

Board Hires New Visiting Teacher

Hiring a new visiting teacher for Holland public schools in the face of stringent cutbacks prompted by the May 10 defeat of special operating millage proved a difficult decision for the Board of Education Monday night, but the issue was finally approved following a long discussion and a searching study into the needs of the service.

Crux of the issue was that the cost of this teacher would be totally borne by outside money coming from special education funds of the state and county.

Nonetheless, board members felt public opinion important in such a move and listened intently to the new program as outlined by School Diagnostician Gene Scholten, Psychologist Robert De Haan of Hope College, and Principals Earl Borlace of E. E. Fell Junior High School, Harold Streeter of Washington School and T. J. Pruis of Montello Park School.

Mrs. Romana Swank, second grade teacher at Washington School, has indicated interest in this area of work, and because of her teaching experience and general ability to work with both students and parents in problem areas, she was recommended for the position. She will take some training before receiving a provisional certificate for the work, and later in the year will take special courses at Michigan State University for full certification by the end of June, 1963.

Scholten explained that the program might involve 20 to 40 students with behavior problems in which the visiting teacher would work with parents and agencies. He said elementary principals had sought this service for several years.

De Haan, speaking professionally, endorsed the program wholeheartedly. As for the Committee on Education Assistance of which he is a temporary co-chairman, he felt that insofar as the committee had studied and been advised that it would support the program.

Borlace, as junior high principal, said it is important to try to solve these problems in elementary school before the students reach junior high. He said he previously had served as visiting teacher and was aware of some of the problems. He added that parents whose children are in need of such help are generally the kind who do not attend PTA meetings. He said the primary difference between counseling on the secondary level and visiting teacher on the primary level is that the primary level works more with parents in the home.

Streeter said he had worked with Mrs. Swank for six years at Washington School and while he would be losing an excellent second grade teacher, he felt the board couldn't make a better choice and heartily endorsed her for the post.

Pruis said most everything had been covered in other talks and he heartily endorsed the program too.

Wendell Miles asked two questions. Of Dr. De Haan he asked what the likely figure of children needing help the first year would be. De Haan figured 30 to 45 and of Scholten how many children he felt needed help right now (30 to 40).

Robert Slocum pointed out that Mrs. Swank in the new post would be working as an interne at Holland Guidance Clinic, working with that agency in solving some children's problems.

Harvey Buter, who represented the Holland board on the special education group of the county, said he had had occasion to review the special education program in the county. He said Holland was fortunate to have a person who would receive accreditation. Some schools, he said, operate such services with teachers without proper certification and pay all expenses.

President Jack Plewes, while favoring a visiting teacher, expressed regret that the counseling programs in high school and junior high school had to be limited because of finances.

William Hinga, a high school counselor whose program was being curtailed, spoke highly of a visiting teacher for elementary levels.

Child Hurt in Mishap

Susan Fincher, six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Fincher of 619 Steketee Ave., was treated by a local physician for injuries suffered when she fell from a moving auto at 1:30 p.m. Friday at 160th Ave. and Jerome St. Ottawa County deputies said the girl was riding in a car driven by her father and fell from the vehicle when the car door opened as he was making a left turn.

Motorist Charged

Floyd J. Vander Bell, 42 of Holland, route 3, was charged by Ottawa County deputies with an improper left turn after a car he was driving collided with a car driven by Linda Lee Graves, 20 of Lansing at 8:31 a.m. Monday at the intersection of M 21 and 120th Ave.

Holland Man Will Head Synod

BUCK HILL FALLS, Pa.—General Synod of the Reformed Church in America Thursday afternoon elected Dr. Bernard Brunsting, pastor of First Reformed Church of Holland, Mich., as its president.

Dr. Brunsting, who was installed as pastor of the Holland church two months ago, had served as vice president the past year. He is a graduate of Central College, Pella, Ia., and Western Theological Seminary of Holland.

He is a member of the executive committee of the denomination and served on the editorial council of the Church Herald, the denominational organ. He has served on the Board of World Missions and is a member of the board of trustees of Northwestern College in Orange City, Ia.

At its commencement June 4, Central College conferred upon him a degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. M. Verne Ogel, pastor of Community Church of Glen Rock, N. J., was elected vice president. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the New Brunswick Theological Seminary.

