



Do you very often do something or say something that you should not have done or said? Don't you wish you could have a sort of invisible private secretary who could be at your elbow all day long to remind you of the right thing to do or say—or to remember, most of all, don't need to be told so much as to be reminded. Well, you can't have such a secretary, but you can acquire the habit of reminding yourself... by writing yourself brief daily reminders.

This and That

by George R. Averill
Romney-to-Scholle Like Kim Sigler's

Gov. George Romney's willingness to appoint Aune Scholle, one of the UAW-CIO's Michigan labor chieftains, to some nonpolitical state board or commission takes me back to a day in late 1947 when I served the late Gov. Kim Sigler as his executive secretary.

You recall that, during the recent Michigan gubernatorial campaign, Gus Scholle was perhaps Romney's most vocal critic. Gus even labelled Romney as "a slick car salesman." Yet the present governor, the first one wearing the Republican label since Sigler lost to G. Mennen Williams, is not one to "bear a grudge" against a person... especially if said person can, in this case, serve his state in an official capacity.

In Sigler's 1946 campaign, I was with Kim during all of it. He and I had been friends for many years. You may remember, too, that Sigler's entry into that campaign was as an opponent to the long established "political hierarchy" dominated by Frank D. McKay, Grand Rapids millionaire, and Ed Barnard, Detroit lawyer of considerable wealth.

SIGLER DID WIN his party's nomination, and later defeated Democrat Murray D. (Pat) Van Wageningen for the governorship.

During that campaign, Gus Scholle worked hard to elect Sigler. Gus and his labor group assumed that Kim, unlike most prior Republican governors, would give labor more consideration. To more than usual extent, Sigler did, too. But to get back to Gus, as my story latches on to the present Romney attitude toward the militant UAW-CIO.

Gov. Sigler, on this day, was away from Lansing... may have been outside the state. Into the office came a stranger who sought an audience with the governor. The office receptionist brought this chap over to my desk. This man had to say, as near as I can remember his words:

Gus Scholle, as you know, Mr. Averill, was appointed by Gov. Sigler to the Michigan Economic Development Commission. He sup- (See THIS & THAT, 5-A)

2 Localities Named To Hospital Group

Commissioner William E. Roberts and John E. Martz, 724 Lake, have been re-appointed Birmingham representatives on the South Oakland Hospital Authority.

City commissioners made the announcement of the reappointments at Monday night's meeting.

The governing body of the SOHA is a hospital board consisting of one member from each municipality for each 20,000 residents.



PAYING BILLS and setting up a budget for a family with more than 25,500 members is the job of the Birmingham finance department. Finance Director James H. Purkiss and deputy Genevieve Wahl are responsible for seeing that all of Birmingham's bills are paid and that the best financial interests of the city are looked out for.

Finance Department: 'We Pay the Bills'

The following is another in a series of articles The Eccentric is presenting on the various departments in the city of Birmingham. It deals with the Finance Department.

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

The office of finance is one of the newest departments in the city of Birmingham. It was created by a charter amendment in 1952. Previously, all of the city's financial affairs had been handled by the treasurer's office.

The finance director is responsible for financial planning, budgeting, purchasing, reporting and control. It is his job to look out for the best interests of the city in all financial matters.

SINCE 1954 the post of Birmingham finance director has been held by James H. Purkiss, Jr. Prior to coming to Birmingham, Purkiss worked for General Motors Truck and Coach Division in Pontiac.

"We pay the bills," smiled Purkiss. The department pays all of Birmingham's suppliers, vendors and for services performed for the city.

Purkiss and his staff do all the bookkeeping for the various city accounts. They also keep separate accounts for items of appropriation contained in the city budget.

REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND

Beverly Hills Residents, Officials Speak Minds on Charter Proposition

By KAY SMITH
Special Writer

BEVERLY HILLS—The voters of this village will make a decision March 11. They will either adopt the proposed charter or continue to make the office of village clerk appointive or they will decide to leave the charter in its original form, which provides for election of the village clerk.

In a year that has been filled with questions like water mains, road programs and sidewalks to draw debate, the charter amendment question has attracted widespread comment. Six of the seven council members are for it. The remaining councilman feels that the village needs an elective clerk.

AT THE NOV. 19 council meeting at which the proposal was discussed, several citizens spoke against the proposed amendment. These included residents and representatives of property associations. Several of the letter and members of the Beverly Hills Planning Commission.

