

Readers of The Observer Speak Up

Police Defended

I find a very strong force moving me to make a reply to Falsely Accused, which you printed in the Sept. 2 issue of The Observer. Having never written a letter of this type, I am at somewhat of a loss as to how to start. As I read the letter of Falsely Accused, I was really set back to think that not only the writer of the letter, but that your newspaper would print such a letter.

I just can't see, or believe, that the Police of our city would act in such a manner unless they were provoked to such action to start with. I believe that the Police Dept. and the officers have more to do than pick on her son. Also, with as many kids as there are in the City of Livonia, just what made the Police go to Falsely Accused's house if her children are as clean as the "new fallen snow" as she states, or implies, that they are?

I cannot help but believe that there is much more to the story than is stated by Falsely Accused. But, if the True Story must be told, I'm sure it would not make very good reading, as most people delight in reading about strife and violence.

I feel sorry for Falsely Accused to think that she is so mentally disturbed to think the officers that were to her house acted like the Gestapo or, that they are going to lay in wait for her and her family.

I feel sure that she, as I, would be one of the first to call upon the Police if her home was broken into, and would expect them to do their best to find the person, or persons, responsible, using all means available to them.

POORLY INFORMED

"Good Conduct"

Editor: In reading the September 2 issue of the Observer, I came across the letter from Falsely Accused; And I felt I owed this letter to the Livonia Police Department. Too often we hear about the bad conduct of the Police Department and not enough of the good.

Early this spring I opened my door to a uniformed police officer. He told me immediately that he was checking on a phone call I received on a picture studio gimmick for obtaining business. He also told me that I didn't have to answer the questions if I didn't want to. Needless to say I cooperated with him.

He then told me that I did

not have to answer any questions from any police officer unless he showed me his green identification card from the Livonia police department, and stated his business first.

He asked me to call back and let him know the outcome of the phone call.

If that officer reads this letter, the radio turned out to be a children's crystal set.

Each time we have tried to call him on this business he has been out to the Shrine circus or showing a group around the station.

My debt is paid.

HOOSIER TURNED WOLFENINE

Is He A Bircher?

Editor: Is Richard Kuhn, Republican candidate for the 19th Congressional District, a member of the John Birch Society?

I have heard him speak and he appears to have views that are very similar to the beliefs of that group; however, none of his literature indicates that he is associated with that society.

JAMES DRUSEK Livonia

Farsighted Senator

Editor: Several issues ago, the Republican opponent of Michigan's Senator Hart was quoted in your paper in an attack on the Senator's record. I realize that political candidates usually understate their opposition, but I fear that as a partisan for the Senator I am disturbed and made indignant by such unwarranted denial of the abilities and services to this state of such an able man.

Certainly, he is one of the most honorable and hard working men in government and has won more respect in one term in the Senate than most men with such responsibilities.

Has he contributed to the upbuilding of Michigan's economy? Look at the record. He was a strong supporter of many job-creating bills, including the tax-cut. No man has worked harder to make the St. Lawrence Seaway a success and he has brought many government jobs and contracts to his state. But it is his farsightedness that most impresses me. He has looked into the future and seen that water pollution is one of the most serious threats to Michigan's beauty and economic future. And he has done many things to head off that threat. He has proposed national parks

that will preserve our shoreline without displacing any residents in the area. Nationally, he has become known as the champion of the consumer, of whom we have seven or eight million in Michigan.

A number of very important bills have borne his name, such as the Kefauver-Hart Drug Act and the Hart-Hollander Automobile and Technology Bill.

But he is more than effective. He is kind and reasonable. And after a new lifetime of observing the work of the men and women I have voted for I am not easily fooled.

HELEN D. BEAVER

Another Herman Gardens?

Editor: I have never before written a letter to a newspaper, but your editorial moment on page one of The Observer, forces me to write. Your insulting and arbitrary classification of a group of Farmington Township citizens as "petty politicians" and/or "ill informed," has disturbed many of us.

We were present at the zoning meeting you mention, and you were not. I wish to inform you that no one was hysterical and that we are probably much better informed on the so-called "Village Green" than you might wish. You are a politician, but we are only citizens who have a citizen's interest in events that affect us all deeply. We are from "Old Homestead," my husband is an attorney, and I am a college graduate with a degree in chemistry. We are not given to hysterical behavior, nor are we given to exposing causes without sufficient information.

We object strongly to the reasoning proposal for the following reasons:

1. There is no need to rezone. The property is beautiful and ideal for homes such as you find in "Old Homestead" — homes priced \$25,000-\$45,000 on half-acre lots, custom built — in other words, the best type of property. Moreover, a dangerous precedent will have been set if first-class property can be arbitrarily rezoned. This is not a hardship case for the landowners.

