

**MICHIGAN MIRROR**

# Community Day Centers Proposed for Retarded

BY ELMER E. WHITE  
Special Writer

Waiting lists at state institutions for mentally retarded children still number near the 1,800 mark, but this need not be so long, according to the experts.

Mental health officials have informed Gov. George Romney that at least half of these children on waiting lists could adequately be accommodated in community programs.

Programs currently call for the creation of a dozen community day-care centers for severely retarded children and additional homes for those needing full-time institutional care.

MANY OF THESE waiting children, however, are of the groups termed educable or trainable in extent of retardation. Unfortunately, many local school systems which operate programs for educable or trainable children already are at capacity enrollment.

Mental health officials estimate some 200 or more retarded children not now enrolled in local school programs could be handled by the 12 county-level programs to be created in the near future.

For more severely retarded persons, nearly 1,100 new beds are slated to be available at state institutions by next April and a completely new center in western Michigan is in the pre-construction planning stage.

ON THE LOCAL level it is surprising just how many school districts already have some type of program for mentally handicapped children.

A list compiled by the State Department of Public Instruction of available programs is based on those districts which last year received state reimbursements.

In all, more than 350 systems

at the local or county level in 55 counties provide either classroom or consultant programs for educable or trainable mentally handicapped at various levels in the school system.

A DECISION has been promised early next year whether legal action is needed to curb below-cost sales of milk in Michigan.

The legislature has been asked several times by individual members to outlaw all "loss leader" sales in stores or prohibit below cost sales of dairy products particularly.

To date all these attempts have been unsuccessful and members of the dairy industry have fought them most vigorously.

SOME DAIRY industry members this year, however, felt some state action should have been taken to maintain the competitive position of independents.

Now Gov. George Romney has asked a special committee to determine in time for the 1965 Legislative session whether any state action is warranted and what form it should take legislative or administrative.

The reasons for use of milk as "loss leader" items in stores also is to be determined by this committee, Romney said.

THE GOVERNOR indicated concern in this matter at least partly because of the implications government action might have for other industries in the future.

"Any industry is better off if it can keep itself from getting into the position where it's regulated," he said. Citing his experience with American Motors in the appliance industry, Romney said, "It is not only better for the industry but it is better for customers, too, in the long run."

HISTORY in the making is seen almost daily in the State Capitol as executive, legislative and administrative decisions are made which affect many future generations.

Perhaps one of the most profound marks on Michigan history to be made in recent years is now a matter of record, but visitors to the Lansing area can see a re-creation of the decision-making site.

Michigan's Constitutional Convention of 1961-62 was originally held in Lansing's Civic Center. During its sessions, visitors were

welcomed to viewing galleries in the auditorium.

At the close of the convention, delegates donated the furnishings to Michigan State University, including the 144-seat United Nations-type auditorium layout.

Now this formal portion of the Convention's workite has been reinstalled in a large room at MSU's new International Center. It will be used for lectures and meetings but is accessible to visiting groups as a reminder of the months of deliberation which went into the writing of Michigan's present Constitution.

## Plan Red Cross Family Records For Servicemen

A "Voice from Home" recorded Christmas greeting can be sent by wives, parents and children to their servicemen and women overseas or in military hospitals anywhere without any charge through the facilities of the American Red Cross.

