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Why Ghetto Insurance Was Voided

About 25 inner city homeowners heard the predictable but still frustrating report Tuesday night that fire and property insurance cancellations in their area are due to "sound economics" practiced by the insurance industry. The homeowners met at the Ambassador's Civic Club, 23 Franklin St. SW. to hear insurance representatives

explain the rash of cancellations occur-

ring since the 1967 riots.

but basically the problem is one of profit have been cancelled or not renewed. But and loss. If an insurance company feels it can insure ghetto homes without jeop- -made, and rates are raised when condiardizing its chance for profits, it will do

But if the company, after considering its commitments in other areas as well as in the ghetto, feels the threat to profits is too great, it won't insure. Since Oct. 31 an insurance pool has

operated in Michigan which finds insur-

It's all very complex, they were told; ance for homeowners whose policies the pool requires that inspections be tions are found in the home which could

> Inspections normally are not made when companies insure homes outside Lee Matthews, general manager of the Michigan Insurance Information Service, spoke for the industry and George

Weibel, assistant city attorney, explained the legal aspects of the prob-

there are no local laws pertaining to the part of the problem but wasn't in a position to explain why the smallest policy-

play so large a role in the profit and loss

Weibel's job was the easier since

The Grand statements of huge insurance compa-He did point out that some large busi-

for the problem.

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nesses also have insurance trouble. One member of the audience, who said Matthews handled the profit and loss, he and his family had owned property in , the ghetto 25 years without ever having had insurance trouble, told the audience holders, inner city homeowners, seem to he didn't blame the insurance companies

He said he had been in a number of homes where conditions were so poor. "I wouldn't insure them myself if I sold insurance." Paul I. Phillips, head of the Grand Rapids Urban League, which cosponsored the meeting with the Ambassador's Civic Club, promised to pursue the matter further and to schedule another meeting.



-Grand Rapids Press ,Photograph

DeJourno Named Care Corp. Head

New Care Corp. President Philip de Journo in Pastoral Setting of Springbrook Residence Nursing Home

Philip de Journo, who until a month ago was president of Wurzburg's here, Wednesday became the new president and chief administrative officer of Care

Care, fast-growing locally-based owner of 12 extended care facilities, Wednesday also announced its entry into a new field, child development centers. In its first fiscal year, ended April 30, the firm reported earnings in excess of "of nursing homes owned should be dou-\$4 million and the firm's stock, which went public in late November, has

It started with seven nursing homes, two of them in Grand' Rapids, and that number has climbed to the dozen. But the firm is one of the most acquisitionminded in the nation and now has a team of six looking for new extended-By the end of its next fiscal year, a spokesman for the firm said, the number

ble what it is now. DeJourno moves into the organization

Kent Park Department Purchasing Right Urged

By MAURY DeJONGE County administrative staff members

Tuesday released a report which recommends against the county Purchasing Department assuming responsibility of purchases for the Kent County Road Commission's park department.

The report was distributed to the Finance Committee, and Chairman Robert Blandford deferred action for a week pending study of the report. Certain changes relative to park purchasing were suggested Feb. 28 by a subcommittee of the Committee on Pub-

lic Buildings, Utilities and Transportation. George R. Cook, county legal adviser, advised the committee the proposal was a matter on which the .Finance Committee has jurisdiction. Blandford's committee March 11 directed the staff to include in a purchase policy study the feasibility of consolidating purchasing activity of the park system with the central purchasing

In the report, signed by Controller Leonard V. Andrus, Deputy Controller Frank Evans and Purchasing Agent Kenneth Deming, the staff reported, "It insufficient reason to change the park purchasing to the county Purchasing

Department at this time. "If circumstances change," the report concluded, "or if for no other reason; walls. than a decision of the Kent County Board of Supervisors that the change should be made, the county Purchasing Department can, and will, perform county park purchasing efficiently."

The suggestion for a change resulted

from the recent road commission investigation which culminated in the resignation of Gilbert R. Thomas, commission Basic conclusion of the report is that the staff "believes the road commission

purchasing department is operated effi-

In other action, the committee received a request from Union Bank & Trust Co. to reproduce a facsimile of the Calder sculpture for a charm bracelet and as a paper weight. Supervisor John' Brewer, board chairman, moved that the matter be cleared through the special Calder Committee, which was approved. Blandford appointed Supervisors John K. Boerema and Fred Eardley to a special committee to look for permanent space for the facilities of District Court Judge Joseph B. White. The court is in the old East Grand Rapids High School building and the school district reportedly is anxious to have it moved.

