

GM Payroll In Livonia Soars To \$41.4 Millions

Skiers Hope Mercury Stays Around Zero

Despite a start less favorable than last year, Michigan's winter resort owners need only cold weather to get things really moving.

For more than half of Michigan's 83 winter resorts now have modern snow-making machines and aren't dependent upon old-fashioned snow, according to an Automobile Club of Michigan survey.

But owners do need the cooperation of the weather man, because snow machines can't operate unless the temperature drops to 25 degrees or lower. Jerry E. Fisher, Auto Club touring manager, pointed out that a year ago the season started in late November, and resorts were able to retain the snow for most of the month of December.

This year, by contrast, there have been only two weekends in December when skiing was possible in most Lower Peninsula resorts.

IF THE WEATHER cooperates from here on, resort owners still hope to have a good year, perhaps attracting some 300,000 skiers by the time the winter season is over in March. A good year could be in prospect despite the warm weather so far because the number of skiers is increasing each year, Fisher said. In addition to skiers, however, hundreds of thousands more fishermen, snowmobile enthusiasts, festival-goers and plain sightseers are expected to seek outdoor fun. Skiers and other resort visitors will find rates on the average only slightly higher than last year. At Mt. Holly, for example, prices at all facilities cost \$5 a day on Saturdays and Sundays and \$3 a day for weekdays.

Since last winter season, major improvements have been made at many centers, including new lodgings, slopes and multiple lifts and additional chair lifts, snow machines, towes and other facilities.

Skiers alone may spend some \$30 million, an increase of about \$2 million over the 1966-67 season when winter sports conditions were ideal.

EASTERN MICHIGAN has 14 daily plus three weekend ski areas open to the public, all within a few hours' drive of Oberverland. Some 200 slopes are included in these areas.

Mt. Maria Ski Lodge at the south end of Hubbard Lake near Alpena is in its fourth year of operation. Future development plans include a new lodge and dining room.

Burton's Colonial Village, a winter resort six miles north of Alpena, offers snowmobile, toboggan, and ice fishing and skating.

EXPANSION ALSO has taken place in southeast Michigan, with Mt. Holly leading the way. More Grady, owner of Mt. Holly, is in the process of realizing a 10-year dream that will cost about a million dollars. Grady is building up his main hill by moving sand and clay, a project that will take three years.

Mt. Grampian, two miles east of Oxford, has expanded its capacity by adding a new ski run and also increased the capacity for beginners, making six ski runs in all.

WINTER SPORTS facilities range from modest to plush, with a price for every budget, Fisher pointed out.

About half of Michigan's sports centers have lighted slopes for night skiing. Seven have heated swimming pools, two have airplane landing strips, 43 offer meals and 26 have cocktail lounges and bars. Many have dancing, entertainment and teen activities.

Michigan's total of ski resorts is exceeded in the mid-west and east only by New York, which has 115. Fisher said. A great deal of winter sports action is in western Michigan, where the 38 areas represent almost half the state's total. East Michigan has 18, the Upper Peninsula 15 and southeast Michigan 12.

SKI CENTERS which made 1967 debuts are Schuss Mountain, west of Mancelona in north-west lower Michigan, and Black Forest Ski Area, west of Port Huron in southeast Michigan. Snow Valley near Gaylord reopened under new management.

OBSERVER.

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'67 Homicides Set All Time Detroit Record

DETROIT RECORDED more homicides during 1967 than in any previous year, surpassing even the prohibition year of 1926. Detroit police logged 331 homicides for 1967—there were 326 in 1926. This 1967 figure shows a rapid increase over the last few years—in 1966, 232 murders were committed, 204 in 1965, and 138 in 1964. Police statistics show that 200 were murders, 57 excusable homicides (self-defense) 45 justifiable homicides by police and citizens, 17 manslaughters, and 14 manslaughters by negligence.

FOUR MT. CLEMENS teen-agers—Dennis Bannan, Dave Hardman, Peggy Graham, and Linda Prout—were nearly drowned Dec. 31 on Lake St. Clair after the ice boat they were riding in became mired on the lake. A wind came up and forced a crack in the ice throwing the two girls into the water. The crack in the ice became so wide that the boat of the Harrison Township Fire Department had to save them. Finally, a small helicopter from Selfridge Air Force Base rescued the four youngsters who suffered only a numbing chill and exposure.

A NEW YORK TIMES survey of Republican leaders in the 50 states indicated that, if the presidential election were held this week, Gov. George Romney would be defeated by President Johnson. The survey also disclosed that Romney would not only be soundly beaten by Johnson but he would also not be able to carry even his home state. Johnson's victory over Romney, at this time, would be a greater runaway than his defeat over Goldwater in 1964.

