

Another poor year for building industry predicted

The 1983 construction industry outlook is once again grim, but Governor-elect James Blanchard's public works proposal could help the industry.

Richard S. Linnington, president and chairman of the board at Wiley-James Inc., shared his opinions about the construction industry's recovery at an economic outlook luncheon in Detroit earlier this week.

"Government must take new strides to develop the state's business and industry. The emphasis must be for stimulated activity, expansion of existing business, new plants and homes," Linnington said.

Large, commercial office space de-

velopment should continue. Inflation must continue its downward trend."

INTEREST RATES must remain at 12 percent or lower, Linnington said, before Michigan residents buy more houses and cars.

During the first eight months of 1982, non-residential construction fell 63 percent. The contract value of these projects, which encompasses commercial, industrial and institutional construction, fell 44 percent, he said.

"In the state, non-residential construction fell off 51 percent in square footage, 33 percent in contract value."

In the six-county area surrounding

Detroit, 3,185 single-family homes were built during the first eight months of 1982. This compares with 4,658 during a like period of 1981. Statewide, there was a 40 percent decline in single-family construction from 1981-1982.

"The 1982 figures will probably not change much in 1983."

"We expect residential and public works construction to increase marginally. But commercial and industrial construction may decline somewhat," he added.

On the positive side, inflation has

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Holiday activities set for mentally impaired

A holiday festival for mentally impaired persons ages 8 and older is set for Dec. 1 at the Southfield Civic Center Pavilion from 6:30-9 p.m.

The party features clowns, games, dancing and dinner. A special guest appearance will be made by WRIP's Dick the Bruiser and Santa Claus.

"The party will give handicappers a chance to get a head start on the Christmas spirit," said Monica Walch, therapeutic recreation coordinator for

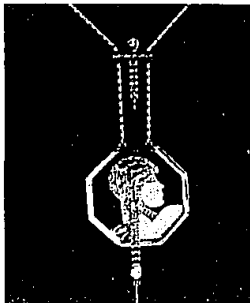
the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

The cost for the party is \$1; pre-registration is requested by Nov. 26. Call 858-1441 from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays.

The party is sponsored by the Northwest Therapeutic Recreation Association.

The Civic Center Pavilion is at 26000 Evergreen between 10 and 11 Mile.

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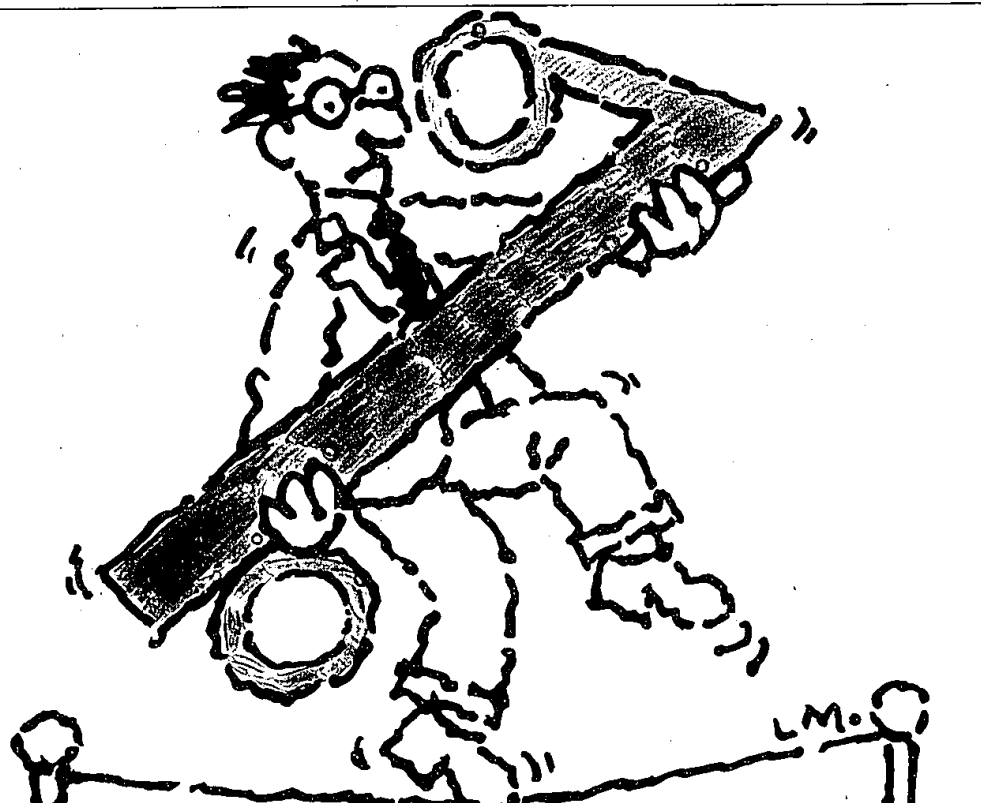
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