

# Editorial Page

## The Proposal . . .

outlined at the last regular meeting of the City Council regarding the possible construction of a new Post Office and the conversion of the present unit into a new Library Building, seems to be a logical solution to several growing problems.

Such a proposal would not only eliminate the extremely overcrowded conditions in the present inadequate library but would permit necessary expansion of Post Office facilities. The joint City-Township Library Board has been wrestling with this problem for several years in an effort to come up with a practical program for solving the library problem. In our opinion, this may well be the "break" they have been looking for. While it may not provide the ultimate answer, it is certainly a partial solution.

We must remember that there is a considerable distance between a proposal and the real thing. This means that a lot of work, patience and cooperation is going to take place, if this plan is to become a reality. It is still a question whether the details of the plan can be worked out. However, it is a constructive and concrete proposal which we as a community cannot afford to overlook. It is a starting point for positive action.

We sincerely hope that this will be a rallying point in pulling the Library Board and the City and Township together. We also hope that it will serve as a stimulus in bringing about urgently needed library facilities for the growing Farmington area.

## The Decision . . .

of the Township Zoning Board, in recommending increased lot sizes in Residential Three and Four Zones, is in our opinion a constructive move.

We say this with the full knowledge that there are differences of opinion on the legal aspects of the proposed amendment. Since they are differences of opinion at this point, we must deal with the question in terms of its potential benefit to the welfare of the community. It is on this point that we base our remarks.

There is no question but that the larger size lots in Residential Three and Four Zones will result either in higher land costs to the future property owner or fewer improvements in new subdivisions. It may also have some effect on the cost of proposed community and sewer systems. However, we feel that these problems will be more than offset by other benefits.

The basic purpose of the amendments, as we see them, would be to insure lot areas of sufficient size to be both economically practical and individually desirable. To carry the point a little further, the amendments would help ease the existing pressure for additional school facilities, for park and recreation areas and for other rapidly expanding community services. It would permit more adequate water and sanitary facilities, particularly in areas where government-sponsored improvements are not being planned for the immediate future.

In our opinion, these are important considerations involving the health, safety and welfare of the entire community. We are interested in the growth and development of the Township. It is essential to the community's survival. And we are also interested in a progressive and orderly procedure in accomplishing it. This, too, is essential to the community's survival.

## A Happy Problem . . .

has developed in Grand Rapids, a problem that most of us have been hoping and praying for, to these many years.

According to reports, the problem involves a hospital and what to do with its almost-empty polio ward. Plans were made earlier in the year to prepare for an influx of polio cases starting in July. Fortunately, no influx has developed. As a result, the administration of the hospital is hastily revising plans to make the now extra facilities available for treatment of other types of cases.

It's a new hospital problem . . . but, needless to say, it's a happy one!

## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

**SOUTHFIELD**—The Twelve Town Drain was again a major item at the Tuesday meeting of the Southfield township board and much time given to discussion finally resulted in a decision to have none of the project, calculated to cost the township four million dollars-plus.

Officially the board tabled indefinitely the proposal to go along with the plan. This not expected to hold up construction of the multi-million dollar storm and sanitary sewer since the drain board authorities appear ready to go ahead without the Southfield. It was stated Tuesday that the proposed Westwood Village area wanted to be excluded also.

Southfield Township Supervisor Eugene Swen was instructed by his board to discuss with the county board of supervisors the possibility of having the newly created county department of public works handle financing and construction, Southfield's cost to be met through a "use" assessment paid by those directly benefiting.

**THE FOUR CORNERS PRESS**  
**NOVI**—Wixom's president and village council—the newest governing body in the state—assumed office Monday night with pleas for unity within the infant village and for cooperation with neighboring communities.

With the formalities now out of the way, the group will get down to business at its first regular meeting next Monday. President Joseph Stagnik and six council members were sworn into office by Kenneth Rocker, charter commission chairman, before an assembly of nearly 100 Wixomites and their neighbors.