After serving the Reformed Church of New Paltz, N. Y., he served three pastorates in the Presbyterian Church USA, before going to Glen Rock in 1943.

Dr. Ogel has been an occasional contributor to Christian Century and to the Church Herald.



Dr. Bernard Brunsting

He has served as chairman of the General Synod committee on the World Council of Church. Wabash College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity on him in 1926.

Before coming to Holland, Dr. Brunsting served as pastor of First Reformed Church of Grand Haven, and Reformed churches in Bellflower and Canoga Park, Calif. He succeeds Dr. Norman Thomas, pastor of First Reformed Church of Albany, N. Y., as synod president.

Downtown Allegan Plan Under Study

ALLEGAN—"Interested but cautious" seemed to be the general reaction by tenants and landlords of downtown Allegan business property to the city planning commission's proposal for a \$450,000 plan for a revitalized business district, unveiled this week.

A relatively small segment reacted with unreserved enthusiasm for the plan, offset by an almost equal number who flatly opposed it.

The preliminary plan was presented by Scott Bagby, Grand Rapids municipal planning consultant retained by the city, followed by a dramatic recital of the benefits of the first three years of downtown Kalamazoo's "1980 plan" by F. Joseph Buckley, executive vice-president of the Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce.

More than 100 downtown merchants and owners of business property—the people who will be paying a major share of the cost of the project—were on hand for the meeting sponsored by the Retail Division of the Allegan Improvement Association.

The plan covers the five-block heart of the Allegan business district, a rough trapezoid bounded by Cutler, Chestnut, Hubbard, Brady and Water Sts. Cost estimates include \$36,000 for retirement of parking authority bonds which would allow free off-street parking, Bagby said.

A major feature of the plan calls for razing several downtown buildings to make way for parking lots which would completely surround the district, including extension of the present riverside parking lot a half-block south east on Brady to provide for an exit on that street.

Elimination of vehicular traffic on Locust St., from Hubbard to Water St., to establish a block and a half long mall is another feature.

The plan also provides a workable solution to two major Allegan traffic problems, downtown congestion and the dangerous "five corners" intersection of M 40 and M 89. Bagby proposes a one-way traffic loop around and through the five-block area, east-bound on Cutler, Hubbard and Brady, north-bound on Water, west on Troubridge and South on Chestnut.

Congestion at the "five corners" would be reduced by a causeway, running northwesterly from a point south of the intersection, behind the Griswold Building and Public Library, to a point where the Hubbard St. entrance to the riverside parking lot now is located. Exits and entrances to the parking lot would be provided from the causeway which would be open to two-way traffic.

The capacity audience paid close attention to the Kalamazoo chamber of commerce executive as Buckley ticked off a long list of benefits which Downtown Kalamazoo attributes to its "1980 plan."

Buckley said pedestrian traffic on the 3-block mall had increased 30 per cent, parking lot patronage was up 14 per cent; surveys indicated a 7 to 12 per cent increase in out-of-town customers using downtown store charge accounts; downtown rental rates were up, but the number of vacant, first floor stores in the heart of the district dropped from eight to none; both sides of the Burdick street mall are considered 100 per cent locations, as far as traffic is concerned.

Crash Kills Local Man, Family Hurt

WHITE PIGEON — A Holland man was killed, and his wife and four children injured in a three-car crash on US-12 three miles west of here at 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Seven other persons were injured.

The victim, Richard Stanley Tobias, 38, of 84 West 29th St., died two hours later in Sturgis Memorial Hospital.

Tobias' wife, Mary, 36, is listed in fair condition at Sturgis Hospital. Officials said she suffered a fractured lower vertebra and possible head and internal injuries.

The Tobias children, Marcia, 15, Linda, 14, Kathleen, 11 and Ruth Ann, 7, were treated at Sturgis Hospital and released to the care of a Sturgis minister.

Tobias was the driver of the family car. Another driver, Ora Warren, 58, of Constantine, Mich., was transferred from Three Rivers Hospital to a hospital in Elkhart, Ind., in critical condition.

The driver of the third car, George Dewells, 38, of Fort Wayne, Ind., and his wife, Betty, 33, were both reported in good condition at the Three Rivers Hospital.

