

Editorial Page

Watch Your Buying . . .

this Christmas season. There never was a time when it was more important to know your retailer, and to watch carefully to be certain you get the quality you are paying for and have a right to expect.

The fast-buck boys are out in force as this Christmas season starts, and it's always surprising how many normally intelligent people will fall for their ads and their high pressure.

You've read lately of people in the east buying watches that had new cases and rebuilt movements? There are some Detroit stores where you can get gipped just as quickly. A jeweler friend of ours recently told about a man who brought in a recently purchased watch which didn't seem to be working too well. Paid a fancy price, too, right downtown. It didn't take too much inspection to find the movement was one which a certain American manufacturer had quit making in 1923.

Be suspicious of a huge discount on any item. Either the supposedly "original" price was boosted a lot, or there is something wrong with the merchandise. The best piece of advice any shopper can take is to buy from an established retailer, one who has been in business in the same location many years, one who advertises his merchandise and stands behind what he sells, both as to original quality and service afterward. It pays to know your store. There are many good men just starting out, of course, and through honesty and service they will stay in business and grow. But they won't be offering huge discounts now, or any time.

There is one thing new on the shopping scene this year you may want to consider when you buy. For years merchandise in this country has been constantly upgraded — better and better quality. Prices, too, of course.

This year for some reason many people don't want the best stuff, they want less expensive. Apparently they are buying as much, and spending as much, so are just trying to make their dollars stretch further.

So many of these same people are going to be ripe for phony list prices and phony price cuts. Over the nation these lines are worst: jewelry, blankets and bedding, furniture, radios, home appliances, both big and small.

Your best protection, as always, is to patronize reputable stores. Do this, and your Christmas will be happy even long afterward.

Community Colleges

are being studied in Wayne, Oakland and several other of the metropolitan counties, as a good way to relieve the pressure on large colleges and universities, and a good thing for students who otherwise might get no more than a high school education. Among districts actively participating are Clarendonville, Northville, Plymouth, Livonia, and others.

Community colleges aren't just second rate junior colleges. They will likely figure largely in the impending reappraisal and realignment of America's educational system, thinks President Harlan Hatcher of the University of Michigan.

Despite the rapid expansion of community colleges, they still occupy an indefinable place in the education system. Hatcher said they must improve their auxiliary services to the student, raise teaching standards and obtain some definite assurance of financial support if they are to offer instruction comparable to the first two years of the larger institutions.

The community college does offer a definite answer to the question of serving large numbers of youth. Such a college is in a position to test the ability and interests of students, advising some to follow two-year terminal courses and encouraging others to seek university degrees and post graduate training.

We hope to see these local studies continued, and believe they may be of great benefit in this area.

Asked what the days of the week were, four-year-old Cheryl responded as follows: "Monday, Tuesday, Disney."

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

SOUTHFIELD — A full scale investigation is underway by law enforcement agencies in an attempt to solve an epidemic of dog poisonings which have taken place in the Dorchester Hills section of Franklin Village.

Latest victim was a collie let outdoors for an evening run by a baby sister last Friday evening. The dog came back home to die of convulsions believed to have been caused by a dose of strychnine. This made the fourth pet in that area to die in the same manner.

Franklin and Southfield police are working with the Oakland County prosecutor's office to apprehend the offender. "We are going to find the guilty party and prosecute," one officer said.

—The Four Corners Press

NOVI — The city of Northville became 220 acres larger this week while the size of Novi township was decreased by that same amount.

Voters in the city and those residing in the township area to be annexed approved the annexation by a large majority. Registered voters in the 220-acre township voted 90 to 5 for annexation.

It marked the second annexation of Novi township property into Northville this year. Eighty-two acres surrounding the former elementary school became a part of the city when a suit contesting last year's annexation election on the property was dropped by Novi.

—The Novi News

ROMEO — With a \$200,000 fundraising campaign scheduled to start just after Christmas, the city of Romeo's hospital should be able to open its doors fairly early in 1958, Board Chairman T. K. Richards predicted Monday night.

