

The Farmington Enterprise

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It's Our Opinion:

EDITORIALS:

It's A Mystery . . .

to us why community planning so often resolves itself down to a first class dog fight. Maybe it's because every other guy has his own theory about what's going to happen in the next 20 years. But more likely, it is because most of us don't understand what community planning really is.

At the last meeting of the Township Board, nearly every statement stated in clear, concise terms that they were definitely in favor of future planning. These individuals strongly indicated that, although they disagreed with the present proposals recommended by the Planning Committee, they were definitely in favor of community planning. As a result of these remarks a starting point has been established.

Unfortunately for the Township as a whole this starting point could have and should have been established some time ago. The planning committee was organized after a great deal of discussion and indecision. It was then allowed to proceed with the development of various phases of the master plan without too much enthusiasm or coordination from the outside.

As a result the current proposals have been declared unsatisfactory and months of time and effort have been lost. After personally reviewing these proposals, we too believe that they must of necessity be revised. In our opinion, many of the present objections could have been ironed out through a series of public conferences and joint sessions with the Township Board. This would have saved a great deal of time as well as confusion and conflict.

However, we are interested in the past only to the point where it will be of benefit to the future. Our remarks thus far have undoubtedly boosted the blood pressure on both sides of the fence. We could go on forever debating the whys and wherefores of the situation and get absolutely no place. This is not a debate, it's a future way of life for the entire community.

It is a recognized fact that planning is a necessity. It is a recognized fact that you can't have good planning without understanding and cooperation. It is a recognized fact that the more ideas that are tossed in a hopper, the better the product will be in the end. Building a community is like building a house. You must have a plan, good materials and a lot of skilled craftsmen. There's nothing mysterious about this . . . it's a recognized fact.

A Gigantic Movement . . .

is taking place throughout the United States, directed at reviving the real meaning of Christmas.

This is no fly-by-night program but rather a tremendous crusade born out of a genuine spirit of faith and guidance. Down through the years there has been an ever increasing emphasis on the festive part day season. The giving of gifts, the spirit of Santa Claus. In our opinion, there is nothing wrong with this . . . it is an important aspect of the holiday season. The giving of gifts, the spirit of Santa Claus and the decorating of our streets, stores and homes, is a very real part of Christmas. It brings pleasure and happiness to everyone and is essential to our economy.

Yes, we must not ignore "Christ in our Christmas". Many communities, including Farmington, are this year joining in the crusade to revive the true meaning of the holiday season. Such a crusade has tremendous rewards. The inspiration of the nativity scene, the beauty of a Christmas carol and the warmth of the Christmas story is not just a fragment of the imagination. It lives in the hearts of men everywhere.

Each of us, in our own way, have an obligation to bring the glory of the real Christmas to the streets, the stores, and the homes of our community. Let's all join the crusade . . . let's "Put Christ Back in Christmas"!

Man's Desire . . .

for freedom never dies. This often repeated saying is more than a slogan. It has been written in blood on page after page of the world's history books.

The latest entry is being written by the citizens of Hungary. Their example of courage, against unbelievable brutality, is a shining light in the darkness of tyranny. As hard as the Russian dictators try, they can't stomp out the beam that lights man's desire to be free.

What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

NOVI — Petitions to block the rezoning of a proposed race track site in Novi Township will be circulated throughout the township if and when rezoning of the site where the proposed track is to be built is approved by the township board, it was reported this week.

The petition, if circulated and completed, will force a public election on the rezoning question.

Though drawn up by the Novi Township Democratic Club, the petitions were termed "not a political issue" by the club president, Herbert Koester. "The race track question is of interest to the entire township and we have no intention of playing politics with it," Koester said. "We have prepared the petition simply because we, as private citizens, want to make sure we have a chance to be heard on this matter before it is too late."

—The Novi News

BIRMINGHAM — If Oakland County's courthouse and related activities ever are moved out of Pontiac, there's very little chance of them being established in Birmingham, City Manager Harold Schone declared this week. Nor does he feel that Royal Oak or Bloomfield Hills will ever be made the county's seat of government. Schone did indicate, however, that he felt Southfield would have the best chance of any municipality outside of Pontiac if it votes to incorporate.

Schone, chairman of the county board of supervisors, said that the committee, which Pontiac will retain county government facilities.

