

Bradner Backing At-Large Election

By KATHY MORAN

An at-large trustee election is beginning to gain favor in the growing debate over the Schoolcraft College apportionment question.

Dr. Eric Bradner, college president, advocates an at-large election because of the number of problems involved in trying to divide the college district into equal population wards.

So far Dr. Bradner is the only one who has openly advocated electing trustees at-large, though the chairman of the board of trustees, Mrs. Jane Moehle, said she personally "leans" toward such a plan. Board members have not taken an official stand.



College trustees 'don't represent that ward' but work for the entire college district.

—Eric Bradner

DISCUSSING AN apportionment plan recently proposed by Rep. Marvin Stempien, Dr. Bradner pointed out a number of complications. Stempien's bill calls for forming a community college apportionment commission to carve the college district into seven districts of equal population.

Dr. Bradner said the task would be harder than it sounds, however, because the college district includes odd-shaped fractions of some cities and townships. Census figures simply aren't available for these small areas. An expensive, special census may be needed to get an accurate population count.

Examples:

Clarenceville School District takes a small slice of southeastern Farmington Township and northwestern Redford Township.

Northville School District includes an odd-shaped portion of Novi in Oakland County and Salem Township in Washtenaw County.

Plymouth School District's situation is the most confusing. It includes a portion of Canton Township in Wayne County and of Superior and Salem Townships in Washtenaw County. Moreover, some of the Salem Township territory in Plymouth School District isn't in the Schoolcraft district; rather, it's in the Washtenaw Community College District.

Census figures are reported in "tracts." For small cities and townships, the entire governmental unit may be one census tract. Thus, it will likely be impossible to get accurate population counts for those fractional parts of Farmington, Redford, Novi, Canton, Salem and Superior townships without a special census.

DR. BRADNER also pointed out that once trustees are elected from a district, "they don't represent that ward." Rather they work together for the entire college district.

In view of expanding popu-

lations in Plymouth and Northville districts, Bradner said the "equal" population districts would be unequal long before the next census.

Mrs. Moehle said that the elections would be confusing to the voters because they would have to vote in separate districts which may be different than for school elections.

Aside from the confusion, Mrs. Moehle said: at-large elections would be more non-partisan and less expensive.

Roger Craig, attorney for the New Democratic Coalition of Livonia, said he does not expect any conflict if an at-large plan is proposed because "it is clearly constitutional and satisfies the 'one-man, one-vote' requirement. NDC-L brought the law suits which required the Schoolcraft reapportionment."

THE STATE Board of Education will support an apportionment plan at its next meeting. The issue was brought up for discussion at its meeting last week, but at

that time only a plan for an at-large election was given for its consideration.

Board member Annetta Miller requested that the at-large plan and Stempien's "ward" bill be submitted for review by a subordinate state board for public community colleges. This board is appointed by the State Board to act in an advisory capacity.

"At our next meeting, hopefully we will have both plans before us plus the recommendation of the community college board," Mrs. Miller said.

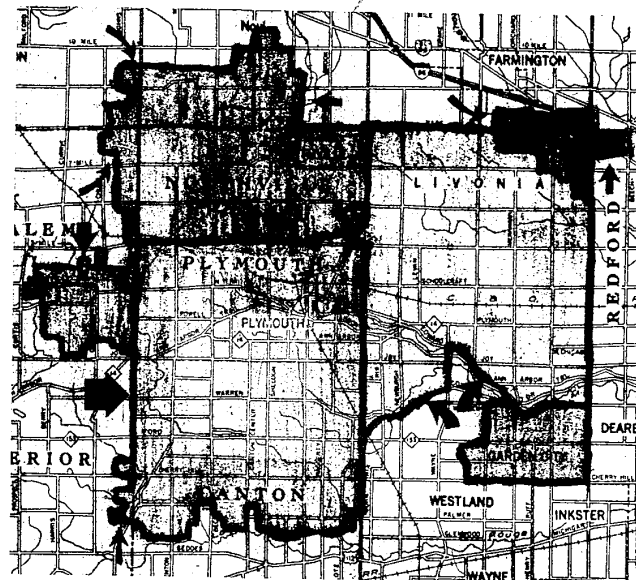
She said that the general feeling of the board on an at-large election was that "this is the method many community colleges use, and it is constitutional." Neighboring Oakland Community College elects trustees at-large.

