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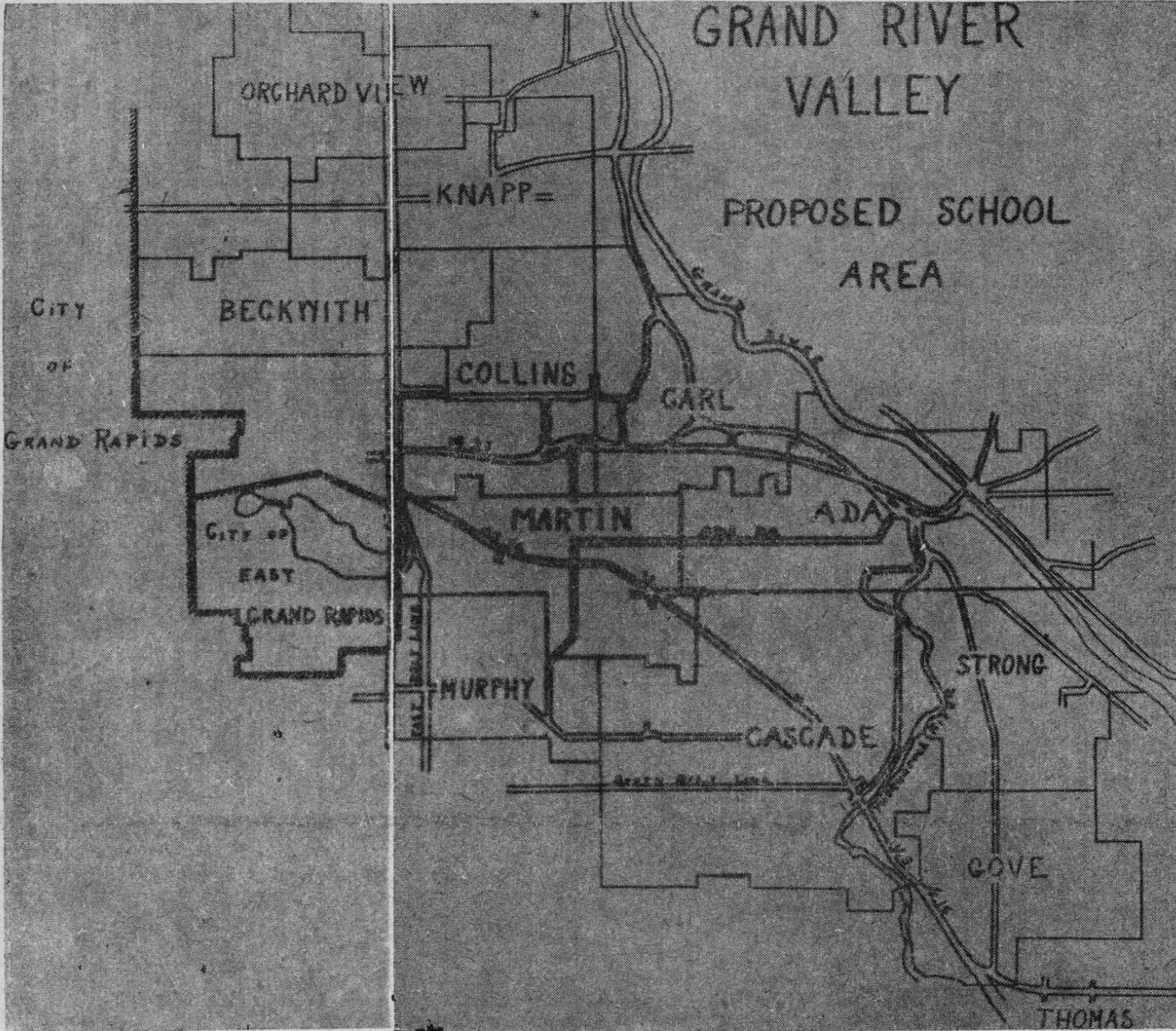
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## Proposed Consolidated High School Step Closer to Reality



Shown on the map are the 12 districts in the school survey made by Harold S. Chambers early last summer. Since that time, Beckwith on the west and Thomas on the South, have decided to withdraw from consolidation plans in this area. The proposed high school will be centrally located, its site dependent on the number of districts voting in the final election. Petitions are being circulated and 50% of the number of registered voters in each district are necessary to bring the proposal to a final vote.