FOUR YOUTHS were arraigned on charges of first degree murder Jan. 1 in the fatal shooting of Anthony Elias, owner of Marigay's Market, 1215 E. Nevada, Detroit. They pleaded innocent before Recorder's Court Judge Thomas L. Poindexter and were returned to Wayne County Jail to await examination Jan. 10. Elias was killed Dec. 29 in his store. The four are: Grady Goolsby, 17; Franz Turner, 17; Samuel Sherman, 17; and James M. Coleman, 18, all of Detroit.

STATE SEN. ROBERT E. CRAIG (D-Bearborn) has begun a petition drive to outlaw the use of the signature in Michigan. He said he will use the signatures to force a statewide vote on the question if the legislature kills a bill he plans to introduce next month. Craig said that no-deposit, no-return bottles are a safety hazard and cost more than \$7 million a year in rubbish removal.

THE DEVELOPMENT of the five-cornered Kern Block in Downtown Detroit, on Woodward beside Hudson's and Crowley's may be delayed for years because of a legal hassle that is evolving between the two top development competitors, M.F. Arden Co. and Piers, Beasly and J. Schochet. The City Planning Commission and the Department of Housing already approved the Arden Co. plans for a sixty-story hotel-office building but Ronan-Schochet contend that Arden has pirated its ideas for their own plans. If Arden should win the contract from Detroit Common Council, Ronan-Schochet will file suit in court and a lengthy battle will follow.

SOME of General Motors' autos will have \$22 added to their purchase price to augment GM's cost of installing the new government regulated auto maker to advance compliance with the regulation. Exceptions to the \$22 cost are \$25 for the Buick Electra and Riviera and Oldsmobile 98. Cadillac costs will be boosted \$30.

State And Local

News Round Up

FORMER U.S. REP. William C. Miller, the Republican candidate for vice-president in 1964, has said in New York that Gov. George Romney had failed to measure up as presidential material and he thought New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller—a Romney supporter—would be the GOP's best choice for 1968.

JUDGE VINCENT J. BRENNAN has been elected executive judge of the 13-man Detroit Recorder's Court bench for the third year in a row.

Harry V. Duplessis, head of the probation office's youth division has been promoted to deputy chief probation officer. Joseph DeAgostino has been named supervisor of the youth division, and Bruce K. Remick will have the new post of statistics and research supervisor.

William B. MacBride and John Staschewich have been named assistant supervisors of the court felony division. And, John Blinford Smith has been named head of the probation department's misdemeanor division.

LANSING IS AMONG 11 metropolitan areas selected to conduct studies on methods for crime prevention and law enforcement planning, Robert C. Weaver, secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, has announced.

A CASE OF THE FLU forced Acting Governor William Milliken to postpone a meeting with supporters of a proposed statewide Open Housing Law, which had been called by Milliken to map strategy for the next regular legislative session which begins Jan. 10. Following the House defeat of an open housing bill, Milliken asked for the meeting "To set in motion immediately whatever steps may be necessary to ensure a successful effort for fair housing in 1968."

Firms In Area Also Get Share

Employe payrolls at the two General Motors plants in Livonia totaled more than \$51.4 million during 1967. It was announced Tuesday by Fisher Body Plant Manager, F. Harger Green, and Chevrolet Plant Manager, Harrison T. Price. In a year-end statement, the two plant managers said that an additional \$69.4 million was paid to more than 1,500 firms within a 75-mile radius of the city which supplied the plants with materials and services during the year.

Employees at the two Livonia GM installations contributed more than \$224,450 to the 1967 United Funds in communities where they reside, representing a \$53,000 increase over 1966. In addition, employees purchased U.S. Savings Bonds through payroll deductions valued at over \$1.6 million. Employment at the two plants during the year averaged nearly 6,000.

DURING 1967, GM awarded approximately \$180,000 to employees for ideas submitted in the GM Suggestion Plan. Three of the program's top awards of \$5,000 were given to Fisher Body employees and two to Chevrolet employees.

The Livonia station square for Fisher Body plant, located at 28400 Plymouth Road, fabricated nearly 1,125,000 sets of interior trim for GM cars during 1967. These included seat cushion covers, door trim pads, headlinings, sunshades, and the like.

The plant held an employee open house last spring and, along with public tours, has entertained a total of 4,500 visitors during the year. A weekly plant tour is available to the general public each Thursday at 1 p.m. Visitors leave from the main lobby and is about one hour in duration.

