

Editorial Page

Farmington . . .

is not a clean city. It isn't the dirtiest city in the area, we are sure, but by no stretch of the imagination can it be called a really clean community. We refer, of course, to the condition of its streets and alleys—to all general outdoor "housekeeping."

Some places are habitually kept very clean—business and residential. They should be singled out for praise and commendation. The fact that they aren't is not too nice an indication of our community consciousness.

The city seems to do about as well as it can in this fight on filth. There are regular collections in business and residential areas. To do more would cost more, and the city is constantly trying to stretch its tax dollars to provide all the services a growing community like Farmington City needs. Perhaps there might be a little more strict enforcement of regulations concerning cleanliness.

So it pretty much gets back to the property owners and renters, and to the people who use our streets and alleys.

We suggest that right now you might like to drive around our city, looking at streets and alleys with a critical eye. Farmington's business establishments could well examine practices of leaving boxes, paper and refuse in alleys or sides of buildings. We said there are exceptions, but more are careless than are careful. That goes for residences, too. Even in some of our nicest subdivisions many of the property owners find paper and other refuse blowing around their yards. Loads of trash are sometimes just dumped in some nearby vacant lot or roadside.

Recently we tried to do an extra good job of sweeping the sidewalk in front of our business place on Farmington Road. We got off quite a lot of dirt and sand. When finished, however, so much papers, wrappers and other stuff had blown on down the street that our sidewalk still didn't look very good.

Our council recognizes some of this, since it has gotten complaints from several areas. There has been talk of strengthening present ordinances, or better enforcement.

It would be much better if community pride would bring the desired results. Those who do keep the premises clean should be praised. Those who don't should get a friendly tip, and if that doesn't work then maybe stricter enforcement or ordinances will have to be the answer.

Farmington is a friendly city, but its face is just a little smudged.

Auto Drivers . . .

with lengthy accident and violation records were cited Sunday by state officials as the "worst ten" in the state. No names were given, but their records and home community were told.

The thing that impressed most about this list was the fact that, of the ones now again driving on our highways, all seemed to have been granted that privilege by some district judge who must have known of their lengthy record when he allowed return of their driving permit. He may have pitied the driver, but forgot to take into consideration rights of the public.

One change should be made in our laws. All to frequently some driver who has had his license taken away is caught driving without one. It seems about the worst thing that can happen is to add another year to the time his driving license is revoked. But he goes right on driving without the license. When such a driver is caught, he should be sent to jail, and not just for 30 days.

There's a lot of discussion these days about auto insurance, talk of compulsory insurance, of radical changes in the laws. The law maybe could stand a little strengthening, but the basic problem is lack of enforcement, and courts that are far too lenient.

Offt expectation fails, and most often there
Where hope is coldest, and despair most silt.
—Shakespeare.

The Farmington Enterprise

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NOVI — The \$13,000,000 Farmington-Brighton expressway opening brought mixed blessings and curses to Novi. While state officials were proclaiming that the new superhighway would cut traffic deaths on U.S. 16 in half, many Novi merchants were expressing concern that it would do the same to their businesses.

Within hours after the expressway was opened traffic on "old Grand River" had slowed to a trickle. At one time Monday night not one of the three gas stations at Novi Road and Grand River had a car at its pumps. Many merchants anticipate a sharp decline in business. One restaurant has already closed down.

In general, however, Novi businessmen feel the expressway will be beneficial in the long run, since it will open up Novi for both residential and industrial development.

—The Novi News

SOUTHFIELD — The Southfield School District portion of Southfield Township has the lowest 1957 tax rate in seven townships checked personally by Clara Lane, Southfield township treasurer. The Southfield School District is taxing at the rate of \$38.48 per \$1,000. Rates for the two other districts, partly within the township, are: Birmingham, \$47.65, and Oak Park, \$41.00.

These figures include township, county, special education and school taxes.

The highest tax rate in the township areas investigated goes to Royal Oak township which, with four school districts, charges rates ranging from \$42.28 to \$70.44.

Other townships and rates in their school districts are: Waterford — Township District, \$39.52; Pontiac, \$51.19; Clarkston, \$56.52.

Redford — Redford Union, \$55.07; Clarenceville, \$55.40; Township District, \$49.61.

Farmington — Township District, \$59.60; Clarenceville, \$58.48; Commerce, \$53.70.

Bloomfield — Birmingham, \$63.74; Bloomfield Hills, \$54.38; Hickory Grove, \$62.34; Pontiac, \$51.27; Auburn Heights, \$60.81.

West Bloomfield — Wallis Lake, \$55.45; Bloomfield Hills, \$58.92; Waterford, \$61.87; Bloomfield Hills, \$48.48; No. 5 Fractional, \$50.69; Birmingham, \$57.13; Pontiac, \$45.60.

