

# Dimes March Fights Two Major Cripplers

Leslie E. Ware, chairman of the Oakland County Chapter of The National Foundation - March of Dimes, recalled today that it is exactly five years ago that the nation's largest voluntary health organization, after its conquest of polio, announced a new scientific assault on two other major cripplers.

At the outset it was announced the March of Dimes program would concentrate on birth defects and arthritis, both in the fields of total patient care and intensive research.

"This historic decision," Ware explained, "was reached after March of Dimes contributions had financed the successful development of the Salk vaccine, the weapon that ended infantile pa-

ralysis as a public health problem in this country.

"THE SABIN oral vaccine, which came later and also was made possible by the March of Dimes, was double insurance against future polio epidemics.

The contributions of Oakland residents are now helping the search program against birth defects and arthritis and making assistance to several area residents possible.

Ware said he wanted to thank the thousands who had made the polio victory possible. He urges them to continue their support in the current battle.

"I particularly want the people of Oakland county to understand that they have helped play a vital role in a magnificent achievement," Ware said.

"TODAY, FIVE years and millions of dollars after the opening of this second front, local chapters are financing 63 treatment centers for birth defects and arthritis victims, including two evaluation clinics.

"In addition, we have sponsored and supported 15 clinical study centers for treatment and research. These are affiliated with some of the country's leading medical centers and schools.

"In arthritis and rheumatic disease," he continued, "which afflict 11 million in the United States, we have the dynamic leadership of the nation's top scientists and physicians.

"WE HAVE brought to reality new concepts of care for arthritis sufferers. We have a research program that highly qualified scientists believe will lead to major breakthroughs in the foreseeable future."

Ware added that in the field of birth defects which touch 250,000 babies every year, the March of Dimes has established the largest single integrated source of private support for research and patient care."

## School Aide Attends Seminar in Columbus

The administrative assistant of Birmingham public school, Walter J. Piel, attended seminar this week for school communications administrators. The sessions were held at Columbus, Ohio, sponsored by the School Management Institute Inc.

Piel, who lives at 2259 W. Lincoln, handles public relations for the schools.



## Shop Talk

The Birmingham Area Community Resources Workshop held an open house recently at Pierce School. Sandra Linden (left) and Carolyn Mirek check a program at the open house. Work of the participants was shown and there was a short program explaining the workshop objectives.

## Gets Different S'field Offices

A new office and an additional staff member have been authorized by the Southfield City Council for City Administrator Donald V. Smith.

Smith also received a \$1,500-a-year raise this month.

He and his secretary will move from the old City Hall to the Community House which is a remodeled farmhouse on Ten and one-half Mile Road east of Telegraph.

A new department with one employee will handle telephone calls from residents with questions and complaints.

TO BE CALLED the Information and Service Department, the operation will be under Smith's supervision. Smith and his secretary, Mrs. Ruth Nowicki, formerly answered such calls.

The information employee will assemble an answer or explanation and report back to the resident who inquired.

Smith's salary was \$13,500 annually prior to his raise. The information department worker will be paid \$4,000 a year.

Joy is not in things; it is in us. —Richard Wagner

# 40 Per Cent of Families Hit by Big Medical Bills

Forty per cent of all U. S. families reported that they had large medical expenses in 1961, according to the University of Michigan Survey Research Center.

Almost half of the families who had large medical expenses reported having no medical insurance at all, or insurance that did not cover any of the expense. Yet almost seven in 10 were insured.

National statistics indicate that about one-fourth of all families and individuals owed money to a doctor, dentist or hospital early last year. Loans for medical expenses were not included.

THE AVERAGE amount of medical debt outstanding in 1962 was \$175, an increase of approximately \$60 over 1957, according to the report.

The incidence of large medical expenses is somewhat higher among families whose head is 65 years or more.

The very young and those in the 55-64 year age group reported somewhat lower incidence of medical expenses than other age levels. Younger people used hospitals more frequently and expenses for drugs were more prevalent among the elderly.

More than half of families with children under six reported large medical expenses. Of these, four out of five reported hospitalization.

SIXTEEN per cent of all families reported medical expenses of \$200-\$499 not covered by insurance, and six per cent reported expenses

ranging from \$599 - 999. About three per cent had medical expenses not covered by insurance of over \$1000.

Nearly one-third of those reporting large medical expenses had no medical insurance, and an additional 16 per cent had insurance that did not cover any of their expenses.

More than half of those 65 years and older who had large medical expenses reported having no insurance for medical or hospital expenses.

## OLD, OLD NEIGHBORHOOD

The expression "Latin Quarter," used to describe the student district of Paris, originated in the 12th century, the period of the city's preeminence as an education center.

Students flocked to Paris from all over Europe to hear such lecturers as Peter Abelard and St. Thomas Aquinas. The speeches and the discussions following them were all conducted in Latin in the area where they took place came to be called—*it still is*, 900 years later — "The Latin Quarter."

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