

Romney's Story: 1963, '64, Future

BY GOV. GEORGE ROMNEY

Michigan citizens can be proud of the progress which their state made during 1963, and there is every reason to believe that this progress will continue during 1964.

For the benefit of Birmingham Eccentric readers, I would like to review some of our accomplishments during the past year. I would also like to examine the

prospects for the future and clarify some of the misunderstandings about my own personal plans.

During 1963, Michigan accomplished more in the way of laying a foundation for the future than in any previous year in this century.

WE HAVE a new constitution—the best revised state constitution in the country. At the

close of the 1963 fiscal year, we had a deficit of \$85 million. Now we are looking forward to a treasury surplus of at least \$38 million on June 30.

We have reappointed our congressional districts fairly. We have a new construction safety commission to safeguard the lives and limbs of construction workers. The legislature enacted important improvements to our system of unemployment benefits. In a special session last Decem-

ber, it passed 69 bills to implement the new constitution.

IMPORTANT AS these favorable developments were, much work remains to be done.

During 1964, I intend to concentrate on three areas—meeting the needs of people, continuing our program of fiscal integrity and moving to make the new constitution an effective instrument of the people.

In education, Michigan must

prepare for the avalanche of college students which is engulfing our campuses.

Michigan has a tradition for a commitment to the idea that higher education should be available to all individuals with the ability to benefit from it. We must prepare now if we are going to fulfill that commitment.

It is for that reason that I asked the legislature to increase appropriations for higher education from the current \$110 mil-

lion to \$131 million, an increase of 20 per cent in a single year.

IN THE field of mental health, the state has serious deficiencies. Eighteen hundred mentally retarded children who have been committed are receiving no help. I recommended funds to open 500 new beds at Plymouth, 200 at Mt. Pleasant and 40 more at Gaylord, plus 330 temporary beds at Fort Custer.

I have presented several spe-

The governor being a local resident, The Birmingham Eccentric thought he should have an opportunity to say in print, in his own words, what his accomplishments were in 1963, what he hopes to achieve in 1964 and what his personal plans are. Here is his story, written expressly for The Birmingham Eccentric.

cific recommendations to the legislature in the field of social welfare. These include legislation to bring Michigan under the ADC-V program, to increase the number of older citizens eligible for medical assistance under the Kerr-Mills program, to improve programs for assistance to the disabled and aid to the blind.

LAST YEAR I fought for a minimum wage bill. The legislature decided to investigate the subject further. I will continue working for a minimum wage bill and I am confident that we will secure such a law this year.

We must do more than we have done to stop the slaughter (See FUTUR, 4-A)

Hills School Board Studies Pool Issue

Proposed Site Of 2nd Senior High Questioned

BY SAVILLA SLOAN
Special Writer

Should the cost of a swimming pool at a proposed second high school for the Bloomfield Hills School District be included as an integral part of a bond issue the district land owners to ratify—or should the pool cost be presented as a separate issue?

The question was raised at the school board meeting Tuesday night. No decision was reached by the board which is still studying various aspects of the bond issue.

The board agreed on inclusion of the swimming pool as a part of the building program at a special meeting last week, but that time there was no discussion of a separate bond issue to finance it.

A second question was also posed Tuesday night—the school's location. Property owners in the vicinity of its proposed site on Lahar north of Long Lake Road raised the question.

With Louis Colombo, Jr., as their spokesman, a number of residents attended the meeting and expressed their opposition to the school's location at the 40-acre site purchased by the school board more than a year ago.

MRS. JEAN MARTZ told other board members that she has been getting phone calls from parents and patrons asking the board to present the cost of the swimming pool separately.

The estimated \$52,500 cost of the pool is a part of a total building program of approximately \$7 million.

"It isn't wise to jeopardize the total building program by including the pool," Mrs. Martz said.

Although other board members denied the proposal, Mrs. Martz did not indicate just how they would stand on separating the bond issue.

BOARD PRESIDENT Dr. Charles Bowers said:

"I think the school board has every right to propose what we think is best for children."

Dr. Bowers said he was concerned with distortions of the board's views in the past and of context and used in letters to newspapers.

Merrill Bates said he felt that the majority of people understand that we have spent school tax dollars with great care and that we are doing only what we think is best."

BOARD treasurer Max Miller said that he had only recently changed his mind on the necessity of a swimming pool after hearing a panel discussion at which the need for addressees to have wholesome outlets was strongly advocated.

"I feel we should have a swimming pool. I was of the previous attitude that it wasn't important one way or another," he said.

MILLER POINTED out that a separate bond issue for the pool could raise bonding costs by as much as \$50,000. He also said the cost of the pool should be considered in the light of its furnishing a physical education training site. (See POOL ISSUE, 4-A)

Licenses Available For Beverly Dogs

Residents were reminded by Beverly Hills police this week that dog licenses must be obtained before March 1 or there will be a \$1 penalty.

Licenses can be picked up from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday at the police station. Owners must take vaccination slips for their dogs when applying for licenses.

