



You probably know more than one person whose mental submissiveness prevents him (or her) from making progress in many other areas. Perhaps you suggest a new idea, or even an old one now forgotten, to one who seeks your counsel; your suggestion may touch a tender spot, it may wound vanity, and instantly your friend resists your suggestion—often, alas! headily.

## Home Rule Report Gets Cool Reception from County Board

### Supervisors Cite Lack of Debate, Citizen Advice

A draft of proposed enabling legislation for county home rule met with a cool reception Tuesday from the Oakland County Board of Supervisors.

The draft, a 40-page report, was presented to the board by its legislative committee.

In a 72-6 vote, the board accepted the report but instructed the committee to merely "observe" a statewide meeting on home rule Dec. 17 in Lansing.

Thus, in declining to support the draft, the board will not be giving the county an official word at the Dec. 17 meeting, which will be the first hearing by the 10-member governor's commission on county home rule.

LACK OF debate and failure to seek advice from citizens' groups in the county were the main complaints about the committee's action.

In presenting its report to the board, the committee did not urge the supervisors to approve home rule legislation.

Some of the supervisors who approved receiving the committee's report were dissatisfied with the study.

Under the new constitution, the state legislature has the power to pass enabling legislation to make county home rule possible.

The Oakland proposal was being prepared for consideration by the legislators.

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ALTHOUGH MURRAY (Pat) Van Wagoner is nearing retirement age, soft music is only a background for the many activities in which he participates, both professional and public service activities.

Van Wagoner's days as Michigan's 1941-42 Democratic governor.

### Diversified Interests Mark Ex-Governor

BY MARY BAHN Staff Writer

How does a former governor of Michigan spend his time 20 years after his election to office?

There is no better way to find out than ask, and a likely candidate for questioning is Murray (Pat) Van Wagoner, lifetime resident of Oakland County and governor-elect in 1941.

"I usually spend my mornings at Byrne Doors, Inc., in Ferndale, where I am vice president and consulting engineer. Then I drive to downtown Detroit to my offices at Van Wagoner & Galloway, manufacturing agents for automobile equipment and highway supplies."

"In my spare time, I like to dabble around in real estate," said the energetic Van Wagoner, whose ruddy complexion, bright blue eyes and interest in life belie his 65 years.

ALTHOUGH HIS living room picture window in his gracious Oakland Drive home faces the restful greenery of the Oakland Hills golf course, Van Wagoner lists photography as more to his liking.

Van Wagoner has led a dual professional life, successfully combining both his engineering talent (B.S., University of Michigan in 1921) and public service activities.

He was the first Democrat elected to office in Oakland County, to the post of drain commissioner in 1930. And, according to history, Van Wagoner had the added distinction of being elected on a platform promising a half other than 1930. An increase in county drain construction. He kept his promise.

### Critical Action On Proposal Irks B'field

#### Board Supports Supervisor Slogan

By SAVILLA SLOAN Special Writer

The Bloomfield Township Board passed a resolution Monday night condemning the speed with which the draft of enabling legislation to implement county rule, prepared by the legislative committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, was presented to its parent body.

In doing so, the board backed up Bloomfield Township Supervisor Homer Case's determination to ask the board of supervisors to take immediate action on the draft to provide time for provisions of it to be studied.

CASE TOLD the board that the draft, reported out of committee last Friday, was to be on the agenda of the board of supervisors four days later (Tuesday of this week), leaving no time for careful study of its provisions.

Individual board members were also critical of provisions contained in the draft.

Robert Sinclair said that the legislative committee's draft was "a bold and crazy move to kill something the county badly needs."

The draft's provision for 20 mills to operate Oakland County government was criticized by board members. (The present county allocation of the 15-mill property tax is 5.15 mills.)

"IF WE WANT home rule, we should present plans people would be willing to vote for," Sinclair added.

Arno Hulet said that he believed that Case, the township representative on the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, should show township disapproval of the board's action by voting against the draft, rather than asking that it be tabled.

However, the board's consensus was that this might be interpreted as disapproval of the principle of home rule, while what they wanted was additional time to study the county's proposals.

### CAC Outlines Purposes to Area Leaders

By LARRY EVOE City Editor

Birmingham's Citizens Action Committee revealed its aims and goals to a group of area leaders last Thursday at the Baldwin Library.

Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., former Birmingham mayor and president of the CAC, said the group hopes to become a "voice in the community."

The CAC met with representatives of about 30 clubs and organizations in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area to explain its organizational make-up and to invite the groups to become active members of the committee.

One of the founders of the CAC, Bloomfield Township artist Robert Thom, explained the group's purpose: "To bring the influence of a collective community conscience into focus on issues which affect the moral, economic and aesthetic characteristics of our area."

HE NOTED that the accomplishment of this purpose divides itself into three major efforts: "A long, dispassionate analysis of the area's present trends with due respect to its past, but with special anticipation of the future."

"An awakening of the abundantly talented citizenry to their responsibilities in community determinations."

"The design of a unifying procedure that will allow the widely dissimilar talents which constitute a sophisticated society like ours to work harmoniously and effectively together."

Thom said the committee was being expanded to include representatives of area clubs.

### The Snow Fell and the Men Went Out Shopping in B'ham

By LARRY EVOE City Editor

The season's first major snowfall Monday night didn't keep the Birmingham Men's Night observance from being the biggest in the history of the event.

Charles Mortensen, manager of the chamber of commerce, said a consensus of opinion among store owners showed this year's crowd consisted of "less lookers and more buyers."

