

# The Farmington Enterprise

A. C. Tagg Publishers J. M. Tagg

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## It's Our Opinion:

### EDITORIALS:

### The Resignation . . .

of Harry N. McCracken as Farmington Township Clerk brings to a close one of the longest and most active careers of public service in the history of Oakland County and the State of Michigan.

Mr. McCracken, who passed his 90th birthday in July, has served the Farmington community as Superintendent of Schools, State Representative, Township Supervisor and Township Clerk, as well as being active in local farm groups and community organizations. During his long tenure of public service he has seen Farmington grow from a sparsely settled farm community to a thickly populated suburban area. One of the most pleasant experiences we have had since coming to Farmington is the time we have spent listening to Mr. McCracken recount the events which make up much of the history of this community.

However, Mr. McCracken has done far more than just talk about the growth and development of Farmington. . . he has had a vital part in it. Since the early 1900's he has worked diligently for the best interests of the people of Farmington. His almost continuous service as a public official for the past 50 years is an accomplishment unparalleled in the history of our community. Few men have contributed so much in time and effort toward the well-being of their neighbors as has Harry McCracken.

The final challenges he placed before the Board and the people in his letter of resignation are typical of his sincere desire to serve the community. He called for the development of adequate library facilities, construction of a new fire hall in the north central section of the Township, establishment of an efficient water and sewer authority, and the construction of a modern Township Office building. These are progressive steps which deserve consideration and action in the immediate future.

While Mr. McCracken is resigning as Township Clerk and a member of the Board, we know that he will continue to be an active citizen of our community. This is as it should be. His experience and background make him a worthy counselor and his dedication to service entitles him to the respect and admiration of the entire community.

### The No. 2 Story . . .

in the nation during 1955 was the announced success of the Salk Polio vaccine. The development of this wonderful discovery, as well as the nation-wide inoculation test, was made possible to a large extent by the dimes and dollars contributed by American citizens.

Without this contribution, we might still be struggling for a weapon to fight the dreaded disease, polio. However, thanks to the support of millions of people, we have the weapon. Our next job is to develop it into a force so powerful and so effective that polio will no longer exist as a threat to our lives.

According to the most accurate information, we are on the threshold of such a development. This doesn't mean that it will happen today or even tomorrow, but it does mean that it will happen. And once again the American people will have a great deal to do with it. Such discoveries not only take time but they take a great deal of money. The finest medical experts in the world are devoting all of their time and skill to perfect this life-saving weapon. All of us must help, too, by devoting our dimes and dollars to this effort.

You can do just that, this month, by contributing to the Annual March of Dimes Campaign being conducted throughout the Farmington community. Watch for the special polio canisters in your favorite stores and contribute whenever and wherever you can. Remember the Blue Crutch Day and the Mothers' March, too. They are all designed to make it easier for you to help.

This is a big job that promises even bigger rewards. So, let's finish the task we have started. Let's protect our families, our friends, and yes, even ourselves, by scratching Polio right off the death list.

### The Year 1955 . . .

bowed out in a wrath of violence with men killing and crippling one another from behind the wheels of their automobiles. The appalling toll of death and destruction which occurred over the Christmas and New Year's Holidays is shocking to say the very least. We can only hope and pray that this year-end tragedy will serve as a memorable example of what not to do in 1956.

## GO TO CHURCH THIS WEEK

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
20841 Shawanaw at Middlebelt  
Sunday Services, 11 a.m., 8 p.m.  
Sunday School, 10 a.m.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.

**FARMINGTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Grand River at Middlebelt  
Sunday Services, 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday School, 10 a.m.  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

**CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST**  
Grand River at Cambridge  
Sunday Services 8:45, 11:15 a.m., 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Rev. Elsie Johns

**FARMINGTON FIRST BAPTIST**  
Sunday Services 9:30, 11:40 a.m., 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Dr. G. Northing GR. 4-2983

**SALEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH**  
Church School at 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.  
Nursery School maintained during the worship hour.  
Rev. Carl Schultz GR. 4-8880

**FOREST HILLS UNITED MISSIONARY CHURCH**  
12 Mile east of 2nd Lake Road  
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Youth Fellowship, 6:30 p.m.  
Rev. Lloyd Shue GR. 4-1543

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS**  
28045 Powers Road  
Sunday Services, 9:30, 11:15, 11:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:45, 7, 8, 9. Daily, 6:30, 8 a.m.  
Fr. T. Beahan GR. 4-5120

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
Grand River at Oxford  
Sabbath School, 10 a.m.  
Church Service - 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Prayer - 7:30 p.m.

