

Congo in Need Of Medical Aid, Says Missionary

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

If the African Republic of Congo is to emerge as a strong nation other countries must help the Congolese to help themselves.

Dr. Robert White, speaking Monday before the Birmingham Rotary Club, said one way in which others may help the Congo is through high quality medical care.

White, a physician and surgeon, has been serving as a medical missionary in the Congo since 1957. His work at the Institut Medical Evangelique is supported, in part, by the Birmingham First Methodist Church.

The medical training center is located at Kimpe, Congo, about 200 miles from Leopoldville. The staff, made up of Americans, Canadians, Swedes and British personnel.

"THE TIME has passed," White said, "when we should send doctors to the Congo. There must be emphasis placed on the education of the Congolese themselves."

He said at the present time there is only one doctor for every 60,000 persons in the Congo whereas in the United States there is a doctor for every 800 people.

To ready Congolese people for the medical profession, he said, there was "considerable need" for an increase in training facilities.

Currently, Congolese are trained in two areas at White's center. "We have a program for nurses and a school for public health officers," he said. He said there are 84 students enrolled in the two schools.

THE PURPOSE of his visit to this country is to gain support for the establishment of an "assistant doctors' program at the center."

"While they would not be fully qualified M.D.'s, they would serve as the backbone for the future," he said. He estimated the center would need \$2 million in the next four years.

The staff at the medical center is now made up of 4 doctors, 7 nurses and 18 Congolese technicians.

White said the center is near the current African trouble spots and has treated many who have been injured in riots in nearby Angola.

THE DOCTOR, his wife and their children were themselves forced to flee for a short time in 1961. At that time all of the family's possessions were destroyed.

In his introduction of White, Dr. G. Ernest Thomas, pastor of the First Methodist Church, said the missionary could "hold his own with any doctor in the state of Michigan."

He said White receives only \$2,800 in salary a year.

"Dr. White represents human and spiritual aid in the Congo and this is the kind of aid that counts," Thomas said.

CITY EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR SERVICE

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Birmingham's biggest family had a "family party" last Thursday night. The family? Birmingham city employees, commissioners and their guests.

More than 350 persons attended the fifth biennial employees recognition banquet at the Claws-on-Troy Elks Club on Big Beaver Road.

It was a typical family gathering of fun and singing.

After a brief opening speech by Mayor William E. Burghum, the evening was devoted to honoring employees for their service to the city and to having fun.

"This is your evening for fun and recognition," Burghum said. "You have certainly earned it."

are somewhat limited inasmuch as all constitutional county officers must be retained and their powers and duties set by state law. The California constitution requires a number of mandatory provisions which must be encompassed in the charter. The commission is, however, given latitude as to what these provisions may contain. For example, there must be a provision establishing a legislative body but the method of the election or appointment is left to the Charter commission.

The charter is submitted to a vote of the people and, if approved by a majority vote, it is submitted to the state legislature for its approval or refusal. The legislature may not amend, but only approve or reject the charter.

IN CALIFORNIA, county home rule powers operate only outside the city limits. Extension of county services inside city limits by the Lakewood plan in Los Angeles County rests on voluntary contracts which do not violate home rule theory. The fact that counties can and do provide many services outside city limits that are not extended inside city boundaries has produced some prolonged and bitter battles.

The county home rule amendment to the Ohio constitution contains a mandatory provision for a charter commission of 15 members to be elected at large on a non-partisan basis. No more than seven members may come from any one village or city. The amendment allows the charter to provide for the concurrent or exclusive exercise by the county, in all or part of its area, of any or all designated powers vested by the constitution or laws of Ohio to a municipality. However, no charter vesting municipal powers in the county can be effective unless it obtains a majority of those voting in (1) the

county, (2) the largest municipality, (3) the county outside such municipality and (4) each of a majority of the combined total of municipalities and townships in the county.

This multiple majority requirement has effectively thwarted three separate attempts by citizens of Ingham County (Cleveland) to obtain home rule for their county. No county in Ohio has yet been able to avail itself of the permissive constitutional county home rule provision.

THE MULTIPLE majority procedure obviously is not the logical method of solving possible conflict between city and county. The California plan seeks to avoid any possibility of such conflict without providing a simple method for extending county services to cities when they are desired. Another method, referred to as metropolitan government, is employed in the State of Florida's grant of county home rule to Dade County. In this instance, the charter clearly subordinates municipal home rule powers to those of the county.

This sweeping grant of power to only one county in Florida was a unique provision to cope with a unique situation. We, in Birmingham-Bloomfield, live in the Detroit Metropolitan Area, which is composed of parts of six counties. In the case of Dade County the county boundary lines comprise a single Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Within the county, at the time of the adoption of home rule, there were 26 municipalities with no legal means of coordinating county-wide matters. In a county which then had approximately 800,000 people, 250,000 lived outside of the boundaries of any one of these 26 municipalities. Population now has risen in the unincorporated areas (See HOME RULE, 8-A)

We adults ought never to forget that once we were little tots, lovable much of the time, now and then in a genuine sense, the quired almost saintly forbearance and understanding by our parents. When we, as parents or grandparents, are among tots who are not always little angels, let's not forget that they, like us (we hope) will graduate from infants to effective tolerance (like us) as they, too, will look back to childhood's immaturity.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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School Building Costs Estimated at \$7 Million

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

It will cost approximately \$7,000,000 to complete the school building program recommended to the Bloomfield Hills School District by a survey team from Michigan State's College of Education.