Three Novi officials—clerk Hadley Bachtel, treasurer Ray Harrison and trustee Stan Bala—were introduced to the gathering and joined in wishing the Wixom leaders a productive first term. Though no formal business was conducted, the meeting set the stage for a harmonious and productive beginning of Wixom's life as a village.

**WAYNE**—The month of August holds a special treat for Wayne area shoppers when local merchants slash prices as low as possible. The Retail Committee of the Wayne Chamber of Commerce announced the special "Bargain Days" will take place August 1, 2 and 3.

Customers will find shopping in Wayne during the three sale days an extra special treat, with many stores making merchandise one dollar sale price and some even lower.

This very special promotion is being staged at this time as a reward to the residents of local merchants and as an effort at attracting new customers to the Wayne Shopping Center.

**HOLLY**—Holly's Bush Lake beach will be fenced and plans are underway to restrict attendance to Holly Township residents and their guests by this week-end, according to plans of the township beach commission.

According to Morris Fein and Ray Dubbert, members of the beach commission, current plans are to issue membership cards to local residents. The cards would allow residents to bring their guests to the beach, where a man would be posted to enforce the membership arrangement.

Both Fein and Dubbert expressed "regret" that the action was necessary, but noted that increased crowded conditions at the beach made elimination of outsiders a necessity. The beach is supported by township tax assessment.

**BIRMINGHAM**—Birmingham city commissioners at their August 5 regular meeting probably will announce who Birmingham's new city manager is—either Department of Public Works Director L. Richard Gore or Assistant City Manager Robert S. Kenning.

Caught on vacation by City Manager Harold K. Schone's suddenly submitted resignation last Wednesday afternoon, three city commissioners expect to be back for the meeting 11 days from now to aid in determining the new manager. Mayor William E. Robert and Commissioner William Hutchinson are due in this week-end, but Harry M. Denyes cannot return until August 5.

Schone's last day as Birmingham manager will be tomorrow. He asked for release as soon as possible in order to take over as engineer-manager of the newly created Oakland county department of public works. At Monday's meeting, commissioners named Gore acting city manager until Schone's replacement is decided.



## MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

### State Mental Health Program Among Best, Republicans Claim

**MICHIGAN WILL SPEND \$63,362,007 for mental health programs during the 1937-38 fiscal year.**

The field always has been a battleground of controversy between Gov. Williams, who claims needs are not being met, and Republicans, who claim they are.

Republicans this year said the spending program for mental health will be \$3,375,114 more than last year and places Michigan in a leading position in the country in mental health care.

Democrats retorted that the mental health department would have to stop taking new patients at Northville State Mental hospital and make other cutbacks if more money were not provided.

In their report, Republicans said the hospital received more than it did last year; that Hawthorn Center, at the hospital, will cost \$800,000, an increase of \$200,000.

After conferences, the plan to stop taking new patients at Northville was dropped, without any more money forthcoming.

The legislature provided \$1,578,000 for the Lafayette Center in Detroit, training location for psychiatrists. This is an increase of \$278,000.

To further their program of "brains instead of bricks," legislators turned over \$225,000 to the neuro-psychiatric institute at Ann Arbor for research into the causes and treatment of mental disorders.

In addition, the mental health department received \$30,000 for research and was authorized to set up an \$85,000 training program with the help of Federal funds. Republicans said they had added 579 new employees to the mental health system in two years.

A start was made on construction of a new hospital for mentally retarded children at Plymouth with an appropriation of \$1,250,000. Total expansion will net more than 1,000 new beds.

**"The Republican legislative pro-**



**(EDITOR'S NOTE:—Glenn A. Green, Associate Director of the National Education Program, is studying political and economic systems in Europe and Scandinavia this summer. Dr. Benson is incorporating Mr. Green's dispatches in his regular column.)**

**STUDYING THE WELFARE STATES**  
**OSLO, NORWAY**—Dear Dr. Benson: My SK Airlines plane touched down on the Oslo airport runway just two hours ago (as this is written), and I am filing "this" first dispatch to give the readers of your column my conception of the nature of my mission to the 13 countries to be visited.