Last Thursday evening, December 29, a meeting of the school boards and citizen's committees working with the boards, was held in the Cascade school.

Main purpose of the meeting was to expedite the distribution of petitions asking the county board of education to call a special election enabling voters to approve the consolidation plans which have been moving steadily forward since early last summer.

Present at the meeting were Harold S. Chambers, technical advisor for the school survey group and George VanWesep from the Kent County Board of Education.

Ten of the original 12 districts covered by Chamber's survey, made during the summer months, have expressed a desire, through petitions and resolutions from the various boards, to bring the consolidation issue before the voters of each school district. Two of the districts, Beckwith and Thomas, decided several weeks ago that they were not in favor of consolidation at this time.

The remaining ten districts, Ada, Cascade, Martin, Collins, Murphy, Gove, Strong, Carl, Knapp and Orchard View, have 60 days in which to get the required signatures and submit the petitions to Lynn Clark, county superintendent of schools.

Clark will then check the validity of the signatures and notify Dr. Clair L. Taylor, Michigan superintendent of public instruction. The go sign for a special election will then be given by authorities in Lansing.

Russell S. Jensen, chairman of the school study group explained that signatures equal to 50% of the registered voters in each district

were necessary before a special election could be held. Jensen stressed the fact that qualified electors could sign the petitions.

"A qualified elector", said Jensen, "is a person 21 years of age, who has resided in the state for six months and who has been a resident of his or her school district for 30 days."

Clarifying the popular misconception that only registered voters could sign the petition, Jensen told the group, "The only reason the township clerks must turn the number of registered voters in to Clark's office, is to enable the board of education to have a legal ground on which to base the signatures on the petitions."

"For example, if only 50 voters are registered in a district and 100 new electors move into the district, only 25 signatures are necessary for the petition to be valid. The signatures on the petition do not necessarily have to be the same as those on the township rolls of registered voters."

VanWesep pointed out that the lists will be carefully checked by the county board before Taylor's office in Lansing is notified.

In a review of the consolidation issue, Chambers covered the highlights of his report and once again emphasized the fact that the existing neighborhood schools will definitely be maintained.

VanWesep noted that many petitions in the past were incorrectly signed, thus causing the petitions to fail. "The proper way for a woman to sign a petition," said VanWesep, "is to give her first name. Thus, Mrs. John Smith would, on a petition, become Mrs. Lola Smith. Failure to follow this

simple rule would make that signature invalid."

According to Chambers, a site for the school has not yet been chosen. Location of the school will depend on the number of districts voting in the special election. To be centrally located, the site would automatically change if one or more districts fails to obtain the required signatures on the petition.

Under a new state ruling which went into effect in July, approval for a special election will be withdrawn if one or more districts fails to obtain the required number of signatures. The remaining districts must then seek preliminary approval for another election by once again going through the same process-resolutions from the boards or petitions from citizens in each school district and requesting the county board of education to seek new approval from the state board.

It is not known at the present time what millage would be necessary for operational expense and debt retirement. According to VanWesep, the size of the structure, method of construction and extra facilities desired would have a direct bearing on the rate of tax increase necessary to build, maintain and pay for the proposed high school building.

### COMING EVENTS

Tuesday Jan. 10. Mrs. Lester Johnson will be hostess at her home at 5535 Cascade Rd. for the monthly meeting of the Community Club.

A communion service will be held January 8, 1956 at the Eastmont Reformed Church.

## Two Schools Hit By Robbers

Two ACE area schools were burglarized this past Tuesday and \$47.50 was taken. Several doors and windows were damaged or broken and school rooms were strewn with paper.

At the Martin school the thieves tried to jimmy three windows with a large screw driver or small pry bar. Failing in this, they entered the back door of the building by breaking a plate glass window in the door. According to the Sheriff's department, three doors in the school were opened in the same manner. A total of \$7.50 was taken from the building.

At the Cascade school the burglars apparently found an unlocked door. Don Parsons, one of the investigating officers, stated that there was no sign of a forced entry.

