

Brant Appointed To B'ham Board

Bronson Brant was appointed to the Birmingham Fire Prevention Board of Appeals by city commissioners Monday night. He replaces R. L. O'Connell who resigned from the board because he is no longer a Birmingham resident. Brant is a retired Detroit Edison engineer and lives at 1010 Henrietta.

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Jaycees Name Judges for Service Award

The Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce has announced the names of the judges for the annual Distinguished Service Award. The judges are Frank Pipher, treasurer of the Community House Board; William E. Roberts, Birmingham city commissioner; Harris Machus, Chamber of Commerce president; Charles Mortensen, Chamber of Commerce manager, will assist the judges.

The winner of the award will be announced at the annual Jaycee dinner Jan. 23 at the Kingsley Inn. All persons who were nominated for the award will receive a certificate of appreciation from the Jaycees for their service to the community.

Fleet Miles Total Enough for One Bus Around the World

Oakland County's school bus fleet racks up a daily total mileage that could take one bus around the world, according to figures released by Edwin J. Hendershott, director of transportation for the County Board of Education. Daily school bus mileage in the county was 24,627 during the 1961-62 school year; total mileage for the year was 9,919,026. These figures do not include field trips, Hendershott said, but only home-to-school transportation.

There were 416 buses in the 23 school districts which have to transport pupils. Each bus carried at least two different loads of pupils, according to the figures. A total of 57,736 children were transported in 24,196 seats.

Blue Cross, Blue Shield Ask Rate Increases

Michigan Blue Cross and Blue Shield has filed simultaneous requests with Insurance Commissioner Wood Colburn for approval of new rates, effective in March. Both plans are currently operating at a loss. The new rates are the amounts actuarially calculated to maintain both Blue Cross and Blue Shield on a sound financial basis for the next two years, running to March of 1965.

At the same time, William S. McNary of Blue Cross and Sumner G. Whittier, executive director of Blue Shield, pointed out that groups and subscribers will still have a choice of coverages. These include Blue Cross-Blue Shield deductible-type contracts which will cost slightly less than the present rates for the Blue Cross Comprehensive and Blue Shield M-78 contracts most subscribers now have.

THE SPOKESMAN for the plan emphasized that their governing boards are well aware that the sharp upward trends in the cost of prepaid health care protection must be halted or slowed if humanly possible. They said both Blue Cross and Blue Shield are continuing to take aggressive steps in a variety of areas to do everything possible to slow up these increases.

They added, however, that a rate adjustment is imperative at this time if the plan are to continue to provide the ever-increasing amount of good hospital and medical care needed by members.

They said the new rates will

provide approximately 27 per cent more combined income. This is the amount needed to meet a continuing pattern of rising hospital costs and greater use of needed hospital and doctor-services. The exact percentage and dollar amounts will vary somewhat, depending on the specific subscriber contract.

McNARY AND Whittier declared that this pattern of rising costs and use of more service in Michigan parallels the nation-wide pattern. They stressed that except for operating costs, which are at a record low of less than 4 1/2 cents on the dollar, all other Blue Cross-Blue Shield income—more than 95 cents on the dollar—is paid out in benefits.

Benefit payments are now exceeding this figure at an accelerating rate. "We had to draw almost \$5-million from reserves in 1962 and without an adequate increase, they will be exhausted in a matter of months," McNary said. Blue Cross filed specifically for rates to yield 29.3 per cent in income and Blue Shield asked for rates to bring in 23.9 per cent more income. This means about a 27 per cent increase in combined income and average rates.

Problem

(Continued from 1-A)

Birmingham has "a superior public library burdened by a severe problem—a large amount of non-resident use."

BALDWIN LIBRARY'S main support is derived from a 1 1/2 mill library tax levied by the city commission against all taxable property in the city.

Nonresidents pay a total \$16,350 or \$165.00 per year for a family card, with the exception of Beverly Hills who are exempt. The village collects from them for library permits and in turn pays Baldwin \$12,146 on a contract basis.

Nonresidents use 28 per cent of the library's services but pay only 14 per cent of its tax cost, Wetzeman says. He terms this heavy nonresident use the "overriding problem facing the library."

HE BELIEVES that too much is presently being demanded of the library staff and its resources in comparison to its financial support.

Salary schedules should be upgraded so that they are equivalent to those paid by the city or the school system and the staff should be increased in view of present work loads and to anticipate future developments, he says. The library presently employs about 32 persons, including the janitor and part-time help.

In addition, the library has a director plus a library board of six members.

BALDWIN RANKED eighth in expenditures on books and periodicals in a comparison with the 10 similar communities in 1961. Expenditures totaled about \$12,000 or 8.5 per cent of total expenditures.