Welfare State ideas have great appeal to uninformed and misinformed people. They offer people something for nothing. In Scandinavia and Europe there are many types of the Welfare State and all of them, of course, spring from pure Socialism. Almost without exception they have developed bit by bit—just a little Socialism here and a little governmental control there.

The Welfare State ideas have invaded the United States, as was to be expected, as country after country adopted them. Based upon my observations and studies of political and economic developments, I agree with what you have repeatedly said: that these ideas constitute one of the gravest dangers to our future prosperity and freedom in America.

Briefly then my mission is to observe what is happening to the John Doe citizens of the nations who have adopted some or all of the Welfare State ideas of Socialism.

**A System's Requirements**  
Many times you have said that an economic system has two primary functions: (1) to bring about an adequate production of goods; and (2) to equitably distribute the available goods. Likewise, you have said that freedom is the most precious blessing to mankind, and that a government's primary function is to protect man's freedom.

We have an economic system in America based on the principle of private ownership of the facilities of production and distribution. With its dynamic elements of competition and incentive it has produced the highest standard of living ever known and has more equitably distributed its great wealth than has any other system for any other people. These are facts that cannot be disputed.

**Land of Liberty**  
In the realm of government, we have a Constitutional Republic, created by our sovereign states, which for a century and a half has given unprecedented protection to individual freedom. Wherever the true comparative facts are known throughout the civilized world, the U.S.A. is recognized as

(Continued on page 3B)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (July 28, 1932)

City Tax Collections  
Although tax collection in the City of Farmington has been underway only since July 1, nearly one-third of the 1932-33 taxes have already been paid to the City Treasurer.

To date, over \$10,000 of the \$34,000 levied has been received. The 331 per cent is more than one-half of the total percentage collected over the period of eight months, beginning with July 1 and ending March 1 of 1931-32. The stimulus for the early payment is believed to be due to the two per cent discount which is allowed on all payments received before August 1. The total taxes received is expected to be collected considerably before Saturday by the payment of \$3,000 from the Detroit Edison Company, one of the City's biggest taxpayers.

**TEN YEARS AGO (July 31, 1947)**  
Named Board President  
F. E. Labadie was elected president of the Board of Education of the Farmington School District at life organization meeting of the Board held Monday evening, July 28, at the high school.

A contractual agreement from Frederick Madison, appointed by the Board as school architect, was presented. The purpose of the contract is to give Madison authority to proceed on the School District's proposed building program. The contract calls for preliminary studies and architect's drawings for each of the three proposed projects under construction.

Tentative plans call for a two-classroom unit and general purpose utility room and heating plant for the Noble area. A two classroom and general purpose unit is being considered for the Bond school area. The third project under study is a proposed five classroom unit with heating plant for the Farmington high school.

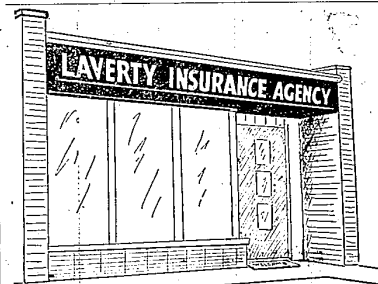
**Clarenceville Election**  
On Monday, August 4, the qualified electors of the Clarenceville School District will go to the polls in a special election, called by the Board for the purpose of determining whether or not a new gymnasium will be built for Clarenceville.

Present plans call for the construction of a proposed gymnasium/auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,000. According to a spokesman for the Board, the proposed building will cost approximately \$116,000.

**FIVE YEARS AGO (July 31, 1932)**  
Primary Election  
The largest vote in the history of the Farmington community is expected to be recorded next Tuesday, August 5, when residents go to the polls in the General Primary Election.

Township voters will cast their ballots at four different precinct polling places for the first time. Prior to this election, the township contained only two precincts. The purpose of the election is to select candidates from the various political parties to run in the November Presidential Election.

**Road Project**  
Work is expected to begin about August 5 on the rebuilding of the streets in the Roseland Gardens Subdivision. Property owners in the subdivision are paying half of the cost of the project with the Township paying the other half. The subdivision is located between Farmington Road and Giff Road and between Eight Mile and Colfax.



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