MEANWHILE, the Schoolcraft trustees will begin discussing apportionment plans as soon as all the trustees return from Easter vacations.

The board was ordered by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Roland Olzak to prepare a plan for apportionment to submit to the court on June 1.

The judge also agreed to have the scheduled June 14 trustee election postponed until Sept. 13 in order that a new board be elected under the new apportionment plan. The new trustees will assume office on Oct. 4.

If the Schoolcraft board offers Judge Olzak an at-large plan and he accepts it, only five trustees would have to be elected in September. Three trustees are already elected at-large — John Larue, Dr. George Martin and



ARROWS INDICATE fractional parts of townships and cities in the Schoolcraft College district for which precise population figures may be unavailable. Any ward system of representation on the college board would require exact populations -- probably necessitating a special census.

Dr. Robert Geake! If a ward plan is adopted, all eight positions will be open.

Judge Olzak had concurred with the two attorneys in a suit filed by the NDC calling for an injunction on the June election until the college district was apportioned.

THE SCHOOLCRAFT

board gave in without an open struggle and asked that the election be delayed and that the board be given until June 1 to come up with a plan.

They had arrived at their decision at a special April 7 meeting which the press had been told would be held in "executive" (secret) session.

However, after no representatives of the press showed up, trustees held a "public" meeting with college attorney Edward Dragel and resolved not to contest the suit.

As a result of the 1970 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that college districts must have equal representation, Schoolcraft's method of electing

trustees has to be re-worked.

Trustees now are elected to represent each of the five K-12 school districts in the college district and three trustees are elected at-large. However, the population of Livonia School District far outnumbers that in Plymouth, Northville, Garden City and Clarenceville School Districts.

Local Collection Point

They Re-Cycle Cans



WANTED! CANS AND MORE CANS—As part of its contribution to Earth Week, National Can Co., 13000 Levan, Livonia, has set up a collection center. Shown here are two of the big containers—just waiting for your contribution. (Observer photo)

By W. W. EDGAR

If you have any old cans lying around cluttering up the premises, here's a chance to get rid of them.

The National Can Co. at 13000 Levan Road, Livonia, is extending an invitation to you and your neighbors to bring all the cans you can get — or gather — to its collection center during all day-long hours.

"As part of our campaign to join in the celebration of Earth Week and the improvement of our environment," said Jim Baffa, manager of National Can, "we are issuing this general invitation."

"Throughout Earth Week — April 19-24 — we will have large collection bins in front of our building, and the general public is asked to fill them as often as possible."

ONCE THE cans are gathered, Baffa pointed out, they'll be sent to East Chicago, Ind., where they'll be put through the re-cycling process, and the metal again will be available for some useful purpose.

"All the proceeds from the sale of the old cans will be returned to the local communities to help them finance their work in improving the environment."

Baffa explained that there will be three bins in front of National Can Co., and he asks that the old cans be sorted before they are dropped into the bins.

"There are three kinds of cans," he stated, "and while we will take any of them, there will be a bin for an all-aluminum can, another for the all-steel can, and a third for what is termed a bi-metal can."

"We ask that the cans be cleaned, have the tops removed so that they can be flattened for easier packing."

"The only can we don't want is an aerosol can. This particular type has a tendency to explode when it gets hot."

After Earth Week, the bins will be available every Monday and Thursday during the day hours.

Area Deaths

LETA ATKINSON — Services for Mrs. Atkinson, 63, of 40234 Gilbert, Plymouth, who died April 17 in Annapolis Hospital, Wayne, were held Tuesday in the Ziegenfuss Memorial Chapel, Grand Rapids. Rev. Harold D. DeLong officiated and interment was in Chapel Hills Memorial Gardens, Grand Rapids.

Survivors include three sisters, Mrs. Frank MacDonald, of Grand Rapids; Mrs. Fred Arnold, of California; and Mrs. Wesley Pechman, of Hudsonville, and one brother, Ray DeYoung, of Detroit.