Dewells' sons Edward, 9, Clifford, 4, and Donald 1 1/2, and a daughter, Sandra, 6, were discharged after treatment at Three Rivers Hospital. A passenger with Warren, Lewis Bradley, 40, of Elkhart, Ind., is in fair condition at Sturgis with a broken arm, possible internal injuries, and shock.

State Police of the White Pigeon post said the crash occurred at the highway's intersection with Vista Rd. They said Warren, headed south on Vista Rd., crossed the highway in front of the westbound Tobias car.

After the impact with Warren's car, the Tobias auto spun into the eastbound lane, where it was struck by the Dewells' car. Troopers said several people were thrown from their cars.

The investigation is still proceeding, troopers said, but preliminary findings indicate that Warren failed to stop for a stop sign at the intersection.

Tobias was employed as a foreman in the winding room of the Holland General Electric Co. plant. The family was returning from Fort Wayne, Ind., where they had spent the weekend with their parents.

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Gargano and Schaafsma Elected to School Board

Incumbent John Plewes Is Defeated

Holland Board of Education will have two new members as a result of the annual election Monday which attracted 1,486 voters or about 15 per cent of the estimated registered vote of the district of 9,694.

Albert Schaafsma, a former high school teacher and former operator of the Du Saar photo and gift shop, led the field of four candidates with 972 votes, and William Gargano, program director for radio station WHTC, was second with 928 votes. Both positions are four-year terms.

Other candidates were incumbent John D. Plewes who received 393 votes and Dr. J. A. Lubbers, local dentist, 633 votes.

After the vote was announced at the June meeting of the board Monday night, Plewes said he had enjoyed his four years on the board, was glad to have worked with "a grand bunch of fellows" and since he was still very interested in education in Holland, he would be willing to do anything he could for the schools.

James Hallan, another board member who had not sought reelection, was grateful for his experiences the last 11 years on the board. He said he regretted leaving but school responsibilities should be something to be passed around to interested people.

Commenting on the so-called 30 days of criticism he said he was sorry the critics had not attended more meetings the last 11 years. If they had, he philosophized, they would not have become experts overnight.

Harry Frissel spoke for the board in bidding farewell to both members and thanked them for their contributions to community service.

Other elections follow:
West Ottawa district reelected John Daniels to the board in an election which attracted 549 votes. Daniels received 425 votes. Next high was Cornelius Kalkman who received 193. Both are four-year terms. Kalkman will succeed Dr. J. Dyke van Putten who did not seek reelection. Other candidates were Mrs. Carl Schaftner, 186; James Corwin, 152, and Robert W. Fitzgerald, 110.

West Ottawa passed its 4.5 millage for special operating by a 4 to 1 majority, 437 to 111.

Van Raalte district passed two millage issues, one a bond issue calling for 3.44 mills to finance a \$185,000 addition to the Holland Heights school and the other 3.8 mills for special operating. Vote on the bond issue was 162 to 140, and on the millage issue 165 to 138.

Louis N. Brunner with 259 votes was elected to a three-year term on the board and Earl D. Schipper with 191 votes was elected to a two-year term. The third candidate, William G. Oonk, received 91 votes. The district also voted to close the seventh and eighth grades, 265 to 38.

Maplewood Donald Cochran and John Weeber were elected to three-year terms and Gary (Gerhardt) Beckman was elected to a one-year term in an election which attracted 751 votes. Cochran received 415 votes and Weeber 426 votes. Other candidates for three-year terms were Gradus Geurink, 317, and Richard Streng, 330. Beckman received 435 and his opponent, Andy Koeman, received 302 votes.

The district also voted 3 mills for special operating, 390 to 310.

Federal John Baldwin and Roger Kratt were elected to three-year terms at the annual meeting of Federal School district which attracted about 75 persons. Baldwin received 36 votes and Kratt 34 votes. Other candidates were Jack Nieboer, 32; Kars Peterson, 26; Norman Boe, 18.

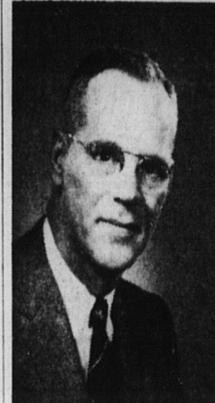
Elmer Atman with 45 votes was elected to a two-year term. Ronald Westbroek received 26 votes.

