

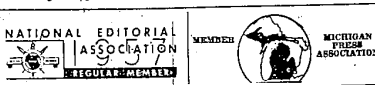
The Farmington Enterprise

A. C. Tagg Publishers J. M. Tagg

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It's Our Opinion:

EDITORIALS:

The Suggestions . . .

included in the A.A.U.W. Study Group Report pertaining to the salaries of Township Officials and the conduct of Board Meetings, as published in last week's Enterprise, are very interesting and constructive.

Based on a survey of near-by communities, the salaries of the full-time officials of Farmington Township are low by comparison. While salaries can not be considered as a sole factor in attracting qualified personnel, it is definitely a contributing feature. Certainly the continued growth of the Township and the increased volume of business that is being handled at the Town Hall warrants greater responsibility and thus greater compensation. This should be a matter of discussion and consideration at the Annual Township Meeting scheduled for March 30 at 1 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Of even greater importance, however, are the Study Group's recommendations on the conduct of Township Board meetings. This is a delicate situation which requires definite and well understood ground rules. Special care must be taken to protect the rights of the individual citizen while at the same time maintaining order and efficiency. The Enterprise strongly endorses the Study Group's recommendations regarding an automatic adjournment. This has been followed with great success in many communities, including the City of Farmington. It is physically impossible to make sound and wise decisions after four hours of continuous and lengthy debate on a variety of subjects.

We also endorse the suggestion that the rules of parliamentary procedure be more strictly adhered to at Board meetings. This, coupled with a time limit on debate, would greatly reduce confusion, simplify comments from citizens and promote more prompt action. Improved dictation by the part of the Board members, elimination of the practice of having citizens come to the Board table for discussion and the existence of a display board for the mounting of plats and other visual material, would also eliminate confusion and would give everyone present an opportunity to observe the proceedings.

It Isn't Too Often . . .

that an editorial writer is at a loss for words, but that is where we stand at the moment as far as the coming General Election is concerned.

Frankly, we have expended every new word and every new approach we can think of in an effort to impress upon you "the importance of voting." As we have said so many times before, it hardly seems necessary to encourage Americans to vote. Yet, year in and year out, more citizens choose to stay at home than go to the polls on election day.

You are asking us "why?" We wish we knew! Few people on this earth enjoy the vast rights and privileges that we do, and yet few take them more lightly. We seem to be living in a rosy vacuum with the false impression that nothing can happen to endanger our democratic rights. We seem to think that the wheels of progress will continue forever whether we take any responsibility or not. Unfortunately, there are people in this world who once had the same idea. They know differently now . . . but it is too late!

In exactly 12 days, the citizens of Farmington Township and City will have an opportunity to display their sense of individual responsibility. How will we as a community stack up? No one will know the answer until 8 p.m. on April 1, but the decision is being formulated now in thousands of homes. We can argue, urge, plead and even warn but the final answer is up to you. For your sake and the sake of your community and your country, vote on April 1!

From All Indications . . .

Michigan is making some headway in the battle against traffic deaths. According to the latest tabulation, 1956 witnessed an encouraging drop in highway fatalities. This trend seems to be continuing during the first part of 1957.

However, before we become complacent about the results of the past, let's remember that "death" knows no holiday. A few moments of carelessness can quickly erase all of the progress that has been thus far. This is a continuing battle that must go on year in and year out as long as there are cars.

This is where you come in. All of the statistical reports, all of the safety campaigns, all of the words of warning will be merely words on a sheet of paper unless you, the individual behind the wheel, puts them to use. Your life may depend upon it!

What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

PLYMOUTH—A surge of complaints and inquiries concerning salesmen and solicitors have reached the Chamber of Commerce during the past two weeks and a warning is being issued by Chamber Manager J. H. Wilcox.

He stated that residents should request that the salesmen display a letter from the local Chamber of Commerce certifying that he has registered his company with the Chamber. The Chamber does not guarantee the products or services offered which are registered, he said, but feel that unethical concerns will be less willing to record their propositions than will established organizations.

Householders and businessmen can further protect themselves by requesting that solicitation proposals and "advertising" propositions be sent them in writing through the U.S. mails. Most confidence men and gyp artists, Wilcox concluded, know better than to take chances with the Federal government and the charge of using the mails to defraud.

