

editorial opinion

LWV cleans house

Men are now entitled to full voting membership in the League of Women Voters. This male suffrage right is a result of a League convention vote earlier this month.

The vote to allow full membership to males appears to be a reaction on the League's part to a contradiction in the League stand on equal rights legislation.

The League vigorously supports equal rights and equal opportunities for women in all phases of life. It was pointed out to League members that their own rules did not bear out their stated conviction that both men and women should have equal opportunity.

WE CERTAINLY have no quarrel with the notion of equal opportunity and equal rights. We laud the League for demon-

strating the willingness to straighten its own house.

No great rush has yet shown in Oakland County for men requesting full membership in the League. Perhaps this situation will change in time.

At any rate we will have a truly fine opportunity to observe what effect integration will have on the heretofore impenetrable League of Women Voters.

WILL A MALE or female League prove a more serviceable institution? A more effective unit in the community? Or, will it lose some of its appeal?

The results of the League decision may serve as a guide to improved effectiveness of community and national organizations. Will masculine and feminine service clubs be the next to unite?

From our readers

Need quiet libraries

As a college student, I have spent many hours in the library researching and studying. Last night I sought to do some research and since I am a Southfield resident, I went to the Southfield library and was dismayed to find it in a state of noisy chaotic confusion. Many years ago when I was in the early stages of my education, libraries were orderly and peaceful.

If anyone proceeded to talk louder than a whisper, he was immediately hushed by surrounding readers and perhaps even by the librarian. To his embarrassment. Now, only a decade later, libraries are meeting places for students in the junior high and high school level. They meet their friends and proceed to talk, laugh, scream and joke.

I wish this was an exaggeration of the fact, however, it is not. The noise was simply appalling. There was a lack of consideration for the other legitimate users of the library.

I was quite relieved when I had finished my work and could leave the noisy surroundings. It is indeed unfortunate that this has happened to the library.

Why has it happened? There are quite a few causes. Among them are the following: these students of the junior and senior high level have an utter disregard for the traditional unwritten rules of the library, or they have never known what these non-written rules are. (They have never been taught by their parents, that the library is supposed to be a place of peace and solitude where one goes to study.)

This may perhaps sound like a generalization and an oversimplification of the causes because only the noisy students in the library stand out, but I feel that they could become the rule and not the exception. The students who use the library for its real purpose are as irate as I am and are rapidly becoming perturbed with the inefficiency and lack of authority that the librarians and other workers in the library appear to have.

The majority of the workers I observed in the library last night, were of the same age as the invaders of silence.

Surely, they do not have the power to hush their peers. Something has definitely got to be done. Libraries must return to their original state of being... a quiet place in which to research and study.

Karen Keil
KAREN KEIL
Southfield
May 7, 1974

ERA will help family

To the Editor:
After reading the letter from the woman who is obsessed with toilets and the notion that that's the Equal Rights Amendment's main concern, I went from anger to nausea and, fortunately, back to anger again.

She may be obsessed with toilets (perhaps she cleans them too often, hence her obsession), but the ERA is concerned with more important matters.

If the bill she speaks of had passed

and if the ERA passes, it would strengthen the family, because this would be an equal opportunity country because the burden of "bread winning" would still be on the person that can earn a living. The ERA simply reads "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

THE AMENDMENT means that in all states women may be on juries, that protection laws will be for men too, that women will be able to buy contraceptives in all states, receive equal pensions and receive equal pay.

Also it means that women can be executors of wills in all states, have equal social security benefits, get an equal education opportunity, be allowed to play in Little League, join existing hockey teams, be accepted into medical school and law school on merit only and hold jobs as junior and senior high school principals.

Also women can get credit solely on the basis of ability to pay, get equal insurance rates after divorce, receive the same benefits as men if in the armed service, wear bathing caps only if men with long hair are required to wear them too, widowers would be able to collect survivors benefits on pensions their wives have paid into for years (men would benefit too), etc. . . .

So women will then have a real choice and be better able to grow in mind and body as individuals, artists, doctors, teachers, attorneys, wives, whatever, but with respect, especially for themselves, and that can only benefit a family.

LOIS TEICHER
Southfield
May 14, 1974

Gerrymandered road

To the Editor:
I was gratified to see your May 13 story on road paving in the Wing Lake Shores subdivision. I live in this area, and contrary to the wishes of the majority of my neighbors and myself, our street is scheduled to be paved. Romford is bordered by only four families, three of whom do not want it to be paved.

I am at a loss to explain how this came about. When I left on a vacation in the summer of 1973, I had no doubt that the road paving petition for Romford had failed. Yet, when I returned, due to some inexplicable gerrymandering, the petition for paving was approved.

Your efforts to expose the crass bureaucratic "railroading" by the Oakland County Road Commission are sincerely appreciated.
MORRIS B. GOLDMAN
Bloomfield Township
May 15, 1974

Cyclethon success

We at the Michigan Heart Association and American Youth Hostels wish to take this opportunity to thank this newspaper and the thousands of cyclists, volunteers, community groups and local officials who made our second annual

Heart Fund Cyclethon such a success.

At Oakland University emergency services were provided by Suburban Ambulance. Also at Oakland University we would like to thank Dr. O'Dowd, university president, and his fine staff for their assistance in providing the Cyclethon site and for their continued help and cooperation from the beginning of the planning stage through the May 5 event.