—The Four Corners Press

LIVONIA — Council members stammered and stammered over a plan to raise their own salaries at their last regular meeting.

Finally a proposed resolution boosting yearly pay from \$1,200 to \$2,400 apiece was introduced but failed to obtain a majority.

Three-fifths vote needed to place a charter amendment on the ballot. Originally it was suggested to hike the councilmen's salaries \$1,600 per year but a discussion among the members caused the proposed raise to be revised downward to \$2,400.

At the present time councilmen are receiving \$600 a year but will get a raise to \$1,200 in April as called for in the charter.

Had the resolution for the raise to \$2,400 been passed it would have been placed to a vote in the February primary election as an amendment to the charter.

—The Livonian

BLOOMFIELD HILLS — Initial plans for a complete review of Bloomfield Hills' teaching and study programs received the enthusiastic support of the Hill board of education at its last meeting.

Superintendent Eugene L. Johnson said that he plans to begin discussions with PTA groups and interested parties early next year with the intention of gearing the school program to new needs, as made apparent currently by such advances as Russia's Sputnik.

A program "stressing science but not at the expense of history and the humanities" is the goal Johnson said he hopes to achieve.

Not only college preparatory programs but non-college courses and the district's financial structure and building programs may be reviewed.

—The Birmingham Eclectic

WAYNE — The Wayne County Board of Supervisors has set March 4th as the date the Wayne area is to vote on city incorporation.

Detroit Common Council president Mary Beck made the motion which climaxed a four year fight for an election date by the Village. The motion was seconded numerous times and passed unanimously.

A circuit court injunction was needed to force the supervisors to act on setting an election date which even then was delayed somewhat longer when the Supervisors appealed the decision to the Michigan Supreme Court and lost.

—The Wayne Dispatch

Sugar — preserved dairy cream that keeps well, unrefrigerated, just as do sweetened condensed and evaporated milk, is a promising new product of dairy research.

IT'S A FACT*

About one in 200 people is **EPILEPTIC** but most of them can be helped to live normal lives.

The Michigan Epilepsy Center provides diagnosis and consultation of epileptic patients at the request of their family doctor. It studies patients from a medical and social point of view.

When properly placed in a job epileptics are as productive as other workers and they stay on the job as long.

You make possible the work of the Michigan Epilepsy Center when you give your fair share to your local United Community Campaign

MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

Get Early Start on Plans for '58 'Michigan Week' Program, May 4-10

THIS YEAR Michigan is getting an early start with a special week May 4-10 to count its blessings. Previously, the promotion period came later in May.

The cheery robin will be joined by the symbol of the new Mackinac Straits Bridge as signs of the state's 1958 Michigan Week.

Water and education will be the dual themes of the 1958 celebration and the theme of "Great to Live in Michigan" will be retained. Dwight Stocker of Kalamazoo said the education side of the theme will be emphasized inside the state and the water attractions of Michigan will be stressed beyond its borders.

"Education appeals to everyone living in Michigan and water appeals to residents of other states where that resource is not plentiful," he said.

Edward J. Hickman of Grand Rapids has been named general chairman of the 1958 event which will picture Michigan as a state of business and industry, a playground and "a good place to live."

Chicago is the "villain" in a court drama with six states demanding that the city return the water it drains from Lake Michigan for sanitation purposes.

Involved are Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York—all protesting the loss of lake levels which threaten to damage homes for the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Chicago started taking water out of Lake Michigan more than 60 years ago for two purposes.

The city used 1,500 feet per second for the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal to make it navigable. That has been the restriction since 1930.

Unlimited pumping also has been used to run through the city's sanitation system. After it is used, the water goes into the Mississippi river through the canal.

The first meeting, at Saginaw, brought a blast from Justice Eugene F. Black, who charged that the Wayne County Judges are taking excessive vacations and allowing their cases to backlog.

It started a furor, with judges denying their schedules of vacations are reducing the effectiveness of the bench.

The second meeting, with Upper Peninsula judges at Marquette, brought only a criticism of the state parole board whose policies, it was charged, keep state prisoners overcrowded.

Observers stated that the Marquette meeting was less spectacular (Continued on Page 5B)

"TEENS" go for milk's "real gone" good taste!

Active teens refresh with milk every day, at any hour. They love its taste, know it's nutritious, keeps them fit.

Happy New Year!



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LOOKING AHEAD

by Dr. George F. Lewis
EDITOR — MICHIGAN EDUCATION PROGRAM
Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Wealth in Oklahoma

Whenever the Socialists and Communists have sought to gain control of a nation from within, by shaping the thinking and attitudes of the people, they have first tried to make the word "wealth" a dirty word. They have sought to create resentment against the accumulation of wealth. They have been trying it for years in America. They declare that a system which permits anybody to become wealthy is not in the best interests of all the citizens. They claim that a system with profit motive makes a few people wealthy and all the rest poor.