White has indicated if the location is shifted to Grand Rapids, he would insist that it be in the new county building. Evans said there is sufficient space in the new building, but that it might be possible to find cheaper quarters in East The committee also agreed to obtain bids for certain work at Kent Oaks Hos-

pital to alleviate further building move-

ment which has resulted in cracking of William II. Vanderbout, production administrator of Daverman Associates, Inc. has recommended placing a seal over the excavated ground around the

expanding the clay.

with more than 30 years experience in business, all of it in the retail field. For the last eight years he was president of Wurzburg's, owned by Sperry & Hutchinson Co. until it was sold this spring to John Butler and Demery Department Stores of Detroit.

Butler took over May 1 and deJourno was replaced by Clarence L. Damon. At Care: with offices at 166 Keeler Building, deJourno takes over for local dentist Robert W. Browne, prime mover behind formation of Care who remains as board chairman and chief executive

DeJourno holds a degree in business administration from Rutgers University, 1933. He is a native of New York and a graduate of the R.H. Macy executive training program. He worked for Macy's 22 years and was a senior vice president and general merchandising manager until moving here in 1959 as Wurzburg's general manager under then president Fred G. Schoeck.

Under deJourno, Wurzburg's opened two branch stores and planned, a third, which will open next year at North Kent Mall on Plainfield Ave. near Five Mile Rd. NE. The other two are at Eastbrook Mall and Southland Plaza. Local accounting executive L. William

Seidman, chairman of Care's Executive Committee, pointed out that with deJourno as president, Dr. Browne and the executive committee can "concentrate efforts on the growth and develop-DeJourno sees the expansion and diversification of Care as a challenge, then adds with that wide grin, "It'll also be nice to wake up in the morning and not have to worry about what the weather is

going to do to business that day."

St. Mary's Hospital and a director of Union Bank & Trust Co. He has been active with the Greater Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce and is a past vice president and has been a director of Davenport College of Business, Urban League, Kent County Cancer Society, United Community Services and Downtown Rotary Club. Care's two local facilities are Springbrook and Greenview Nursing Homes, the first recently expanded, the second

DeJourno is on the advisory board of .

In July Care will open Briarwood at Flint. This week it officially took over Spring Hill at Battle Creek. Soon to come in is Pasadena Manor at St. Petersburg, Fla. Others are in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and building to prevent excessive water from The 12 offer a total of 1,269 beds. Pres-

being expanded

ent construction alone will increase over-all capacity by 34 per cent.

The new child development centers will be in conjunction with the nursing homes. Addition of this operation is in keeping with a Care Corp, philosophy that senior citizens want and should have youngsters about them in their recuperative stages.

Separate-buildings will be erected at Care sites, but the adults at the homes will be able to visit and observe the preschoolers.

"These child development centers will be large nursery schools," a Care spokesman said. "They'll be for preschoolers, 21/2 to 5. Here they'll play, take hikes, eat lunch, spend the day." Hours will be 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Prototype for the centers will be at Springbrook; 2320 East Beltline SE. It will open this fall.

Handicapped Center Gains In Wyoming

Granting Grand Valley Association of Physically Handicapped, Inc. permission to build a center, to be deeded to the city, on city-owned.property might establish a "precedent," Wyoming Commission Walter Kruis said at Monday's Committee of the Whole. "If this be a precedent, I think it would be a good one," said Mayor

Thomas K. Eardley Jr., referring to the group's plan to deed the 3,000-squarefoot center to the city, if granted permission to locate on city land. The commission is expected to give its "blessing" to the project in a resolution intent at the June 9 commission ses-

Stewart Lapham, 3231 Michael Ave.

SW, said the only building suitable for his

group's meetings is the Pinery Park shelterhouse. Lapham's group and other handicapped would have first call on the center's facilities, which otherwise could be used by other Wyoming residents. "Precedent" for such an arrangement with the suburban city was set in September, 1956 when the township board granted the Grand Rapids Rifle and Pistol Club permission to build a 40x96foot range building in Marquette Park. The 25-year lease, for \$1 per year

payable every Sept. 20, is renewable for

up to 99 years unless the city buys the

range building.