B'ham, County Agree On 14 Mile Opening

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

A project long under consideration by Birmingham city officials came a step closer to reality Monday night.

City commissioners authorized Mayor William H. Burgett to enter into an agreement with the Oakland County Road Commission for the opening of a part of 14 Mile Road.

The agreement calls for the opening and improvement of 14 Mile between Cranbrook and Southfield and the improvement of Cranbrook between 14 Mile and Lincoln.

A major hurdle still to be cleared before the project can get under way is approval from the Village of Beverly Hills.

VOTERS in Beverly Hills have previously turned down a package deal program from the county that included the opening of 14 Mile.

Under the new proposal Beverly would not have to pay for any of the construction. The cost would be borne by the county and Birmingham.

Birmingham's share of the project would be about \$58,000.

Before the project can be started, Beverly Hills officials must approve three separate statutory requirements, according to Paul Van Roekel, county highway engineer. Van Roekel said his office has sent copies of the proposed resolutions on the requirements to the Beverly Council.

GENERALLY, BEVERLY must give the county (1) permission to acquire the right-of-way, (2) permission to lay out and construct a new road, and (3) relinquish the part of 14 Mile over which it has jurisdiction between Cranbrook and Southfield. The road is the dividing line between Birmingham and Beverly Hills.

A fourth requirement, Van Roekel said, would be to acquire right-of-way. He said this could be time-consuming if condemnation proceedings were necessary.

The county has already taken some surveys and will work on the design of the road for the next two to four months.

UNDER THE agreement with

Birmingham, 14 Mile would have a 24-foot wide pavement between Cranbrook and Southfield. Concrete pavement flaring for intersections and curbs for traffic control would also be constructed.

Any drainage facilities needed would also be constructed, Van Roekel said.

All engineering services, designs, detailed plans and specifications, right-of-way acquisition and con-

tract awarding would be handled by the county.

Before the actual construction could be started, the county would acquire full jurisdiction of the road from Birmingham and Beverly Hills.

BIRMINGHAM would also pass any resolutions necessary to allow the county to acquire right-of-way through purchase or condemnation proceedings.

Van Roekel said that if Beverly Hills has not approved the project within four years of the date of the agreement with Birmingham, the contract would terminate.

He said the road commission would take "whatever steps it deems necessary" to obtain permission from Beverly Hills to complete the project.

Teens Speak Out On Fraternities

By MARY BAHN
Staff Writer

A "get it off your chest" meeting that pitted the pro-fraternity students against the anti-fraternity students was held Monday night at Senior High School.

Stated as a "students only" forum, it was moderated by Dave Zimmer, former president of the Student Congress, and directed from the floor by John Kearney, current president.

The pro-fraternity group—about 50 strong—was led by several of the students suspended from school for their activities in a Greek-letter organization, while their adversaries' unofficial spokesman was Bill Meeske, editor of the student newspaper.

STUDENTS WERE INVITED to give their opinion on the Michigan law which states that clubs in high school must adopt the "open membership" policy when considering new applicants—in other words, forbidding "black-balling" of students.

Eighteen Birmingham students were recently withdrawn from classes because, the school ruled, they were in violation of a state statute. This was the basis for the current friction.

High points of the discussion were to be used as foundation for a newly-formed Student Congress committee (See FRATERNITIES, 2-A)

Masonic Temple Drive Gets \$9,000 Contribution

HOWARD COE* (right), president of the Birmingham High Twelve Club, presents a check to William Barr (left), president of the Masonic Temple Association, towards the construction of a new temple in Bloom-

field Hills. Also on hand for the presentation were Charles Buchta, worshipful master of Birmingham Masonic Lodge No. 44 F.&A.M. and William Teerman, president of High Twelve International.

The Temple Association is planning to construct a new building on the southwest corner of Woodward and Chesterfield in Bloomfield Hills.

Tentative plans call for the groundbreaking to take place in the middle of April and it is expected the cornerstone-laying ceremony can take place on May 2. Occupancy is scheduled for Sept. 1.

THE TEMPLE Association had first planned to build the new temple on the site of the present location at Woodward and Forest.

In January the association announced the sale of the century-old temple to realtor Howard Keating for \$75,000. Keating expects to open his office in the former Peabody home by July 1.

In accepting the gift, Barr said the generosity of the High Twelve Club was especially appreciated in view of the large number of its members who had given substantial individual contributions.

"It now appears that we have ample funds assured with pledges made to date that we can go forward with plans for breaking ground this spring, so we can move into our new building this fall," Barr said.

COE COMMENTED, "We have often expressed our desire for closer fraternity with the local lodge and its objectives."

Other projects the High Twelve Club has worked on during the

past years include Camp Oakland, YMCA summer camp, The Community House and the sending of two boys to the Wolverine Boys State at Michigan State University.

On hand for the occasion was William F. Teerman, president of High Twelve International. He complimented the local club on its many expressions of community spirit.