PATRICIA M. FIELDING — Funeral services for Mrs. Fielding, 41, were held recently at Laurel, Md., where she moved two years ago from Farmington. Mrs. Fielding, a 10-year resident of Farmington, died of pneumonia April 9 at a hospital in Bowieville, Md. Survivors are her husband, William A. son, William Jr., and two daughters, Deborah and Rebecca.

BESSIE MAE BEARCY — Services for Mrs. Bearcy, of 6249 Whitney, Garden City, were held Thursday, April 15, in the Caldwell-Mulligan Funeral Home for Mr. Williams, age 88, who resided at 8736 Lathrup, Garden City. He died after a short illness in Wayne County General Hospital.

A rural route mailman, Mr. Williams lived in Garden City for 23 years. He was an inspector for the U.S. Government before retiring. Survivors include: wife, Corinne, six sons, four daughters, 20 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

DONALD ALLEN WILLIAMS — With Rev. R. R. Rives officiating, services were held in the Caldwell-Mulligan Funeral Home for Mr. Williams, age 88, who resided at 8736 Lathrup, Garden City. He died after a short illness in Wayne County General Hospital.

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THEODORE GRONOWICZ — Mr. Gronowicz, 67, of Farmington, died suddenly April 18 of a heart attack. He was a longtime resident of Farmington, worked at Evans Products and was first grand knight of Plymouth K. of C.

He is survived by his wife, Lucette, a son, Donald, of Seattle; daughter, Patricia, of Farmington; two sons, Helen, of California, and Frances, of Bloomfield Hills; a brother, Walter, of Westland; and seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Searcy died April 12 in Nottingham Nursing Home, Westland, at the age of 80.

She is survived by a son, James; three brothers; one sister; six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

FREEMONT E. CARTER — Funeral services were held recently for Mr. Carter, 77, of Farmington, in the Horstman Funeral Home in Chagrinburg with burial in Oak Hill Cemetery in Chagrinburg. Officiating was the Rev. Thomas A. Fraser.

MAURICE "MICKY" HARRIS — Funeral services were held April 19 for Mr. Harris, 54, of 27850 Peppermill, Farmington, in the Healey-Sandquist Funeral Home in Farmington with burial in the Holy Sepulchre Mausoleum, Southfield. Officiating was the Rev. Charles J. Maloy of St. Fabian Catholic Church, Farmington.

Mr. Harris, who died in Bostford General Hospital April 18 following a heart attack while bowling in Farmington, had lived in Farmington about 15 years and was a maintenance man for Alexander Hamilton Insurance Co. of Farmington and previously had done maintenance for six years for Holy Sepulchre cemetery.

He was an American League pitcher from 1928-52 with the Boston Red Sox, Washington Senators and Cleveland Indians, a World War II Army aviator from 1941-45, and a member of the Farmington Lions Club and Farmington Civic Bowling League.

Survivors include: wife, Dorothy; sons, Richard, William and Kevin; and sister, Mrs. Gertrude McDougal.

- Ann Arbor Buick Service Company
- B. J. Raligan Chrys-Plym, Inc.
- Bevinger-Massey Olds-Cad, Inc.
- Bill Brown, Inc.
- Bob Mount Buick-Opel, Inc.
- Bob Owens Sports Imports
- Bruce Craig Pontiac, Inc.
- Calhoun Ford, Inc.
- Campus American, Inc.
- Colony Chrys-Plym, Inc.
- Coon Bros, Inc.
- Crestwood Dodge, Inc.
- Devon Lincoln-Mercury, Inc.
- Feister Auto Sales, Inc.
- Fiesta American, Inc.
- Gene Merolich Chev., Inc.
- George Matick Chev., Inc.
- Greene Motors, Inc.
- Harold Dietrich, Inc.
- Hines Park Mercury, Inc.
- Jack Henderson Dodge, Inc.
- Jack Sells Buick
- John Mach Ford Sales, Inc.
- Le Baron Motor Sales, Inc.
- Lou La Riche Chevrolet, Inc.
- Mark Chevrolet, Inc.
- Metro Chrys-Plym, Inc.
- North Brothers Ford, Inc.
- Overseas Motors
- Pat Milliken Ford Sales, Inc.
- Red Holman Pontiac Co.
- Sesi Lincoln-Mercury
- Spitzer-Demmer, Inc.
- Sui Evans, Inc.
- Tennysen Chevrolet, Inc.

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