The district voted 1.31 millage for special operating, 60 to 13, and voters favored making Federal a registration district, 71 to 3.

Zeeland Melvin Baron and Dr. H. R. Munro were elected to the Board of Education in Monday's election which attracted 410 voters. Baron received 262 votes and Dr. Munro, 276. Both are four-year terms. Mrs. Marvin Verplank, incumbent, received 240 votes.

The district voted 2.2 mills for operating, 281 to 98.

Hamilton Hamilton Community district approved two millage issues, one mill for additional operating, 331 to 283, and one mill for the school expansion fund, 297 to 291.



Albert Schaafsma

William Dykhuus, incumbent, was reelected to the board polling 347 votes. His opponent, Jerrold Kleinhessel, received 250 votes.

Saugatuck Two millage issues were defeated in the Saugatuck election which attracted 255 votes. A 1.5 millage for special operating lost, 117 to 133, and a 3 mill increase to establish a building and site fund, lost 100 to 131.

Eric Hall, incumbent, was reelected to the board, receiving 143 votes. His opponent, Mrs. Henry Dorn Jr., received 109.

Harrington Incumbent Charles C. Zalsman was reelected to the board of Harrington School. Of 207 votes cast, Zalsman received 123. A write-in candidate, Ray Stam, received 67 votes and Clarence Maatman received 2 votes.

Burnips Burnips district reelected Wilmer Howard and Lawrence Palmbo to



William Gargano

three-year terms at an annual meeting Monday night. Twenty-nine persons attended.

Allegan Allegan voters turned down a millage issue for operating, 316 to 411. The issue called for 2 mills.

Elected to the board were Dr. Harry E. Schneider who received 508 votes and William Nahkian who received 349 votes. Other candidates were Ralph Kroehler, 314, and Mrs. Carl Stuenkel, 217 votes. Two incumbents, Dirkan Nahkian and John Katherler, did not seek reelection. A total of 734 votes were cast.

Douglas About 40 attended the annual meeting of the Douglas district Monday night. Elected were Mrs. Lena Bryan for a three-year term, William Shoemaker for a two-year term and Burton (Rudy) Schrieber for a one-year term. Voting was unanimous in all cases. Mrs. Lena Bryan was an incumbent.

Youth Describes Fatal Shooting

ALLEGAN—William Warner, 18, of Saugatuck who admitted shooting his mother during an argument at their home on April 26, described events leading up to the shooting during a two-hour hearing before Circuit Judge Raymond L. Smith in Allegan Wednesday.

At the conclusion of the hearing Judge Smith said he "would take the matter under advisement." The Holland judge, after studying the testimony, will determine the degree of murder and after a pre-sentence investigation hand down the sentence.

Warner had pleaded guilty, through his attorney Gordon Cunniff.

When he was 15, Warner said, he was told to leave home. He said he got a job and went to Chicago Vocational School at night. His mother had changed the locks on the doors and told the landlady to call the police if Warner returned. He had been nabbed by police when he tried to return home, he said.

When his mother moved to Michigan, Warner lost a full year of school. He said he got along well with students at Saugatuck High School and had become interested in the high school science club. He won two science fair awards early this year for rocket exhibits.

Warner and his mother had argued several times over an old automobile he had tried to restore to running condition. He said he had had a "bad argument" with his mother on April 25, one day before the fatal shooting over the car and that she had told him to get out of the house.

Warner said he grabbed his school clothes and walked three or four miles to a friend's house where he spent the night.

When he returned home from school the afternoon of April 26, the rear screen door had been latched from the inside so he could not get into the house. He said he broke a pane of glass from the front door in order to get into the house.

He said he had done the housework, which he always did on Thursday, before his mother came home at 6 p.m. and began scolding him for breaking the window. The ensuing argument had resulted in his mother's death. Warner said he had never struck his mother prior to that time.

State police detective Charles Long of the South Haven post also related the incidents of the fatal shooting for the court. Long said Mrs. Warner had been shot twice — once in the face from a distance of 10 to 12 feet and once in the back of the head from four or five feet away.

Long said he had been assigned to the case May 2, following a report by Saugatuck Police Chief Gerald Kok that Mrs. Warner was missing. Long said Warner, on May 3, told police he had a fight with his mother, that she had cut him with a knife while he was cleaning his rifle on the kitchen table and that he then shot her.

