

## Interchange to Open At Eight Mile, Lodge

The final portion of a tri-level interchange at the Lodge Freeway and Eight Mile Road in Detroit will be opened to traffic at noon today, according to the State Highway Dept.

State Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie said a \$2.5 million bridge carrying Eight Mile over the Lodge Freeway is being opened to traffic nine months ahead of schedule.

Completion of the half-mile-long bridge ends one of the Motor City's worst traffic bottlenecks.

**THE LODGE-EIGHT MILE** interchange is located at the edge of one of the world's largest shopping centers and one of the nation's biggest developments of private office buildings.

The intersection is one of Michigan's busiest. Nearly 200,000 cars and trucks pass through it daily.

Mackie commended the contractors and employees of the State Highway Dept. for completing the bridge ahead of schedule.

One of the major factors in its early completion was the use of the Critical Path Method (CPM) of construction.

The CPM calls for the use of computers to schedule work on complicated projects, thus enab-

ling the contractor to meet a rigid construction timetable.

**MACKIE SAID** the Eight Mile Road bridge is the first highway bridge in the nation to be built with a new corrosion-resistant steel which doesn't need painting.

Main feature of the 6.5 million pounds of steel used in the bridge is that it has a built-in rust-proofing property which eliminates the need for painting.

The Eight Mile Road bridge was chosen as a test site for the new material because routine painting of the span's steel structures would seriously disrupt traffic, Mackie said.

Painting bridges in urban areas is very costly, Mackie said, because in many cases the work must be done on weekends, holidays and nights when traffic is light and premium wages must be paid to workers.

**THE U.S. BUREAU** of Public Roads has conducted limited tests of corrosion-resistant structural steel but the Michigan State Highway Dept. is the first one to use it in the construction of a highway bridge.

Buildings in Chicago and Moline, Ill., have been built with the new type steel.

The bridges on the Lodge Freeway adjacent to the Eight Mile Road interchange have been painted progressively darker colors to give motorists a transition from standard aluminum paint to the dark steel used in the interchange.

L. A. Davidson Construction Co. of Lansing was the prime contractor on the tri-level interchange. The Eight Mile Road bridge was part of a \$4.1 million contract the Lansing firm had for work in the immediate area.

## Open House Fetes Bingham Farm Area

Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. Baldwin Public Library will be the scene of an open house celebration honoring the residents of Bingham Farms, newest area to contract with Birmingham for library service.

Bingham Farms residents are now entitled to borrowing privileges along with the residents of Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield Township.

Bingham Farms women who were members of the committee working for the contract included Mrs. Neil E. Warren, Mrs. Edgar A. Guest, Jr., Mrs. Richard C. Van Dusen, Mrs. Henry Anderson, Mrs. Robert L. Bodor, Mrs. Thomas J. George, Mrs. John S. Judd, Mrs. George A. Elkington, Mrs. William H. Leckie, Mrs. Robert R. Mandy, Mrs. Jack E. Savage, and Mrs. Merle Brode.

In addition to officials of Bingham Farms, members of the Baldwin Public Library Board and staff will be present.

## Stop Scheduled At City Church By Bloodmobile

The First Presbyterian Church on West Maple will host the Red Cross bloodmobile next Friday to assist in rebuilding a supply of blood adequate for the expanding Birmingham community.

Sponsoring the drive for blood donors in the First Presbyterian Women's Association, with Mrs. Robert Lakatos, 18851 Hillcrest, serving as general chairman.

She will be assisted by Mrs. William Hunter, 1896 Devonshire, and Mrs. John Handley, 835 Westwood.

**THE COCHAIRMEN** in charge of recruitment are Mrs. Warren Henderson, 16156 Lauderdale; Mrs. George Davis, 1030 Pilgrim, and publicity chairman is Mrs. David Zimmer, 2680 Middlebury Lane.

Mrs. Leland Rosemont, 18389 Devonshire, has been named to serve as the Red Cross coordinator.

Blood obtained will be banked for future use by the donors, their families, or at the donor's request, transferred as a blood credit through the national Red Cross to any hospital in the country.

Donors will be welcomed at the First Presbyterian bank from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Those wishing to arrange advance appointments may call either Mrs. Davis or Mrs. Henderson.



A BLANKET OF SNOW keeps animal-go-round warm!

## 1st Snow Brings Random Thoughts

By MARY BAHN  
Staff Writer

That magical white stuff—snow—made its first visible descent on Birmingham last week, although the weatherman said we had a "snow haze" as far back as October.

This time it covered rooftops and rose bushes, hat brims and boulevards—all with gusty indifference.

### SIGHTS 'N' SCENES:

A father grumbling to himself as he clears an ice-hardened windshield in the early morning's light. Perhaps he is thinking of his boyhood when he would greet friends on a morning like this with snowballs.

A harassed young mother wrapping her young-ones in mufflers and mittens, galoshes and other snow gear; her mind is back at the time when she couldn't wait to be the first to slide down the big hill on Maple Road just below Southfield.

This is a great day for the kids—from tots to teens—who have waited since their "last" first snowfall for this moment.

Nothing can beat the first cold, wet splashes of snow on unpurled faces; later snowfalls are wonderful, but the first is enough to make it feel like spring (pardon the pun).

**THEY HAVE FORGOTTEN** the cold and dreary days of January and February, the first rush of warm air in March and April and the spine-tingling hot sun of summer.

Today, everything from a berry bush to the animal-go-round at Shain Park is a frosted fairyland.

An amusing but joyful sight is a small baby's first experience with snow. Born in the early spring, he is wide-eyed and anxious over this new wonder. First, a look of trepidation (until he discovers that it won't hurt a bit), then the excitement of a (See 1st SNOW, 6-F)

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