# Library Groups to Propose New State Aid Law for 1963

A proposed new state aid law for Michigan's 325 public libraries is being discussed across the state at regional meetings sponsored by the Michigan State Board for Libraries, Michigan Library Association and the Michigan Council for Better Libraries, according to Miss Genevieve M. Casey, state librarian and board secretary.

The proposed law, which will be presented to the 1963 Legislature, embodies a new state aid formula calling for an increase in state aid from $420,000 to $2.5 million to encourage "systems" of libraries in Michigan.

Miss Casey defines a system as "one or more public libraries, maintained by one or more governmental units, serving a population of at least 100,000 or an area of 4,000 square miles."

ACCORDING TO MISS CASEY, the new state aid formula would provide grants to systems of libraries amounting to no more than 30 cents per capita served but no less than 10 cents. Present state aid, based on a per capita basis to individual libraries, is only five cents. Miss Casey said, "In 1961, only 195 of the state's 325 public libraries qualified for state aid and of those, 95 received less than $100.

"The proposed formula also provides incentive grants to systems which extend service to unserved areas. Libraries not affiliated with a system would receive no less than they are getting under the present state aid law."

Miss Casey added, "The new state aid formula would provide realistic library service because it encourages larger units of service while retaining local support and autonomy and extends library service to the one million people in Michigan now without it. Because it will take time for libraries to form their own patterns of cooperation, the program is gradual and guarantees that no library give more than it receives.

"Which libraries choose to affiliate, and what patterns of cooperation they elect are, according to the proposed legislation, a matter of local initiative and judgment.

"In order to qualify for benefits, however, a system would have to submit a plan for improved service to the State Board for Libraries. The system would be managed by a local governing body selected from trustees of member libraries."

THE NEW FORMULA was drafted by a committee comprised of representatives of various library groups, specialists in state aid and municipal finance and members of the state controllers and Executive offices.

Miss Casey cited examples of library systems already working in Michigan:

—Wayne county public library system which serves 700,000 persons through affiliated community libraries.

—North Oakland Library Cooperative which serves over 100,000 persons in one city and six townships by contract for shared resources.

—Mid-Michigan Library League, a regional public library cooperative organization in Manistee, Wexford, Mason, Lake, Osceola, Newaygo and Mecosta counties enabling 18 libraries to share books, films and recordings.

—Flint public library which serves a city population of about 200,000 through branches and bookmobiles, and extends help to other neighboring libraries by agreement with the State Library.

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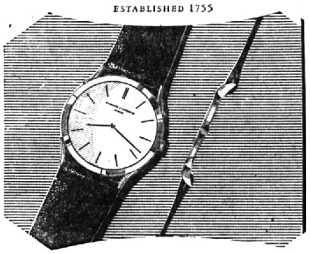

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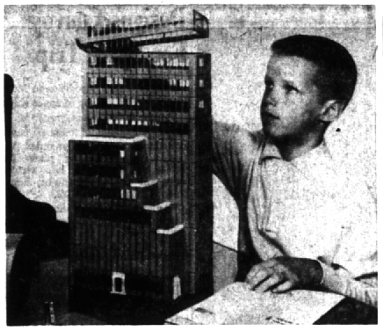

## New Skyscraper

A strikingly-new, steel construction toy that reproduces in scale models today's architectural trend, curtain-wall construction. Careful attention to true scale, flexibility of design that allows a wide variety of different shaped floor plans, and the combination of colorful, enameled panels—highlighted by bright steel verticals — and plastic accessories produce the architectural realism that will delight even the most critical model fan.

## State Fair To Feature Teen Fair

The Michigan State Fair will feature a Teen-Age Fair as part of the 1963 State Fair, August 23 through September 2 in Detroit.

"This will be a 'fair within the Fair', operated by private individuals as a concession which would include exhibits and entertainment beamed at teen-agers," explained General Manager Walter A. Goodman.

The Teen-Age Fair will occupy an area approximately 500 feet by 500 feet along the State Fair Avenue side extending to Woodward Avenue. Featured will be fashion and beauty reviews, popular recording artists, custom and dream car shows, sports displays and scientific and educational exhibits of special interest to teen-agers.

TEEN-AGE FAIR INC., first produced on the west coast last year, was highly recommended as an attraction by the Los Angeles County Fair Association and the Western Association of Fairs.

The authority, upon recommendation of Chairman Joseph H. Kurka Jr., also voted to abolish admission to its Coliseum programs thus completing the move for free admission to all State Fair sponsored entertainment. The Grandstand program has been free for a number of years along with the Music Shell and other musical programs on the grounds.

An expansion of the highly successful "Music Everywhere at the Fair" policy is slated for the 1963 Fair. Last year bands played from morning to late evening for the entire ten day run in many locations on the grounds in an open air series of free concerts.

