

# Stadium Hotel Tax Plan Hit

PLYMOUTH  
In an effort to spare the older hotels and motels in the fringe area from what he calls an "undue hardship," Ralph Lorenz, operator of the Mayflower Hotel, fired the opening salvo Thursday afternoon in the battle to kill the proposed five per cent tax on accommodations to help finance a downtown Detroit stadium.

As the lone protester thus far, he has written to Robert E. FitzPatrick, chairman of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, asking that the enabling legislation be set aside to prevent many time-honored hostilities from closing their doors.

Lorenz, who has voiced his opposition to the proposal since it first was mentioned, waited until Gov. Milliken signed the enabling legislation Wednesday afternoon to make his official protest.

Under the terms of the bill passed by the Legislature, Wayne County is granted the power to levy the five per cent tax on all hotel and motel room accommodations.

This is discriminatory, Lorenz claimed in his letter because it "builds a wall between the new and old establishments."

AS AN example, he pointed out the Mayflower Hotel is 44 years old and "will have a difficult time competing with newer establishments at best."

"But what chance have we got in competition with Win Schuler when he builds his new place on U.S. 23, less than 10 miles away in Washtenaw county?"

He further cited conditions along Eight Mile Road where the north side is in Oakland County and the south side in Wayne County.

"Is that fair competition to levy the tax on one side of the road and not on the other?"

"IF THE TAX was made statewide," he continued, "I'd be for it. But not as the proposal stands now."

"If permitted to go through, there'll be a lot of places closing their doors, and the Mayflower could be one of them."

Lorenz confided that while he is fighting a lone battle at the moment he has been in contact with others in the same predicament and a united action is in the immediate offing.

"Our old places just can't stand the tax," he repeated. "It is an undue hardship."

## How Inkster Drug Center Aids Big Area

Continued operation of the Hegira drug rehabilitation center at Inkster, which is up in the air because of a funding problem, has drawn support from most other western Wayne County governments based on statistics showing the center's caseload to be area-wide.

The center is the only out-county point that provides methadone treatment, and a breakdown of 219 crisis intervention cases between July 6 and Nov. 31 show this population distribution:

Westland, 30; Garden City, 11; Redford, 10; Plymouth, eight; Livonia, seven; Canton Township, seven; Inkster, 23; Ann Arbor, four; Dearborn, 21; Dearborn Heights, 15; Detroit, 11; Milan, one; Wayne, 12; Allen Park, four; Melvindale, two; Taylor, six; Romulus, 12; Sumpter, nine; Northville, 11, and Southgate, 15.

The center is at 27755 Michigan Ave. and also offers counseling, education classes, remedial reading tutoring and job placement assistance. It is staffed mainly by volunteers.

AT THE last meeting of the Western Wayne County Mayors and Supervisors Assn., Inkster Mayor Edward Bivens Jr. and City Manager Sylvester Murray urged their colleagues to join them in an appeal to the county's Act 54 Board for an extension of funding.

The board was created through action of the State Legislature, which allocated more than \$3 million to combat the drug problem in Wayne County, and Inkster has petitioned for a grant of \$170,000. The board functions under jurisdiction of the Detroit - Wayne County Mental Health Dept. After an initial refusal of funds, the board has recon-

sidered the Inkster issue, and Murray said this week it appears favorable that at least half the requested amount may be allowed - perhaps more. He hopes to be able to give a final report when the mayors and supervisors meet Jan. 12 in Romulus.

In December, the association agreed with only one dissenting vote (that being from Westland) to support Inkster's position in a letter which recognized that the Hegira program "serves clients from many municipalities in western Wayne County."

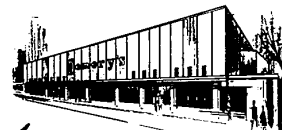
THE LETTER recommended "that the program be funded by the Act 54 Board in a substantial manner which does not unduly restrict the Hegira program from serving all needed persons and which does not prohibit adequate funding of other programs existing or anticipated in other areas of western Wayne County."

Mayor Gene McKinney of Westland said he did not question the facts as presented by Inkster representatives, but based his negative vote on a lack of "of first-hand knowledge."

Inkster's fear that the center might be restricted only to cases referred to it by courts or other official agencies has relaxed, Murray said this week, after further conferences with a committee from the funding board. He said only 50 per cent of the case - load will have to be referrals.

In addition to hearing an updated report from Inkster, association members Wednesday will tackle the issue of agreeing on common standards in police and fire contract negotiations.

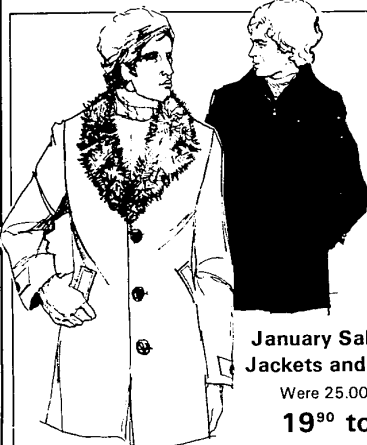
# Demery's



Farmington Store  
12 Mile at Farmington Rd.

## SHOPPING PARTY SUNDAY 12 TO 5

ANNUAL SALES...SPECIAL PURCHASES...CONVENIENT HOURS...CONVENIENT PARKING



### January Sale Savings Jackets and Car Coats

Were 25.00 to 75.00

**19<sup>90</sup> to 49<sup>90</sup>**

Our entire stock of famous brand winterwear now sale priced. Nylon ski jackets, suburban coats, car coats, snorkel jackets, Corduroys, wools, nylons, washables... many with pile linings or collars. 36 to 46.  
Street Floor

### Our Luxury Topcoats 100% Cashmeres or Wool/Cashmere Blends

Were 79.95 to 89.00

**59<sup>95</sup>**

Hand tailored, hand detailed... our famous Austrian imports. Fine 100% Cashmeres in single breasted style. Wool/cashmere coats, single or double breasted. Light and dark shades. Group includes regulars, shorts and longs.



Street Floor

### Special Purchase! Boys' Famous Brand Nylon Ski Jackets

Usually 20.00, 22.00

**13<sup>90</sup>**

Machine washable nylons with polyester fiberfill insulation... light but warm. Two styles, this zip-front belted one or a snap-front shirt style. In Navy, Red or Rust, sizes M, ML and L.



Street Floor

### January Sale New Pant Coats in Junior Sizes

Orig. 33.00 to 35.00

**\$28<sup>00</sup>**

Orig. 26.00

**19<sup>90</sup>**

Price group of the young crowd's favorite fashion pant-coats: WOOL HERRINGBONES... WOOL MELLONS... SUEDE CLOTHS... FAKE FURS. Shop early Sunday and get the pick of the crop! Good selection of styles. Sizes 7 to 15.



Second Floor



### Special Purchase Sale Terrific Junior T-Tops

**3<sup>88</sup>**

**4<sup>88</sup>**

Sure as pop goes with pizza, T-Tops are going over big with the junior crowd. And what a collection you'll find now at prices to suit young budgets. Crew necks or placket collars. Raglan or set-in sleeves. Even the new "Cast Offs" with seams on the outside! Colors from bright to funky faded. Combed cottons and Orion acrylics. Most styles medium and large, some in small.

Junior Sportswear, Street Floor

DON'T MISS THE ANNUAL SALE OF BRAS AND GIRDLES... ANNUAL COSMETIC SALES

DEMERY'S FARMINGTON STORE OPEN SUNDAY 12 to 5... MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY EVENINGS TILL 9 P.M.