Packaging Corp. Plant

Charged With Pollution

in a warrant issued by Asst. City Atty. Frank S. Spies with discharging smoke contaminants which exceed legal density Spies said the plant manager, Robert Alspaugh, was specifically charged with

The Packaging Corp. of America plant

at 500 Market Ave. SW has been charged

the violation and will be arraigned in Grand Rapids District Court. Richard Olson, the city's air pollution inspector, said smoke from the corporation's coal furnaces Monday could be seen two miles away by another city's

"I've never seen smoke any blacker," he said. The soot was so dense it was "looping" out of the stack and covering

automobiles parked two blocks away at Market Ave, and Wealthy St. SW, Olson He explained that the density of air

pollutants is measured by comparing the color of the smoke exhaust with a color scheme known as the Ringleman Smoke Chart. Olson said smoke discharged from the PCA plant Monday was'100 per cent black, exceeding the 30 per cent Olson said the factory has had numer-

ous breakdowns of its furnace control devices, and its pollution collection devices are not adéquate to meet the city code. The city air pollution code carries a maximum fine of \$100, plus court costs, Spies said.

State Chiropractic Group Backs Suit

Charging that Michigan Blue Cross- . prepared to see it through the entire us," a Ferndale chiropractor Tuesday won support from the Michigan Chiropractic Association for his lawsuit against the insurance combine. Richard Klinder told some 500 chiropractors at the association's convention

suit earlier in the day against Blue Cross-He said the suit, filed in Wayne County Circuit Court, demands the right of a patient to seek medical treatment of his choice and to have his insurance pay for

at the Pantlind Hotel that he had filed

Klinder's lawsuit asserted that patients with Blue Cross-Blue Shield insurance are insured for care provided by chiropractic physicians and that the patients constitutionally are permitted free choice of health care.

Convention delegates passed a resolution supporting the suit. The chiropractic association also has agreed to pay all expenses involved in Klinder's suit. J. J. Brown of Detroit. spokesman for the group, said, "We're

Blue Shield has "discriminated against court process, including the U.S. Supreme

"Our patients are complaining that in spite of having health insurance, they still have to pay cash if they prefer care by a chiropractic physician," Klinder He said he filed the suit not as a physi-

cian but as a policy-holder of Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Klinder produced what he said were

petitions bearing 80,000 signatures from chiropractic patients in Michigan supporting the demand for Blue Cross-Blue Shield payments. Klinder told a newsman that chiro-

practors feel Blue Cross, a hospitalization insurance plan, and Blue Shield, a medical insurance firm, are "fairly well controlled by the American Medical Association.'

Chiropractic is a system of treating illnesses, based on the theory that interference with proper nerve function causes disease. Chiropractors mainly perform their services by manipulating bones to restore them to correct positions. They do not use drugs or perform surgery.

Rep. Ford to Talk After Hollyhock Lane Parade

Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids will be guest speaker following the 35th annual Hollyhock Lane parade July 4 sponsored by the Calvin-Giddings Patriotic Association.

The parade will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Calvin Ave. and Alexander St. SE and will follow a route to Franklin St., Giddings Ave. and Fisk St., ending at the Calvin Ave. starting point.

Sid Cammenga, chairman of the event, said that the association is attempting to get additional families in the neighborhood to enter floats in the parade this year. Any theme that symbolizes democracy, freedom, liberty or government is acceptable and will be judged for prizes following the parade.

Other parade officials include John Warners, parade marshal, and George Vruggink, secretary-treasurer and veteran of all 34 previous parades. One feature of the parade is area children riding decorated bicycles. An

estimated 500 children are expected to

participate wearing patriotic hats and waving flags provided by the associa-

U.S. Funds Help Finance Bridge Building in Kent

Bridge construction in Kent County, primarily replacement of outmoded spans, will be financed in part by \$186,382 in federal secondary highway

Donald L. Schofield, engineer-manager of the Kent County Road Commission, said the money is part of nearly \$7 million being distributed by the Department of State Highways to all counties on the basis of land area, population and mile-The state said the total is about \$1.5 million more than distributed last year.

