

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## It's Our Opinion:

### EDITORIALS:

#### We've All Heard . . .

about a white Christmas, a bright Christmas as well as Christmas in Kilarney . . . but what about Christmas in Farmington? Will it be colorful and bursting with spirit?

Maybe it seems a bit early to talk about Christmas and yet many communities are already engaged in the task of preparing for the holiday season. While there is much more to Christmas than evergreen boughs, colored lights and merry music, they are a part of the holiday pageant, a part of the spirit which has become an American tradition. The citizens of Farmington, like the citizens of other communities, enjoy and take pride in dressing up for Christmas. They go out of their way to add color and originality to their home decorations, but what about our main streets?

During the past several years, Farmington's street decoration program has been somewhat short of what it should be. This, in our opinion, is an excellent starting point for an aggressive and cooperative Chamber of Commerce movement. The administrative staff of the City is now compiling information on holiday decoration materials, however, cooperation and assistance on the part of the merchants is going to be necessary if the program is to progress from the planning stage to reality. Such a program, jointly shared by all the businessmen, would not only be feasible but would add greatly to the attractiveness of the community during the holiday season.

This coupled with regularly scheduled music programs at the Town Hall Park, featuring the various Farmington church choirs, and possibly a religious pageant on the real meaning of Christmas, would do much to round out the celebration of our most important holiday. The possibilities are unlimited, and they all add up to greater pleasure and enjoyment for Farmington citizens.

We pledge our full cooperation and urge all other members of the community to do the same in making Christmas in Farmington a holiday to remember in this year 1956.

#### Looking Back On The Past . . .

may be interesting, yes, even profitable, but it is rarely progressive. A lot of post scripts are still being written about last Tuesday's election, but as of right now, they are merely commentaries on history. The voting is over, the people have spoken and the decision has been reached.

Regardless of our individual feelings, the horizon is ahead, not behind. This is the American way of doing things. Politics has had its whirl in the spot light and its series of curtain calls. Now it is time for the next act. We sincerely hope that the show will be allowed to go on without interruption from the wings.

There are a great many important presentations to be made and the audience deserves the opportunity to hear them without interference. This does not mean that we should abandon our two party system or compromise on our principles. But it does mean that we should place the welfare of our country above political expediency. It also means that we should respect the will of the majority and abide by their decision.

It is an interesting challenge to dream of what could be accomplished if all our energy was harnessed to the same machine. We got a glimpse of this miracle during World War II. We saw all elements of the government and the people working together toward a common objective. The successful results are now a part of our great history. If we did it in war . . . we can do it in peace.

The people have elected, not Republicans and Democrats, but men and women of ability and leadership. They are looking to them as statesmen, not politicians, to guide us through the web of complicated problems that lie ahead.

#### The Special Session . . .

of the State Legislature, which adjourned last Friday, performed a valuable service to the people of Michigan by rejecting a proposed plan to increase its salary as well as grant pay boosts to various state officials.

In our opinion, the principal task before the Legislature is not how to increase salaries, but rather how to decrease expenses and establish greater efficiency. Living within one's means may sound a little old fashioned in this modern age, but it's still just plain good horse sense, no matter how you look at it!

### What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

**PLYMOUTH**—The Ways and Means Committee of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors is now taking another look at the city's annexation petition that was temporarily shelved in September.

The petition involves the annexation of about 270 acres of Plymouth Township land east of the city including the valuable Burroughs Corporation property. At a meeting of the committee on September 15, it was found that the legal description of the land to be annexed failed to finish at the point it started from.

Since the last meeting it was learned that the township's petition to incorporate as the city of Plymouth Heights was also invalid. Although the township's petition will not be considered until action is taken on the city's, a new and correct petition has already been filed by the township.—The Plymouth Mail

**SOUTHFIELD** Twenty-nine candidates for City of Southfield offices were entered prior to deadline last Monday but one ward in the township failed to produce a representative.

Clerk Fannie Adams and treasurer Clara Lane are unopposed to succeed themselves in the December 3 non-partisan election which will decide whether a proposed charter is to be adopted and the township officially formed into the City of Southfield.

