

'Resources Deteriorating'

New Birds In Woods

Oakland County, long a recreation center for southeastern Michigan, is losing its natural resources of land and water through a deterioration in their quality, says outdoors writer Ben East.

This loss in quality is going on entirely separate from the fact that natural land is now being settled, he said. East, who has lived for 22 years on a farm in northwestern Oakland County, writes for Outdoor Life magazine and for the Detroit News. He was a panelist last week at a County Planning Commission conference on "The Inevitable Loss of Oakland County's Natural Resources and Open Spaces."

"OPEN SPACE," he said, is more than an area without man-made obstruction. It means an area that hasn't been made unattractive by nuisances, pollution, noise or junk. Open space is lost when, near his home, a 35-acre lake is sliced up dangerously by boosters using outboard motors of 40, 50 or even 75 horsepower.

Open space, East went on, is lost when the county drain commissioner engages in "un-

planned drainage" by turning a twisting, turning natural stream into a straight ditch. Open space is lost when a naturally beautiful roadside is littered with junk. East charged the state erred in a 1966 law requiring township dumps to be operated as sanitary landfills. Many townships went out of the dump business, and "75 to 80 per cent" of northwest Oakland residents, instead of driving 12 or 15 miles to a landfill, simply discard their trash on the roadside into at night.

Open space is lost when waters become polluted.

WHAT CAN BE done about it? East offered these solutions:

Control boat speeds on lakes. Modify the powers of the drain commissioner by having some other county agency—perhaps the planning department or the parks commission—review drain plans for their effect on natural resources.

Conduct an anti-litter campaign—not just through better police enforcement but through public and publicized attempts to clean up roadsides and streams.

Viewing birds and picking mushrooms are drawing a lot of people to southeastern Michigan's outdoors as the weather warms.

At Bald Mountain Recreation Area, new duckings and goslings can be seen at Prince Lake, according to the State Conservation Department.

Pontiac Lake has two new broods of Canada geese—exceptionally early this year. Mushroom hunters are having successful pickings among the hardwoods in Holly Recreation Area. Some mushrooms are still being found in Bald Mountain Recreation Area.



IMMEDIATE TRAFFIC—No longer will drivers on Wayne County roads have to wait several hours for the drying of the stripes of paint that mark traffic lanes. The County Road Commission has purchased a machine for nearly \$31,600 that applies instantly drying paint, two lines at a time. It moves at 10 to 12 miles an hour and is followed by a supply vehicle.

Schoolcraft Fighting Time, Tight Money

Schoolcraft College administrators, fighting time and tight money, will find out Tuesday what their chances are of getting a bond issue to help finance construction of a physical education plant.

President Dr. Eric Bradner, will take the school's plight to the Municipal Finance League in Lansing Tuesday and attempt to persuade the League to set an interest rate between 5 1/2 and 6 per cent for the sale of a \$2.7 million bond issue on June 12.

Because of the tight money situation, the administration needs a maximum interest rate of 5 1/2 per cent to offer enough incentive to investors to purchase the bond issue.

A PORTION of the \$2.7 million bond issue, \$500,000, has been set aside to supplement other funds to finance the new P.E. building. The other finances include \$1 million in the bank from last year's bond issue and \$1,178,000 due in state appropriations.

The state appropriations and funds from last year's bond issue were to have been spent last fall but had to be banked with construction bids exceeded available funds. Another factor stopping construction last fall was the Federal government's decision to withhold funds promised earlier.

THE JUNE 12 bond sale is crucial because if the college cannot come up with the \$600,000 for the P.E. building it will lose the \$1,178,000 state appropriation when the fiscal year expires June 30.

The administration has in hand a low bid of \$1,792,000 from Hyatt Construction Co., Wayne, which is expected to be awarded as soon as the monies are available on June 12.

ALL BIDS received will expire by law on June 15. The combined bids were \$149,340 higher than those opened last September before the project was shelved for lack of

local funding.

If contracts are awarded on June 15, construction should be completed by January 1970. The 97,000 square foot project would provide: a gymnasium seating 2,500; an auxiliary gymnasium; swimming pool with diving area and balcony seating 400; wrestling and corrective exercise room; handball courts and gymnasium room; classrooms and faculty offices.

The school is presently renting physical education facilities from the Northville school district for \$4,200 per year.

Botsford Gives 12th Scholastic Dinner June 6

The 12th Annual Scholastic Dinner given by Botsford Inn for the eight highest scholastic seniors at Clarenceville High School will be held on Thursday, June 6.

The students were selected by Supt. David B. McFowell and Principal Anthony Marra. John Anhut, Innkeeper, has also invited parents to attend. The students selected were: Ellen Beerbohm, 1984 Brentwood, Livonia; Janet Hankins, 31745 Norfolk, Livonia; Bernadine Kent, 19973 Weyher, Livonia; Sharon Lynn, 18661 Floral, Livonia; Maria Poltzer, 19962 Sumbury, Livonia; Esther Roinitsky, 19339 Rensellor, Livonia; Sue Simpson, 18408 Floral, Livonia and Jerry Wilson, 2130 Middlebelt, Farmington.

E. J. Korvette

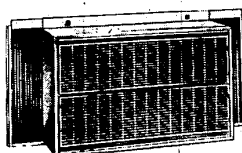
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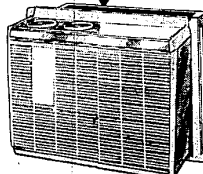
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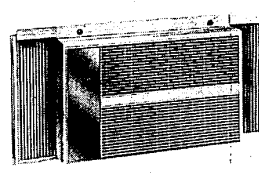
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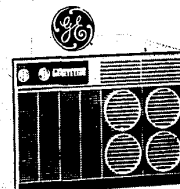


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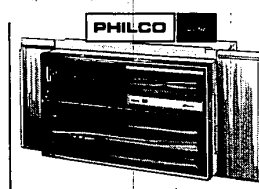


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