

Editorial Page

The Use of . . .

union funds for television programs featuring political candidates has been more or less settled in favor of the unions, in federal court in Detroit recently. The jury found the UAW innocent of violating the Federal Corrupt Practices Act.

That was a reasonable verdict, and certainly one with which we have no quarrel. It settled a question which has been debated quite awhile, but did have to be settled one way or another.

We think the manner in which it was settled is to be commended. Rather than try to settle the question before or after an election, when charges of "politics" might reasonably be made, and tempers be short, the government chose to do it in an off season when calm deliberation might prevail.

There's one thing now which bothers us. In recent months there have been hints the government is thinking of disallowing any advertising expenses a business firm uses to explain its position on certain matters to the public.

We believe that any business firm is entitled to explain to prospective customers why it thinks the St. Lawrence Seaway will harm certain businesses, why a certain federal or union action against it is unfair, why it has done certain research for the ultimate good of the nation. In other words, a business must be allowed to either explain its action to the public on any matter, or to defend itself against any rumors or charges it considers unfair.

If such expenditures are not allowed as legitimate expenses for income tax computations, it will be a sorry day for democracy and people of the nation. There's a good chance this may come to pass, however.

Now that labor has a clearcut right to use its dues for educational purposes, it would be most unfair if businesses were made to pay extra taxes on funds used for the same purpose.

Gas Tax Money . . .

is now being distributed by the State of Michigan to the various funds, state, county, cities and villages, as explained in 'The Enterprise' last week. Oakland County, Farmington City and the Village of Wood Creek Fatms all got their share.

This distribution was for collections made for the third quarter of the calendar year. There's an interesting feature about that.

There are signs of some leveling off in certain segments of the national and state economies. The economists and soothsayers have all sorts of explanations.

Be that as it may, the gas tax collections do not indicate there is much general suffering. Net receipts for the third quarter amounted to \$39,189,649, which was \$631,842 above a year before. That's close to a two per cent increase. The state's population may have grown that much in the year, but we sort of doubt it was that great.

Maybe it just indicates a determination to continue driving that car, even if we have to charge something else.

Flu Immunization . . .

is still very important for our area, even if the first wave of the disease has subsided. There have been hints that second and third waves of Asian Flu might be ahead, and even more disastrous than the first.

A Farmington physician commented last week that the community had been lucky, in that no deaths occurred here. He also said that those who have paid any attention to the disease know—that the after effects were the dangerous part. Too many men, he said, have gone back to work too soon, then been hit by pneumonia or other complications.

If you've been lucky so far, seems like a reasonable precaution to insure that luck, now.

- At 45 miles an hour, sing "Highways Are Happy Ways."
- At 55 miles an hour, sing "I Am Not a Stranger, Heaven Is My Home."
- At 65 miles an hour, "Nearer My God to Thee."
- At 75 miles an hour, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder."
- At 85 miles an hour, "Lord, I'm Coming Home."

The Farmington Enterprise

23623 Farmington Road
Farmington, Michigan
Telephone
GRenleaf 4-6225

Established in 1888 by Edgar R. Bloomer.
"A Permanent Journal of Progress"

Published Thursday of each week at the City of Farmington and entered at the Post Office in Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, as second-class matter under Act of March 3, 1879.

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
MEMBER MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

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MICHIGAN PRESS SERVICE, INC.
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVES, INC.
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BIRMINGHAM

—City Manager L. R. Garg Monday night confirmed his unofficial report of several weeks ago that the city will find it less expensive to abandon any thought of a water softening plant and instead buy all its water from Detroit.

Consideration of a treatment plant gained importance a year ago when Birmingham was connected to the South Oakland County water authority's system. Problems of mixing the two waters caused the officials to think seriously about a means to rid the water of its resulting unpleasantness.

Instead of the softener plant, Garg recommended that the city double the amount of water it is presently buying from the Detroit water department. He stated that water to increase would be necessary if this plan was followed but that about a 6 cent per-thousand-gallon increase would be necessary if the \$700,000 treatment plant, struck off the \$700,000 treatment plant.

—The Birmingham Eccectric

NOVI

—The long standing Willowbrook water supply question is getting the attention of the Novi Township Board again.

Under pressure from Willowbrook residents to take over the township's private water supply, the Novi Board last Monday night ordered its attorney to see how and if that can be done.

Willowbrook residents have complained that the water system and service are inadequate and that developer Paul LeBost has not brought the system up to date.

"These homes were sold under the impression that the township would own the water system eventually," said one owner. "It's time that Novi does something."