A total of \$40 was taken from a metal filing cabinet in one of the rooms and the same tool used in the Martin robbery, enabled the thieves to break the cabinet open.

Doors opened in the Cascade school were damaged by the instrument and here also the papers strewn around in the classrooms came close to being classed as vandalism by the Sheriff's Department. A check book was also stolen.

Parson believes the Cascade robbery occurred after 12:15 a.m. GOC observers at the post, located next to the school, failed to notice any activity in the school before they left at that time.

## Breaks Arm In Farm Accident

The short life of little Dawn DeVries has been far from a normal one. Dawn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George DeVries, 1828 Forrest Hill, has had more than her share of childhood sicknesses and has spent almost half of her four years in a cast or brace.

Born with a defective hip, the corrective measures proved to be successful and after a short period during which she learned to use a pair of tiny crutches with great skill, Dawn was as good as new.

Last week, however, another mishap sent Dawn to the now familiar hospital. Watching her grandfather, Arie Ponstein, 1607 Forrest Hill, working in the large dairy barn



which he operates with Dawn's father, the little girl caught her arm in the shaft of an electric motor mounted on a large bulk milk cooler, breaking the limb in five places.

According to DeVries, the grandfather had stepped out of the room for a moment. Hearing her cries he ran back and immediately shut off the power.

DeVries stated that her arm was wrapped around the shaft, used to stir a paddle in the cooler, and the heavy snow suit Dawn was wearing prevented her from being drawn further around the shaft.

Ponstein and DeVries were forced to dismantle the unit before it was possible to free the arm. Doctors at first feared that the nerves and blood veins were permanently damaged but subsequent x-rays and examinations prove that no serious damage has been done.

DeVries learned from a representative of the company which manufactures the coolers that a guard around the shaft has been under consideration and the new models will probably have this safety factor.

## School Issue Aired At PTA

Next Tuesday, January 10, the PTA of the Ada school will hold their monthly meeting. The speaker at this meeting will be Harold S. Chambers, technical advisor for the area school survey conducted last summer.

Chambers will give those present an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed consolidated high school and will explain the various phases connected with the building and operation of a high school. At present Chambers is principal of the Hudsonville High school and has been active in the educational field for many years.

Glenn Morse, secretary of the PTA, emphasized the importance of the informational meeting and stated that all ACE area residents interested in the consolidation are invited to the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

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 Kenneth Ezinga, Editor  
 Phone GL1-2011

Ada News Reporter — Mrs. Tom Morris  
 Cascade News Reporter — Mrs. Roger Wykes  
 Eastmont Reporter — Mrs. H. Gaskell

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## INSTALLATION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Sunday, January 1, the following office bearers were installed at the Ada Christian Reformed church. Elders: John TeVelde and Dan DeVos. Herman Stukkie, jr., was stalled as deacon.

Next Sunday, January 8, Rev. Sidney Newhouse of Flint will conduct the services.

