

## Newcomer Outpolls Everyone in B'ham

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By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

Despite near perfect weather most of the day, the smallest number of voters in three years turned out Monday in Birmingham to elect two commissioners and two library board members and to pass on two propositions.

A newcomer to the political arena, Charles F. Clippert, was the top vote-getter in the commission race with 1,858.

Mayor Pro Tem Robert W. Page was next in line with 1,817.

Clippert, an attorney, ousted incumbent Ralph A. Main, who was seeking his fifth commission term since 1948. Main received a total of 1,217 votes.

Other vote totals in the commission race were Mrs. Ruth B. McNamee, 1,473; Mrs. Patricia F. Griesom, 487; and Stanley J. Fiol, 174.

VOTERS APPROVED two propositions on the spring ballot by large majorities. A charter amendment to provide a three-member board of review appointed for three years, with the assessor as an advisor, was approved 3,048 to 378.

The other proposition, concerning the sale of 70 acres of City-owned property in Troy, was approved 2,914 to 561. The land was once used as a well site and refuse disposal area but is now unused.

Incumbent Arthur J. Underwood, Jr., garnered 2,758 votes and E. James Theodoroff, 2,353, in their unopposed bids for the Baldwin Public Library Board.

CITY CLERK Irene Hanley said only 27.67 per cent of the city's 13,467 registered voters cast ballots in the election. In 1963, a state election year, a record-breaking 49.84 per cent of the voters turned out.

The lowest percentage of voters was in 1962 when only 8 per cent appeared at the polls in an untested commission race.

Clippert, 1782 Pine, campaigned on the slogan, "Keep Birmingham Residential."

Clippert's vote total in the fourth precinct was especially heavy. The fourth precinct comprises the area of Townsend, Bates and Central and Henrietta. He pulled a total of 137 of the 218 ballots cast.

MANY OF the voters on the fringes of the downtown district are members of the Central Birmingham Residents Association, a group of property owners who are interested in keeping the central area of the city residential.

Clippert gave a special thanks to "many citizens who worked and voted" for his election.

He said he was "looking forward to an opportunity of serving Birmingham."

"I will diligently seek to enhance (See NEWCOMER, 2-A)

### Mayor Makes Call For Citizen Action

Mayor William H. Burgum chaired his last Birmingham City Commission meeting Monday night and in doing so offered greater citizen participation in government.

Next Monday, the commission will hold its annual organizational meeting and Burgum said he would "definitely" not be in the mayor's chair.

Referring to the large number of people standing in the back of the commission room awaiting the results of the election, Burgum said:

"I challenge the lot of you who come only when you have an axe (See MAYOR, 5-A)

### Delay Action 4 Months on Smoking Law

Passage of Birmingham's proposed ordinance providing for the licensing of cigaret vending machines was postponed for four months Monday night.

The delay was granted by city commissioners to allow vending machine operators an opportunity to try out their own program to stop the purchase of cigarets by teenagers from the machines.

State law forbids the selling of cigarets to anyone under the age of 21. If convicted the seller is subject to a \$50 fine or a jail term.

The proposed ordinance would require all vending machines to obtain an \$8 license before they could (See SMOKING, 5-A)



ROBERT W. PAGE, Mayor Pro Tem, is seen here at a campaign event.

EVEN A CANADIAN visitor got caught up in the spirit of Birmingham's commission race Monday. Howard McGill, 85, of London, Ontario, was in town visiting his son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. John W. McGill, 1257 S. Eton, when he got recruited to pass out campaign literature.

A former district supervisor of mail in southwest Ontario, Mr. McGill was electioneering for the first time Monday, because Canadian law prohibits government employees from taking part in political campaigns. Incidentally, his man won.

### "HIT A NEW LOW" Campaign Tactics Draw Charge from Ingraham

By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham told fellow commissioners Monday he personally felt the 1964 campaign "hit a new low" in tactics.

"One candidate has conducted a scare campaign," Ingraham charged at Monday night's commission meeting.

"He said the commission was in favor of expanding the business area and I for one never entertained any thought of such action," Ingraham said.

He did not mention any names. "I checked through the minutes of the past commission meetings and found only one instance in the Central Business District study where expansion was mentioned," Ingraham said.

"In 1960 the CBD study said the business area would have to expand but with the development of the town as it is the expansion would have to be vertical rather than lateral," Ingraham said.

HE ALSO charged that a candidate had used the names of supporters in political advertisements

without their consent. Ingraham added, however, the situation was corrected with a retraction.

"Another political ad which I read verbatim, although it said nothing that wasn't true, would indicate that the candidate was all ready to commission seeking reelection," he said.

Ingraham concluded that he hoped "we could raise the sights (of a campaign) to where they once were."

COMMISSIONER David F. Breck took issue with Ingraham's charges. He said he thought he recalled someone saying that last year's campaign was the "all-time low," Breck, along with Commissioners William E. Roberts and Mayor William H. Burgum, were elected in 1963 from a field of 11 candidates.

"I felt legitimate issues were involved," Breck said. "Facts were not misrepresented but it was a matter of an honest difference of opinion."