**ORCHARD METHODIST**  
13 Mile Road at Greening  
Sunday Service 11 a.m.  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Rev. L. L. Lord LI. 2-8010

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN**  
Middlebelt at Eight Mile Road  
Sunday Services 8:30, 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Class, 9:30 a.m.  
Rev. W. Rutkowski GR. 4-0975

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
25600 Grand River  
Sunday Services 8, 9:30, 11 a.m.  
Sunday School, 10 a.m.  
Stuckey School, 25600 Farley.  
Rev. V. Halboth

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL**  
(Temporarily Worshipping in the Universalist Church)  
Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.  
Children's School, Pre-School and Kindergarten, 9:30 a.m. Sunday.  
First through Sixth Grade: 10 a.m. Saturday. Seventh through Tenth Grade, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday. Eleventh and Twelfth Grades, 7:30 p.m. Sunday.  
Rev. J. B. Gulian GR. 4-2880 or GR. 4-3374

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**  
26185 Farmington Rd. at 11 Mile  
Sunday Service, 10:30 a.m.  
Church School at same time.  
Rev. R. Geiger GR. 4-1871

**LIVONIA METHODIST CHURCH**  
Seven Mile near Farmington Rd.  
Sunday Service, 9:30 a.m.  
All Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.  
Youth Fellowship 6, 7 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting Wednesday 8 p.m.

**SOUTHFIELD COMMUNITY**  
21122 Indian Road  
Sunday Services, 11:15 a.m. 7:30 p.m. Bible School 10 a.m. Wednesday, 7:45 p.m.

**NOVI BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. 7:30 p.m. Sunday School 11:30 a.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LIVONIA**  
Inkster Road

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**  
33255 Grand River Ave.  
Sunday Service, 11 a.m. Township Hall.  
Sunday School, 11 a.m. and Wednesday Service, 8 p.m. both at 33255 Grand River Avenue, corner of Liberty Street.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
West Point Park  
Sunday Service, 9:30, 11:15, 7:30 p.m. Bible Study, 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, 8 p.m.

**FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**  
Warner and Thomas Streets  
Sunday Service, 11 a.m. Church School at same time.

**KENWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
18901 Middlebelt Road  
Worship Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Bible School at 10:00 a.m.  
R. C. Crandall GR. 4-4731

**FIRST METHODIST CHURCH**  
Grand River at Warner Ave.  
Sunday Service, 9:30, 11:15 a.m. Church School (nursery through adult) 10 a.m. Duplicate Church School, nursery through primary) 11:15 a.m. Youth Fellowship 6 p.m. (Int.) and 8:30 p.m. (Sr.)  
Rev. R. Suraw GR. 4-6873

**BETHEL MISSIONARY ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
8900 Middlebelt Road  
Sunday Services: 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7:45 p.m.  
Rev. J. J. Traub GA. 1-0140

Try to do to others as you would have them do to you. Discouraged if they fail sometimes.



**MICHIGAN'S BITTER FIGHT** over facilities to care for mentally retarded children is not over.

Major groups already are getting ready with ammunition to fire in the legislative struggle over a permanent solution following the anticlimactic struggle over an emergency program.

As a single phase of the many-sided mental health problem, it created a sensation of bitterness and strife which dedlocked the legislature for six weeks.

"At least the people now know that we have a problem in mental health," said Rep. George W. Sallade (R-Ann Arbor). He and others are forecast as the leaders of a continuing fight over the issue. A \$2,500-bed hospital for mentally retarded children is planned in southeastern Michigan.

But how was this deadlock resolved and who were the players in one of the roughest legislative dramas in history?

It was Senator Elmer R. Porter (R-Blossfield), a 73-year-old farmer and chairman of the Senate appropriations committee, who came up with the solution.

Porter merely repeated the decision he made weeks ago on the final night of the first special session, November 4.

It was to rent the controversial Farmington Children's Hospital and the beds needed for the children. There was no promise to buy the hospital.

"That's as far as I can go," Porter said.

He made the decision November 4 and it took more than a month to get agreement among the widely-appld factions of the legislature which had split both Houses and both parties.

The legislature ended with this program: . . .

The state will obtain 1,150 beds slightly under the original request of Governor Williams, and at a cost of \$1,214,222, almost \$4,000,000 under the request of Democrats.

On the program, 150 beds will be leased at Farmington, 150 in private hospitals under contract, 800 at a reconverted Fort Custer station hospital, Battle Creek; and the rest at expanded facilities at Coldwater and Mt. Pleasant Home and Training Schools.