The results produced by the American system prove this to be false. There are many striking illustrations. In recent weeks I have been spending some time in Oklahoma; in fact, as this is written I have just returned from a swing through a large section of the "Sooner" state. What has happened in Oklahoma in the last 50 years makes a powerful reply to the Socialist propaganda which claims that the creation of wealth under the capitalist system benefits only a few.

Prairie Land

Sixty years ago the territory that is now Oklahoma was frontier prairie land, sparsely settled; and when it became a State and was admitted to the Union just 50 years ago the economy was almost entirely agricultural. When I was a boy growing behind a team of horses on my dad's Oklahoma farm, and later earning my way at Oklahoma A. & M. College by doing some farm work, the living standard of the people of Oklahoma was far below the national average.

Then came exploration and the finding of oil. Some of the nation's most sensational oil strikes were made in Oklahoma in the 15 years, 1910-1925. Hundreds of people were made rich almost overnight. But the important thing is that the new wealth of crude petroleum offered wonderful opportunities for processing and manufacturing into petroleum products. Some of the rich families began to build refineries. Also, the wealth of hundreds of out-of-state people was poured into Oklahoma to invest in industries and with oil processing, petrochemicals, etc. Thousands of new jobs were created.

Prosperous and Progressive

The Oklahoma of today is a scene of prosperity and progress. Thirty years ago, when the oil was just beginning to be brought forth from the earth, in huge quantities, the per capita income in Oklahoma was about \$200 a year. Today it is more than five times that amount, approximately \$1,000. There are a number of "oil millionaires" in Oklahoma today, but the significant thing is that all over Oklahoma people generally are prospering. The average family has an income of better than \$4,000 a year. The creation of wealth from the steady flood of crude oil has spread its benefits throughout the population.

The Oklahoma of today is not a one-crop state. Much of the wealth from oil has been transferred over into thousands of other (Continued on Page 4B)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (December 29, 1932)

Township Relief

Farmington Township's administration of welfare relief was handed over to Hubert H. Earle last Friday by action of the board who appointed him as superintendent of welfare. He will receive \$25 a week, with no car mileage allowance. He was given entire charge of the welfare system in the township including all investigation duties.

Goodfellow Drive

The most successful Goodfellow Drive in Farmington history was held this year. A total of 88 Christmas baskets were distributed to needy families in addition to 120 pounds of candy which was given by Groves Walker Post Legion members.

Prices Low

In an advertisement which appeared in this issue of the paper for the Red and White Market, owned by Delos Hamlin, the following prices were listed: coffee, 27c and 21c per pound; butter, 24c per pound; bacon, 1 pound for 80c; lard, 6c-per pound; and pot roast, 14c per pound.

TEN YEARS AGO (December 25, 1947)

Door-to-door Mail

The City of Farmington will have door-to-door mail delivery beginning July 1, 1948. It was announced Saturday by Norman C. Lee, Farmington Postmaster. Two mailmen will be added to the post office staff to cover the city on foot. One delivery a day will be made with mailmen both picking up and delivering mail house-to-house. According to Lee, all general delivery will be stopped on July 1 except for actual transients. Persons who do not want home delivery may request a post office lock box. Under the new city delivery plan, persons will be required to provide either a mail box outside their home or a slot in the door.

Christmas Decorations

For the first time in several years, Farmington was decorated for Christmas with a lighted tree up in the Town Hall park and three strands of colored lights extending across Grand River in the business district. A tree is also up outdoors in front of the Civic Theatre.

FIVE YEARS AGO (December 25, 1952)

Larger Board

Four new trustees are expected to be elected to the Farmington Township Board this spring in accordance with a new law passed by the State Legislature last week. Under the new law, townships of over 5,000 population are authorized to have four trustees on the board. The trustees will serve as township officials in place of Justices of the Peace. In a recent Supreme Court decision, Justices were banned from serving on township boards. Nominating petitions are now available through the township clerk. The regular township primary will be held on February 16 with the final election in April.

City Police Car

A second city police car will be added to the Farmington City police department sometime in January, City Manager James Tennant stated. Two additional police radios have also been purchased by the city for installation in municipal vehicles. One will go in the new police car and the other in the public works department truck.

SHORTEST DAY OF THE YEAR was last Sunday. Is it a coincidence that once we make a lot of New Year's resolutions the days seem to get longer and longer?

Best Wishes for the New Year

The time has come again when we gladly wish for all our many and loyal friends a very healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

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GREETINGS

Happy days
All success
Here's to you
Good luck

Joy to all
Have fun
Be healthy
Be happy
Hello '58
Best wishes

Farmington Enterprise