The Birmingham Eccentric

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Thursday, March 28, 1963 BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 3-A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

TWO PROPOSALS ON BALLOT

Bloomfield Votes on Library Issue

Amendment Prohibits Harassment at Polls

VTC defies commission; see letter to editor, Page 4A

In an effort to keep Birmingham voters from being "harassed" at the polls, city commissioners Monday night passed an amendment to prohibit solicitation of or interference with persons at polling places.

The amendment, which will be in affect for the April 1 election, makes it unlawful for a person to solicit, petition, canvass or in any way interfere with the access of persons to, and exit from, polling places in local, state or national elections.

Solicitors must not come within 100 feet of the entrance of the polling place. An amendment to the disorderly persons ordinance, the measure stipulates that a person found in violation will receive up to a $100 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

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CONCERN OVER the matter first came to the attention of commissioners last week when the Vigilance Tax Committee requested permission to gather signatures opposing Detroit's nonresident income tax at the polls.

As a matter of policy, commissioners asked the VTC to stay outside of the polling areas and also adopted a policy of prohibiting the solicitation of funds within a polling place.

It was learned by the commission that members of the VTC were going to come into Birmingham, anyway, to circulate their petitions.

COMMISSIONER Charles A. Renfrew said he was sorry that the matter had come up at this time. He feared that enactment of the ordinance at this time would put the city in a position of disapproving of the VTC.

Several times the commission has authorized the sending of money to the VTC to help aid in the fight against the income tax but has not taken an active part in the campaign.

While he did not wish to be known as a "flag waver," Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham said he did not think a person should by interferred with when he is about to vote.

Commissioner Ralph A. Main said that while he supports the VTC he does not believe a person at the polls should be interfered with.

Would Bring $138,000 for First Year

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

If Bloomfield Township residents vote "yes" on the two proposals which will appear on Monday's ballot for establishment of a township library, it will mean that the library will have an income of approximately $138,000 for the fiscal year beginning April, 1964.

Proponents of the one-mill tax to support the library have issued few figures as to exactly how the $138,000 would be initially budgeted.

And for good reason have they abstained from specific figures.

It will be up to an appointed library board to determine how much will have to go for such items as rental, buying of books, staff salaries and the use of other area libraries by township residents.

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THE ONE FIGURE the library proponents have determined is necessary is the one-mill levy. Studies by Birmingham's Baldwin Library, state library experts and of library costs in comparable suburban areas have all indicated that one-mill should provide the necessary funds for operation of a township library.

Baldwin Library, which serves a population about equal to the population to be served by the township library, operated in 1961-62 fiscal year on a budget of $151,727.

The township library would serve a population approximately 40 per cent of Grosse Pointe's population, and its one-mill tax would net approximately 40 per cent of Grosse Pointe's library income, which also comes from a one-mill tax.

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A STUDY OF Baldwin's 1961-62 budget shows a breakdown of expenses of 61 per cent for salaries, 14 per cent for books and 25 per cent for other costs.

Any budget drawn up for the township library would probably not reflect the same percentages, as a new library would need a higher percentage for the purchase of books.

Salary costs might also differ as the number of hours a library stays open determines how much is spent for salaries.

Also, rental must be figured into the township library budget.

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THE OPERATION OF the township library in conjunction with the Baldwin Library is envisioned as a "sister" operation. Later, the

(See LIBRARY, 4-A)

Order No Change In Trash Pickup

There will be no changes at least for the present in Birmingham's residential rubbish pickup policies.

Commissioners decided no changes were necessary after considering a report on the program by T. C. Brien, superintendent of public works.

Brien had been asked by the commission to look into the efficiency of the rubbish pickups by the private contractors. Commissioner William E. Roberts said he had received several complaints on the matter.

Roberts said he had spot-checked the various routes several times and found instances where good rubbish pickup service was not provided.

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BRIEN SAID in recent months his office had noticed an increase in complaints from residents. He attributed the complaints to a stricter enforcement of regulations with regard to the type of containers being set out for rubbish collection.

He said a problem existed when paper bags were set out on the ground and the bottoms would fall out and their contents scattered when they were picked up.

He said the contractor also had trouble with dogs tearing the bags apart and with the wind blowing them over and scattering the contents.

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RUBBISH regulations in Birmingham require standard rubbish containers with handles and a cover and the use of durable throw-away containers for abnormal volumes of trash, Brien explained.

He said the DPW and the contractor decided to eliminate the small waste baskets as rubbish containers because in many instances they were replacing the standard 20-gallon containers.

"About 500 to 600 warning tickets were issued by the men picking up the rubbish and attached to the containers," Brien said.

The rubbish contract requires one warning ticket to be issued if the container is improper and the rubbish not picked up after the first warning.

