

State Aid Money Awarded for April In Oakland County

A total of \$4,570,157.12, representing 16.6 per cent of the April apportionment of state aid money, distributed to the various school

districts in Oakland County, has been released by Charles A. Sparks, county treasurer. \$267,260 has been appropriated for Birmingham, \$71,880 for Bloomfield Hills and \$43,980 for West Bloomfield Township. Southfield Public School District was allotted \$265,840 and Troy, \$100,430.

MICHIGAN MIRROR

State Health Commissioner Predicts Birth Rate Rise

Michigan's Birth Rate is bound to go up soon, according to State Health Commissioner Dr. Albert E. Heustis.

The 1962 birth rate was 182.475, the lowest since 1952, and the fifth consecutive year to show a drop from the previous 12-month period. The births last year were nearly 10,000 fewer than in 1961, Heustis said.

"Whether births continue to go down or remain on a plateau for the next few years is anybody's guess. One thing is certain, however, they are bound to go up later," Heustis said.

The Health Commissioner's prediction comes from a look at past statistics. The majority of parents of babies born during the last few years were born during the 1930's and early 1940's, when births averaged around 90,000.

Within the coming five years most of the "war babies" born from 1945-49 when births averaged around 150,000 per year, will be getting married and having babies of their own.

THE NEWSPAPER you are reading now is an essential part of our free society although you may not at first think of it as just a frill. J. Montgomery Curtis, director of the American Press Institute at Columbia University, recently described the newspaper as "the most

intimate, personal and effective form of communication."

Pointing to the New York newspaper strikes earlier this year, Curtis said, "The loss of a newspaper to a community leaves a vacuum that cannot be filled by any other means of communication."

Radio and television also contribute to the public's right to know. But both of these are immediate and not long lasting, said Curtis.

"WHEN IT COMES to news in depth, television and radio just aren't in the same league with the newspaper," he said. "The (New York) strike proved this point. The loss of newspapers resulted in a decrease in department store sales as well as in food store sales, auto sales and general stock market activity," he said.

In addition to these advertising benefits, Curtis pointed out the loss of newspapers caused drops in attendance at many of the cultural and entertainment events people had difficulty locating available housing; and employees and potential employees couldn't get together.

Curtis predicts that the newspaper will continue to provide the most complete coverage of any media.

MOST BUSINESSMEN are honest and the exceptions hurt the mass.

Local Resident Lauds Young Correspondents

By RUTH YOGT
Special Writer

Two little boys, one 10 and the other 9 got to thinking one day about something way beyond kites, hikes and going fishing. Their minds dwelled at length on the weather and the erratic way it's been behaving recently. They jotted down the number of atomic testings performed within the past few years and decided that people should look into this problem before it's too late.

This item, appearing in the April 18 issue of The Eccentric would have been eye-catching because of the age of the boys. However, the whole picture takes on another dimension after having read, just the night before in a large city newspaper, the words of two worried Michigan State University scientists who pleaded for the inhabitants of this earth to become concerned about what's being dreamed up in our laboratories.

Under the title "Whither Humanity?" these two men, Dr. Leroy Augenstein and Dr. Brian Robins, who are members of the neuro sciences program, insisted that too many important decisions had been made in the past by default. They felt these decisions, affecting the whole population should have had open discussions before steps were taken.

They said that each man and woman should insist that the people who do make such decisions for all mankind should have guidelines to follow.

EVEN THOUGH the spring night was full of the first bursts of the season what these two scientists discussed within their article made it difficult for the mind to concentrate on the signs of spring. "How many adults, after reading what these worried men are trying to say to us will pause to reflect about what can emerge from test tubes all over the world?" I wondered.

HOWEVER, I pondered their plea that "individuals should be aware of how nature works, how our biological systems function, not to speak of the structure of the universe" and coupling this with the suggestion that it is everyone's business to see that

"things don't get out of hand by a few who might wish to play God," I moaned.

"What can one person do about all this? What if he might be terribly worried about continued testings, methods of brainwashing, genes juggling and governments causing people to turn into unthinking puppets if certain techniques were employed," I wondered.

AND ALL THE TIME I asked these questions, a funny feeling existed that our world was getting almost too complicated to consider. Yet who but two little boys should put one adult to shame with their kind of courage and thinking exposed in their simple letter to the editor?

Hospital Tour Scheduled by Pontiac State

Walter H. Obenaus, MD, medical superintendent of the 3,048 bed Pontiac State Hospital has announced that in conjunction with National Mental Health Week the Pontiac State Hospital will conduct its 17th annual open house from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

Open house chairman Harry Arnsdorf, MD, said that hospital tours, color slides and musical entertainment by a patients' combo will highlight open house activities.

LAST YEAR 3,592 attended Open House during its three-day program for the public. The Pontiac State Hospital district of service involves a population of 1.8 million in the following counties: Oakland, Genesee, Macomb, Lapeer, St. Clair, Sanilac, Huron, Shiawassee, Livingston and Tuscola.

Reservations for open house are not necessary, and further information may be obtained by contacting the Community Relations Dept.

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Highway Dept. To Open Bids For Projects

The State Highway Dept. will open bids May 8 on 57 construction projects costing about \$8 million, including engineering and right-of-way.

Following are details of two Oakland County projects:

—3.2 miles of highway traffic signing on the John C. Lodge Freeway extension at Southfield, at an estimated cost of \$400,000. Completion date, July 30, 1964.

—7.9 miles of highway traffic signing on I-96 from I-96 east to Franklin Road, at an estimated cost of \$400,000. Completion date, Nov. 8, 1963.

Details were announced on 16 of the state projects.

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Michael J. Murray, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Murray of 3180 Aryshire Drive, Bloomfield Hills, and Stuart W. Robertson, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Robertson of 27340 Ovid Drive, Birmingham, are serving aboard the navy's first fleet ballistic missile submarine tender USS Proteus. It returned to its homeport, Charleston, S. C., recently after two years duty at Holy Loch, Scotland.

The University of Michigan was the first state university to establish a bureau of industrial relations, in 1934.

Dick Caldwell, 1180 Willow Lane, Birmingham, is on the committee for the first reunion of Highland Park High School class of 1933 at 7 p.m. Saturday in Detroit.

A buffet dinner and short program are planned. Members of other classes are also invited to attend.

Several teachers active with the class of 1932 will be at the reunion. Charles White of Clarkston, who was class president, is in charge.

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