—The Plymouth Mail

SOUTHFIELD—Charges that township officials have illegally spent \$46,000 over the past two years were aired by Township Justice Edward A. Elserelli, in a letter to the Board this week.

Elserelli charges that three applicants each received \$5,500 yearly, are illegally employed; that gas allowances made in lump sum payments to township officials are not legal; that township employees are supposed to be paid by voucher after the expense is incurred; and that township officials were given raises after they were laid off, contrary to State law.

According to Township Supervisor Eugene Swen, the law says that assessors only but says nothing about appraisers responsible to them. He also stated that if there was any infraction of the law in placing traveling expenses on lump sums then the township as a whole made it since residents approved this at the annual meeting. On both of these statements, Elserelli cited 1955 attorney general's opinions that these actions were not legal.

Swen stated that township officials' salaries were set before election but were not approved until after the election because the first day of the annual meeting was held on the state and immediately postponed to a later time.

Township Board members have asked Elserelli by resolution to file objections at the next regular Board meeting on March 26. Township Attorney Harry Dell will also be asked to be present, it was reported.

The Birmingham Eccentric

BUCHANAN—The first two city budgets for the 1957-58 fiscal year were presented to the Commission Monday night and were unanimously approved.

The Park and Recreation Board had its request for \$9,315—an increase of \$1,375 over 1956-57—approved and the Commission also gave the nod to the \$4,510 request of the Youth Council—a \$903 increase over this year.

The city and school board share the costs of the two programs evenly so each will pay \$6,912 next year compared to a cost of \$6,972-50 each this year.

Only major increase in the park and recreation budget was for outside labor, which costs more because of the use of parks increase, according to City Manager Kennah. A \$500 item this year, \$1,000 has been set aside for this purpose for the coming fiscal year. One major increase was asked in the Youth Council budget items.

—Birmingham Record

NOVI—The Novi School Board's request for expansion of its district will come up for hearing next Tuesday and is expected to draw strong opposition from Walled Lake school officials and parents.

At stake for both districts is the power to tax the giant new Lincoln plant. It now lies in the Walled Lake district but would come over to Novi if the request is granted. The hearing will also be designed to look into Novi's request to expand into the present districts of Northville, South Lyon and Farmington. Novi school officials contend that since they will be bearing heaviest burden in providing educational facilities for children of Lincoln plant families, they should have the right to tax the plant.

Walled Lake superintendent Clifford Smart said that many of the parents of some 96 school children in the disputed section have indicated that they want their children to stay in the Walled Lake system.

—The Novi News

BREAD CRUMBS

According to Consumer Marketing Information, leftover bread cut into tiny squares, or crumbed, dried and mixed with herbs and stored, will save you time when stuffing the next turkey. Again, the crumbs from not too dry, thinly-sliced bread and make a fine toast in the waffle iron. Or, completely dry and store leftover bread for use with soups and salads, using it as melba toast.

David! It's a Friendly Giant



ANTI-WITHDRAWAL ISRAELIS



THE TERMS "QUALIFIED ENGINEER" and "Registered Engineer" may be baited around in front of Michigan's Supreme Court, if John C. Mackie, Democratic candidate for state highway commissioner, receives the voters' approval for that office.

Currently, the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE) is doing a slow burn because Mackie is not registered as an engineer. MSPE contends that according to Michigan law, this makes him ineligible for the highway post.

An MSPE attempt to force Democrats to select a new candidate for highway commissioner failed when the state Supreme Court ruled on the issue before the election. It was supported by a ruling of the Attorney General in 1945 that county road commissioners must be registered engineers.

If Mackie were elected and then disqualified, the appointment of a successor would be up to Governor Winans.

MICHIGAN'S NEW ten-year driving law is off to a flying start according to reports from schools around the state.

Since February 1, no person under 18 can qualify for a license without an approved course in driver's education.

Few complaints have been received from either parents or students that the new law is creating any hardships, says Norman E. Bjorkman, deputy superintendent of the State Department of Public Instruction.

All schools have successfully instituted the program. Prior to the adoption of the law in February some of the larger schools were afraid they could not provide adequate facilities. However, these fears did not materialize, Bjorkman states.

About 68,000 students will receive the required course by the end of 1957. Many experts believe (Continued on Page 4B)

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CLOSED SUNDAYS

LOOKING AHEAD

by Dr. George L. Bonnet
DIRECTOR - NATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
George L. Bonnet

COMMUNIST DANGER INCREASING!