2. The property will be fantastically overbuilt. I give you the following example: Herman Gardens: 2,100 units, 550 sq. ft. average each on 142 acres (City of Detroit figures). Village Green: 2,000 units 850 sq. ft. average motel, shopping on 160 acres. Have you ever seen Herman

Gardens, Mr. Chandler? A more congested area can hardly be imagined. Such a complex of brick and asphalt for parking 2,000 to 3,000 cars will be ugly beyond belief. We are not taken by the golf course. Herman Gardens has as much green area per building as Mr. Duke will have, as the above acreage figures prove.

3. The property will be badly overpopulated. There will be at least 4,000 permanent residents besides the motel guests on an area that would have only about 1,000 if in half-acre sites (Projection of Old Homestead's population of persons/acre).

4. The traffic and parking problem will be enormous. The daily influx and outflow of an idealistic minimum of 2,000 cars in this quiet area poses a real hazard. These cars will flow down all around us from 12 Mile Road after leaving the freeway at Orchard Lake Road. They will be passing the school to be built at 11 Mile and Halsted.

5. All adjoining properties will be subject to undesirable rezoning. Experience has shown this in areas all over the country.

6. The general character of the whole area will be altered, indeed of the whole township. Our property, which is valuable because of its beauty, seclusion and privacy, will be less valuable as first-class residential property. People looking for

space on which to build the larger and more expensive homes will build elsewhere.

7. There is considerable sentiment against multiple housing of any sort in the township, as you would have observed if you had been at this zoning meeting. A plan for apartments of a much more expensive and luxurious nature was refused by the board, partly because the homeowners in the area objected to it.

Now, there are many other arguments (and we are not entirely misled by the will-the-wisp of tax relief, but I truly believe that these are the main reasons the people will be very unhappy should the Village Green ever come into being. I wish we had a newspaper at our disposal to trumpet our side of the story, but we are only citizens, and can influence only by our vote, but of course we have no vote on this affair. If you are fair, Mr. Chandler, you will print this on page one without cutting or comment, as you gave air to your own personal views. Farmington does not need its own Herman Gardens, and we don't want it.

(Mrs. Joseph H. Larson) Irene Larson

Editor's Note: It is not right to compare the Village Green idea with "Herman Gardens." If a comparison with old Detroit is needed, it would be fairer to compare

Village Green to the Palmer Park complex of apartments which remains a haven of upper-class living there even today. A more modern comparison would be the luxury

ous Eastland Village in Detroit. Herman Gardens was a war-time development, virtually public housing for the lowest income residents of Detroit to compare it to Vil-

lage Green is something like comparing "single family homes" in Old Homestead to "single family houses" in poor older neighborhoods in Detroit.)

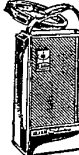


COMPLETING DEAL for 2.5 acres in Plymouth's Industrial Park on Plymouth Road for the construction of a new plant by Standards Inc. are (from left): Thomas Noteburt and Joseph Hudson, of the J. L. Hudson Realty Co., which arranged the sale; President and General Manager Roy McKnight, City Manager Albert Glassford and Standards Inc. President Myron Georgia. Construction work will start soon with a target date of late January or early February.

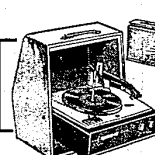
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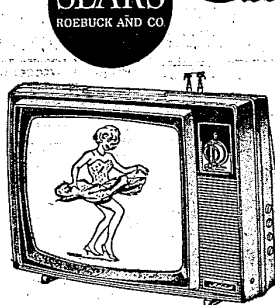


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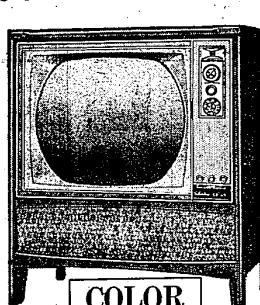


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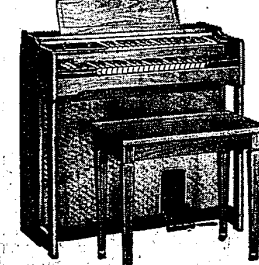
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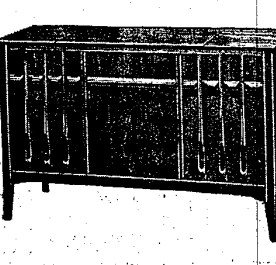
282-sq. in. viewing area. Get strong fringe-area picture-pulling power, rich FM sound from 2 heavy magnet 5" oval speakers. Handsome wood veneer lowboy cabinets in 18th century mahogany, contemporary walnut or early American maple. Walnut veneer also in contemporary upright model.

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