

Monroe County Accepts \$228 Million Valuation

SPARTA, Wis. — The Monroe County Board Wednesday accepted a total valuation of \$228,506,000 for 1973 for assessment of 1974 taxes.

Reformation Heritage Tour Planned

TOMAH, Wis. — Thirty-six persons Sunday are beginning a European Reformation heritage tour, arranged and to be conducted by Rev. and Mrs. David Hoyme.

The tour unit will go from Tomah to Chicago by chartered bus, then will fly to Frankfurt, Germany and to Berlin. Stops will include East and West Germany.

The group will review the Lutheran Reformation with stops at Leipzig and Munich, Germany; the Calvin Reformation with stops at Lucerne and Geneva, Switzerland, and the Catholic Reformation with stops at Milan, Rome and Florence, Italy.

It is an increase from \$196,930,400 based upon 69.50 per cent of full value.

The board voted 25 to 3 to rezone the former Howard Teasdale farm in the Towns of Sparta and Little Falls from agricultural to forestry and recreation.

This issue has been before the committee and board for 18 months since the present owners, the Regal Mold and Die Co. of Chicago, proposed a commercial hunting preserve on the land. The rezoning passed by the board was on petition of one of the owners, Chris Kelly.

At its September meeting the county board voted to prohibit commercial game farms which removed much of the opposition to the rezoning. Norman Culpitt, zoning administrator, said there had been rumors of a motorcycle park on the farm and this led to some opposition to the rezoning.

Dist. Atty. Ralph Osborne, Jr. said the board could take action to prohibit motorcycle parks the same as it did game farms.

The board approved a contract with Northern States Power Co. for electric service on the ski hill

being established north of Sparta at a rate of no less than \$500 a year for five years.

The county highway department is constructing a road to the site at a cost of about \$5,000. Explorer scouts and other volunteers, with assistance from the Monroe County Civil Defense organization and school, have prepared the ski hill and provided power for a ski tow.

Supervisors were concerned over the cost of operating the ski hill and encouraged local civic organizations to consider taking over the operations. Fees will be charged for use of the facilities which includes a chalet.

No opposition was expressed to a \$351 appropriation being added to the budget to supplement \$1,546 available from other sources to meet the assessment for Monroe County to support the Western Wisconsin Health Planning Organization (WWHPO).

Harry Hill of Tomah, a member of the WWHPO board, said that the county board rejected the assessment last year but it was paid by anonymous source to continue membership.