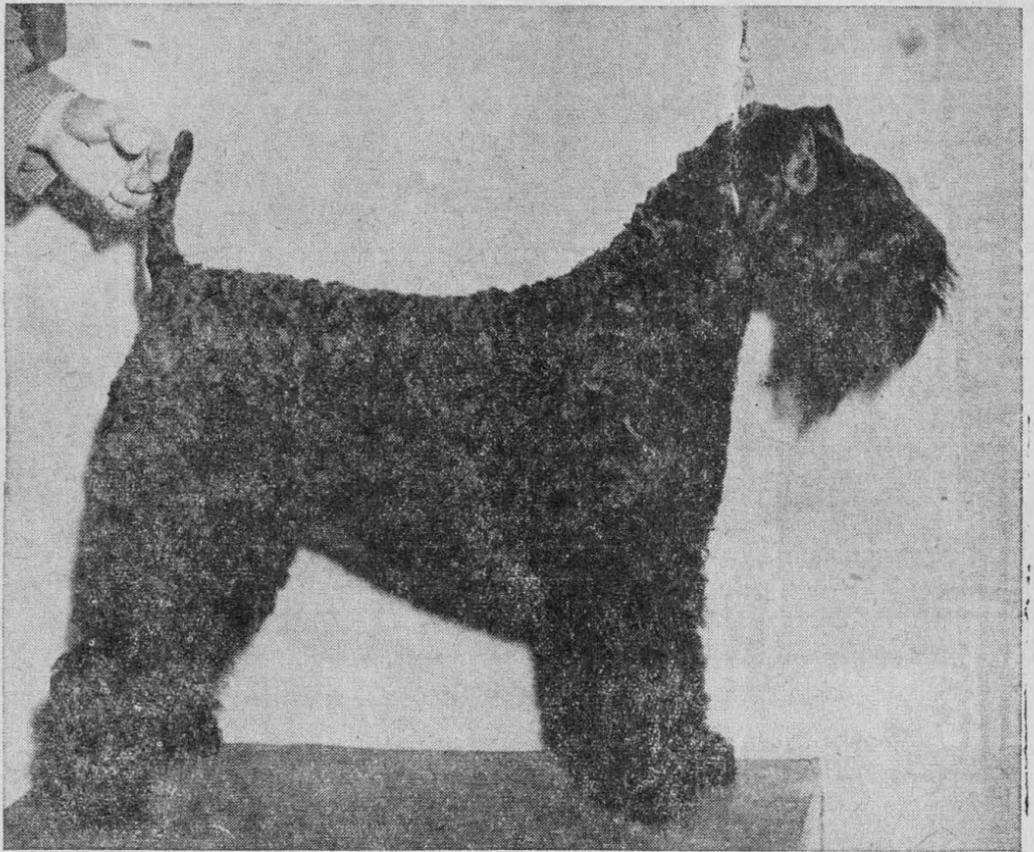
## CHURCH SOCIETY DISTRIBUTES GIFTS

This past Tuesday evening the Helping Hand Society of the Ada Christian Reformed church held its monthly meeting. John Ebberts led the Bible discussion and the topic taken from the Gospel of John, chapter 12, was entitled "Jesus Triumphant Entry and Jesus Answer To The Greeks."

The society distributed gifts to the aged and shut-ins of the congregation.

Wide feet are said to be a sign of efficiency and intelligence.

## Dog Show Features Many Breeds



Only one of the many breeds to be featured at the Annual Benched Dog Show, the Kerry Blue Terrier has the distinctive feature of a non-shedding coat. The Kerry is also the National Dog of Ireland. The show, to be held this Sunday, January 8, will turn part of its proceeds over to the Thornapple Valley Lion's club. Over 600 dogs from several states are expected to be shown in the day long event.

## Polio Drive Begins In ACE Area

Mrs. Andrew Vanden Berg, Spaulding ave., local chairman of the Ada Cascade March of Dimes campaign, has announced the appointment of the following committee heads; Mrs. James Banta, 1885 Spaulding, Mother's March, Cascade area, Mrs. Lester Norwood, 8725 Conservation Dr., Mother's March, Ada area, Harold Meines, 6012 Burton, treasurer, special events, Mrs. Paul Slater, 6791 28th st., cannisters, Mrs. Harold Mulder, 5500 Burton.

According to Mrs. Vanden Berg, the Mother's March will be held on January 26. It is planned that every home in the Ada, Cascade area will be visited by the Marchers and Mrs. Van Den Berg emphasized that every contribution will be welcome. Realizing that many

persons are unable to "dig deep" Mrs. Van Den Berg pointed out that a dime is as welcome and necessary as ten dollars.

Cannisters are being distributed to all local merchants this week by the Cannister committee.

It was pointed out by Mrs. VandenBerg that Kent County has never paid it's own way. Last year for example Kent County went to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and received \$70,000 in emergency assistance. In 1954, \$65,100 was received. Kent County has never paid one cent for research, for scholarships, for Salk vaccine. Every cent sent to the National Foundation has been returned every year plus much more, for a total return of \$336,635, with more expected this year.

Right now 248 polio victims are receiving aid from the National Foundation in this county. Four polio cases in Kent County have already received \$69,026 in aid and

will receive hundreds of dollars in the future.

Only through contributions can these persons continue to receive the help they could not live without.