It was indicated that the floor plan for the new hospital, entered in a recent national contest, won first prize for its extensibility, functional design and other features and is now on display in the Industrial Arts building in Washington, D.C.

Another Michigan community, Mason, has already adopted the plan for its own about-to-be-built hospital.

—Romeo Observer Press

BIRMINGHAM — The Birmingham real estate board this week asked the city commission to ban dogs from the city's local fairs. City Attorney James Howell was asked to see if such regulations were possible.

The real estate board said its request has been endorsed by most Birmingham churches.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

PLYMOUTH — While the move next year of the Daisy Manufacturing Co. to Arkansas will be an economic blow to Plymouth and many of its inhabitants, there appears to be some good coming from the situation in the form of interest by community leaders to develop a program that will retain present industry and lure new firms to the community.

Representatives of Plymouth Township, the city and the Chamber of Commerce met last Friday and plan to meet every Friday in an attempt to find means of improving economic development of Plymouth city and township.

Attempting to interest commercial as well as industrial development in the Plymouth area will be the chief concern of the group. What can be done with the Daisy plant is one of the areas to be investigated. Data will be obtained on the Daisy facilities and what type of operations such a building can be used for. The Daisy plant expects to start moving its operations to Rogers, Arkansas, next spring.

—The Plymouth Mail

WAYNE — Some lucky local individual will enjoy a ton of Christmas gifts if the Wayne Chamber of Commerce and Wayne retailers have their way.

As part of the program to encourage residents to do their shopping in Wayne, a plan is now being set forth to give away a brand new automobile.

A ticket will be given for each dollar's worth of merchandise purchased locally.

—The Wayne Dispatch

FRANKLIN — Some 30 residents have been asked to serve on a citizens committee under the auspices of the Franklin Community association.

To begin work in early December, the committee will canvass the village for qualified candidates to run for council posts in the March election.

Irland Ellis, president of the FCA says, "the committee will be a completely anonymous body which will function solely for the purpose of presenting a slate of candidates to the voters for their guidance."

—The Birmingham Eccentric

The ablest men in all walks of modern life are men of faith.

—Brentley Barton



MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

State Population Swells Rapidly; Predict Continuance of Growth

MICHIGAN'S POPULATION IS GROWING like the proverbial "Toys."

In 1950, the date of the Federal Census, Michigan residents numbered 3,371,766. In July, 1957, our state lists 7,022,000 as residents. This does not include residents serving overseas in the armed forces. This is an increase of more than 1,250,000 in less than seven years. According to J. P. Thaden, MSU expert who accumulated this information, the population growth in the last seven years is greater than that of the previous 10 years. From 1940 to 1950 Michigan citizenship grew by only 1,106,658.

Outlook is for continued growth. Mr. Thaden's figures indicate that Michigan will grow by some 31 million souls during the next 18 years.

Significance of this continued growth can mean many things. Of course, each new person is another consumer. This is important to retailers and to manufacturers. And each new person will need services from his community. It is estimated that the population in Michigan will create demand for half again as many classrooms as now exist; half again as many houses, hospitals, stores, automobiles, teachers, doctors, lawyers, etc.

If these figures prove accurate, Michigan people can look forward to making the most of their opportunity. The AEC refused to stop building, but promised to investigate and develop the safeguards necessary. Dr. Bethe said workers will have five barriers between them and harmful effects of radioactivity. Other precautions have been created to prevent other kinds of trouble. Legislators reasoned thusly: If the AEC refused to halt construction, safety to the public was ready assured. The most ready unions and Democrats can charge now is that the AEC didn't tell them.

COURT REFORMS suggested two years ago have been promised for lower courts by the Michigan Supreme Court, starting in the spring. In a show of nonpartisanship, three justices nominated first by Democrats, said they would support Chief Justice John R. Deeth over a judge with Republican origins, for another term.

Justice Eugene F. Black sounded the sentiment of the Democratic members, stating that 1958 would be "a year of transition" and Justice Deeth would be a powerful force at the helm.

