

In B'ham's Future: 'A Great New Opportunity'

By KEN WEAVER
Managing Editor

"We've got a bright new horizon in Birmingham. There's a great new opportunity coming up and I think we should take advantage of it."

With these comments, Robert A. (Bob) Thom—artist and community leader from Bloomfield Township—challenged the Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Thom spoke at the Jaycees' 12th annual Distinguished Service Award and Boss' Night banquet

Wednesday evening of last week. Birmingham Mayor William H. Burgum presented the DSA (Outstanding Young Man of the Year) award to F. Ward Ouradnik, administrative director of The Birmingham Eccentric.

Receiving the Jaycees' Key Award was Roger H. Crimmins, 16971 Birwood, Beverly Hills, for the "time, effort and devotion" he gave to Jaycee projects in the past year.

BURGUM SAID that in the two and one-half years Ouradnik has been in Birmingham he "has

made a definite impact on the community" and cited his activities in civic circles.

Expressing appreciation for the award, Ouradnik said that it's not the individual but the "commonality" that really counts.

He quoted Plato from "The Republic": "What is honored in a community is practiced there."

The Ouradnik said, "The important thing here is to work in the community to make it a better place to live."

IN HIS address, Thom—who gained international fame with

his paintings that portray the histories of pharmacy and medicine—traced the history of Birmingham from a small village to the phenomenal growth that ensued after World War II and the problems that really arose with it.

He told how twice in a decade elaborate plans were devised for civic improvements, including extensive parking facilities, and were defeated.

"The business community defaulted the first time," he said, "and the citizens defaulted the second time in their responsibilities."

Businessmen felt they should not bear the costs for parking for the public. Residents feared the loss of residential property for commercial development.

"It's mostly committee right now with very little action," he declared, "but we are trying... The CAC has the framework and the structure to bring the organized community together. This is

what was lacking in the past."

To help bring about a better future for Birmingham, he said we must bring "all organized segments of the community, like the Jaycees, together. All of these groups have to be given a job on this thing."

THOM—ONE of the founders of the Bloomfield Art Association—told the Jaycees they could be "a tremendous fact-finding group," gathering information, for example on malls, parking and civic auditoriums. They could prepare a promotional book about

Birmingham that would tell people what a wonderful place this is in which to live and work and play.

For the Birmingham of tomorrow, he said "we will have to have a somewhat way out that seems unattainable. Who's going to do it? Not the old guys. This is something that youth are accomplishing."

"Tomorrow is yours, folks; make of it what you will."

THOM WAS introduced by City Commissioner William E. Hubbs. (See FUTURE, 4-A)

The Birmingham Eccentric

Thursday, January 30, 1964

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area



Youth Problem Emphasis Hit

By SAVILLA LEOAN
Special Writer

The 1963 Bloomfield Township police report submitted to the township board Monday night was by Freddie Roberts Sinclair, a charge undue concern was being given local youth problems by another local governing body.

Sinclair also praised the efforts of the township police in preventing juvenile problems in the township.

Sinclair referred to a recent article in The Birmingham Eccentric. He said in the article "a governing body expressed concern about our troubled youth."

"We may have people in trouble, but we don't have troubled people," Sinclair added.

(The article—in the Jan. 16 issue—was on the Learning Abilities Laboratory established last year by the Bloomfield Hills School System. Sinclair conferred after the meeting.)

AAA safe-driving program and training safety patrols which have been recently established at local homes. Case, township supervisor, pointed out that of the township's three plain-clothesmen, two are working with juvenile authorities on juvenile problems. He added that a very small number of Bloomfield youths are involved with the Oakland County Juvenile Division.

"I don't think our children are any better than any one else's," Dehnke said. "Kids are mobile these days and can be in homes rather than on the roads."

A tribute to recreation programs and after-school activities by the Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham and Pontiac school systems was given by Dehnke.

He said programs like ski club, toboggan clubs and other school-sponsored activities have materially helped local problems with juveniles.

THE BLOOMFIELD police report for 1963 showed a material drop in sex offenses with 26 reported in 1962 and 11 in 1963. Stolen cars dropped from 30 to 20. Fights and troubles with drunk decreased from 100 to 92.

Malicious destruction had a slight decline from 384 cases to 371. Armed robberies went from 7 to 6. Breaking and entering cases increased from 70 to 84. Simple and grand larcenies went from 406 to 439.

Prowler reports increased from 168 to 188, and missing persons remained virtually the same—101 last year, 102 the year before.