Residents recently approved incorporation as a city rejected the proposed charter set up for that city type of government. The charter has been revised considerably in hopes that it will meet with the approval of voters in a second try.

—The Four Corners Press

**NOVI**—County drain officials disclosed this week that they have installed an additional culvert under the Brighton-Farmington expressway near Taft Road to correct flooding in the area that resulted after work was started on the expressway. The new culvert should correct the inadequate drainage situation causing the area to flood several times this year, it was felt. If it does not, other measures will be taken, it was indicated.—The Novi News

**BUCHANAN**—A citizens' lay committee was formed recently to study the possibility of the formation of a larger Buchanan Township District by taking in neighboring districts which are a part of Buchanan's natural trading area. These near-by communities had previously indicated a desire to become a part of the Buchanan system.

Because of rapidly increasing pupil population and the need for additional grade school rooms, it was felt that by enlarging the district, a better plan for building adequate facilities for all the pupils of the area may be made. The committee of 15 is now studying all phases of this proposed enlargement of the District.

—Berrien County Record

**LATHRUP**—Charges leveled against City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski in private session with the city council two weeks ago will be brought into the open the first part of December, along with answers by Watchowski.

Major John G. Campbell was geared for a final showdown Monday night with Watchowski, but the city administrator requested more time to prepare his reply to Campbell's charges, which have not been made public.

Since Campbell will not be present at the next meeting of the council, it was asked that the matter be taken up at the December 3 meeting.

"I don't admit any guilt, any dishonesty," said Watchowski, who added that adverse publicity over the past several weeks has damaged his reputation. Campbell and Councilman Kathryn Felereisen have, since August 6, been seeking Watchowski's dismissal, but have been turned back by the other three council members at each attempt.

—The Birmingham Eclectic

**ANSWER Your Christmas Seal Letter—**

**—TODAY**



**Fight TB**

### The Red Sea



**BIGGER PROFITS FROM LOWER PRICES** is the new trend in Michigan resorting. The "trick" is a longer tourist season which enables resort owners to spread their cost of operation a good deal thinner.

Common complaint in the past is "We only work a five-month year." This refers to the period from May to September when vacationers abound. But it leaves many towns and areas with virtually no livelihood for the balance of the year.

A positive approach is now evident. In several areas of the state things are taking place which will improve the "off season" bugaboo. These, naturally enough, are encouraged, stimulated and tabulated with a good deal of satisfaction by the Michigan Tourist Council.

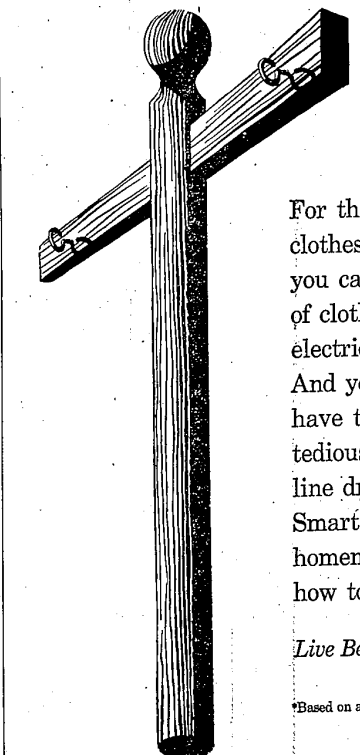
Skating and other winter sports offer Michigan resort owners an opportunity to build business during seasons when things used to be dead. Interest in skating is picking up rapidly. In 1954-55, it is estimated that 65,000 people journeyed north to ski. In 1955-56 the number increased to 80,000.

This winter more than 800,000 snow enthusiasts are expected to visit Michigan's "winter wonderland," and to spend up to \$10 million dollars.

Outstanding in its efforts to develop skiing as a local industry is Cadillac community. There a band of local people organized one of the state's most popular ski attractions. It is called Caberfae and it brings a growing number of skiers into the Cadillac area each winter.

Caberfae enjoys fantastic success. If favored with suitable weather, this year will see more

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**BIG AND LITTLE BUSINESS**

A strategy of the Communists, wherever their Fifth Column is at work, is to create dissension and disunity among different groups.