"Yes, I have heard it rumored that the board might move elsewhere if a current court suit declares the new county center on Telegraph Road cannot be used," Schone admitted. But he said he sees the court's decision upholding the supervisors.

The case was filed last week by the Oakland County Taxpayers League which contends present downtown Pontiac facilities should be used for new county buildings. The league also questions the board of supervisors' action in the past several years in accumulating more than \$1 million of surplus funds toward the proposed new courthouse on Telegraph Road.

—The Birmingham Eclectic.

"ROMEO" — Romeo's Board of Education met again the latter part of last week to renew the weary task of formulating plans to build a new Romeo community high school. At least a year has been lost, school officials have indicated, because of the apparent inability of the previously employed architectural firm to design a structure which would fit within the \$600,000 voted by taxpayers for the school.

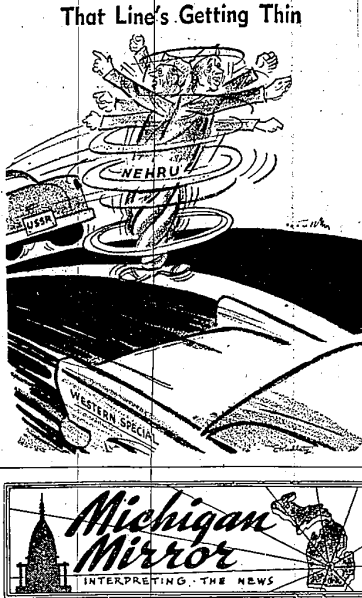
—The Romeo Observer Press.

SOUTHFIELD — A tidal wave during the last registration period prior to the December 3 vote on a proposed new Charter to give the township home rule city status occurred last week. The last minute rush of people who wanted to get their names on the books boosted Southfield's total registration to 14,498. Ward 1, the largest of the six wards proposed, had the highest registration with 6,620 voters being recorded. Ward 1 is located in the northeast corner of the township. Wards 4 and 5 ranked in order with the total number of registered voters being 2,448 and 2,339 respectively, qualified to go to the polls. Ward 4 is located in the southeast corner of the township and Ward 5 in the south-central portion.

—The Four Corners Press.



Oakland County has all or part of nine park and recreation areas with a total of over 42 square miles administered by the Michigan Department of Conservation, reports the Oakland County Planning Commission.



TOO MANY PEOPLE IN TOO LITTLE SPACE. That's the problem the Michigan Department of Conservation must face as it tries to provide adequate park facilities for residents and tourists in the years ahead.

Michigan's 59 state parks are already bulging at the seams. In 1955 some 1.8 million persons jammed the state's playgrounds. According to Gerald Edye, director of the Department of Conservation, this figure is expected to swell to more than 38 million persons in the next 10 years.

Crowded conditions multiply the problems. Already, parking spaces are often unavailable. Sanitary facilities are inadequate. Picnic tables are difficult to locate. On week-ends the problem becomes acute.

Equipment in parks needs constant replacement. Age, heavy use and weather conditions all take their toll.

To do a good job, additional funds are necessary for proper maintenance and an expansion of facilities. According to a report by the Automobile Club of Michigan, the state is falling behind the nation not only in expanding facilities, but in keeping the present park system properly maintained.

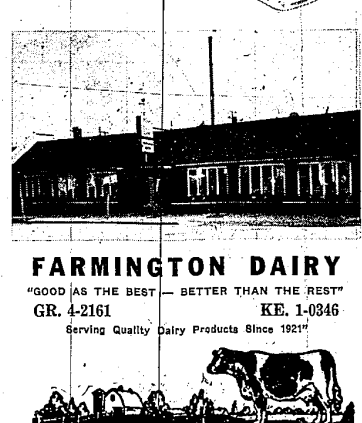
Excluding headquarters personnel, there is an average of only one employee for every 400 acres of park land, says AAA. It becomes an impossible task to keep washrooms clean, grounds free from litter, picnic tables and stoves in repair.