Prizes and cyclethon patches will be awarded once tallies are complete. Winners will be notified by mail and announcements on where and when to collect patches will be made soon.

Once again, thank you all for making the second annual Heart Fund Cyclethon a tremendous success.

Carlton Stewart
Michigan Heart Association
Board
John Goodwin
Vice President, American Youth Hostels
May 8, 1974

Dangerous ring

To the Editor:
Having watched two traffic problems on the Ring Road around Jacobson's stores become compounded and dangerous, I feel a solution is necessary. This is written to you because of your proven influence on our community.

The parking lot under Jacobson's main store should be eliminated. People use the Ring Road to avoid the main thoroughfare only to be stopped abruptly by others waiting to get in an almost always full lot. The traffic becomes congested, tempers rise and accidents occur. There are several parking lots and garages available to shoppers. Few people would be truly inconvenienced by this change. The Ring Road would become a more effective thoroughfare and accomplish its original goal.

The second problem occurs on the Ring Road near Woodward. Pedestrians are involved in this one. Often shoppers will dart across the street between the two Jacobson's stores. Drivers stop before the light to let passengers out. This is extremely dangerous for all pedestrians and especially young children. It also blocks traffic. If the city were to put up a fence-like barrier along both sides of the Ring Road from the intersection to the first driveway out, the problem would solve itself. Pedestrians would be encouraged to cross at the nearest intersections.

I feel that if we could solve these two traffic difficulties the Ring Road would become a normal traffic route with improved vehicle movement. The people of Birmingham would be safer, too.

(Miss) BETH McAFEE
Birmingham
May 14, 1974

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Dine with imported spice

Top your table with the best in accessories from around the world. Crowley's directly imported items also make unique and useful gifts for the bride-to-be. From the top:

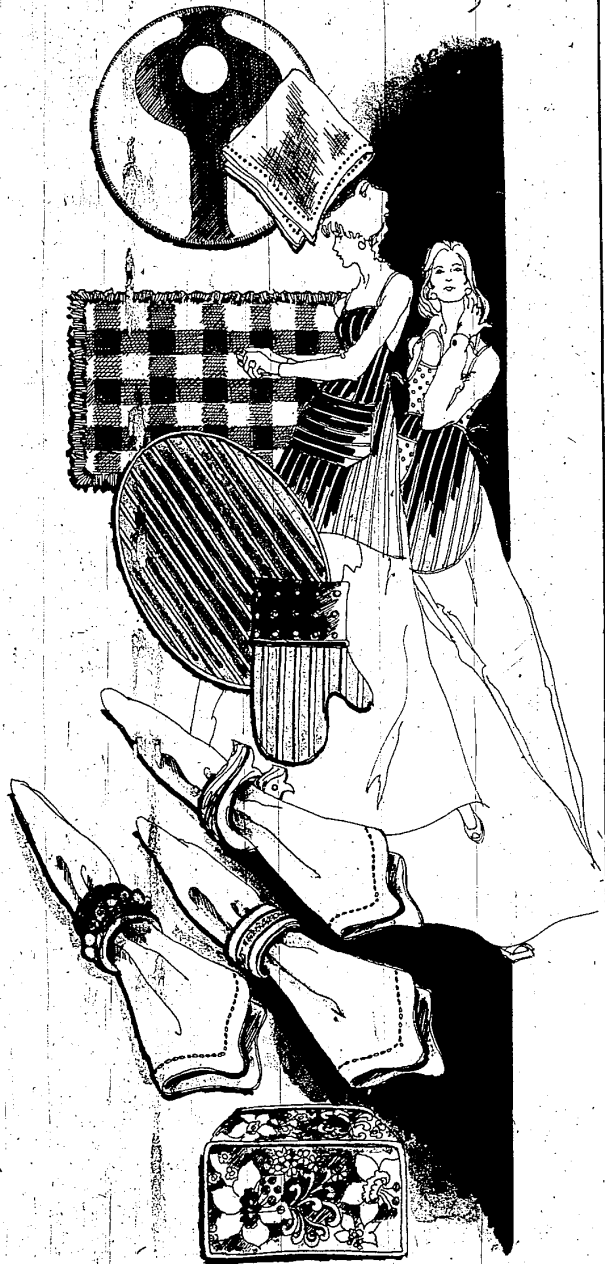
New from Belgium, permanent press place mat and napkin sets in contemporary designs. Each set contains two mats and two napkins, \$7.95 SET.

New from Sweden, woven plastic place mats in attractive solids and checks. \$1 EACH.

New from Denmark, cotton permanent press coordinates in small pinstripes. Set of two place mats, \$4.50, Oven Mitt, \$2.50, Aprons, \$5.

New from Scandinavia, hand-carved wooden animal napkin rings, \$2 EACH, pewter napkin rings, \$1.50 EACH, wooden napkin rings with bead trim in sets of four, \$3.50 SET.

New from Ireland, 100% Irish linen kitchen coordinates in yellow and blue floral patterns. Toaster cover \$2, other matching items from \$1.79 TO \$4. Linens (#12) at the Birmingham, Farmington, Livonia Mall and Westborn Center Stores.



ALL CROWLEY'S STORES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MEMORIAL DAY

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