

Urges Self-Improvement Program for Teen-Agers

To the Editor: I have noticed that you have been receiving nasty letters of a nature that might be termed as sarcastic, tearing down the merits of the City Beat column of late that criticized the communities' teenagers. Therefore, I thought it quite appropriate that I send in my contribution to your "fan mail."

The only trouble is, I can think of nothing to say in criticism! I found the column very truthful in content, and to be what I consider "food for thought."

MANY OF the letters you have received have been from others of my age group; others who vehemently deny ever having had anything to do with the childish behavior patterns established now by many of suburbia's young adults. To their claims I now say, "Whom are you trying to kid?"

There is not one among us who

can truthfully deny having had a swig or two from a pocket flask at the dance — who can say with a straight face that he has not engaged in what they now call "woodwarding" (we used to call it "drugging")—and those who feel picked upon because of school suspension resulting from illegal membership in a "fraternity" (these "frats" are really too much) cannot say that they haven't been warned many, many times.

IT WAS ONCE one of the children of Birmingham. I was as juvenile as any of those you are

contending with now — perhaps even to a greater degree.

The "little darlings" of 1960 and '61 were no different than the teenageurchins of 1964.

So I know what the argument is all about—and I ask those who are afraid to face themselves as they really are to quit crying "Weaver is unfair!" and to launch a city-wide (yes—even country-wide), program of self-improvement. It isn't hard to do—I speak from experience.

GEORGE DWELLEY
Pc. USA
Hq. Co. USA
Ft. Gordon, Ga.

Road Developments, CBDD Questioned

To the Editor:

In reading the issue of The Eccentric of March 5, 1964, and the report of the proposed opening of 14 Mile Road from Cranbrook to Southfield at an estimated cost to the residents of this community of \$68,000, I could not help but wonder whether this move at this time was prompted by the commercial interests of this community in promoting their announced program as outlined in their proposed master plan to make downtown Biter plain to make downtown Biter into a second Northland Shopping Center.

If I understand the CBDD plan correctly? it will call for the closing off of Woodward and Maple and making this general area into a shopping mall restricted to pedestrian traffic only.

IF THIS should be accomplished, i.e., the closing of Woodward and Maple in the central commercial district, there will be by obvious necessity, a need for an additional east-west main artery to carry the bulk of the motor traffic.

There is a question, and perhaps it is only a question in my mind, as to when the "powers that be" would next determine that the need exists for the further opening of 14 Mile Road from Cranbrook to Telegraph so as to carry its full share of the traffic from Tele-

graph to the Chrysler Freeway as an alternate route to the now-proposed freeway extension 696 which will cut across Ten Mile Road.

IT WAS ABOUT a year ago at this time that the great cry went out concerning the needs of central commercial interest for additional public parking. Through the "powers that be" and in direct opposition to petitions presented in protest, it was determined that such additional parking was needed, and the legal machinery was set in motion to acquire the residential property south of Shain Park.

Recently, it was announced that one of Detroit's larger haberdasheries was interested in expanding its shopping facilities to the Birmingham area. It is now believed that such a new commercial interest would be well situated in the area south of Shain Park.

BY THIS time next year, we no doubt will hear the cry from the commercial interest of the great and pending need of additional public parking for the downtown area. When, if ever, will the residents of this community be able to at least put in check this growing commercial cancer which feeds on the adjacent residential property owners?

I am curious to know when the

Equal Justice For Everyone?

To the Editor: Recently, while I was driving through Birmingham on my way to my home in Lathrup Village, I received a ticket for speeding. It was late at night and there was little traffic on Adams Road between Winkleton and Maple. I admit that I was watching the road instead of the speedometer.

When I appeared in court, I was fined \$25 plus \$3 court costs for driving 45 miles an hour in a 25-mile speed zone. I gulped and paid the fine without protest because I felt that it was imposed for my protection. This was my first moving violation in 14 years of driving.

Since that time my brother-in-law, who is a bona-fide Birmingham resident, received a ticket for his first moving violation and walked out of the courtroom with out paying a cent. The question in my mind now is whether the judge discriminated against me because I am a woman or because I am a nonresident.

JEAN SCHWALLIE
18139 Avilla
Lathrup

city commission will gain the interest of the public to have the open for public review, the proposed master plan of the CBDD and adopt or reject same rather than to cut away at the existing residential community in a piecemeal fashion.

Who are the individuals lining their pockets with silver while the rest of the community sleeps, apparently not concerned with the commercial speculation of the area south of Shain Park?

LARRY HEITSCH
2032 Derby Road
Birmingham

EDITOR'S NOTE: A Central Business District Development Plan was formulated by a committee of merchants working under the guidance of the city planning department. The Birmingham City Commission has given its preliminary approval to the plan in general and has implemented some of the earlier phases.

The Birmingham Eccentric has published numerous articles and editorials about the plan, including notices and reviews of public hearings. There has been no increase in business zoning in the city; new business establishments being planned or built are on property already zoned for business. The CBDD Plan calls for a by-pass route that would carry through traffic around the central business district. The Birmingham city administration long has favored the opening of 14 Mile Road on through to Telegraph.

Dress for health. A healthy body is one of the surest sources of self-confidence. Rubbers and umbrellas are the quintessence of good taste when storms rage. Heavy coats, mufflers, and adequate underwear are the only answers to winter's cold. Feet that look large in galoshes are much more attractive than a nose turned red and heated with anger from blowing.—Dr. James D. Weiland.

Cites 'Bad Taste' Of 'Guilt' Letters

To the Editor: It is incredible that because of Ken Weaver's mild satire on teenagers he should be the victim of such abusive criticism. Excerpts from some of the letters are indeed in very bad taste, obviously from frustrated and guilt-conscious persons. The writer recently had the unhappy experience (upon returning from a shopping trip) of finding two pre-teen-age darlings ransacking her house.

The parents claimed they are too young to know better. Let's get back to normal 'cause we like City Beat.

Law Endorsed For Troy Police

To the Editor: At a recent meeting of the Troy Volunteer Fire Dept., Station No. 2, the members voted to endorse State Civil Service Act No. 78 for the Troy Police Department and to reject the civil service ordinance proposed by the city council.

The reasons given for the endorsement of the State Civil Service Act No. 78 were:

1. It was felt that this act offered greater job security for the members of the police department.
2. That it would be more in keeping with other police departments in the area.
3. That it is more comprehensive in its coverage of the purposes of such an act.
4. That it would afford the members of the Troy Police Dept. better protection and a more impartial and just administration of their affairs.

DONALD S. WILLIAMS
President Station No. 2
ARTHUR V. HOLSCHER
Secretary Station No. 2

Animal Shelter Visit 'Shocking'

To the Editor: It was indeed gratifying to read in your paper that the appalling conditions which prevail in the Oakland County Animal Shelter are at last coming to the attention of our citizens.

Last October, when looking for my lost pet, I visited the shelter and it was a shocking and heart-rendering experience to see those pitiable creatures existing in that dreadful environment at the mercy of such inhumane treatment.

After I returned to my car, it took me several minutes to regain my composure sufficiently to drive home.

Mrs. Carl and Mrs. Kocher are doing what they can for homeless animals. It's high time that we residents of Birmingham unite in concerted action on behalf of our

canine friends and other creatures that need a decent shelter and humane care.

VIRGINIA MACMILLAN
1500 Lakeside
Birmingham, Mich.

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EDWARD J. HALEY
Funeral Director
24525 Northwestern Highway
(At 10-Mile Rd.)

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