State Legislatures have been reluctant to increase appropriations. In 1951, the Conservation Department received approximately \$2 million to provide for both maintenance and expansion. In 1955, appropriations were slightly more than \$31 million. During the same period attendance shot up from 12 million to 17 million persons. In other words, Michigan spends

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LOOKING AHEAD

By Dr. George S. Kears

EDITORIAL - KANSAS CITY - MOBILE - SALT LAKE CITY

COMMUNIST TACTIC OF "INDEPENDENCE"

If the Soviet Communist bosses weren't sincere when they brought forth their "independent" Communist government in Poland, that line of strategy was they taking? This is a question that many people have asked me in recent weeks. If you had followed the antics of the Red leaders and studied the substance of Communism itself for the last 25 years, the answer would be obvious. The granting of "independence" to Poland's Communist government simply was a fraud designed to make the rest of the world, particularly the Socialist nations, think the Kremlin bosses have a new and sweeter countenance.

Unfortunately for the Reds, the Hungarian revolt against every aspect of Communism blew up in their face and proved again to any halfway-informed person that Communism is thoroughly evil and that its object of world conquest is never-changing. One of the world's leading scholars on Communism, Dr. Fred Schwarz of Sydney, Australia, sent me his analysis of the Kremlin's recent moves. His letter was mailed while he was on route to India.

World Divided

"Roughly speaking," said Dr. Schwarz, "the world is divided into three thirds: the Communist third, the Socialist third, and the Capitalist third. The Communist policy (decided in this instance in 1932) was to establish a united Communist-Socialist front, giving them two-thirds of the world's population of a comparatively easy task of liquidating the Capitalist third. The major barriers to this united front were not disagreements between Socialists and Communists on economic measures. The Socialists approved the Communists' expropriation of business, nationalization of agriculture and so forth. The major barriers were:

(1) The Communist record of murder, treachery, and contempt for all civilized values. (2) The established fact that partnership with communism invariably ended in enslavement under the Russian Communist Party as shown by the satellite countries. (3) The disciplining of the national Communist parties by the Russian Communist Party, making them agents of a foreign power.

Removing Barriers: "Practical and dramatic steps had to be taken to remove these barriers. Stalin died. The murder, treachery and lust of Communism was heaped on his dead body. Some of the prison doors were opened and his victims released. A pilgrimage to Belgrade, with Bulgars and Khrushchev hunting themselves before Tito and extolling his virtues constituted an invitation to all satellite countries to follow his example of

(Continued on Page 3C)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (December 10, 1931)
Free Milk

Through the generosity and cooperation of several Farmington citizens, means have been provided whereby all pupils below the fifth grade at the Farmington school are being furnished a bottle of milk daily. Howard Warner is furnishing the milk and Joseph Himmelpach of the Farmington Dairy is supervising the pasteurizing, bottling and delivery. This service is being given free with 183 bottles of milk being supplied daily. Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner has provided medical charts to keep a record of the physical condition of undernourished children and nurses weigh those under observation daily. Children are provided milk at 10 a.m. in the morning and at noon. Some are given milk in the afternoon also.

Tree Planting
Five hundred trees will be planted along Grand River between the East Mile Road and Farmington Junction, including the Cut-Off, by the State Highway Department, according to M. G. O'Neil, resident forester of the highway department. All the work will be under the direction of the Highway Department, O'Neil said; but labor will be performed by men on the County Poor Commission list.

TEN YEARS AGO (December 12, 1945)

Library Aid Asked

Inasmuch as State Aid to libraries has been eliminated, the City and Township Library Board has made an appeal to the Farmington City Commission and other local government agencies for additional help in maintaining the local library. A yearly operation budget of \$2,000 was submitted by the Library Board. The city commission, following discussion, decided that a meeting should be held by the Library Board and representatives from the Township and City to work out the best arrangement for maintaining the operation of the library. This, it was indicated, would be done in the very near future.

Seek School Vote

A petition from the Clarencetown PTA was filed with the Board of Education for a special election to vote on a proposed 10 mill tax levy for five years for the purpose of building auditorium-gymnasium building plus other necessary school facilities. The Board voted to accept the petition and take action on the proposed election. No definite date for the election was set but it was indicated that it would be set up for as soon as possible.

FIVE YEARS AGO (December 13, 1951)

Road Rebuilding

Tentative agreement was given by the Township Board to a suggestion that a definite long-range program be set up for the rebuilding of all Township roads. The suggestion was made by Ward Eagle. Money should be expended to bring all roads up to County specifications rather than on a continual repair program which never seems to end, he said. Once the roads are brought up to county specifications, he pointed out, they are taken over by the county for maintenance. It was agreed by the Board that only emergency repairs should be made now, pending development of the long-range plan proposed.

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