If they can get people angry at someone or something, they have a more favorable climate for their subtle disruptive propaganda. Disunity blocks progress and saps a nation's strength. We know that in America they have agitated employees against employers, race against race, and various other groups against each other. In the Middle East, the Communists agitated the Arabs against the Israelis, although just a few years ago they were on the other side, helping the Israelis to push the Arabs out of Palestine.

Recently we have seen efforts in America to agitate dissension between small business and big business. Regardless of who carries on this agitation, it is a form of class warfare characteristic of that originated and constantly whipped up by the Communists.

Where big business in any field constitute a monopoly or seeks to kill off competition the established laws of our government break it up. To anyone who takes the time to dig up the facts, the beneficial interrelationship of small and big business in America is indisputable.

**Teamwork For Progress**

While in Wilmington, Delaware, last month, I visited the headquarters of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, one of the nation's biggest enterprises. They had compiled some data on their own relationship with small companies. Du Pont buys materials from 30,000 companies; and nine-tenths, or 27,000 of these are small companies by any yardstick of measurement.

Du Pont has 75,000 customers; of these 67,000 are small companies who depend upon du Pont for materials or products which give them their livelihood. This is a pattern of interdependence which characterizes the American business system. It is stimulating to the creation and operation of little businesses as well as to the growth of those businesses whose nature dictates expansion.

**New Ones Established**

Since the end of World War II, more than 1,200,000 new little companies have been established all with fewer than 100 employees. The total work force in American small business, in the same period, has increased 45 per cent. Today nearly 17 million people work in companies with fewer than 100 employees. Actually 98 per cent of all business—manufacturing, trade and service establishments—have less than 50 employees.

Very rarely do these little companies have sufficient capital, technical personnel and other resources or the desire to conduct major

(Continued on Page 6C)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO (November 19, 1931)

**Sidewalk Report**  
Members of the Sidewalk committee of the City Commission have completed a report on the amount of sidewalk laying done along Grand River this fall. The report is being forwarded to the State Highway Department, which will bear a large portion of the cost of the work. The total cost for the amount of sidewalk laid was \$2,400, of which approximately \$1,400 will be returned to the City by the State. A major portion of the sidewalk laid was on the south side of Grand River, but there still remains 325 running feet of walk to be laid on that side of the road.

**Saving Trees**  
Indications are now that there is little hope for saving the 16 large trees on Grand River Avenue between Farmington and Oakland Roads when widening of Grand River in the city is begun. Forestry engineers determined that it would cost as much as \$1,000 apiece to move the trees and that it was not likely that all the trees would live after being transplanted, anyway.

TEN YEARS AGO (November 21, 1946)

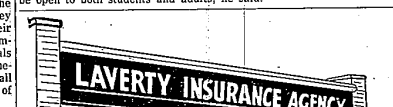
**Subdivision Plats**  
At the Township Board meeting Tuesday evening, plats were approved for four new subdivisions. Approved were plats for Woodland Subdivision Acres in Section 34, and Springbrook, Springbrook No. One and Woodbine Subdivisions, all located north and to the east on Ten Mile Road. Also granted was a permit to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Van Laanen to hold dances and serve soft drinks at Van's Barn at 31160 Eight Mile Road. Meanwhile, a recommendation for the licensing of dance saloons within the confines of Farmington Township is being investigated and will be brought before the Board at a future meeting.

FIVE YEARS AGO (November 22, 1951)

**Sidewalk Ordinances**  
Two separate sidewalk ordinances were introduced at the City Council meeting Monday night. The first ordinance would require tenants or occupants of property in the city to keep sidewalks on their property clean and clear of snow and ice at all times. The second would require that property owners within the city construct, rebuild, repair and maintain all walks adjacent to and abutting upon their property. This would be under the supervision of the city and with the stipulation that the city could order that sidewalks be built in front of property on a street at any time.

**Blood Typing**  
A blood typing program for the Farmington area will be started sometime in December through the cooperation of the School District. Dr. E. Dunkel, superintendent, announced this week. The program will be open to both students and adults, he said.

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