In a police drive to curb the accident rate through strict law enforcement, tickets issued in 1963 increased from 1,196 to 2,548.

Accidents involving personal injury increased from 296 to 303. Fatal accidents rose from 4 to 5 and property injury accidents went from 682 to 798.

This and That

Do you know that a majority of the nation-members of the United Nations are very small in size and population? Indeed, most of them have more population than any of these U.N. members, especially these many new ones in Africa. If you know that a majority of U.N. voters increasingly are opposed to U.S. interests, don't be surprised. Those Soviets know how to play both ends against the middle."

SINCLAIR POINTED out to other board members that only two felony classifications showed increases in the township during 1963. He then asked Police Chief Norman Dehnke if the majority of offenders in breaking and entering and simple and grand larceny cases were predominantly from out of the township area.

Dehnke replied that they were. Township Trustee Arno Hult, referring to a population increase of approximately 2,000 said that crime statistics show local rise in crime is not in proportion to the rise in population.

Dehnke gave a resume to the board of police activities in juvenile crime prevention.

He said the department tries to maintain an educational program by speaking to PTO and subdivision groups, and promotes a code system for area school children.

ACCIDENT prevention activities by the police included a safety check on vehicles used for driving to school, working with

larcenies are probably in trouble in other areas. We would not know, as these would be handled by other police departments."

DEHNKE WENT on to say that malicious destruction is the biggest juvenile problem in the area. He cited rock-throwing to break windows, driving over lawns, bombing of mailboxes and obscene telephone calls as a large part of this problem.

He added that although juvenile drinking still remains a problem, it now being done in homes rather than on the roads.

As this is written, reports from Washington indicate that President Johnson may want Michigan's former "Soapy" Williams to run for governor next fall. The President wants to be sure that Michigan will go Democratic. Whether a majority of Michigan voters will accept this kind of a deal is questionable, say some of the professional politicians.

Most people, as they reach mature ages, have experienced many pleasures, have made many friendships, have taken trips to scenic grand places, have received, as well as given, kindness and consideration to many others. These are blessed memories. So, when one momentarily is pessimistic, be fearful without real cause, why not drive out those negative thoughts with one or more of the "blessed memories"? What else are they for, anyway?

Finally, the fundamental character of the members of the United States Senate will be revealed in the manner in which the Bobby Baker investigation is handled by them. Bobby had to resign after being accused of using his powerful Senate job to become a very wealthy man; wealth acquired in numerous outside ventures in this affair, the Senate (See THIS & THAT, 6-A)

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Hills to Discuss Zoning Law, Pick New Commissioner

A special meeting of the Bloomfield Hills City Commission has been scheduled for 8 p.m. Monday.

The commissioners will discuss the proposed new zoning ordinance and will appoint a new commissioner to fill the vacancy created by the death of Mayor Lyman J. Craig on Sunday.

The appointee will serve until the April election, when a commissioner will be chosen to complete the one year of the unexpired term.

License Plate Branch Opens At Troy Bank

The Troy National Bank, corner of W. Maple and Livernois, has opened a sub-branch of the secretary of state's office according to the president, Edward J. Rusin.

Rusin said the license bureau would be under the supervision of Roy J. Russell, manager of the Birmingham office of the secretary of state.

The office, which is located on the lower level of the bank, will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, through March 7.

IN B'FIELD TOWNSHIP Record Slight Rise In Traffic Accidents

Total traffic accidents in Bloomfield Township increased by only 2 percent during 1963.

Officials point with considerable pride to the slight rise, as compared to Oakland County with a 19 percent increase; Birmingham, 17 percent increase; and Pontiac, with a 15 percent jump.

The township's first annual traffic report also revealed that personal injury accidents increased by 3.2 percent and property damage accidents were up 4.68 percent.

FIVE FATAL accidents were recorded in 1963 as compared to four for 1962.

In the report, Cpl. Richard Reuther, head of the traffic division, noted that intensive safety campaign coupled with increased enforcement as factors in the small increase in accidents.

"This year the traffic division has set up a vehicle safety check, with the cooperation of Bloomfield Hills High School officials and uppersmen," he said. "It has been very successful."

He added that the traffic division, working with the superintendent of transportation and principals of the various schools, has set up rules and instruction for safety patrols, "which we are sure will benefit all concerned."

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What Home Rule Means

Fourth in a series

By SHELLEY SPANN
Public Relations Chairman
B'ham League of Women Voters

In the constitution of 1908, non-self-executing home rule was provided for the cities and villages of Michigan.