Board Bows to Members-elect, Delays Decision on New School

. By JESSIE HARDING

At the end of a nearly four-hour Board of Education meeting Tuesday, a vote on the proposed 3,000-student Southeast High School was delayed until at least July 8 and perhaps even longer. The meeting had been billed as a "day

of decision" on the new high school which would be the first major physical commitment to the year-old master Instead, in a move that the sponsor said caught even some board members

by surprise, a delaying resolution was introduced by board member Raymond VanTuinen. The resolution called for tabling the Southeast High School vote until the regular board meeting in July. VanTuinen said, "By taking this action we would allow the new members (Lawrence Pojeski, Everett VanSlyke, Jack Boonstra, all from the West Side, and

to present any alternate plans.

men, who were elected on a platform

opposing the master plan, including its busing and "super high school" provi-.. "They," the resolution reads, "have

alternative) and would reveal it to the new board." The reconstituted board takes over July 8. Continuing, the resolution reads,

Grand Rapids can provide, and integra-VanTuinen said, "These are expressions the present board would heartily endorse as long as they were all compatible and consistent to the best education

stated publicly that they have one (an

"They have also stated publicly that they would favor elimination of busing, elimination of overcrowding, neighborhood schools, the economics of smaller high school buildings, broader curriculum, smaller classes, proper understanding of the American heritage, expanding cooperation between parent and school, community-minded school board, the finest public school system

Mrs. Rosemary Alland) full opportunity His resolution was aimed at the three for all students, so maybe in reality we

are not so far apart."

He added, "I present this resolution with mixed emotions, realizing that all the people who have taken time to call me have requested positive action today. However, the staff has assured me a delay of one month would not affect the opening date of the school. . . . I would suggest a July 1, 1969 deadline for presentation at a special meeting of the new board, and final action could be taken at the regular meeting July 8."

In his opening statement, VanTuinen referred to himself as "an outgoing member who is sold on the basic merits of the master plan."

feelings and replace them with a genu-

ine concern for maintaining the best

In closing, he said: "I'm sure all of us on the present board . . . are convinced this is a good plan and should be implemented immediately. However, it could be detrimental to Grand Rapids' great educational system if this phase of the plan was to be conceived in a spirit of animosity. This resolution would hopefully eliminate bickering and personal

education possible for all Grand Rapids children. The children should be our primary concern. . . . " Addressing the board, member-elect

Grand Rpaids. I want to express my gratitude for the resolution." His feelings, however, were not shared by retiring board member Mrs. Fred (Mary) Keeler. Although she seconded VanTuinen's resolution, so it could be brought up for a vote, she said:

best, educationally, for the children of

working on this for some time. I have to stand up for so many of those who have followed the master plan for months and who have called me, supporting it. have an obligation to vote 'no' on postponement." And she did. The rest of the board, with the exception of William Steenland who was out of town, voted

for postponement. John Milanowski: "I'm voting 'yes' (on postponement)

with a lump in my throat. I'm going the

When board member Paul Phillips Pojeski said, "We want nothing but the

present our concepts." "We on the current board have been

three current board members, including William I. Steenland, Joseph VanBlooys

Said another retiring board member,

additional five miles. But if I had the opportunity to vote on the master plan today, I'd vote 'yes' (for the master

asked whether the three West Siders would be ready by July 8, people in the audience cried, "What's the rush?" Boonstra said in reply, "We never said we had a complete plan. We just want to Board member Charles Porter said,

"Do this as you would any new idea. Present your concept and see whether it has merit. The greater the merit, the more time for study. And if necessary. we as a new board can delay action pending further study." Board president David Post named

and Max Boersma, to a special committee to work with the West Side memberselect in getting a presentation ready for At Tuesday's meeting, a representative of the Education Committee of the

Grand Rapids Urban League, James

League endorses the ideals and principles of cross-busing to "achieve integration from both sides in our schools." while recognizing that this "is not a solution to the total problem." The resolution adds that the league supports the idea of building schools in

Moore, presented a resolution on the

master plan. The resolution says the

the inner city proportionate to the needs and numbers of children living in the core area. Frank Pulte, newly-elected Grand

Rapids Education Association president, asked how thoroughly the board had investigated the possibility of cross-busing and whether South Middle School could be used as the site of the educational park, rather than Central High School. He said Central is operating at capacity, while South's student population of 1,100 is 700 below capacity. (The educational park area includes much of the property bounded by Bostwick and College Aves. NE and Lyon and Fountain Sts. NE. Some educational park courses will be offered at Central, but not .