



## Hearing Set For March 18 For Residents

Birmingham residents will be given a chance to view their opinions, and to ask questions about, the CBDD Plan on March 18.

Following a lengthy debate Monday night on the status of residents in regard to the CBDD (Central Business District Development) Plan, city commissioners decided to put it on the agenda for the March 18 meeting.

"The general public" is invited. The decision came about following a request from a candidate for commissioner in the April election to appoint a committee to represent the residents of the city.

Commissioners quickly put an end to this request with the response that they are the elected representatives of the residents.

CANDIDATE David F. Breck of 922 Clark brought up the subject. He referred to the Feb. 14 meeting on the CBDD between the commission and the boards of nine civic and governmental groups in the city.

If there are to be any future meetings, Breck wondered, could "we somehow have a committee to represent residents as such?"

He drew this quick response from Commissioner Charles Renfrew:

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"ACTUALLY, every person on those boards represents people who are residents," contended Mayor Florence H. Willett.

"I have a feeling that they are primarily concerned with the business area," countered Breck.

Mayor Willett pointed out that the city planning board and the Baldwin Library Board also both represent the residents of the city.

(Both were included in the Feb. 14 meeting on the CBDD.)

Breck then suggested that perhaps there should be a committee to give voice for residential associations. It could be made up of the presidents of such associations, he said.

"HOW WOULD YOU go about appointing such a committee?" asked Renfrew. "How would you make sure that they do represent residents?"

Breck said he had talked to some (See HEARING, 7-A)

# CBDD Plan Fast Becoming Lively Issue in Campaign

## Curriculum To Be Topic At Meeting

The steering committee of the Birmingham Citizens Elementary Curriculum Study will begin hearing reports from the various study committees at its April 4 meeting. Members of the study committees have been visiting the public elementary schools for the past several months and interviewing the teachers on possible changes and improvements in the curriculum.

The citizens committee is similar to the group that studied the secondary school curriculum in 1958. That group's findings brought about many changes in the secondary school program.

THE PURPOSE of the elementary committee is to evaluate the elementary curriculum and to develop recommendations for strengthening and enriching the program.

Study committees will report on how well the Birmingham Schools are providing basic fundamentals in such curriculum areas as art, foreign languages, mathematics, music, physical education and the sciences.

WILLIAM LYMAN, chairman of the citizens committee, said at the present time it is planned to hear one report each Thursday from April 4 through May 23. The reports will be given in Board Room of the Hill Building beginning at 8 p.m.

Lyman said no reports would be presented April 11 (Thursday) before Easter and May 30, Memorial Day.

It would appear, Lyman said, the first report will cover language arts and special education.

Civic interest gives Community House perpetuity—see editorial, 1-B.

Bloomfield Hills, West Bloomfield tie for league title—see 1-E.



## Town Hall Lecturers Named

Birmingham Town Hall will celebrate its 10th lecture series in the fall with the presentation of Cora Otis Skinner in "The Wives of Henry VIII." Miss Skinner will present a special holiday season program, music interspersed with comments, on Dec. 12 and 13.

"Broadway Play by Play" is the topic chosen by Callaway, drama critic, actor and director of stage, screen and television. He is scheduled to lecture on Jan. 9 and 10.

MISS FREDERICK, here on Jan. 30 and 31, will speak on "UN at the Crossroads." She is an official reporter of United Nations news and has a master's degree in international law.

Final appearance on the 1963-64 series will be that of Clardi, editor of Saturday review and host of a TV network weekly show. He will answer the question, "What Good is a Poem?" He is scheduled to speak here on Feb. 20 and 21.

Information on season tickets may be obtained from the Town Hall office at St. James church.

MISS SKINNER will be here on Oct. 10 and 11; Dr. Lerner on Nov. 7 and 8. Lerner is a daily columnist and political analyst. He will

## Eccentric Offers Free Want Ads To Youngsters

Gov. George Romney got his start in government through a want ad. In 1929, he answered an ad in the Washington Post for a stenographer in the Senate. He didn't know much about stenography, but he sold himself and got a job.

Kids: Maybe one of you in the Birmingham area can get a start in life as Gov. Romney did as a result of an ad in The Eccentric—and do it for free.

In its observance of National Want-Ad Week, March 10-16, The Birmingham Eccentric is giving youngsters from 6 to 14 a chance to place a free ad in the paper.

Last year, 150 Birmingham-Bloomfield youngsters took advantage of the offer.

YOU CAN advertise to swap something, get a job, sell a pet or many other things.

To find out how to send us your ad, turn to the full-page ad on the last page of Section B, then decide on your ad, fill out the coupon and mail it before the Saturday, March 9, deadline.

## Concern Rises Over Effect On Residents

By KEN WEAVER  
Managing Editor

Although there is no ballot proposition on it, the CBDD Plan is shaping up as a major issue in the Birmingham spring election campaign.

However, the major problem—that of financing—is being subordinated to what appears to be a politically motivated concern for residents.

The CBDD (Central Business District Development) Plan came into focus as a major issue at Monday night's city commission meeting.

A political newcomer, David F. Breck, of 928 Clark, seized the initiative by raising a banner for "the residents."

Breck, a candidate for commissioner, suggested that a committee be appointed to "represent residents as such."

THIS TOUCHED off a lengthy discussion that ended in a date being set for an "open meeting" on the CBDD (see details in story in column 3 on this page).

The "general public" is invited to attend that meeting, on March 18. With 11 candidates—the most ever in an election for three-year terms—seeking the three commissioner seats, the CBDD Plan provides a natural issue for debate.

And, of course, one of the most successful campaign clichés is to be "for the people"—the residents, in this case.