## BIRTHS

Mr., Mrs. Glen Johnson of Waverly, Nebraska announce the birth of a daughter, Sharon Kay, born Dec. 21, 1955 and weighed 7 lbs., 12 ozs. Mrs. Johnson formerly was Marilyn Luther of Grand Rapids. The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William Luther of 922 Clifford.

Mrs. Luther is spending a few weeks at the home of the Johnsons in Waverly.

Born Saturday morning to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Vogel song, a son, James Gary.

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The regular Communication of the Ada Lodge will be held Friday evening, January 6 according to Homer Morris, secretary. Oyster stew will be served after the meeting.

Mrs. George Van Elst is convalescing at her home on 3501 Lake Dr. since recently returning home from St. Mary's Hospital where she underwent surgery.

Mrs. Addie Wride celebrated her 85th birthday December 12 at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. Lester Johnson Cascade rd., with whom she makes her home Thirteen descendants, including a majority of her five grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, were present, and others came the following day. She had a cake with candles, and many presents and cards.

**Cradle Roll Guild**

Cradle Roll guild of Cascade Christian church will meet Thursday evening, Jan. 12, at the home of Mrs. Martin Postam, co-hostess, on 52nd st., at 8:30 p.m. Mrs. Leonard Schalk is hostess.

Mrs. W. J. Bruins Slot will lead the discussion on two topics, Youth Looks at the Home, and at the Church.

The group recently gave fifty dollars towards the church's new choir robes.

**Music Classes To Be Formed By Mrs. Good**

Mrs. Good TEACHES piano.... Mrs. C. R. Good, 2111 Buttrick rd, who formerly conducted piano lessons in Eagle Pass, Texas, is planning to start lessons in her home for ACE area children.

Mrs. Good stated that besides private piano lessons after age 7, she is offering the Aguado pre-instrumental course for children 6 and 7. Planned to discover the child's aptitude for music and to be completed in approximately 20 weeks without practice at home, this course offers rhythmic training, games, songs, dances, music notation, little piano peices for staff-keyboard correlation and rythm band ensembles.

Enrollment of both boys and girls in a course of classes and lessons may be made by phoning Mrs. Good.

**PLAN TO MAKE COMMUNITY DANCE ANNUAL AFFAIR**

A community party was enjoyed by nearly 150 Cascade residents last Wednesday evening at Rookers Hall, Ada. Ma Loveless' orchestra played for square and ballroom dancing. This is the second year the dance has been held, and so successful has it been that plans have been made to hold it again next year.

The idea arose spontaneously in the minds of a group of Cascade residents and businessmen, who wanted a pleasant festivity for local people and their friends, and tickets were sold on a non-profit basis.

Committee for next year's dance are Dr. and Mrs. Robert Paines, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Belding, and Mr. and Mrs. Lew Hawkins.

Thursday Dec. 29 A Christmas Party was held at the home of Mr. St Jolman of Plymouth Road for his High School Sunday School Class of Eastmont Reformed Church. The evening was spent playing games and consuming refreshments.

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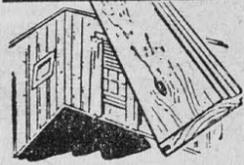
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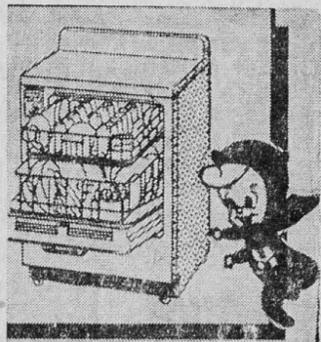
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Mr. and Mrs. Morley Carew of Ada dr. entertained with a family Christmas dinner party last Sunday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Keeling, Mr. and Mrs. James Carew and Judy, Mr. and Mrs. David Carew and family, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Carew and family, Mr. and Mrs. Don Keeling and family, Miss Nancy Keeling and Wayne Jackson of Grand Rapids.

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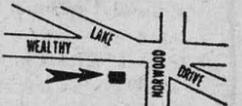
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# ACE report

Everyone seems to be glad that the Holiday weekends are past. We in the weekly newspaper business are especially happy although we pessimistically look forward with a shudder to this year when Christmas and New Years' Day fall on Tuesday.