Statements from councilmen and from those residents who have expressed opposition were sought by this newspaper.

COUNCILMAN CLAUDE A. SHEPARD is chairman of the committee which was appointed in 1961 to look over the charter and suggest improvements.

His opinion on the matter is: "I don't like the thought of a position as important as that of clerk being elective, since you can never be sure when there will be a year in which no qualified person will run. It could be as unsatisfactory as electing a village manager."

"A clerk requires experience, and some training should certainly be done. We have not had the problem so far, but we don't know whether in the next election, or the one after that, the qualified people will run, particularly now that we have no deputy clerk."

MOST OF THE other councilmen agree.

"The original charter was written to provide an elective village clerk to establish a check-and-balance municipal operation," Councilman Chester A. Guilmet comments. "After a four-year trial period, functionally this system has not proved satisfactory."

"The purpose of the proposed amendment is to strengthen the position of village clerk by having the council fully responsible for the total activity of village government and to establish an efficient and capable over-all village municipality."

COMMISSIONER Carl F. Ingraham said that he felt that the "young fellow should get the job."

Commissioner Charles A. Kenfrew said that he "emotionally felt the same way, especially since there was no strong opposition by the administration." He also noted that the city would save 25 per cent over the old contract.

The commissioners voted unanimously to award the contract to Modern Maintenance.

EDWARD M. (TED) SHURTEFF was the only councilman to vote "no" on the proposal to place the amendment on the ballot.

"I'm against an appointive clerk," Shurteff explained. "I think the advantages offset the disadvantages. An appointive clerk might be less inclined to work for the governmental activity. He or she would have to consult with his or her superior on everything."

"The clerk, being the center of what is going on in the village office, should be able to answer questions immediately. I think the day-by-day operation of the office needs an elective clerk."

OLIVER C. LILLIE, a member of the planning board and former president of the West Beverly Association, also feels the clerk's office should be left elective.

"We'd be making a mistake putting in a village clerk as an ordinary clerk," according to Lillie. "The village clerk is an administrative office and if we make an appointive there will be no elected official in the village office."

Dr. Douglas J. Wood, also a councilman, is in favor of an appointive clerk.

"I feel if the clerk were appointed instead of elective, there would be a little more efficiency in the running of the village office."

"At present, the clerk's duties are limited by the charter and he or she cannot be given other administrative duties. We would have a greater measure of control over the office work with an appointed clerk."

Council President Marvin B. Cline was out of the state until late in January and was unavailable for comment.

EDWARD F. DOLAN, chairman of the planning board, feels that the elective clerk is more desirable.

"The reason put forth in drafting the original charter was that it would provide a system of checks and balances. In my opinion, by virtue of its being an elective office, the clerk can more efficiently apply the checks and balances, which an appointive clerk cannot do."

J. Keith Stuart, also of the planning board and the West Beverly Association, agrees that the charter should not be changed. In his opinion it was "arranged purposely always to have an elected official in the village office."

A RESIDENT of the village, Mrs. Fred Braun, 22435 Hillside, expresses her view that there is no advantage to the average resident in changing the clerk's position to an appointive office.

(See CHARTER, 4-A)

MISS SIGRID FRANK, former Miss Freedom Festival and a judge in the JA semi-finals.

Young Firm Gets Bid on Maintenance

Youth won a victory at the Birmingham City Commission meeting on Monday when a 25 per cent savings to the city.

Modern Maintenance Co. was awarded an 11-month maintenance contract for up-keep of the municipal building.

David C. Beare of Modern Maintenance had submitted a bid of \$920 per month, which was 25 per cent less than that of the firm holding the contract, Janitor Service, Inc.

BEARE'S BID was the same as X-Port Maintenance Co., but the city administration recommended that he not be awarded the contract because of his inexperience in the field. Beare has only been in the business for about three months.

Commissioner William E. Roberts asked if there was any other reason "except experience" that Beare was not awarded the contract.

Assistant City Manager Robert S. Kenning said that the administration had "no disposition against Modern Maintenance" and that the owner was highly recommended by other contractors.

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Library Plan Meeting Topic In Township

Bloomfield Township officials will meet with Baldwin Library officials Saturday morning, hoping to evolve a plan whereby the township will obtain library facilities for its residents.

If temporary library service is obtained, township officials have indicated that they will ask for a special millage election for a permanent library sometime this year. One mill, which would provide \$138,000, is the figure board members have used in discussing possible library plans.