MAYOR Florence H. Willett's decision to not be a candidate for re-election as a commissioner provided the original impetus for this year's campaign.

The fact that there would be at least one new commissioner elected must be given credit for attracting a larger-than-usual crop of candidates.

And the CBDD Plan provides the first real local issue since the advent of municipal parking lots several years ago.

TWO INCUMBENT commissioners—William H. Burgum, the present mayor pro tem, and William E. Roberts—both gave emphasis to the CBDD in announcing their decisions last month to seek re-election.

Both said that Birmingham's future as a quality community depends on whether it will support the program to modernize the downtown shopping district.

Both have emphasized, as have (See RESIDENTS, 5-A)

THE RESIDENTS who have been notified to keep their water running will receive an adjustment on their bill, Kenning said.

He cautioned, however, only those who have been told to turn on the water will get the adjustment. Anyone else will be charged the full amount of water the meter shows used.

Residents will be notified by the water department when to turn the water off, Kenning said.

## 'You Gotta Be Crazy'

Shloshing along E. Maple towards the end of a long, hard pull, Birmingham's 50-mile hiker, Jim Nichols, 27, gasped a single comment before reaching his destination and place of employment, the U.S. Post Office on Martin: "Ya gotta be nuts" croaked the young dispatch clerk who had started from his office at 9 a.m. Feb. 27 for a round-trip walk to Metropolitan Beach. He made it back by 11:15 p.m., robot fashion and soaked through. Freezing rain turning to slush hadn't been counted on, but a dare was won and a bet paid off. Derby School teacher and part-time post office employee William Schmidt had instigated the challenge. See additional pictures on 2-A.

## Proposed Bus Law Irks School Heads

By SAVILLA SLOAN  
Special Writer

Alarmed at the financial burden which passage of Michigan Senate Bill No. 1144 would place on the school district, members of Bloomfield Hills School Board discussed its implications at length at a special meeting Tuesday night.

Discussion of the bill centered on information as to its contents based on a newspaper article, as efforts by the school district to obtain a copy of the bill have been to no avail.

The Oakland County Board of Education had received no copy when Supt. of Bloomfield Schools Eugene Johnson sought one from it on Tuesday. Board member Merrill Bates, who is also a member of the executive committee of the Michigan School Board Association, reported that that organization had also been unable to obtain a copy.

PROVISIONS of the bill, now in Senate committee, as understood by the Hills board, calls for all school districts providing bus transportation to public school students to also provide bus transportation to all other students living in the district but attending accredited schools lying within an eight-mile radius beyond the school district boundaries.

According to figures furnished the board by Johnson, the Hills school district would have to furnish additional transportation for 1,000 children attending 14 private and parochial schools within the eight-mile radius of the school district boundary.

JOHNSON ESTIMATED that it would probably take as many buses to transport these 1,000 students as it presently does for the almost 4,000 students in the public school system.

"The law does not take into account the fact that we make the public school buses do triple duty by staggering the hours that high school, junior high school and elementary buses open. It would be impossible to arrange schedules for excellence in coverage of education." (See BUS LAW, 2-A)

The Birmingham Eccentric was informed this week that it has been selected to receive the 1963 School Bell Award by the Michigan Education Association.

The newspaper was singled out for "best continuous education coverage during 1962 by a weekly newspaper with above 7,000 circulation."

Presentation of the 1963 awards will be made at the MEA's representative assembly banquet in Lansing on March 29. This year marks the fourth annual presentation of the awards to members of the mass communications media for excellence in coverage of education.

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## LWV Gives Support To Library System

The Birmingham League of Women Voters has announced its support of a "tax supported library system" in the area.

The announcement was made following a study conducted by the League during the past year.

A study of the problems facing the Baldwin Library was first undertaken by the LWV in 1958. At that time the League found that population growth was creating a dollars and cents problem in the expansion of facilities.

The League then recommended a "broader financial base sought to provide adequate service for the Birmingham-Bloomfield area."

WITH THE announcement in 1961 of the library's decision to discontinue individual non-resident cards July 1, 1964, the League resumed its study, concluding that the most economical and efficient library service can be obtained by utilizing the resources of an established library in a tax supported system.

Through its voter's guide, the League will provide Bloomfield Township resident with factual information about the library proposal which will appear on the April 1 ballot.

TOWNSHIP voters will be asked to approve two library proposals at the Spring Election. The first provides for the establishment and maintenance of a free public library through a one-mill levy for its operation and maintenance.

The second section specifies that the one-mill shall be in excess of the 15-mill property tax limitation by the LWV in 1958. A defeat on one part of the proposal would mean a defeat of the entire proposal.

Howell is well-known to schoolmarketers and painters; and his private studio and mill, in the basement of his Westbury Long Island home, is the only one in America

## They Make Their Own Paper at Cranbrook

### Academy Offers Course In Fine Arts Program

Rag + water = paper—handmade paper for the fine arts.

This formula has worked so well with a select group of students at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills that it is now offering a course called "Handmade Papermaking for the Fine Arts."

Cranbrook authorities say it is the first institution of higher learning in this country to include such a course in its curriculum.

The program saw its beginning last summer when Laurence Barker, head of the Academy's graphics department, took a special course with Douglas Howell, renowned papermaker and scholar.

Howell is well-known to schoolmarketers and painters; and his private studio and mill, in the basement of his Westbury Long Island home, is the only one in America



PATRICIA BALMER (left) of Rockford, Ill., forms a sheet as Ronald Newman (right) of Pittsburgh, Pa., presses the post. In the background, Judy Heusel of Bronxville, N. Y., and Tamami Shima of Tokyo feed the beater.