The authority also renewed contracts for 1963 with the following directors: Polly Luers, home arts; Cleighton Melin, music and parades; Carolyn Burns, club house activities; Edward Anthony, art director; Marion Richards, first aid director and Dick Frederick, publicity and advertising director.

Dear Santa Claus,

I am Beverly. I talked to you downtown yesterday. I told you what I wanted for Christmas. I thought of something else I wanted. If you think I am being a good girl I would like Mr. Ed the talking horse record and the wisard of oz recard too. I will leave a big surprise for you and your reindeen and Mrs. Claus and all your Christmas carol helpers. Have fun on your sleigh on Christmas night. And tell everybody to have a mery Christmas too.

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Beverly
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Love
Ellen

## Kilometers May Replace Miles

Your car speedometer would read in kilometers as well as miles if a distinguished scientist had his way.

Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, recommends the above system as a start to changing over to the metric system in the U.S.

"The English speaking peoples are causing themselves unnecessary inconvenience . . . in clinging to the ancient system of measurements," he said in an MSU lecture.

"Scientists everywhere use the metric system," he declared. "What a scientist measures in one country can be verified by a scientist in another country. This is what makes the system so powerful."

The MEA has become the eighth member of the Michigan Association of Professions which was created in 1958. MAP will present a united front for all members in the areas of public relations, legislation, education and business services and techniques.

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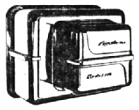

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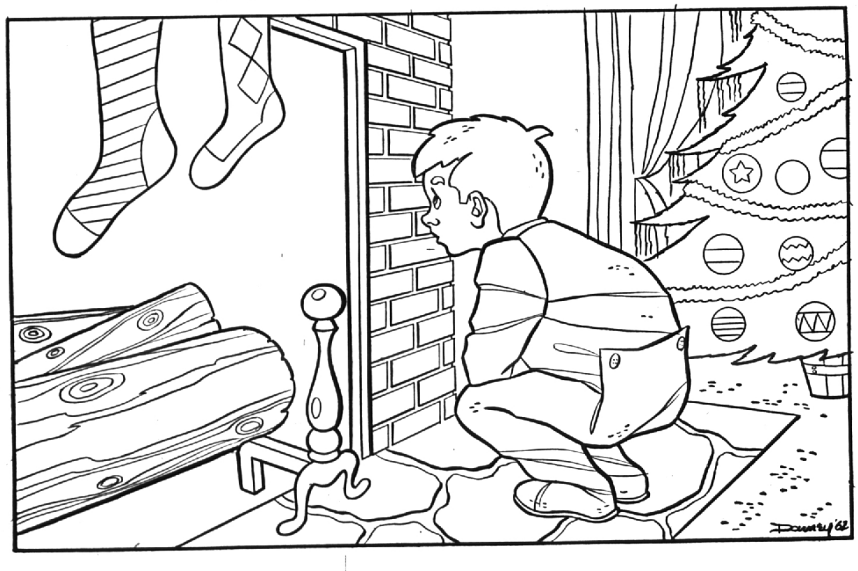

## FIRST PRIZE—SCHWINN BICYCLE (Boy's or Girl's)

**SECOND PRIZE: Watch • THIRD PRIZE $25.00 Savings Bond**

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**WHO MAY ENTER!** ANY BOY OR GIRL OF SCHOOL AGE, UP TO AND INCLUDING THE SIXTH GRADE, RESIDING IN THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC CIRCULATION AREA.

### CONTEST RULES

Read Carefully

1. Official Eccentric entry blank must be attached securely to each entry.
2. The entries will be judged on the basis of neatness, originality of thought and beauty. In making their selections the judges will take the age of the entrant into consideration. Children of employees of The Eccentric are not eligible to enter.
3. There is no entry fee or other fee of any kind.
4. You may submit as many entries as you wish, provided each is accompanied by a separate entry blank.
5. Fill out the entry blank completely. Have your mother or father go over it with you to be sure all the information is clear and distinct. Have your parents print (or type) your entry blank if necessary, so we can list your name correctly if you win a prize.
6. Mail or bring your entry to: Christmas Coloring Contest, The Birmingham Eccentric, 1225 Bowers, Birmingham. All entries become the property of the Eccentric. No entries will be returned.
7. Judging will be done by Wally Downey, art director; Eveline Oen, arts editor and Glen Michaels, supervisor of the Cranbrook Young People's Art Center.
8. All entries must be in or postmarked by midnight, Wednesday, December 12th. Winners will be announced in The Eccentric, Thursday, December 20th, week preceding Christmas.

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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(Fill out Completely—See Rules)

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CITY .....

SCHOOL ..... GRADE .....

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