A break-down of cost figures on each individual project in the building program was studied by the Bloomfield Hills School Board at a special meeting Monday night.

The figures were furnished to the school board by the firm of Tarrance-MacMahon, architects for many of the district's schools. The cost includes furnishing and equipping the proposed buildings as well as construction and landscaping costs.

The figures will be used by the board in determining the amount of the bond issue which school district property owners will be asked to authorize at a school election later this year.

Discussion by the board Monday night indicated that members favored asking for authorization of the total cost of the four-year building program at one time rather than having several elections involving smaller bond issues.

With knowledge of what the building program will cost, the next step by the board will be to determine the amount of extra millage needed to pay off the bonds.

Board Treasurer Max Miller and Asst. Supt. Irving Menucci, in charge of school district finances, will work up figures to be presented to the board at a later date.

Miller told the board that because of expected increases in the total assessed equalized valuation of school district property over the next few years "the amount of millage needed to finance the bonds will not be great."

He mentioned a possible one to two mills. Included in the \$7 million building program are additions at four elementary schools—Booth, Hickory Grove, Conant and Pine Lake—at a cost of slightly more than

\$600,000. The survey report recommended that they be built by September of 1965 to accommodate increased elementary enrollment.

An addition within the same time schedule at East Hills Junior High School has an estimated cost of \$467,000. A small addition at Bloomfield Hills Junior High School, which would not include additional classroom space but would improve teaching stations, would cost \$112,000.

The board discussed at length the breakdown of costs for a second senior high school. Its basic cost was estimated at \$1,855,000. However, an additional cost of \$532,500 for a swimming pool was also estimated.

Board consensus was to include the pool cost in the bond issue. It reached no decision as to whether the new high school should have a 400-seat Little Theater at a cost of \$195,000, or whether a larger auditorium which would accommodate large community activities should be considered.

Other buildings recommended by the survey and included in the total estimate are:

• An administrative building costing \$15,500.

• Two new elementary schools with two units each totalling \$1,267,500.

• A third junior high school to be built by September, 1968, at \$1,611,000.

• Bus maintenance facilities costing \$60,000.

• Renovation at Vaughan and Wing Lake schools at \$81,500 and \$23,500, respectively.

• A site for an additional elementary school at \$85,000.

The estimates make provision for rising construction costs over the four-year building period.

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Scheduled for Construction

Birmingham city commissioners Monday night approved this architect's conception of the clubhouse for the new municipal golf course at Lincoln and Cranbrook roads. Designer Carl B. Marr told the commission the building will cost from \$35,000 to \$40,000.

Included in the structure will be a large fireplace and warming facilities for residents using the recreation center for winter sports activities. It is hoped construction can be completed by early June.

Home Rule in Other States Acts As Guide for Michigan

Sixth in a Series

By SHELLEY SPANN
Public Relations Chairman
Baton Rouge of Women Voters

In looking at the experience of other states we will once again confine our thinking to enabling legislation for county home rule rather than examining the provisions adopted by the individual counties.

Fourteen states have provided for home rule in their constitutions. California made such a provision in 1911. The other states are: Maryland, Ohio, Texas (counties over 62,000 population), Missouri (counties over 35,000 population), New York, Louisiana (for East Baton Rouge and Jefferson parishes only), Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, Florida (for Dade County only), Alaska, Hawaii, and, of course, Michigan.

California has, by far, the largest number of home rule counties. Each of the total 58 counties had adopted home-rule charters and all but four of the state's counties with more than 250,000 population had county home rule by 1961.

THE HOME RULE provision of the California Constitution is self-executing in nature and did not require enabling legislation. It provides for the election of a 15-man charter commission upon the passage of an ordinance by 2/3 of the County Board of Supervisors or upon petition of 15 per cent of the electorate. The members of the commission are elected in the same manner as the county officials in each county.

In general it may be said that the powers of the charter commission



The Family Came to Dinner

BURGHUM PRAISED the group for "the fine work" they have been doing and for their devotion to their jobs.

Through his membership in the South Oakland County Mayors Association, Burghum said, he had learned that Birmingham's employees were "known and respected throughout the county."

"A great deal of credit is due to you," Burghum declared.

The entertainment part of the program started off with Russell (Mitch) Berger, city treasurer, and Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham conducting a group sing-along.

Ingraham, an accomplished organist, also provided the gathering with before-dinner music.

NEXT ON the program was a limbo contest between members of the planning, forestry and treasurer's office.

City Planner William R. Brownfield seemed to have the event wrapped up until Dick Malcolm of the DPW sneaked into the competition with a portable "creeper" strapped on his back.

The middle part of the evening was devoted to a slide presentation poking fun at the various city departments and personnel.

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