So far, however, the board has been stymied by failure to locate any legal agreement calling for the transfer of the system from LeBost to the township. In the meantime, LeBost has notified the township that he now intends to develop the system as a private enterprise and does not plan to transfer it to the township.

—The Novi News

ROMEO

—With final stages of the Romeo youth and civic center construction proceeding on schedule, the building will probably be ready to open for limited use by December 1.

Interior painting was reported well underway and indication given that the auditorium wood floor would be finished by this time. Part of the heating equipment has been installed with the rest to go in the latter part of this week. Lighting fixtures are already on the job and will be installed as soon as painting and floor laying work is finished.

When personnel have not yet been hired. Whether the board will hire a part-time director and secretary or a full-time executive secretary is still in question.

—The Romeo Observer Press

WAYNE

—Local schools, along with other schools across the nation, are welcoming parents and other interested citizens to visit this week, "American Education Week," to see for themselves how children learn in 1937 and to ask questions about the schools.

Village mayor, Duncan Miller, issued a special proclamation last week calling for the observance of "American Education Week" in the village for November 10-16.

—The Wayne Dispatch

SOUTHFIELD

—What was supposed to be a final public hearing on the allocation of costs to 14 communities in the 12-Town Drain area ended quickly October 31 in an indefinite stalemate.

Drain commissioners and representatives of the communities involved in the drain project were among the 25 persons who attended the hearing at Royal Oak.

Starting 25 minutes late, the hearing was over in just 10 minutes.

Daniel W. Barry, drain commissioner, related the 12-Town Drain project and then ordered that the session be adjourned because injunctions held by Southfield and Troy prevented any action taken. The injunctions, issued by Oakland County Circuit Court, enjoin the drain board from taking any action until the two injunctions are decided by court.

Southfield township supervisor Eugene Swen said that regardless of who the courts decide for, the project itself be stymied because both sides plan to appeal to the State Supreme Court if the lower court decision goes against them.

"Southfield did not ask nor petition to get in on this project," Swen said. "We want our costs in this project, which is expected to cost some \$44,000,000, reassessed and no action is going to be taken until the injunctions held by us and Troy are decided."

Dates for the court actions to begin have still not been set.

—The Birmingham Eccectric

When over-protected, the moose is its own worst enemy, for it practically eliminates willow, balsam and other nourishing foods from its habitat.



MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

Free Trip Across Straits Bridge Possible—If You Live Long Enough

MOTORISTS WILL GET A FREE TRIP across the Mackinac Straits Bridge in 1937 if everything works out.

Financiers said it will take 40 years to retire the \$98,800,000 in bonds, to pay for the bridge unless re-financing, lower interest rates, and extra traffic make it possible sooner.

Cars from every county in the state were on hand to make the first toll crossing Nov. 1. In the 10 hours after Gov. Williams paid the first toll, 3,005 vehicles passed the gates.

The opening was timed 15 days before the annual traffic jam at the straits starts with the opening of the deer season.

For years, the pileup of traffic has stretched back five to eight miles.

Now, the two great peninsulas have been linked by steel and concrete and officials on both sides of the straits expect a bonanza business and industry.

There have been dreams of such a bridge for more than 100 years—since Michigan obtained the Upper Peninsula from the Northwest Territory in negotiations following the Toledo War.

Hundreds of men have figured directly in its construction.

They include former Gov. Murray D. Van Wagoner, whose administration built a causeway into the straits from St. Ignace as a starter 16 years before the bridge was to be completed by others.

They include Republicans in the legislature and Democrats in the executive office during the past 10 years, and interested groups on both sides of the straits.

Now, it is finished.

Left behind are the ferry boats and the memories of the millions who rode on them between the peninsulas since the state-operated service was inaugurated 34 years ago.

The five-boast fleet is for sale. The crews are either already working in other state or private employment, or are looking for work. That was one of the main problems as the bridge neared completion.

Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie inherited the job of finding work for the men.

As the bridge opened, fewer than 100 of the 475 in the fulltime and part-time complement were still unemployed. A special staff in Mackie's department is still working on the problem.

MICHIGAN IS THE FIRST state to be fully organized in the "Co-operative Dairy for Civil Defense" plan, according to Leonard Franke, secretary of the Michigan Milk Dealers Association.

This is a plan to supply pure drinking water to areas hit by disaster. In brief, the idea involves an agreement by dairies to fill paper cartons, usually used for milk, with water. The filled cartons can be readily transported to the stricken area for distribution through Red Cross or Civil Defense representatives.

Tornadoes, accidental industrial pollution, atomic attack or other emergency conditions can create a vital need for pure water.

This was the case in Utica last year when it discovered that waste materials discharged into the water supply made the water unfit for consumption.

