

Safer Lamps  
To Line Xways

New "give-way" light posts and supports for roadside signs will be installed on freeways under construction in Michigan, the State Highway Commission has announced.

The new designs of the light posts result from tests conducted at the General Motors Proving Grounds at Milford in which the Department of State Highway cooperated. Design Division Director N. C. Jones said.

The light pole design, called "slip base," because the poles will give way under impact at the base, will be included in plans for the I-496 in Lansing.

Comparative tests at the GM Proving Ground showed that a car traveling 40 miles per hour incurred a two-foot gash in the front end when it struck a conventional light pole and the pole was damaged beyond repair, Jones said.

By contrast, the front of the same type of vehicle tested in the same manner was dented only three inches when it struck a "slip base" pole and the pole was reusable, he said.

The Highway Department plans to utilize the design on all future freeways where pole lighting is required, Jones said.

Roadside sign supports design, originally developed by the Texas Highway Department and modified so that signs struck will break both at ground level and part way up the support, will be used on signs on I-496 now under construction between Bay City and Higgins Lake and on I-69 between Marshall and the Indiana state line, Jones said.

Jones called the changes "part of a continuing program to engineer safety into highways."

**Mo-Town Hosts Local Children**

Handicapped children from Farmington were hosted by Mo-Town Record Corp. last Friday afternoon at a special Christmas performance of the 1966 Motown review at the Fox Theatre, downtown Detroit.

Over 2,000 handicapped children from Detroit and surrounding communities were entertained by a galaxy of Mo-Town recording stars.



ENTERTAINING AT the Christmas party for handicapped children, the Hi Timers Linda Johnson, Marshall Grosbeck, Chris Keen the mood lively. They are (from left) Winkler, and Jim Kleinsorge.

Lucky 'Guess' Wins GOP Trip To Washington

A "shot in the dark" guess on the total votes won by Governor George Romney and United States Senator Robert P. Griffin has paid off with an all-expense-paid trip for two to Washington for Circuit Judge Robert H. Campbell, of Clare, Mich.

Sponsored by the Michigan Republican State Central Committee, the contest offered the trip to the entrant whose combined estimate was closest to the ballots cast for the Governor and the Senator.

Judge Campbell and his wife are the parents of a son, 13, and a daughter, 11. The judge was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Judge Donald E. Holbrook in 1965, when the latter was elevated to the State Court of Appeals.

Campbell won election to the 21st Circuit bench last November.

New Year Made Happy With Different Customs

When you raise your glass and shout "Happy New Year!" at midnight, December 31, how will citizens of other countries be welcoming in the New Year? Will they boil Indian rice? Toast with Spanish sherry? Exchange Iranian eggs?

Russian families usually celebrate New Year's as a quiet household holiday. There are New Year's trees, decorated with toys and lights, and parties for the children. At midnight, in observance of an old Russian custom, celebrants douse all the lights. Many teenagers go about the streets festively throwing peas and wheat grains at passers-by — much in the same way as we throw confetti.

If you're anywhere in Italy on New Year's Eve, don't walk close to the buildings because at the stroke of midnight, the Japanese

peasant child puts his wooden shoe on the hearth for a gift, but it's on New Year's Day that adults exchange presents. Scottish tradition has it that the first one in a house on New Year's Day brings good luck. Midnight celebrators carry spiced cakes and other goodies to wish their hosts a good year.

But if you were to welcome in the new year in Iran, you might be surprised at the gifts you would be expected to exchange: eggs!

New Year's in India is an extremely solemn festival. Flower-bedecked cattle are followed through the streets to the sacred Ganges River where pilgrims gather to worship. In the southern part of the country, the boiling of new rice is an appeal for good luck during the new year.

In contrast, the Japanese celebrate enthusiastically with the popular sound of "The Bells," the six-man group composed of students at Farmington Senior High and Novi High. This popular group, having attained a successful experience backlog by frequent appearances at high school functions, teen can- con- tests, battles of the bands, scored a huge success and added lustre to an already bright and shining evening by entertaining at the Christmas party for all young people in Farmington's special education program and their families.

The crowd was appreciative, applauding long and loud — really making the scene. The sound penetrated even the farthest reaches of East



MIDNIGHT AROUND THE WORLD rings in many odd and interesting customs.

mas. At Christmas, a French New Year's celebration is a razzle-dazzle affair. Everyone takes three days off from work to visit with his friends and join in the many colorful parades. Homes are decked out with green pine branches, and bamboo stalks are hung on gate posts along with lanterns — indicative of long life.

December 31—called "Grand Last Day"—is truly a happy time, and the merrymaking culminates in the Joya-no-kane, the 108 bells of the temple bells at midnight. And the ushering in of the new year has an extra-special meaning in Japan — for the stroke of midnight means it's every-one's birthday!

**Uncork Bottlenecks**

One of the worst traffic bottlenecks in western Wayne County ended recently when two interchanges on US-24 (Telegraph Rd.) were opened to traffic.