"This was the biggest turn-out in the 12-year history of Men's Night," Mortensen said. He added that the snow storm was the worst weather ever encountered on Men's Night.

One retailer counted 3,243 men passing through its doors between the hours of 7 and 10 p.m.

MORTENSEN said the crowd seemed "more diversified" than in previous years. He said not only the women's stores attracted the men but also the hardware, jewelry, toy and men's clothing stores reported doing a good business.

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### Survey Residents In National Query

Residents of Bloomfield Hills will be interviewed during the next week as part of a nationwide survey of 1500 Americans conducted by the National Opinion Research Center.

The current study covers a number of world and domestic affairs which are uppermost in thought and conversations today.

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### Here's Way To Zip Mail -By Code

For the first time in history, area residents can put extra "zip" into their Christmas mailing procedures, thanks to the ZIP code system introduced last year.

The Birmingham Post Office district has three ZIP code numbers. Residents in the east end of Woodward from 14 Mile Road to Charing Cross, Charing Cross to Squirrel Road, north in Bloomfield Township on a line east of the corporate limits of Bloomfield Hills to South Boulevard, east to Coolidge, south to 14 Mile and west to Woodward are in the 48008 zone.

PERSONS LIVING in the area west of Woodward from 14 Mile to Quanton, west on Quanton to Covington, south on Covington and Cranbrook to 13 Mile Road and east on 13 Mile to Greenfield and north to 14 Mile are in the 48009 zone.

Residents in the area of Evergreen, Cranbrook and Covington to Quanton, west on Quanton to Lakster and to Putnam, west on Putnam and Walnut Lake Road to a point three-quarters of a mile west of Middlebelt, south on this line to 14 Mile, east on 14 Mile to Telegraph and south to the Southfield city limits east to Evergreen are in the 48019 zone.

SOUTHFIELD residents have a fourth ZIP code in the city is divided as follows: East of Lahser, 48076; west of Lahser, 48077; main post office zone, 48077; and Northland Station, 48078.

Other ZIP Code numbers in the area are 48025 for Franklin Village; 48037 for Lathrup Village; 48013 for Bloomfield Hills; and 48084 for Troy.



WILLIAM G. WALTERS

### B'ham Man Leads Automobile Club

Birmingham resident William G. Walters, 64, of 1140 Hillside Drive, was elected Automobile Club of Michigan's 24th president Tuesday evening at a board of directors meeting in Detroit's Statler-Hilton Hotel.

He succeeds Mervyn G. Gaskin as head of the world's largest auto club, with 636,000 members.

J. Thomas Smith, 459 Martell Drive, Bloomfield Hills, was elected third vice president. Rex Brubaker, 18225 Riverside Drive, Birmingham, was re-elected for a three-year term as director.

Secretary and general counsel of S.S. Kreege Co., Walters is a 38-year Auto Club member and two-term Michigan legislator (1925-8). He is recognized nationally as a highway authority by the American Automobile Association, heading its National Highway Committee for two years.

WALTERS NOW serves on the AAA 118-man executive committee, which runs the national motoring organization. He makes frequent trips to Washington, D. C., on behalf of Michigan motorists and the eight million AAA members nationally.

Walter's interest in motoring began in grade school at Cass City in Michigan's Thumb when his family acquired a Model-T Ford. He spent much of his spare time removing and cleaning spark plugs and points for his dad.

While in high school he watched one of Michigan's early gravel roads under construction mile from his home. He drove his dad's Model-T over that road as a youth. It was dedicated to Horatio Earle, Michigan's first highway commissioner.

So it was natural that highways should dominate Walters' interest as a Michigan state representative from Detroit in 1925-8. He remembers (See CLUBS, 7-A)

### This and That

by George R. Averill

The "image" already being stamped on the public mind is that of a "frugal & thrifty" President Lyndon B. Johnson. Those were brave words, especially for the successor of one who didn't pay so much attention to "saving for a rainy day." It's hope that Mr. Johnson really meant what he said, and that he can lead Congress upon paths of less extravagance, too.

In spite of considerable criticism directed toward some of the important policies of the late President Kennedy, it must be admitted that he manifested more aggressive activity, more willingness to risk his political status in defense of controversial subjects than most of his predecessors. Indeed, many congressmen felt that his administration sought the passage (often branded "emergency") of many too many bills in one legislative session. That's one reason why this Congress wears the title of "flooding on the job."

Cometh another Christmas season and with it the color and the tinsel and the buying and the giving and the receiving . . . and the often too-little attention given thought to its real and enduring and uplifting meaning! Of course, the exchanging of gifts—when done in the right spirit—is an acceptable part of Yuletide. Yet, isn't there a deeper, a more meaningful reward in reaching into your wallet, and via taxation, extracting too much of your earnings, then remove them

There is one most powerful way that you can stop, or slow down, the extravagant spending of your tax money by the federal government. That is to watch how your two U.S. senators and your own congressman vote. If they approve every new spending program, as well as vast increases in existing ones, you may register your disapproval at the next election. There is no other best way. If they, via the Congress, are reaching into your wallet, and via taxation, extracting too much of your earnings, then remove them

(See THIS & THAT, 5-A)

PHILIP DILLMAN and son Kirk of Royal Oak took time out from shopping for presents for mom Monday night to take a look at the latest in model busses. Many men, without children with them, were seen in downtown Birmingham toy stores testing the new gadgets and games.

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