To date, the plan has been used in four natural disasters in other states. The most recent was Hurricane Audrey last August in Louisiana. (Continued on Page 3C)

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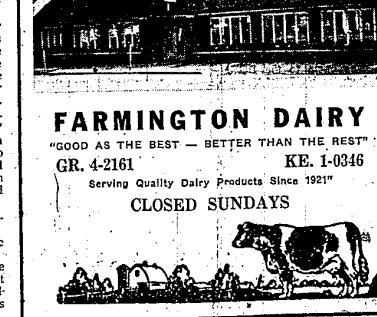
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CLOSED SUNDAYS



Glenn Green continues his dispatches from Europe. —G.S.B.

GERMANY AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

FRANKFURT, GERMANY — Dear Dr. Benson: The events happening here in Western Germany, a wedge of geography about the size of Kansas reaching down from the North Sea southward to the heart-center of Europe, are of great educational value to the world. This is the only major nation of Europe whose people are giving the private enterprise system an unfeigned chance to work. And it is working miracles.

In less than 10 years the powerful incentives and dynamic impulse inherent in a private enterprise system have lifted Germany out of the rubble and stagnation of shattering defeat to an economic position far stronger and more promising than that of any of the socialist European Welfare States which surround her. Thus here in the center of Europe is a dramatic lesson for all mankind, not from textbook, or classroom, or lecture platform, but in actual being.

The Lesson:

The nations, which with a common boundary and a war experience in common with West Germany—The Netherlands, Belgium, France, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Communist East Germany, and Poland—all are socialist Welfare States of varying degrees, with Socialists or Communists at the helm of their governments. In each case the living standard of their people is below that of the West Germans, the economic strength of each is low in comparison, and the promise that can be held out for the future is indeed dim compared to West Germany's.

I came into Germany by train from the north, down through the industrial Ruhr and into the Rhine valley. For mile after mile we traveled through industrial communities with thickets of tall belching smokestacks fanning far out into the distant landscape. The industrial concentrations along this main Ruhr artery were among the most, heavily bombed by our big fleets of B-2's and B-29's — Dortmund; Essen, center of the biggest Krupp works; Dusseldorf, and Cologne. Evidence of the paralyzing destruction is everywhere. But the dominating sight today throughout the half of Germany I have so far seen is the rebuilding.

Out of Rubble

Cologne, queen city of the Ruhr, was 75 per cent destroyed, large sections of it flattened into smoldering ruins. (Continued on Page 3C)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (November 10, 1932)

Goets Democrat

Farmington Township went Democrat by a narrow margin but the city remained a Republican stronghold though by much reduced majorities in the election on Tuesday. A record breaking vote was recorded. In the city, 483 cast ballots, or approximately 75 per cent of the total registration. About 600 voted in Precinct 1 in the township and 521 in Precinct II. President Hoover and Governor Bruckner ran behind the rest of the Republican ticket, succumbing before the great number of split ballots.

Democrats Celebrate

Once in a lifetime Democrats in Michigan have a chance to celebrate and in Farmington Tuesday night they grasped the opportunity. All sorts of improvised noisemakers were called into service while Republicans were at home trying to "sleep it off." One of the city's few old-time stanch Democrats fastened a piece of tin on the end of a stick and walked up and down Grand River for over an hour beating the sidewalk. The unofficial Democratic headquarters at the southwest corner of Grand River and Farmington Road was the scene of much confusion and jubilant milling around and shouting.

TEN YEARS AGO (November 13, 1927)

Memorial Home

The possibility of building an addition onto the Farmington Town Hall to serve as a memorial to the young men of the community who gave their lives in World War II was brought before the Farmington City Commission Monday night. Preliminary plans for an addition to house a new library on the main floor with additional facilities for the Masonic Lodge on the second floor. All commissioners agreed that the memorial would fill a great need for a community center in the district but pointed out that a financial contribution would be difficult and possibly impossible because of the large number of other problems which must be met in the near future requiring the expenditures of large sums of money. The commissioners agreed that they would do all they could to help out.

FIVE YEARS AGO (November 13, 1932)

Garbage Ruling

A flood of complaints were registered with city officials Monday protesting the tagging and leaving of garbage cans to be picked up Saturday. The city manager stated that the action was taken at the request of the State Health Department and the State Department of Agriculture. He added that the tags were placed on the containers to point out to residents that their cans contained an excess of paper and other solid matter. Many residents pointed out that they did not know of the new regulation governing the type of material which could be placed in their garbage cans. Tenant pointed out that articles had been published for several weeks pointing out the procedures to follow for assuring garbage pickup.



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