Mrs. Charles T. (Pat) Grissom has become the first candidate to file a nominating petition for the Birmingham City Commission in the April 6 election.

Incumbents Robert W. Page and Ralph A. Main have both announced, however, that they would seek re-election.

Mrs. Grissom, 35, of 1090 Westwood, is married and the mother of four children, three of whom are enrolled in the Birmingham Public Schools. She has lived in Birmingham for four years.

A political science graduate of Denison University, Mrs. Grissom has been active in various community affairs.

SHE HAS been a United Foundation Torch Drive collector for 14 years, has served on the Birmingham election board for two years and is currently the president of the Quarten Elementary School PTA.

City Clerk Irene Hanley said the filing deadline for the election is 4 p.m., Feb. 29.

Woman Files 1st for B'ham Commission

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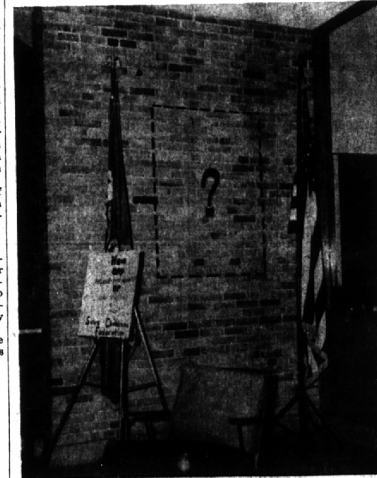
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Candidate News, Pictures Sought

It's that time again. With spring elections just six weeks away, the tempo is picking up and candidates are beginning to shape their platforms for presentation to the voters.

The Eccentric, as in the past, will accept political announcements (and pictures of candidates) until two weeks before the April 6 election.

Candidates are urged to submit releases and photographs at least one week in advance of the issue in which they wish them to appear.



Where's the Picture?

The news traveled quickly along the Seaholm High School student grapevine Tuesday morning that the picture was missing. . . . A large, color photograph of Ernest W. Seaholm, after whom the school was named, was gone from its familiar spot near the library. School officials, who learned of the picture's disappearance late that afternoon, said Wednesday that an investigation would be instituted. Meanwhile, the mystery remains unsolved.

Stevens Quits B'ham Plan Board Post

Clark H. Stevens, a member of the Birmingham Plan Board since 1960, has announced his resignation from the post.

Stevens, 1386 Lakeview, said in his letter of resignation that he was stepping down from the job because his business activities take him out of town quite often.

A newspaper representative for Sawyer, Ferguson and Walker, Northland Towers, Stevens said he was resigning with "extreme regret."

"THE PLANNING board, in so far as possible, should have a full complement of its membership for each meeting and since I know I will not be able to attend many of the meetings between now and the end of my term in July it is on that basis I tender my resignation," Stevens said.

"I shall continue as an ardent supporter of our community government and a booster for Birmingham," he said.

LWV Will Discuss Twp. Master Plan

Mrs. Chester Galt of the West Bloomfield League of Women Voters will present her committee's first study program on the master plan of West Bloomfield Township Tuesday at the township library.

She will present information on local government. The national program will be discussed by Mrs. Ross Callaway and her committee.

Status of Road Undetermined In Beverly

BEVERLY HILLS—A meeting between representatives of the county and village road commissions to discuss the jurisdiction and paving of 14 Mile Road from Southfield to Evergreen has been postponed indefinitely.

The meeting was originally scheduled for 8 p.m. Tuesday. The county road commission sent to the council on Feb. three resolutions, which, if passed, would give the county jurisdiction over 14 Mile Road and would also allow them to engineer and construct a road through the Birmingham Country Club from Southfield to Evergreen.

COUNCILMAN Edward P. Dolan, chairman of the village road commission, invited all council members to come to the meeting at which Paul Van Roekel and Norman Knapp, of the county, will be present to answer questions.

Lud Emble, 32385 Mayfair Lane, who was in the audience, asked if the public could come to the meeting too, and President Pro Tem Hugh G. Allerton, Jr., remarked that the hall belongs to the taxpayers and anyone could come to it.

Dolan commented: "I would certainly not like to have a massive demonstration. We have invited Mr. Van Roekel and Mr. Knapp to be our guests for the evening and to ask and answer questions."

Probate Hearing Starts Tuesday In Lovaas Case

An Oakland County Probate Court hearing will begin next Tuesday morning to determine if 15-year-old Daniel Lovaas was the slayer of Nancy Jean Jones.

Nancy, 14, was stabbed in the back on Jan. 24 on Birmingham's Purdy Street as she walked toward Barnum Junior High School.

Daniel, a 10th grader at Seaholm, was arrested shortly after the girl died and was identified by witnesses as being the attacker.

PROBATE JUDGE Norman R. Barnard said as yet he has received no petition from the prosecutor's office asking for a waiver of juvenile jurisdiction of the boy.

Results of extensive psychiatric examination given Daniel since the preliminary hearing are expected to be revealed Tuesday.