"The Municipal home rule provision granted to these units the right to adopt their own charters and their own form of government. Municipalities were empowered to enact all laws relating to their local concerns within the limitations of the constitution and general laws of the state.

"This meant that cities were no longer controlled by special charters handed down to them by the state. It freed them, upon enactment of the implementing legislation, to develop a form of government compatible with their individual needs, by authorizing the

not limit the general grant of power.

THE MUNICIPAL Home Rule Act as amended is a model of flexibility. It requires only the election of a mayor and a legislative body and the election or appointment of a clerk, treasurer, assessor or board of assessors, board of review, and any other officers deemed necessary.

Elected officials may be chosen on a partisan or nonpartisan basis. Neither is there any restriction on the number of candidates for any office, all of Michigan's nearly 500 cities and villages follow one of three structures: strong mayor-weak council, weak mayor-strong council, weak mayor-strong council manager. The structural flexibility given municipalities has not caused them any problems for the state. (See HOME RULE, 7-A)

Workshops Set For Community College in Area

A series of workshops for establishing a community college has been scheduled by the Community College Citizens Committee.

Mrs. John May, 2092 Yorkshire, Birmingham, announced that the first session will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Birmingham Room at Demery's. She is chairman of the committee.

Ronald Campbell, dean of instruction at the Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, will discuss possible curricula for a community college and will tell how the Ford institution has served its community.

According to Mrs. May, anyone who wishes to attend any of these meetings will be welcome.

The committee hopes to have the college issue on the June 8 school ballot.

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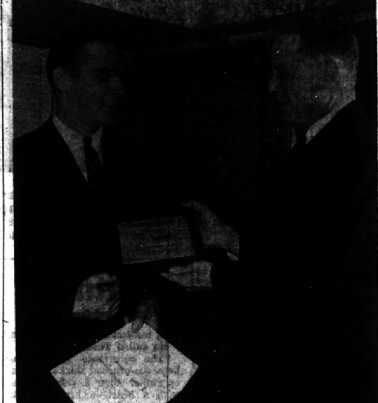
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Reese Rice and Spice • Creole Rice Curried Rice 3 Pkgs. \$1

48 Count SALADA TEA BAGS 10¢ Off 49¢

Now On Sale! KENNEDY'S BEEF or CHEESE PASTIES

Hills Bros. Coffee 63¢



BIRMINGHAM MAYOR William H. Burgum (right) presents the Jaycees' "Outstanding Young Man of the Year" award to F. Ward Ouradnik for his accomplishments in community affairs in the past year. Ouradnik was nominated by the Newcomers Club; Phillip Skillman, Jr., of New York Life Insurance Co.; and Henry M. Hogan, Jr., associate publisher of The Eccentric.

King Heads Home Rule Council

The County Home Rule Study Council announced this week the election of John H. King of 5430 Longmeadow, Birmingham, as chairman, succeeding Homer Case, supervisor of Bloomfield Township.

Case will continue as a member of the committee which was formed last year under the sponsorship of the Oakland County Citizens

League to study all phases of county home rule as may be permitted by the new state constitution and state enabling legislation.

King praised the Oakland County Board of Supervisors for last week joining the adjacent five counties in endorsing model enabling legislation drafted by Wayne County.

'Thomisms'

Here are some quotations from Robert A. Thom's talk at the Birmingham Jaycees' DSA banquet last week:

"The young people are looking forward to inheriting this city. They only share it now from us."

"We old fellows resent youth. You're too young to understand this..."

"The power of being youthful you've got to underplay."

"The Birmingham of yesterday belongs to and was just exactly the way the old people of Birmingham wanted it. The Birmingham of today is being shared; it belongs to them yet; they want to see the old patterns kept alive."

"But you have a stake in this today. The Birmingham of tomorrow will be all yours... The opportunity is yours now; there are great things in the air."

"YOU KNOW there are things to be done in Birmingham—you smelled it in the air."

"This is an era of confusion—we can't abstract fact from fiction. Never take only one person's statements as the truth on any one thing."

"As the city evolves, each generation can only recognize it for what he sees."

"Hope always springs eternal!"

"Facts are invaluable, unless Birmingham wants to stand still."

"Facts are very rare today—they are hardly ever assembled and used."

(A book depicting Birmingham and all its facets) "might help us turn that corner we're about ready to turn."

"Northland looks like a Detroit Edison substitution."