TWO PLANS suggested by the Birmingham library as a temporary arrangement were discussed at the township board meeting Monday night. They were both rejected by board members.

One plan, a bookmobile to serve temporarily until the township could erect its own library facilities, was rejected immediately.

"A second plan—operation of a library in rented quarters—was disapproved because of the cost figures. Including \$25,000 for purchase of books, the plan would run to approximately \$72,000 a year without rental figures included.

\$20,000 Damage Caused by Fire

SOUTHFIELD—A fire which is believed to have started or near a heating unit suspended from the dining room ceiling of a restaurant Sunday morning may have caused damage as high as \$20,000, firemen said.

Two Southfield fire stations, assisted by the Franklin department, fought the fire at DeFrancesco Fine Food, 28815 Northwesterly, owned by Joseph DeFrancesco, 28718 Cass, Southfield.

The fire caused extensive damage in the dining room, kitchen and lavatory.



Vies for JA Title

Kathy Allison (right), 17, will vie for the title of Miss Achievement of Southeastern Michigan at area-wide finals in Detroit Jan. 25. She is the daughter of Mrs. Alice M. Allison, 4443 Derry, Bloomfield Hills. Miss Allison was chosen Miss Achievement of the North Detroit Suburban area and will reign over area activities during National Junior Achievement Week Jan. 27-Feb. 2. With her here is Miss Sigrid Frank, former Miss Freedom Festival and a judge in the JA semi-finals.

Dimes Drive Official Says Funds Needed

Polio is not a thing of the past for six-year-old Ellen Lewis, 968 Smith, Birmingham.

The Salk and Sabin vaccines, developed with March of Dimes-supported research, have removed the threat of the dread disease now—but the vaccines did not come in time for Ellen.

She was stricken when she was a year old and wears a long brace. Ellen was helped from the beginning by March of Dimes funds.

To continue helping her—and the 120,000 other Americans who continue to bear the afflictions of polio—the March of Dimes must raise funds every year, explained Arthur J. Lake, 345 Tilbury, Birmingham chairman for the 25th annual March of Dimes drive this month.

FUNDS ARE needed, too, he said, to support March of Dimes research and treatment in two other major areas of crippling: arthritis and birth defects.

The need is there but the treasury is bare, Lake said.

The 1963 goal for Birmingham is \$10,000, he announced.

In Bloomfield Township the goal is \$6,000, and in Troy it is \$2,600.

Alternate Route for Sewer, Library Service Top Action

By IRMA N. DAVIS
Township Editor

LATHRUP—Approval of an alternate route for the storm water sewer and an advance toward putting the question of library service for the city on the ballot highlighted Monday's council meeting.

Approval was given to revised rules of order and procedure for council meetings, aimed at expediting the conduct of city business at the meetings.

By switching from the original route which would have utilized an easement for the storm water sewer on land owned by Mrs. Louise Kelley, the city will preclude necessity for a condemnation suit to get this easement. It was needed to lay storm sewer lines from Santa Barbara to the Evans ditch in the area of Roseland.

MRS. KELLEY had earlier indicated that she would sign the easement if the city would guarantee in writing that two-story brick garden apartments could be erected on a 12-acre site she owns in another section of the city.

Mayor Richard N. Cogger had described the offer as a "deal" in early October when a letter from Mrs. Kelley was read to the council.

In November, Mrs. Kelley announced that the land had been sold and said later that her signature would still be required because her land contract on the sale was involved.

The change order Monday night will make use of a right-of-way to allow lines to intercept others to the north.

ON THE PROPOSAL for library service for Lathrup residents, City Attorney Everett Hayes was directed to have a ballot proposition ready for action at the next council meeting. If it is to be presented for voter approval at the April 1 election, it must be acted upon by the council at least 60 days in advance.

As presently projected, the voters would decide on an ad valorem tax of three-tenths of one mill, based on state equalized assessed valuation of property. The proposal would permit the council to appoint a provisional library board which could contract for service with a library system outside Lathrup.

If approved, the tax would be levied at council discretion in the event service could not be contracted.

Chrysler Realigns Executive Staff

IRVING J. MINETT of 675 Poppleton, Birmingham, is one of nine top Chrysler executives who report directly to Lynn A. Townsend, Chrysler chairman, in a realignment and said later that her signature would still be required because her land contract on the sale was involved.

Townsend of 5991 Orchard Bend, Birmingham, has announced the changes as the result of an 18-month study. Minnett, a group vice president, is responsible for international operations.

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