Not many people in the United States ever have come face to face with a person who proclaims: "I'm a Communist. I'm an enemy of the United States. I am working to undermine this nation's strength and overthrow it, and establish a Communist dictatorship backed by the Red Army." No, the Communists in America don't openly declare their true mission. And they are not like the classic picture of the radical, with beard, shaggy hair, tattered clothes and a bomb held poised in the right hand.

Most of the top people in Washington were shocked when Alger Hiss, a young "liberal" with artistic bearing and excellent social connections was exposed as a Communist. And yet the truly important Communists in America today have built up just such a false character of respectability around themselves. It is difficult to identify them as Communists. They have wormed themselves into positions of trust in every phase of our American society. They would control America, and yet no American citizens simply will not accept this fact.

"20 Communist Divisions" "Anyone who thinks that Communism in the United States no longer constitutes a serious menace should consider that at this moment on American soil are the equivalent of 20 combat divisions of enemy troops engaging in propaganda, espionage, subversion, and loyal only to the Soviet Union."

This statement is an excerpt from the annual report of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, one of our Government's best informed agencies combating Communist subversion.

"The danger of Communism is increasing, not receding," emphasized the Committee, composed of five Democrats and four Republicans in Congress. "The United States remains the major target of Soviet aggression; indifference to the Communist threat is a grave national peril. The Red master plan of global conquest can lead only to the inevitable destruction of our free institutions, and ourselves as a free nation." This new report of the Committee's 1956 work, its findings, and its recommendations for strengthening the nation's security can be obtained by writing your Congressman.

Using Good Citizens

The strategy of the "20 combat divisions of enemy troops" is the indirect attack. The Red master plans found long ago they could not entice enough Americans with their undiluted Socialist economics (Continued on Page 3B)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (March 17, 1932)
Approve Plats

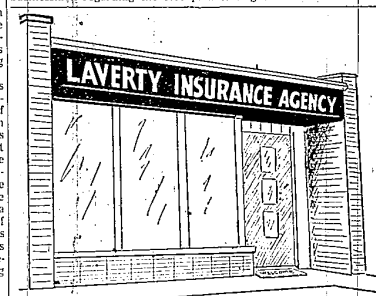
Engineers' plats covering several hundred lots in a number of subdivisions have been received and accepted by the Farmington Township Board. Making up of the plats will avoid for the Township loss of delay in receiving thousands of dollars in taxes. Without the plats it would not be possible to place the lots on the State tax sale lists because the descriptions did not meet the State requirements. The plats provide a complete description of every piece of property and owners cannot hereafter avoid paying the taxes through faulty descriptions. Many of the lots were along Northwestern Highway which, cutting diagonally across the Township, left irregular pieces of property requiring new descriptions. The plats have been completed in time for use in connection with this year's assessments and will save the Township large sums in re-assessed taxes.

TEN YEARS AGO (March 20, 1947)
Protests Made

An application by Tom Simpson to transfer his Class C liquor license from his present location on Grand River Avenue just west of the City of Farmington to a building at the corner of 13 Mile and Greening Avenue met with sharp protests at the Township Board meeting Tuesday night. Howard L. Bond, attorney, representing a portion of the residents who oppose the transfer, stated their objections and offered petitions bearing 150 signatures of residents living within a 1 1/2 mile radius of the new site who are opposed to the transfer. Resolutions were received from both the Franklin Hills Civic Association and the Woodcreek Farms Civic Association asking the Board to disapprove the transfer. Paul A. Pore, attorney for the Simpsons, gave his reasons why he felt the transfer of license should be granted. Action of the matter was withheld by the Township Board until a further study can be made.

FIVE YEARS AGO (March 20, 1952)
Parking Restrictions

Closing hours in effect on parking meters in the business section of the City of Farmington have been moved back from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, according to a resolution approved by the City Council Monday night. The resolution also provided for the removal of the meters in front of the Civic Theater and the establishment of a no parking zone in front of the entrance at any time. A resolution was also approved calling for no parking from 3:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. on Grand River from Grove Street to Oakland Avenue and on Farmington Road from Oakland Avenue to Orchard Street. The purpose of the no parking restriction is to allow city workmen an opportunity to clean the streets. The changes in the parking meter hours came following strong protests from several businessmen regarding the 9:00 p.m. closing time.



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