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RECENTLY, HE said, the complaint calls have diminished and since March 1 the department has been receiving an average of one call a day. The rubbish service provided each day amounts to between 1,200 and 1,500 residences.

Two main problems still exist, Brien said. One is the lack of knowledge on the part of property owners concerning the rubbish collections and the lack of communication or public relations between the contractor and the residents.

He said the city sends out brochures twice a year to all residents;

(See PICKUP, 4-A)

Awards Won By Ford Men From Area

Ford Motor Co. held its fourth annual awards banquet Tuesday night at the Ford General Office Bldg. in Dearborn honoring employes for outstanding voluntary community service.

Gov. Romney was principal speaker at the banquet where 120 men received Community Service Awards in the form of plaques bearing an engraved commendation from Henry Ford II.

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INCLUDED IN the group were Frank L. Cavan, Jr., Central Office Staff, 510 Westchester Way, Birmingham; Edward F. Dolan, Wixom Assembly Plant, 31945 Carlelder Road, Beverly Hills; Paul T. Rabaut, Lincoln-Mercury Division, 27347 Shagbark, Southfield; Thomas P. Saks, General Parts Division, 18916 Greenwald, Southfield; and Adam J. Saunders, Tractor Plant, 17576 Sunnybrook, Lathrup Village.

Six prominent Michigan citizens selected the 1963 "Citizens of the Year" from among nominations which resulted from screenings by local plant judging committees. Included on the panel were Mrs. Worth Kramer of Bloomfield Hills, a director of United Foundation, and Richard Van Dusen of Bingham Farms, legal advisor to Gov. Romney.

Hunt for Cat That Bit Boy

The Birmingham police department has asked for help in locating a small white cat that bit a seven-year-old boy Friday afternoon.

Unless the cat is located the boy, Timothy Dennis, of 1821 Cole, will have to continue undergoing a series of painful anti-rabies shots. Police said the youth has already had three of the shots and could be forced to have 11 more if the cat is not found and examined.

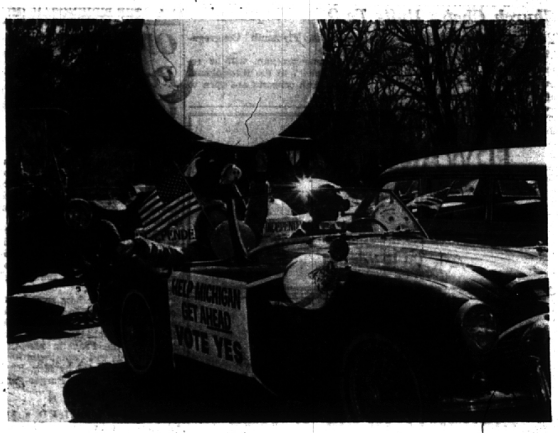
The cat is believed to be a wild one, police said. It is white, half-grown and was last seen in the area of Eton and Haynes.

Anyone with information regarding the cat is asked to call the Birmingham police at MI 4-3400.

Photographers Plan Combined Session

Members from the Birmingham area will attend a meeting of the Industrial Photographers Association of Michigan at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the auditorium of the Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit.

It will be a combined meeting with the Art Directors Club. Scheduled as special guest is Ben Somoroff, advertising and editorial photographer and three-time winner of the New York Art Directors' Gold Medal Award.



Old and New Cars Contrast '08 and '63

Lining up to parade for the new constitution Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. William H. Jacobs, IV of 4505 Cherokee Lane, Bloomfield Township. Just behind their Austin-Healy sports car is a 1909 Buick. The Jacobs were among the nearly 300 parade participants who gathered at the Franklin village green and toured a motorcade of 75 to 80 cars through Oakland County's busiest shopping areas. Featuring antique, classic and 1963 model cars, the motorcade was staged to remind citizens of the 1908 origins of Michigan's present constitution. Sponsors were the Committee for the New Constitution, nonpartisan group which includes the League of Women Voters and Oakland Citizens League. Mrs. Jacobs held aloft a huge "balloon-head" to illustrate the slogan carried on the couple's car. (Story 4-A).

West Bloomfield OK's Tentative $389,000 Budget

WEST BLOOMFIELD—Approval of a tentative budget of $389,000 for operation of the township in its 1963-64 fiscal year was given by the West Bloomfield Township Board last week.

The budget was based on an estimated income of $398,000 for the year, provided the township's share of the county property tax remains constant and its property valuation increases by an expected $2,500,000.

Further action by the board dealt with township sewer development.

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IT VOTED to reactivate a petition for sewers for Powder Horn Estates after the township engineer reviews cost estimates.

It delayed passage of resolution three setting up the Sylvan Manor sewer arm until assurance of federal funds for the project is officially received.

Action on the Walnut Lake arm contracts was delayed until it could be determined whether Bloomfield Township's participation in the arm would lessen West Bloomfield's capacity in the Farmington intercep-tor.

