Suburban areas compared to ancient sinful cities

By ROSE WEBER
Birmingham and Bloomfield
Hills came uncomfortably close to
the Biblical description of the ancient sinful cities of Sodom and
Gomorrah in a recent pulpit dis-

Named organist

Thomas Strode has been named the new organist at the Congrega-tional Church of Birmingham, United Church of Christ. He is a

United Church of Christ. He is a native of Oregon and received his bachelor of arts degree (pon Portland State University in 1283. He currently is a master of music candidate in organ performance at the University of Michigan. Strode expects to receive his master's degree next spring and plans to continue in study for his doctoral degree. He first became a church organist at the age of 15 and served three churches in Portland, Ore, before coming to Michigan. For six months he was interim organist at the First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor.

eussion by Rabbi Ernst J. Conrad of Temple Kol Ami. "It is perhaps not fair to single out the two suburbs when the 'sins' are widespread in our culture today," Rabbi Conrad said.

He pointed to the pervasive fear of strangers for their person and property that exists it both urban and suburban areas teday as in the Sodom of old. "People never used to lock their houses and cars," he said. "Now the most prosperout husinesses are those dealing in alarm systems and locks."

RABBI CONRAD also pointed out that the current popular design of condominium complexes includes turrets and guards at the gates like the fortifications of old. Other sins which the rabbi felt modern day suburbs had in common with the sinful clies of the Bible are arrogance and sexual license.

Bible are arrogance and sexual recense.
"Status consciousness could be construed as arrogance," he said.
"How far does one go in writing zoning ordinances."
Rabbi Conrad is disturbed at the increase in gambling, drinking and prostitution.
"Imagine that a Jewish brothel owner could run for the Nevada legislature! Fortunately she lost," he said.

CLOSER TO home he said he was horrified when Birmingham passed the ordinance to allow the sale of liquor by the glass. He is particularly disturbed at the free particularly disturbed at the f

Will Birmingham and Bloom-field Hills be destroyed? Rabbi Conrad is hopeful they will not.

Conrad is hopeful they will not.

"I love this place and when you love something you are hopeful," he said.

As in the story in the look "Legends of the Bible" by Ilouis Ginzburg, he believes that the clergy must search for and encourage righteous people.

"I am awar of the many, many good people who would suffer in the collapse of our society but we must fight the other," he said.

HE BELIEVES the schools and judges must assume their share of responsibility for creating a moral climate when excesses of affluent society go out of bounds and

Authorities agree that it is not only correct to permit a child to attend a funeral but, from about the age of seven, the child may be encouraged to attend. If the child is unwilling, he should not be pressured. However, he should not be denied the knowledge of the reality of death and funerals.

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