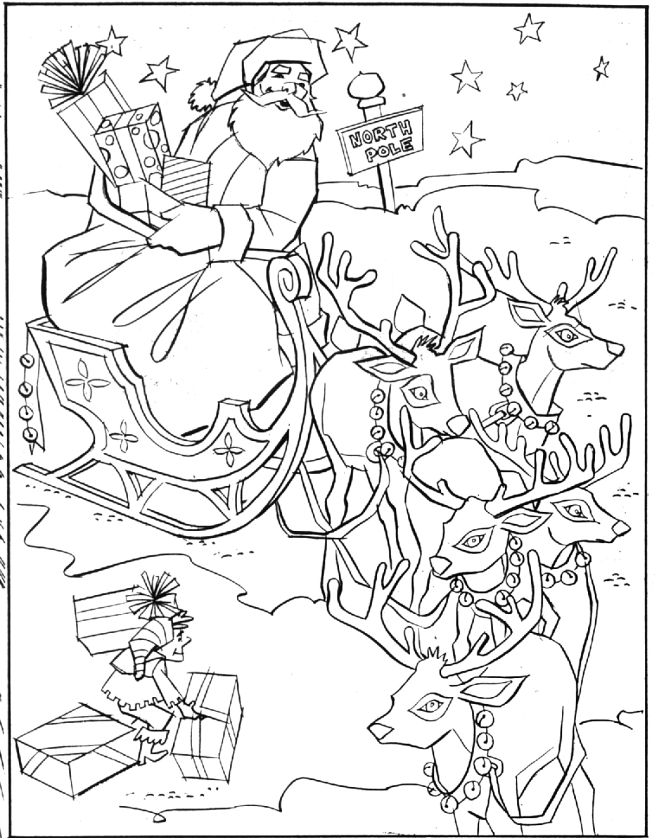
Announcement made by Carlton C. Patterson, Jr., chairman of the Oakland County chapter, invites servicemen's families to come to the chapter headquarters in Pontiac or to the branch office in Royal Oak on Wednesday to Dec. 13 to make recordings.

DISCS WILL be supplied and mailed in a special protective envelope to be received by the addressee on or before Christmas Day.

A Red Cross disc can contain a fifteen minute personal message from one or more members of the serviceman's family. It can be played on any kind of a record player in military or hospital bases.

To assure an interesting and satisfactory message, the home service division of the American Red Cross, urges families to plan in advance what they want to include in the recording, which adults and children will talk on what to bring the correct and complete address, including the serial number, of the individual to whom the recording will be airmailed by the Red Cross.

Recordings can be made any time between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



COLOR THIS PICTURE

# CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST

Sponsored by The Birmingham Eccentric

NOTE: This Year There Will Be 2 Age Groups  
Group 1—1st thru 3rd Grade      Group 2—4th thru 6th Grade

## 2 FIRST PRIZES

SCHWINN BICYCLES One in each Age Group (Boy or Girl)

## 2 SECOND PRIZES

SHOCKPROOF WATCHES One in each Age Group (Boy or Girl)

Plus: EVERYONE WHO ENTERS RECEIVES A BOX OF PRANG CRAYONS

WHO MAY ENTER: ANY BOY OR GIRL OF SCHOOL AGE, UP TO AND INCLUDING THE SIXTH GRADE, RESIDING IN THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC CIRCULATION AREA.

### CONTEST RULES

Read Carefully

1. Official Eccentric entry blank must be attached securely to each entry.
2. The entries will be judged on the basis of neatness, originality of thought and beauty. In making their selections the judges will take the age of the entrant into consideration. Children of employees of The Eccentric are not eligible to enter.
3. Paste or tape entry to a plain sheet of paper (such as typewriter paper). Entries must be mounted in this manner or they will be disqualified. They may be folded over, however, for ease in mailing. There is no entry fee of any kind.
4. You may submit as many entries as you wish, provided each is accompanied by a separate entry blank. Your school grade, from one to three or four to six, will determine in which of the two prize categories your entry will be eligible.
5. Fill out the entry blank completely. Have your mother or father go over it with

you to be sure all the information is clear and distinct. Have your parents print (or type) your entry blank if necessary, so we can list your name correctly if you win a prize.

6. Mail or bring your entry to: Christmas Coloring Contest, The Birmingham Eccentric, 1226 Bowers, Birmingham, Mich. All entries become the property of The Eccentric. No entries will be returned.
7. Judging will be done by Ethel Simmons, arts editor; George Landino, Groves High School art teacher; and Betty Conn, sculptor. The decision of the judges is final.
8. All entries must be in or postmarked by midnight, Saturday, December 12. Winners will be announced in The Eccentric, Thursday, December 24, day preceding Christmas.

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

### CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST for Children ENTRY BLANK

(Fill out Completely—See Rules)

YOUR NAME ..... AGE .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... PHONE .....

SCHOOL .....

Mail or bring your entry to Christmas Coloring Contest, The Birmingham Eccentric, Birmingham, Mich.

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION . . .  
and ATTACH TO YOUR ENTRY!

GRADE