances to sheriff's deputies which will go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns. The Legislature is still legally recessed.

**CLARIFICATION** BY the new law allows that "the board of supervisors by resolution may authorize the county treasurer to advance funds to sheriff's deputies for expenses involved in extraditing prisoners from other states."

Taylor, who called the legislation "asinine," said it would put sheriff's deputies in a "preferential position."

Oakland County's board of supervisors last week approved a Ways and Means Committee report which rejected most of Farnum's findings.

They pointed out that "of concern to the committee is the growing tendency, as indicated by this recent State report, for the State to attempt to dictate to the county and to the Board of Supervisors in areas of policy and administration which are reserved in the Constitution for the county . . ."

**DESPITE FARNUM'S** criticism, the Board said it will continue to pay the chairman of the Board \$25 a meeting, instead of the \$15 paid to other members.

Members of the Board will also continue to draw additional pay as members of county drainage and

## Zone Ruling Upheld By Judge Adams

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP** — variation to allow erection of a retirement home on Squirrel Road. Judge Adams ruled that the board had not abused its discretion in refusing to allow the acreage to be developed for a home for senior citizens.

The project, known as St. Anne's Meade, was under the auspices of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan.

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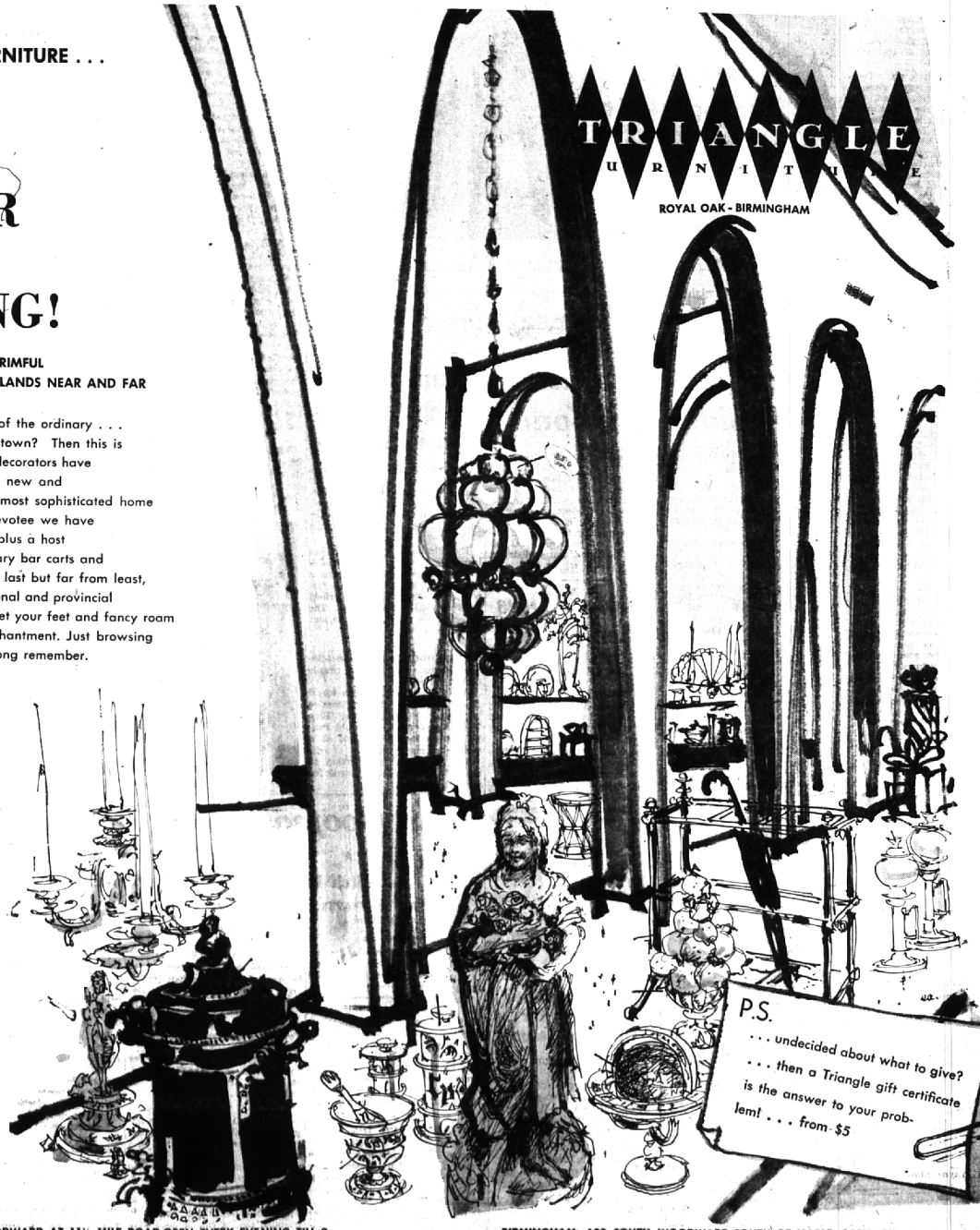
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