Warner could not recall his father, whom he said he had not seen since he was two years old. When asked his father's name, he replied, "Joseph, I think."

Warner said he had spent his school years in boarding schools

from the first through eighth grades and saw his mother for a two-hour period every other week. He went home only on holidays.

He said he had argued frequently with his mother since he was about 12 years old about his friends and money he made peddling papers. He did housework and tried to save money for college. His mother had accused him of not helping out around the house, he said.

The two argued several times a week, and his mother struck him frequently, Warner said. She had told other persons in front of her son that Warner was her nephew.

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Deficit Now Estimated At \$120,216

Current deficit for the Board of Education as of June 30 is estimated at \$120,216.78, Treasurer Bernard Arendsborst told the Board of Education at its monthly meeting Monday night in E. E. Fell Junior High School.

Earlier this spring when the board decided to ask voters for special operating millage, the deficit was estimated at \$125,000. This deficit will not be absorbed in cuts to be made for the 1962-63 school year in which the board is committed to live within its income.

Elsewhere on the financial front, Clerk James Hallan reported the local district received \$46,200 in state aid plus \$104,579.16 in primary interest money.

Arendsborst said he expects additional state aid totaling \$124,995.60 by June 30, \$29,128.40 in tuition from Lakeview and \$11,278.80 in tuition from Van Raalte district.

A communication also informed the board that the Ottawa County Tax Allocation Commission has allocated 10.84 mills for school operating for Holland district, based on an equalized valuation of \$72,405,006.

Supt. Walter W. Scott estimated Holland would receive an estimated \$20,000 in state aid next year as the result of legislative action last week in which a state aid bill was passed following the so-called nuisance package bill.

He said, however, that the deductible millage was increased from 3 1/4 to 3 3/4 mills which roughly could result in a loss to Holland of \$36,000. The gross allowance boost from \$205 to \$224 accounts for the boost which he figures roughly will account for the \$20,000.

Scott explained that reimbursement is popular when money is available, but is more limited when money is tight, and he sensed the beginning of a trend in which reimbursement will be made. Less certain percentages due to limitation of funds. Already, this has hit adult education and special education.

Scott also pointed to the necessity of two more board meetings before July, one set June 18 with the Lakeview board to effect the merger of the two districts, and another on June 25 to pass the budget and discuss the athletic program. He said some cuts still must be made in the instructional budget if Holland is to live within its income next year.

A letter from the Junior high faculty to Mrs. Michael Strazanaac expressed regret at her leaving, along with gratitude for the fine work she had done the past three years as junior high librarian. It expressed the hope that she would be back in another year.

Another communication signed by eight teachers of Washington School said they were not in favor of having their principal become a teaching principal next year and asked the board to reconsider. This letter was referred to the teachers' committee.

President John D. Plewes presided at the meeting which lasted 2 1/2 hours. All members were present. Vern Schipper gave the invocation.

H. E. Pleasant Dies at 60

GRAND RAPIDS — Herman E. Pleasant, 60, former Holland resident and president of Crampton Manufacturing Co. from 1944 to 1958, when he retired because of ill health, died Sunday at Blodgett Memorial Hospital after a long illness. His home address was 7125 Wildemere Dr., NE, Rockford.

He was associated with Frigid-Aire Corp., Savel, Westinghouse and National Lock Corp., before coming to Grand Rapids to the former Winters and Crampton Co. He later was named president of Grand Rapids Brass.

Mr. Pleasant was a member of the M. A. F. L. W. Congregational Church, Peninsula Club, Blythe-field Country Club, York Lodge F and AM, Scottish Rite, Saladin Temple, BPOE and Holland Rotary.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy Dolores; two daughters, Mrs. John L. Bouwkamp of Rockford and Mrs. Carl H. Koning of Greenville, Ohio; his mother, Mrs. Daniel G. Pleasant of South Solon, Ohio; seven sisters, one brother and five grandchildren.

Milton J. Whitaker, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy M. Whitaker of Fenwick, recently was promoted to specialist four in Kitzingen, Germany, where he is a member of the 83rd Ordnance Company. Whitaker, an automotive repairman, attended Fenwick High School.