Convention Stamp Sale Set by P.O.

The Birmingham Post Office will conduct a commemorative postage stamp sale in the Community House Saturday and Sunday in conjunction with the Peninnsular State Philatelic Society Convention to be held there on those dates.

There will be 20 or more issues of commemorative stamps available of the four cent issues. These stamps are specially selected stamps of the philatelic division of the Bureau of Printing in Washington.

There will also be available a deposit receptical for covers and convention cancellations.

The post office has already received hundreds of pieces of mail for cancellations with the special convention cancellation equipment furnished by the post office department for this purpose.

The Birmingham post office cooperated with the Society during their convention in 1958. Stamp sales will be made from 1 to 5 p.m. both days of the convention.

It is the part of the wise man to resist pleasures, but of a foolish one to be a slave to them.

—Epictetus

Deadline Near For Absentee Voter's Ballot

Deadline to make application for an absentee voter's ballot in Birmingham is 2 p.m. Saturday. Applications must be written and signed by the person voting and be checked for one of the following four reasons:

Applicant expects to be absent from the community in which he is registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day.

Applicant is physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.

Applicant cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of his religion.

Applicant has been appointed an election precinct inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where he resides.

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APPLICATIONS are available at the Birmingham city clerk's office in the city hall, which will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The office must receive the ballots by Monday.

"Vote Red and White and Blue" is the April 1 election day slogan, indicating state questions on the ballot will be tinted in red, partisan candidates in white and nonpartisan candidates in blue.

This and That

by George R. Averill

Those New York City and Cleveland newspaper strikes vividly portray the tremendous power of a labor monopoly. As we write this, in both cities the printers and other allied printing trades unions have been out more than three months.

The strikers could have lasted this long only with financial aid from their national union treasuries. These treasuries could, of course, last long enough to bankrupt the strikers' employers—and this could apply to businesses other than newspapers, too.

Thus do we witness the unbridled power of union labor. What is the final answer? Eliminate, by law, the right to build a union nation-wide monopoly, just as law prevents nation-wide (even of lesser area) business and industry monopoly.

Monopoly is, as Webster's explains, "exclusive control of a commodity or service in a given market, or control that makes possible the fixing of prices and the virtual elimination of free competition."

If the foundation of a free, self-governing nation is competition, then the absence of it where a monopoly exists means the ultimate destruction of that foundation. Where, then, is "freedom, self-government"? (Vote-hungry law-makers better understand this danger . . . . and do something about it!)

Sunday, March 31, with Herb H. Gardner, retired local banker, I'm leaving for a two-month trip to the Middle East, southern Italy, Spain and Portugal. The trip will be made by air. Our itinerary includes Rome and southern Italy, Egypt, Lebanon - Syria - Jordan-Israel, Greece plus a seven-day Aegean Sea trip to Greece's historic islands, Spain and Portugal. We expect to return home May 25. Starting three or four weeks from this issue, I'll be publishing articles about the trip in this column.

Few human beings are willing to sacrifice the environment

(See THIS & THAT, 5-A)

Improvement Requested at Brown-S'field

Cost of improving the intersection of Brown and Southfield will be considered by Birmingham city commissioners during the 1963-64 budget hearings.

The commission Monday night authorized City Manager L. R. Gare to include the cost in the new budget.

Commissioner Charles A. Renfrew suggested the administration might include improvement of other intersections in the budget when a traffic problem exists.

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THE BROWN - Southfield problem was brought to the administration's attention by Commissioner William H. Burgum who asked the engineering department to review the possibility of modifying the sharp angle at the northeast corner of the intersection.

According to the engineering department, two basic problems exist. Traffic going westbound on Brown that want to turn north on Southfield must turn at an acute angle. The curb at that corner has a radius of about 10 feet which in the opinion of City Engineer William T. Killeen is small for such an intersection.

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"THE SECOND PROBLEM is caused by a jog of about seven feet in the Southfield pavement," Killeen said.

If the improvements suggested by Killeen are adopted, a 25-foot

(See IMPROVEMENT, 4-A)

Education Ass'n Votes on Issues

The executive committee of the Bloomfield Hills Education Association, meeting last week, took stands on several current public issues.

The committee voted in favor of the new state constitution and a one-mill tax to support a public library for Bloomfield Township.

It opposed Senate Bill 1144 which provides bus transportation for nonpublic school children in school districts furnishing transportation for public school children.

ECCENTRIC PHOTO

Scouts Join Search

Among the searchers Saturday for the missing Bloomfield Township boy were Boy Scouts from Troop 41, Meadowlake School, and Troop 14, Walnut Lake School. The 25 boys and 10 adult leaders were assigned by police to search the area bounded by Franklin, Inkster, Maple and 14 Mile roads. Here the boys are crossing Franklin Road and entering a large apple orchard. (Story, 1-A).

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