The new interchanges, which were opened six months ahead of schedule, are at I-94 (Edsel Ford) freeway and M-17 (Ecorse Rd.).

They replaced partial interchanges from US-24 to I-94 or M-17 which is a short distance south of I-94.



ADDING THEIR POPULAR brand of teen music to the Christmas entertainment for the handicapped children were the Rebels.

From left they are: David Estep, Gary Cockrum, David Cort, John P. Morgan, Denny Klepinger and Gary Weisenburg.

**Handicapped Tots Tap Toes To Beat of Holiday Songs**

By DOUG SMITH, Vice-President, Farmington Association for Handicapped Children, Inc.

The beat was young, the sound was loud (at least to the dozens of young people attending the family Christmas party sponsored by the Farmington Association for Handicapped Children, Friday evening, December 9, at East Junior High).

"Go Man Go" was the shouted enthusiastic response to the popular sound of "The Rebels," the six-man group composed of students at Farmington Senior High and Novi High. This popular group, having attained a successful experience backlog by frequent appearances at high school functions, teen can- con- tests, battles of the bands, scored a huge success and added lustre to an already bright and shining evening by entertaining at the Christmas party for all young people in Farmington's special education program and their families.

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Junior causing young and old, even Santa himself, to tap a toe and shake a hip.

Variety in things musical is most appreciated, and so "The Hi-Timers" from Northville High were also present to catch the mood of the folk singer and to lead the youngsters in such favorites as Puff the Magic Dragon, and Michael Row the Boat Ashore. After presenting a stage show the Hi-Timers strolled through the Christmas Cafe continuing to entertain and charm in a manner that made the heart warm — enlivening the true Christmas spirit.

What fun to see the happy smile of a bright-eyed child singing her heart out with these high schoolers! We couldn't help but be attracted by the eight year old singing right alone on so many of the old carols—these were carols she knew from school — as were the young people entertaining that evening.

These Junior High, High School and College students were entertaining. They were entertaining other young folks who were a good audience and most appreciative. We can be thankful for such young people, and the contribution they make.

**Hidden Wiring**

Another example of the futility of seeking to alter our environment overnight by the simple process of wiring the law may be seen in the state of New Hampshire, where the legislature is considering a bill requiring all future power lines to be installed underground and all present lines to be so installed within 20 years.

Assuming such a program is technically feasible, the cost estimates are staggering. The following are figures for two companies — the Public Service Company of New Hampshire and New Hampshire Electric Company. The electric systems of the two companies consist of 1,330 miles of high voltage transmission lines and 6,975 miles of low voltage distribution lines. The cost of installing these lines underground, as compared to the investment in these lines based on actual cost when constructed, pre-

sents a chilling picture. The high voltage lines involve an investment of under \$13 million. The estimated cost of putting them underground is \$336 million. The low voltage lines involve a present investment of under \$48 million, contrasted to an estimated underground installation cost of \$446,500,000. Therefore, the estimate increase of investment to place present lines underground is \$772 million. This is almost five times as much as the total capital invested in the two companies at the present time.

It does not take any imagination to figure out what would happen to power rates if the companies were compelled to expend three quarters of a billion dollars. Power lines will go underground when technology makes it possible. Laws alone cannot put them there.

Wood Creek Farms Village

ANNE M. PHILLIPS  
MA. 6-4335

All the Lams, Conrad, Mariann, Mari, Dick, Janet and Doug left last Wednesday for Aspen, Colorado, where they had a wonderful Christmas out on the slopes skiing. They got back just in time to see the New Year in in Wood Creek.

Agnes and Philo Wright spent Christmas in Olean, N.Y., with their son and his family. Dick and Marie France flew to Knoxville, Tenn. on the 24th to spend Christmas with their daughter Dixie, her husband, Bill Johnson, and their two children. They returned on the 27th from this trip.

The January Women's Association meeting will be held this coming Tuesday, January 3, at 12 noon, at the home of Ginny Swift, 28490 Westbrook. Let's start the new year right by having a big attendance.

**Golden Age Club Marks Christmas**

The Pioneer Golden Age Club held its Christmas party on December 21. A potluck lunch of turkey, chicken casseroles and home made pies and beautiful cakes was on a long table decorated in the Christmas theme with candle sticks, Santa Claus and flowers as the decorations.

Each card table was also decorated with the Christmas color and theme.

The social afternoon of cards was interrupted with the arrival of Santa Claus. From the top of his head to the tip of his high leather boots he was perfect with his sock over his back.

He passed out gifts to everyone. The marvelous joy Santa was none other than our own dear friend Mr. Aldrich.

So many of the members couldn't recognize Mrs. Aldrich in this guise. But we have her to thank for making our party a huge success.

P.S. We also welcomed back Mrs. Mabel Burgess, of Peppermill Drive, (our former president) from an extended trip east to visit her sisters and other relatives in Massachusetts and New York state. Welcome home, Mabel.

The food industry is providing about 210 billion meals per year at an average cost of less than 40 cents per meal, say specialists at Michigan State University.

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**Bill Says:**  
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