Putting out two weekly papers, the Ledger and Suburban Life every week is no small task and two lost days in two weeks keeps the staff down here in Lowell on the move.

The gasoline price war has hit the ACE area this week and as far as we know, all the different brands have dropped their prices. The experts tell us it really isn't a price war. Maybe not, but I'm sure most of our pocketbooks are enjoying the "little business venture".

The new phone books are out and Suburban Life has a new number. On the much improved new system the number will be TW 7-9262. We congratulate the Bell Telephone company for the wonderful job they are doing and if we look back over the past ten years, steady progress in improvement and service can be seen.

Next week we plan to resume our series on local schools and the weekly feature about your neighbor and his hobby or work. Several people have called or talked with me about persons with interesting jobs or spare time interests and I certainly appreciate the calls and tips. All such leads are welcome and help to make a better paper.

Short week, short column. The paper is almost ready to go to press and this column must still be set so needless to say there is time for no more.

**Hot Lunch at Martin School**  
The Ada Coffee Group will sponsor another hot dog lunch at Martin School next Wednesday, Jan. 11. Hot dogs, pickles, potato chips and dixie cups will be served. Twenty-five cents for the lot. For the next hot dog a dime will be charged.

**MARTIN PTA MEETS TUESDAY**  
Tuesday, Jan. 10, the Martin school PTA will hold its monthly meeting.

## Young Skaters Have Holiday Fun



Lack of snow over the Holiday vacation failed to keep youngsters in the Eastmont section of the ACE area from having their share of winter fun. The pond at the rear of the Verne Morse property on Cascade Rd. was well patronized by local youngsters and the lack of snow kept the ice in fine condition for skaters of all ages.

### MOTHERS CLUB PLANS JANUARY 12 MEETING

Mothers' club of Cascade school no. 4 will meet Thursday evening, Jan. 12 at the school. A short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. will be followed at 8 o'clock by a program of particular interest to men, and husbands are invited.

Speaker will be Mr. A. G. Atkin, manager of the Better Business Bureau of Grand Rapids, whose subject will be mail frauds and other attempts to cheat the public. He will be introduced by Mrs. Raymond L. Reynhout, chairman of the Cascade Terrace group.

The kitchen will be in the charge of Mrs. Joseph Fox. Mrs. Ted Walma will have charge of the nursery.

### Enters Marine O.C.S.

Terry Turner will leave this week end for Quantico Va., to enter the January class of Officer Candidate school of the U. S. Marine corps. He received his B. S. degree from Michigan State University in June, and has been a graduate assistant there the past term, teaching two courses in Physical Education. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Turner, Cascade rd.

### Ada Locals

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Fase entertained with a family New Year's eve party. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Miles Fase, Diane, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mulder and baby, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Afton Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Bert VanWorth. During the evening Capt. and Mrs. Vernon Bridgeman of Laredo, Texas, telephoned to wish her family a very happy New Year. She was the former Vera Fase.

Mrs. Geo. Hutchison from the Shamrock Rest Home of Lowell spent Christmas day at her home on Grand River dr.

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**CHURCH SERVICES**

**Ada Christian Reformed CHURCH**

Morning Worship...9:30 A. M.  
Sunday School...11:00 A. M.  
Evening Worship...7:15 P. M.

**Cascade Christian Ref. Church**

Morning Worship — 10:00 A. M.  
Sunday School — 11:15 A. M.  
Evening Worship — 7:15 P. M.  
Pastor — Rev. Jacob P. Boonstra

**ADA COMMUNITY Reformed Church**

Morning Worship...10:00 A. M.  
Sunday School...11:20 A. M.  
Evening Worship...7:30 P. M.  
Pastor—Rev. C. A. VanderWoude

**First Congregational CHURCH OF ADA**

Morning Worship...9:30 A. M.  
Sunday School...9:30 A. M.  
Nursery Provided  
Pilgrim Fellowship...6:30 P. M.  
Pastor—Rev. Williams P. Reynders

**Cascade Christian Church**

Sunday School — 9:45 A. M.  
Morning Worship — 11:00 A. M.  
Pastor: Rev. Herbert Barnard

**Eastmont Reformed Church**  
Meeting in Martin School

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11:00 A. M. Sunday School      NURSERY PROVIDED

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