Wetzeman believes the total expenditures for books should be closer to an annual \$25,000 to maintain an adequate collection and that Baldwin should build toward a goal of about 100,000 volumes. Its volume in the comparison chart was listed at 69,000.

AS FOR THE present building, he notes its convenient location, good interior arrangement and the increase in size due to the recent addition.

However, he concludes, it may be necessary to enlarge this building again if the city becomes the hub for a larger library system.

Such a system, with specific recommendations by Wetzeman, will be covered in another article in this series.

Police Request Sanity Hearing For Thorson

The Wayne County Prosecutor's office has requested a sanity hearing on Robert M. Thorson but must wait until other preliminary matters in the case are heard before the courts will act on the request.

Recorder's Court Presiding Judge Paul E. Krause has ruled that he would not set a date for the hearing before paperwork and pretrial examination and arraignment were completed.

Thorson, 31, of 2353 Buckingham, is charged with the Dec. 4 death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Dorothy M. Thomas. He is in the Wayne County Jail awaiting trial on the charge.

Detroit police have said that Thorson has "appeared to lapse into a semi-comatose" state on several occasions. Homicide Det. Lt. Sebastian Elfrid said that Thorson has suffered several "blackouts."

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Toilet Seat
In white, tan, black, coral, blue, pink, yellow, grey, green. Reg. 4.95 **\$3.88**

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West Bend junior broiler. Reg. 2.25 **\$1.88**

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CANE SUGAR, 5 lbs. 49c
GROSSE POINTE TOMATOES, 303 Can 2 for 33c
HEINZ CATSUP 2 for 49c

SMUCKER'S STRAWBERRY PRESERVES, 12 oz. jar, 2 for 65c
LIBBY TOMATO JUICE 46 oz. Can 3 for 89c
Richelieu Raggedy Ann PEACH HALVES, 2 1/2 can 36c
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FRENCH GREEN BEANS (or cut) 9 oz. 2-39c
CRISCO, 3 lb. can 79c
SCOTT TISSUE White or Colored, 8 rolls 99c

Charter

(Continued from 3-A)

"It will just centralize the operation of the village office further in the village manager, and there will be no appeal. We need an elected official in the village office who will not defer to the appointed officials."

Councilman John A. McClanahan says: "Establishing the position of village clerk as an elective office was thought desirable and necessary by those drafting the village charter. In actual practice, this provision has not proved necessary, and in the interest of improving efficiency in our village government, some of the original writers of the charter, feel that the clerk should be appointed and responsible to the council."

WILLIAM BAILEY, 18129 Locherie, vice president of the West Beverly Association, says: "Our association board favors the elective office. We favored it from the start, we feel that in the way it should be conducted. Most municipalities do it this way."

Former village clerk Mrs. Fannie Adams told The Eclectic that she was in favor of an appointive clerk. "The office should be appointive because the clerk does not have a vote on the council and therefore it's not important," she says. "The appointed clerk, and also any deputy appointed, should be under the jurisdiction of the council. The clerk would be more concerned about fulfilling the duties set up under the charter and not be worrying about campaigning for election. A job well done will retain an experienced clerk."

ACCORDING TO Village Attorney Thomas J. Dillon, the amendment resolution has been sent to the governor's office for Gov. George Romney's approval. If he approves it will go on the March 11 ballot.

If he should not approve it, two courses of action are open to the council: it can amend the resolution in accordance with the governor's suggestions, or it can pass a resolution to place the proposal on the ballot without the governor's signature. A two-thirds majority then would be necessary to pass it."

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

4% PENALTY will be added on all County & School taxes due December 1, 1962 on properties in the City of Birmingham if payment is not received in the office of the City Treasurer by January 21, 1963.

AVOID THIS PENALTY BY PAYING YOUR TAXES NOW. If you have not received a tax bill on property owned by you, notify the City Treasurer's Office at once.

Russell T. Berger
City Treasurer

Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Monday thru Friday
Closed Saturdays

TROY NATIONAL BANK

TROY, MICHIGAN
STATEMENT OF CONDITION
DECEMBER 31, 1962

ASSETS	
Cash and Due from Banks	435,096.00
U. S. Government Securities	500,812.50
U. S. Guaranteed Loans	199,922.27
Loans — Other	1,135,880.86
Bank Buildings and Equipment	857,029.16
Other Securities	8,267.59
Accrued Income	12,000.00
Other Assets	9,359.20
Other Assets	8,200.00
TOTAL ASSETS	2,030,686.80

LIABILITIES

Deposits	1,528,612.88
Other Liabilities	2,062.56
Deferred Income	4,349.92
Capital	200,000.00
Surplus	200,000.00
Profit and Reserves	95,671.44
	495,671.44
	2,030,686.80

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