The changes include regular conferences with lower court judges in an attempt to speed justice, improve the courts.

(Continued on Page 7B)

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LOOKING AHEAD

By Dr. George L. Brown

EDUCATION PROGRAM

By Elmer White

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

FROM BEHIND

THE IRON CURTAIN

MUNICH, GERMANY — Dear Dr. Benson: At places in West Germany which I shall not identify I have "interviewed" people from three families who are working and living today as virtual prisoners of the Communists in the Soviet Zone of eastern Germany. They are all Germans, and they detect the life they are obliged to live under Communist rule; but for various understandable personal reasons each feels, impelled not to try to escape.

I met each of them at a different location. All talked for a time freely and frankly. Then, in each case, one of the possible consequences caused them to cut short the interview. Even a suspicion by the Communists that I had "talked" would result in their being labeled "Enemy of the State," and this could mean imprisonment or even death. Therefore, with their permission I will not identify them, but carefully conceal their identity and place of residence in the Iron Curtain.

Conditions Getting Worse

The first interview was with a person whose family resides in an East German city. We'll call this person Number One. Number One said that living conditions had grown worse in the last three years. Meat, sugar, butter and some other food staples are rationed and money is scarce. I saw Number One's ration card issued by "The German Democratic Republic" for a month. It permitted purchase of 3 pounds of meat for the month, if the meat were available, and the purchase price was at hand (which it seldom is). The month's ration in sugar was 2 pounds, 10 ounces.

"Like the meat ration, the butter ration doesn't matter," Number One said. "It costs \$2 for nine ounces when available, but seldom is it available." Children rarely find a family rarely has fresh vegetables. An off-brand coffee is \$2.30 a pound — "and horrible." A quarter pound bar of chocolate costs \$3.50. Clothing for children and adults is variable, is hand made at home. Shoddy cloth for a suit costs \$5.50 a yard.

The work week is from 4:30 to 5:30. Number One's wage is 28 cents an hour. "We have to work 10 hours a day to buy a pound of coffee," said Number One.

The family's sustaining diet is made up largely of potatoes, bread and soup.

The Communist regimentation is (Continued on Page 7B)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

Bank Dividends

Depositors of Farmington State Savings Bank will receive the anticipated second dividend within the next 15 to 20 days, unless unforeseen legal difficulties interfere. The only factor which could now prevent the distribution of the dividend would be an unexpected appeal by one of the governmental units whose deposits have recently been denied the status of preferred claims. All but one of these governmental units, School District No. 3 Fractional (Clarendonville) have waived any appeals.

Discipline Solver

"Mollasses catches more flies than vinegar" runs the adage through which teachers at Clarendonville school have overcome a discipline problem. When children have to stay inside the building at recess and noon hours they are now given games to play. Enthusiasm has been shown over jacks, checkers, dominoes and various other games provided. The change of activities has practically eliminated discipline problems, the teachers report.

TEN YEARS AGO (November 27, 1947)

School Voters

Superintendent O. E. Dunkel announced Tuesday that a total of 186 new registrations were taken during the period from November 11 through November 22. Dunkel pointed out that this is a very high number in view of the fact that registrations were taken only last summer for the regular annual school election. He stated that there are now a little over 1400 registered voters in the Farmington Township School District.

Town Meeting

Farmington Township School District's proposed school building program will be the subject of the second Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce Town Meeting to be held December 1 at the Farmington High School gymnasium. This is the second such informative Town Hall meeting to be held thus far this year under the sponsorship of the Jaycees. Members of the Board of Education have been invited to serve as a panel for the question-answer portion of the program.

FIVE YEARS AGO (November 27, 1952)

Enlarge Council

Serious consideration is being given by the city to the suggestion that the present City Council be increased from the present five-man group to a seven-man body. The purpose behind the proposal is to provide greater representation on the people on the Council. Any such proposal would require a change in the present City Charter and this would have to be voted on at the annual city election, to be held on the first Monday in April if deemed advisable.

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