

Rush Season Offices Ready for Licenses

Temporary "rush season" offices of the Michigan Dept. of State have been opened to assist residents of widely scattered areas of Oakland, Wayne and Macomb Counties, according to Gordon Traye, deputy secretary of state.

Located in areas where there is no permanent branch license plate office nearby, these sub-offices will provide tab-sales service to residents of those areas.

Those now open are located in the Madison Center, Madison Heights, 12 Mile and John R.; Eastgate Federal Store in Roseville; the Eastland Shopping Center; the Northland Shopping Center; the Wonderland Shopping Center in Livonia; in Garden City at Plymouth and Middlebelt Roads; and at the Redford Township Police Station.

INAUGURATED by Secy. of State James M. Hare, this service will handle much of the overflow of the crowd of late January and February tab-buying time.

"We have found such offices to be of double benefit," Hare stated, "in providing a necessary service to residents of the area and in lessening the crowd of late-comers at our permanent branch offices."

Most Detroit area Dept. of State license plate offices will remain open daily and Saturdays through tab buying deadline, Feb. 28.

MICHIGAN MIRROR

State Highway Dept. Sells Millions in Excess Land

By ELMER E. WHITE
Michigan Press Association

Odd as it may sound the State Highway Dept. is one of the state's biggest real estate "dealers."

Deputy Highway Commissioner Frederick E. Tripp reports the department has sold more than \$3.7 million in excess land during the past three years.

Spending millions to buy land on which to build new highways, the department attempts to sell parcels unused when construction is complete. The parcels may be part of a package needed during construction but are no longer needed when this phase of work is done.

DURING THE LAST three years Tripp said, 1,180 parcels of excess land were sold with money returning into the construction fund. About \$3 million of the sale proceeds came from sales at public auctions which returned the properties to local tax rolls.

The remainder of the land was sold to the Conservation Dept., counties, or municipalities for public use. State agencies and local government units get first bids on the excess land, which they can purchase at the appraised price.

In public auction, the highest bidder takes the property, but the appraised value is the minimum bid that can be submitted.

THE OPENING of the 1963 Legislature, marked by victories in both houses for the so-called moderate Republicans, augurs well for Gov. George Romney.

In the Senate, new majority caucus leader Stanley Thayer of Ann Arbor, has indicated his Republican group will be solidly behind the Governor's programs.

Even Sen. John P. (Joe) Smeekens, Coldwater Republican, considered the leader of the conservative GOP members, says he expects smooth sailing for Romney's efforts.

WITH SMEEKENS' SUPPORT, the roadblocks met by Democratic programs in previous years apparently would be almost invisible.

The House poses possibly a greater challenge this year for the new Governor. It has not been tested and key committee positions.

The House leadership appears stringently behind the GOP chief executive, but a number of previously considered conservatives still hold key committee positions.

It appears at the start of the session, however, that any holdouts from the old school in the House Senate colleagues that the Grand Old Party must stick together if

they are to survive future elections.

LITTLE IS LIKELY to be done in the early months of the session.

With the prospect of Lynn Bartlett dropping out of the race for Sept. of Public Instruction, Republicans will be hard pressed to name a well-known candidate.

Bartlett's possible retirement from public office could provide the GOP with the inroad they need into the State Administrative Board.

Romney would like at least one member of his party with him on the now all-Democratic board.

The Apr. 1 balloting on the proposed constitution also will call for considerable campaigning by the Governor and the legislators. With a number of new Legislature members former delegates to the Constitutional Convention, Romney undoubtedly will ask for help from them in the campaign.

DURING THE LAST six months of 1962, Michigan's Economic Development Dept. noted strong evidence of progress, supporting a prediction made last year by the department's research chief.

At that time Dr. Paul A. Herbert forecast the year 1962 would be one of economic progress. A year-end report by the department showed some 3.8 million square feet of vacant industrial plant space was put back to use.

Some 2.4 million square feet of this was returned to use during the last half of the year.

Now Herbert predicts that the state will show additional improvement this year.

"THE MILD RECESSION for the United States forecast last year by some economists for the latter part of 1962 did not occur in Michigan," he said. "Other experts held the viewpoint that a drop in business would certainly come early in 1963. This also is not likely to happen in Michigan."

Herbert noted, however, that whatever happens nationally after mid-year will probably also take place here. "If there is a decline, it will not be as serious here as in some states that compete with Michigan."

Herbert warned, however, even greater progress than is expected must take place before Michigan's unemployment problem is eliminated. Another good year is expected to bring the state's unemployment rate closer to the national average, though.

Happenings

(Continued from 1-B)

A new low level in Birmingham during 1932, according to the annual police report prepared by Miss Carrie Stoddard, police clerk, and issued to day by Chief John P. Hackett. According to the report: Arrest of two persons for transporting liquor, no raids were conducted and no liquor seized and destroyed. There were no fatal traffic accidents.

Beginning with tomorrow's payroll, Birmingham public school teachers, administrative officials and other school employees in full-time positions will receive 25 percent of their salaries in scrip and 75 percent in cash. This method of payment will be continued for the remainder of the year, unless the Board of Education finds it possible to lower the proportion of scrip.

Birmingham is destined officially to become a city before the end of the week. Village Attorney Clarence H. Ogden announced Wednesday that results of the special election last September when Birmingham residents voted overwhelmingly to adopt the city form of government, will be filed with the secretary of state "within the next two or three days."

15 YEARS AGO

Jan. 22, 1948

What may become the "Birmingham Blueprint" for the organization and execution of a national scale of many local community drives to bring to the average American citizen the value of world trade, will get under way here in Birmingham today as the Birmingham Community Council starts its "World Trade Week" activities leading up to the annual Council Institute at the Community House next Wednesday evening.

As a result of increased revenues and slightly decreased departmental expenditures, the City of Birmingham at the half-year mark in its fiscal year is almost \$20,000 ahead of estimated figures established in the city budget last spring.

Major General Stanley Reinhardt, retired, in a talk to Birmingham Rotary Ann Monday, cautioned that liberties Americans prize most—freedom of speech and freedom of thought—may be lost through the citizens' lack of interest in an adequate defense for this country.



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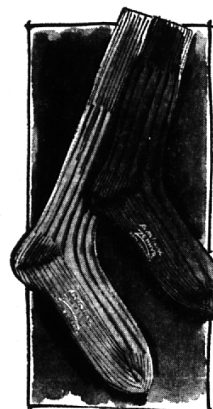
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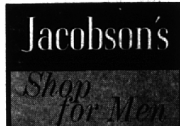
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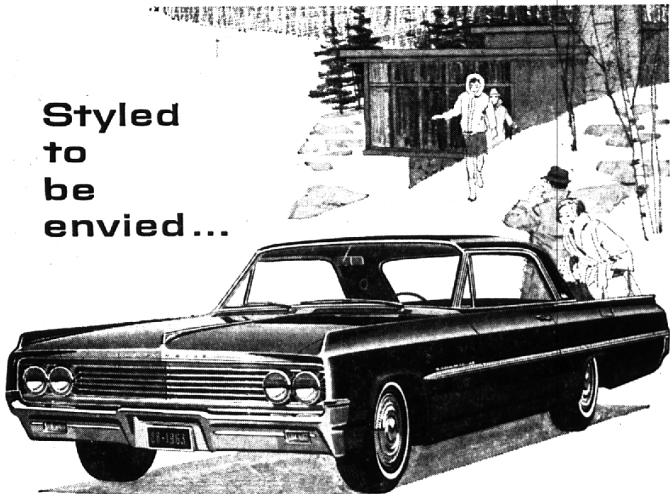
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