"It represents a respectable compromise," said Williams.

But the program strikes others as something less than adequate. There will be a strong campaign



It is disturbing to have a government official in Washington, a person of sober mind and moderate viewpoint, tell you that the United States is drifting into Socialism and that the drift will not be halted. This happened to me in recent days. The person with the gloomy outlook cannot simply be laughed off. He has had intimate experience with all levels of government and, to some extent at least, direct contact with many segments of the public.

"Our people," he said to me, "have been infected with the germs." It is a fatal disease once it takes root in a nation. When the government starts giving some aid to people they get accustomed to it quickly. They don't want to give it up. They forget about sound principles and the value of individual opportunity; and ultimately they lose their self-reliance. Then they become partial or total dependents. No government can carry a big load of dependents without gathering to itself great power over the economy and finally the social process. And that's what Socialism is — a government dominating the people."

These are disturbing observations. But when I had left Washington behind and began to analyze my friend's opinions and the circumstances that had led to them, my spirits were lifted somewhat. At the center of government in Washington he sees a constant stream of people from all corners of the nation — coming with their hands out, asking for something. And under this heavy pressure he sees political officeholders weakening, sound governmental and economic principles being diluted.

He sees so much of this that he feels it expresses the character and the attitude of the whole population. With all due respect to my friend, I think there is still hope for America's future. . . Only a small percentage of our people are running to Washington with their hands outstretched; and they do not, I feel, represent the great body of our population. Yet certainly the old "something for nothing" spirit is strong — with which tin-horn politicians and demagogues have risen to power and crushed people throughout the ages — is a continuing and urgent danger.

There is one certain antidote to Socialism. No people who clearly understand what Socialism is and are familiar with its unbroken record of failures throughout history would adopt it with their eyes open — even when served up insidiously bit by bit. Thus the job for America is to give authenticity, prestige and widest distribution to the facts about Socialism, Communism — and our American way of life.

The need for the distribution of the educational facts ought to be proclaimed, repeatedly by leaders of our government in Washington and at the state capitals, by people active in the leadership of our two political parties, by business and employee organizations,

(Continued on Page 3B)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (January 8, 1931)

**School Money**

Money which Farmington Township owes to the eleven School Districts may be paid back within the next week, it was disclosed at a meeting of the Township Board Tuesday evening. An interview with a representative of the bonding company which issued bonds for the former Township Treasurer resulted in a verbal promise from company officials that they would loan the Township \$45,000 to pay the debt. The money has been owed for almost a year. Payment to the schools could not be made because expected tax money failed to come in. Steps were being taken by some of the School District to start suit against the Township to regain the money.

**Unlicensed Jitneys**

Two drivers of unlicensed "jitneys" on Grand River between Five Points and Farmington were arrested last week end in a drive by authorities to stop unauthorized competition with the street railway system and to protect the public from riding in unlicensed autos.

TEN YEARS AGO (January 10, 1946)

**Memorial Home**

Specific plans for the American Legion Memorial Home will be presented to Legion members at a meeting of the group next week, it was disclosed Tuesday. It is planned to begin purchasing material immediately and to keep it in readiness to start construction as soon as weather conditions permit. Due to the increasing number of members, it is reported as imperative that work on another and larger meeting place be started at once.

**Falcons Win Again**

A late rally in the last four minutes of play last Friday gave the Farmington Falcons their sixth straight win in the basketball season and extend their winning streak one more notch. Milford was the team falling before the Falcon attack.

FIVE YEARS AGO (January 11, 1951)

**School Building**

A report was given to the Farmington School Board Monday night on the estimated costs of constructing the elementary school rooms and high school unit which the Board has indicated will be a necessary part of the expansion program. The proposal calls for the addition of 18 classrooms and facilities. Elementary classrooms would be added at Bond, Middlebelt and Farmington Elementary Schools at a minimum cost of \$450,000. The proposed expansion of high school facilities would cost an estimated \$800,000.

The Clarenceville Board of Education approved a motion Monday evening calling for a special election on the proposition to levy a five-mill tax for five years to cover the increased cost of school operation. The increased levy, if approved by the voters, would furnish funds for additional teachers, bus transportation, and similar operating needs.

The Enterprise is the Only Newspaper Devoted Exclusively to News and Events of Interest to the Residents of the Farmington Area.

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EVENING SERVICE - 7:30 p.m.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:45 a.m.  
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