"Rumors often get started that are attributed to a candidate that are not so," Breck said, "and hereby, I am not reliable."

IN 1818, so the story goes, Hunter journeyed with his brother, Daniel, from Auburn, N. Y., across Canada by sleigh to Detroit. He spent a year

there, awaiting arrival of other members of the Hunter family from New York.

It appeared the search had ended early in March, when committee member Waldon Price, 18261 Devonshire Road, located a gravesite marked

## First Tie Vote Recorded In Hills Election Battle

### Citizens Organize Millage Support

A Citizens' Committee has been formed by a group of Birmingham residents to campaign for the passage of the school bonding and millage proposals at the June 8 election.

Horace E. Sheldon, 3560 Wooddale Court, Bloomfield Township, will serve as the committee chairman.

The Birmingham Board of Education announced last week it would place on the ballot proposals calling for a \$5,200,000 bonding program and a millage increase of 6.6 mills in 1964 and 7.5 mills from 1965-1968.

The money is needed for the construction and equipping of new buildings, additions to existing facilities and to meet increased operational costs.

AN UNEXPECTED rise in school enrollment has been cited by school officials as the reason the new building program is needed.

George Schmidt, 1432 Maryland, and Mrs. John H. Bryant, 423 Berwyn, will serve as vice chairman of the citizens group.

Schmidt will get full details of a door-to-door canvass designed to acquaint every voter in the school district with details of the proposals and school needs.

Mrs. Bryant will handle the supplying of information to blockworkers and to the public.

All three were members of the Citizens Advisory Committee appointed by the board of education in February to study school needs and supply citizen reaction as to what form the millage and bonding proposals should take.

HEADING A speakers bureau of the Citizens' Committee will be John C. Siegemund, Jr., 315 Hupp Cross, Bloomfield Township, and Mrs. George Talburt, 620 Parkview, Birmingham.

Speakers are already being booked for meetings of PTA's, church, service and civic organizations in an attempt to get full details of the proposals before the voters.

Multiple Zoning Meeting Subject

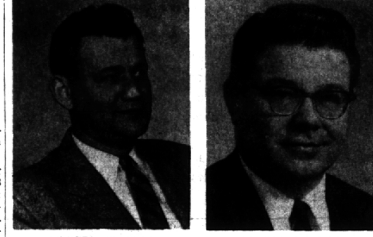
BEVERLY HILLS — "Go to multiple or no" will be discussed tonight at a joint meeting of the planning commission and council at the village hall.

The meeting, to talk about the preliminary proposal of Robinson Bros. for apartments to be built on 13 Mile Road just west of Southview, has been called by the planning commission.

Robinson Bros. has petitioned to have the zoning ordinance amended to permit multiple dwellings. There is no present category for this purpose.

SPACE HAS been reserved on regularly scheduled flights of American and Northwest airlines for the trip to and from New York.

The travelers will leave from The Eccentric, at 1225 Bowers near



ROBERT A. FRYE



GEORGE WEBB

### Eccentric Sponsors Trip to World's Fair

How would you like to see the New York World's Fair with your neighbors, with people you know from your home town?

The return trip will be made the evening of May 28.

Specific plans will not be made for the entire trip so that the travelers will be "free to see the sights of New York City as well as the Fair at their own pace," Mrs. Burlingame said.

"Guidance in planning will be available, however, upon arrival at the Waldorf."

THE ECCENTRIC will have a coffee party for the group prior to the departure date to allow an opportunity for the participants to become acquainted.

To make reservation for the "Family Tour of the World's Fair" turn to the advertisement on Page 5-C in today's Eccentric.

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### Fate of Swan Sculpture Up In the Air?

The editorial on Page 1-B concerning the swan sculpture was written and printed before Monday night's commission action.

Birmingham's proposed swan sculpture got its wings clipped, at least temporarily, Monday night.

City commissioners voted, 5-2, to reconsider a resolution they passed last week approving a \$25,000 contribution by the City towards the project provided that an equal amount could be raised through citizen subscriptions.

The cost of the project has been estimated at \$50,000. Designed by local sculptor Marshall Fredericks, the swans would be placed somewhere in the vicinity of the Municipal Building and Shain Park.

Former Mayor Mrs. G. Howard Willet, Jr., a long-time backer of the project, had suggested the sculpture might be dedicated as a centennial memorial.

THE ACTION Monday night was initiated by Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham.

Ingraham said he had given a year to explain the appropriation since last week's meeting and felt the commission had "overlooked" some aspects of the project.

"I'd like to give some more thought to the matter," Ingraham (See SCULPTURE, 5-A)

### Canvassers Will Decide 3rd Winner

By DAVE PHILPO  
Township Editor

The battle for three seats on the Bloomfield Hills City Commission remained a tie today, pending a decision of the newly created board of canvassers at 10 a.m. Saturday.

One "two-story" candidate and a "three-story" proponent were elected outright Monday while two other rivals fought to a 395-395 tie.

Robert A. Frye, a former commissioner and the only two-story man on the ballot, led all contenders for the commission with 555 votes.

