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ESTABLISHED SINCE 1924

Michigan Mirror

(Continued from Page Two)

is larger than the state senate, which has 32 members."

• • •

Fourth conclusion: The "bedsheet" size ballot of elective officials. This reference is obviously intended for populous counties where "name" candidates thrive and where the voter is near helpless to identify good candidates from bad candidates.

Conceding that popular election is the essence of democracy, Ford quotes one authority as having said: "Popular elections will eat the heart out of democracy if carried to the extreme."

The big obstacle to needed reform, as the university expert sees it, is the state constitution. The state constitution of 1908 permits considerable freedom for cities and as a result a large majority of them have home rule charters. Michigan leads all other states with 58 manager cities. Maine is a close second with 57.

• • •

Two years ago — 1944 — the November election brought defeat to a proposed home rule for Wayne county. It was defeated by a margin of 136,000 votes. The proposed reform was inspired by graft revelations coming out of one-man grand jury investigations in 1941 and 1942.

At that time the Michigan Institute of Local Government was opposed to the amendment, just as it was this year to the proposed sales tax diversion amendment. State Treasurer D. Hale Brake is its president.

The institute then appointed a special study committee and finally recommended that the state constitution be amended to provide an alternative form of county government, if approved by voters at a special or general election.

Then each county, if desiring to come under the plan, would have to hold a special election. Next a nonpartisan primary election and then an election to select charter commissioners. And finally a fifth election to approve or reject the charter commissions' charter.

• • •

County governments would be streamlined by the institute to provide for a county council to be appointed by a board of supervisors, and a "county chief executive" who would be a sort of board of supervisors. It is suggested that either the county clerk or the county controller be designated as the "county chief executive" who would ge a sort of county manager in his authority.

It is noted by Dr. Ford that 12 Michigan counties now possess the legal authority to appoint a controller, but only four of them — Calhoun, Genesee, Oakland and Macomb — have done so.

Among the county offices which Dr. Ford would abolish forthright are the office of county surveyor and the office of county coroner. The register of deeds and county clerk would be merged into one office. The county health officer would take over the functions of the county coronor.

It's quite a big dream. People of Michigan must be convinced first they will get better service for their money. That's the real hitch.

Worn Curtains

If curtains are worn near the edges, it may be possible to trim and rehem them or set on a contrasting ruffle or hem. Sometimes they can be converted to sash or tie-back curtains.

M.S.C. PRESIDENT AIDS VETERANS' BOOK DRIVE

John A. Hannah, President of Michigan State college, confers with Helen Gover, editor of student paper, and Tom Loring, president of Student Council, on the statewide drive for college text books. Strikes, paper shortage and increased enrollment have prevented many students from obtaining books. College officials are asking former M.S.C. students to contribute college texts. All books received will be distributed to veterans free or be placed in the library. Contributed books can be mailed to M.S.C. Book Store. Veterans Books, East Lansing.

OAKLAND COUNTY RED CROSS NOTES

A four week orientation course for volunteer Red Cross workers and Gray Ladies will be sponsored by the Oakland County Chapter of the American Red Cross beginning Tuesday, November 19.

Subsequent meetings will be held on November 26, December 3 and 10, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The first orientation course will be for all interested volunteers, at the Red Cross offices, 53½ W. Huron, Pontiac.

The orientation courses are part of the work of the Volunteer Services of the county organization, under the direction of Mrs. Ferd Broock, of Birmingham. Mrs. Campbell Harvey, staff assistance instructor, will conduct the first orientation lecture on the chapter organization and V. A. Phillips, Red Cross state relations officer, will speak on disaster, one of the chapter's most important peace time services.

Volunteers interested in any of the various services of the Red Cross, will continue to meet at the organization's offices, where they will hear lectures on the services, presented by the chairman of each Service. Those interested in training for Gray Ladies will hold their last three meetings at Pontiac General Hospital, where lectures will be given by doctors and nurses of the hospital who are outstanding in their particular fields.

Miss Margaret Loessel, director of nurses at the hospital, cites the need for women to enter the Gray Ladies training course. Many additional workers are needed, Miss Loessel points out, to render a full measure of service.

Canning Tomatoes

Only perfect, ripe tomatoes should be canned.

Egg Shell

The egg shell is about 98 per cent calcium carbonate.

Getting Up Steam

Many railroads consume 1,550 gallons of water for each ton of coal burned.

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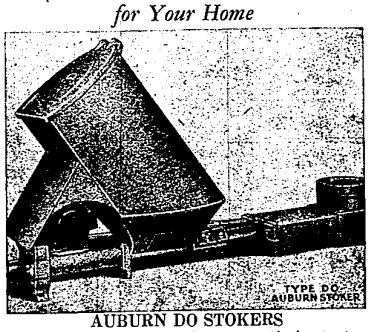

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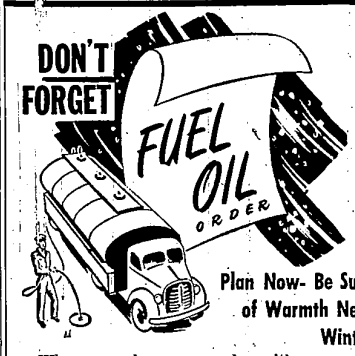

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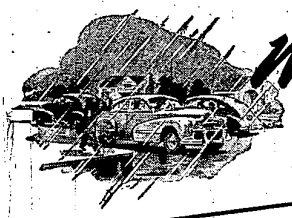

Winter Weather's on the Way!

Here Are Oldsmobile's Recommended

COLD WEATHER SERVICES

CHECK COOLING SYSTEM—The radiator and entire cooling system should be drained, flushed out, and thoroughly inspected. Hose connections should be tightened where necessary.

INSTALL ANTI-FREEZE—Sufficient anti-freeze should be put in to protect your car from a damaging freeze in even the coldest weather that can be expected.

TUNE ENGINE—Your motor should be put in shape to assure you of quick, easy starting, and economical performance no matter how low the thermometer goes.

CHANGE ENGINE OIL—A lighter oil that will circulate freely at below-freezing temperatures is a necessity for easy starting and the prevention of excessive winter wear.

LUBRICATE CAR—The entire chassis should be scientifically lubricated to prevent wear. The lubricants in standard transmission and differential should be changed to a winter grade. Hydra-Matic Drive fluid need not be changed unless necessary.

CHECK ELECTRICAL SYSTEM—There's a heavier load on battery, generator, starter and ignition system during cold weather. These should be inspected, put in good condition, and protected with a coating of PiB.

CHECK SAFETY FEATURES—Brakes should be adjusted and put in top-notch condition. Windshield wipers should be checked. Heater and defroster connections should be inspected.

PROTECT FINISH—Snow and ice and road-clearing chemicals are tough on the finish of your car. A wash and polish, or a Liquid Glaze job—and touch-up treatment—will protect both paint and chrome.

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