THE CHEVROLET PLANT, at 13000 Eckles Road, plays a major role in Chevrolet manufacturing. All springs and bumpers of current model Chevrolet passenger cars are produced there, as well as most of the severe parts for Chevrolet truck and commercial vehicles.

In addition, such parts as stabilizer bars, control arms, and various engine, bumper and spring mounting brackets are made at the plant.

A highlight of the year was on May 24, when ground was broken at Chevrolet-Livonia for a new storm water clarifier to help protect the purity and wild life of nearby Newburgh Lake.

After completion of the project, storm water will be intercepted, diverted to a pumping station, clarified in a separator tank and released into the sewer.

Metro Roads Needed

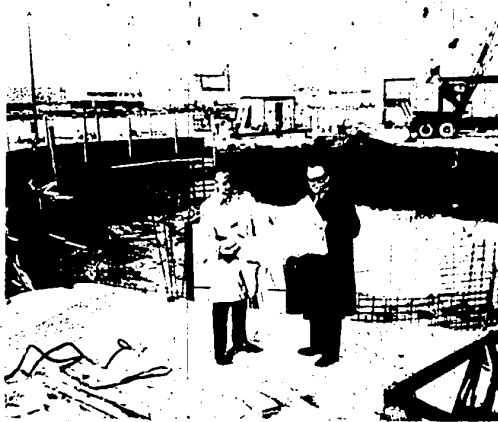
Future highway programs should focus on urban traffic problems—more so than in the past, Henrik E. Stafseth, acting state highway director, said. He told a meeting of the Highway Users Conference of Michigan.

"We must develop a program to eliminate the traffic jams that clog our downtown and suburban arteries twice a day. There is no reason we should take longer to drive to some airports than to fly from the airport to a distant city."

STAFSETH said the rapid urbanization of America is concentrating transportation demands in metropolitan areas where the planning, design, right-of-way acquisition, construction and operation of highways are "complex, difficult and expensive."

"THE SOLUTION of our transportation problems in metropolitan areas will require strong community leadership with municipal, county and state agencies cooperating closely with the federal government in a common cause."

Stafseth said that by 1985, there will be eleven million people in Michigan compared with the 1965 total of 8.2 million, an increase of 34 per cent.



CHEVROLET SPRING AND BUMPER PLANT MANAGER, Harrison T. Price, (left), and Fisher Body plant manager, F. Harger Green make year-end check on construction progress of Chevrolet's new storm water separator system. Designed solely to help protect the purity and wildlife of Newburgh Lake, the 330,000-gallon clarifier tank will eliminate most of the oil and other waste materials washed into the sewer from the plant site by heavy rains.

Mail Will Cost More On Jan. 7

Effective Jan. 7, it will cost six cents to send a letter by first-class mail and 10 cents for air mail.

The 20 per cent increase in postage applies to all first-class mail up to 13 ounces and to all air mail up to seven ounces.

New rate for post cards will be five cents and for air mail post cards eight cents.

UNDER THE NEW rate structure, all first-class mail over 13 ounces and all air mail

over seven ounces will be merged into one category with a single rate.

A flat rate of 80 cents will be charged for all mail in this category up to one pound. For mail weighing more than one pound, the present air parcel post rates will continue to apply, except that postage on mail weighing between one and five pounds will change at half-pound intervals instead of one-pound intervals.

In addition to the postage increase on regular and air mail, there will be a 35 per cent boost in the rates for mail-

ing newspapers and magazines and a 34 per cent hike for advertising circulars, occupant mail and other material in the third-class category.

Third-class mail postage will go up from four to six cents for the first two ounces. Unsealed greeting cards may also be sent at this rate.

SPECIAL HANDLING will be available on third-class parcels weighing between eight and 16 ounces. Special handling has not been available on these

Aliens To Register In January

More than 3.4 million aliens will register during the month of January.

The nation's 32,000 post offices will participate in this registration, required under the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952.

Every post office is responsible for providing registration cards and turning the completed cards over to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The cards must be picked up personally by registrants and may be handed in to the post office or turned in directly to Immigration and Naturalization offices.

Post offices will accept the cards only until the end of January. Aliens who have not registered by Jan. 31 must go to the Immigration and Naturalization offices to do so.

Aliens are not necessarily restricted to registration at their home post office. If away from home, they may register at a nearby post office.

parcels since 1958 when this weight of third-class mail was transferred from fourth to third class.

There will be no change in charges for special delivery, special handling, registered mail, certified mail, cash on delivery or insurance.

Additional mailings to be effected by the rate increase will include all categories of second-class mail, bulk-rate third-class mail, controlled circulation mail and the educational materials category of fourth-class mail.

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