John Blanchard, a recent appointee, was elected to his first one-year term with 416 votes.

PERHAPS THE most surprising aspect of the election was the tie between incumbent James A. Beresford, a veteran of 16 years on the commission, and George Webb, making his political debut as a write-in candidate for the Bloomfield Hills Citizens Committee.

There has never been a deadlocked vote in the Hills before and it becomes the duty of the four-man board of canvassers to choose the winner.

The board, composed of Democrats George H. Goldstone and Mrs. Marjorie Jans, a D and Republicans Robert E. Anderson and Allen Hoot, met Tuesday night to canvass the results of the election but adjourned the session to Saturday when it became clear that their task was complicated by the tie vote.

They will consult with City Attorney William Hartman, and if necessary, the state election board, to determine what course of action to take.

THE CITY charter stipulates that in the case of a tie, a recount must first be held and then if it still exists, the commission would choose a winner by drawing lots.

Recent state legislation, which supersedes city charters, indicates that the board of canvassers must break the tie by lot. Then either candidate could petition for a recount.

The citizens committee was elected with the results of the election—especially the showing of their write-in candidates Webb and Ross Pierce, also a newcomer to the political scene.

Webb actually outpolls Beresford, 419-395, but 24 of his votes (See CANVASSERS, 5-A)

### Fun Festival Discussed at Group Meeting

Representatives of 30 community organizations and service clubs met with the chamber of commerce Tuesday night to discuss plans for the Birmingham Fun Festival.

The festival, to be held in Shain Park, will run from Thursday, May 14 through Sunday, May 31, and serve as a kick-off to the Michigan Week-Centennial observance.

Knowles Smith, executive director of the chamber, said the festival will include an assortment of juvenile rides as well as rides for teen-agers and adults.

The purpose of Tuesday's meeting was to explain to the various organizations types of concession stands that they might operate as a part of the festival.

HAROLD ANDERSON, chairman of the community group concessions for the festival, said the groups could operate food, refreshment and family game concessions.

He said net proceeds from sales would be shared between the operating organization and the Birmingham Centennial Committee.

The concession booths will be decorated in the centennial motif and the persons operating the booths will wear costumes of the Gay Nineties and earlier eras.

## Which Grave Is The Real John W. Hunter's?

Birmingham centennial officials say a history of Oakland County written in 1891, and county records stored in Pontiac may provide the solution to a mystery that could have clouded the Michigan Week observance this year.

Beginning May 17, Michigan Week in Birmingham will take on added significance of marking the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Birmingham as a village, in 1864.

As part of preparations for the event, a search has been under way to establish the place of burial of the city's founder, John W. Hunter.

IN 1818, so the story goes, Hunter journeyed with his brother, Daniel, from Auburn, N. Y., across Canada by sleigh to Detroit. He spent a year

there, awaiting arrival of other members of the Hunter family from New York.

It appeared the search had ended early in March, when committee member Waldon Price, 18261 Devonshire Road, located a gravesite marked

"John Hunter." It was in a Franklin Cemetery plot. Price also talked with a Franklin resident, Stanley Hunter, who is a descendant of John Hunter.

At the same time, another committee member, Mrs. Clarence Clobest, 1598 Northlawn, was assigned to read the "History of Oakland County" authored in 1891. In this volume, mention is made of John Hunter's wife, Margaret.

Subsequently, Mrs. Clobest inspected Oakland County records in this marriage and the appearance of the name Margaret Hunter on historical documents that may hold the key to Oakland County graves.

Nearly two months ago, a committee appointed to confirm the history of Birmingham—the history and heritage committee—set out to locate the resting place of Hunter.

It appeared the search had ended early in March, when committee member Waldon Price, 18261 Devonshire Road, located a gravesite marked

There also is the question of Hunter's wife. Buried alongside the grave of John Hunter in Franklin Cemetery is the body of his wife. According to the headstone, her name was Hanna.

In 1819, Birmingham's founder moved north out of Detroit and laid claim to a section of Bloomfield Township along the Saginaw Trail. The Federal Government approved his claim in 1825.

AS THE YEARS passed, Oakland County records show John W. Hunter's signature on numerous conveyances: deeds for portions of the Hunter lands sold to other settlers moving into the wilderness that was south Oakland County in the early part of the 19th Century.

In each case, the signature that accompanied John W. Hunter's

was that of his wife, Margaret. The Greenwood Cemetery plot, records show, contains not only the body of J. W. Hunter. To his right, as was the custom, are the remains of his wife. Her name was Margaret.

However, in view of the evidence uncovered in the records by Mrs. Clobest, centennial officials now feel almost certain the grave Greenwood Cemetery is the final resting place of the city's founder. And, there is strong circumstantial evidence to support that opinion.

EARLY in the search, officials were reluctant to accept Franklin as the burial site. They doubted that the family of the founder, developer and longtime resident of Birmingham would select a final resting place so distant from his home.

MRS. CLOBEST next turned to the records of Birmingham's Greenwood Cemetery, the area's first burial grounds, long before