

# Editorial Page

## Proud of Our Library

Next Sunday is a red letter day in the history of Farmington, for it's open house at the new city-township public library. Anyone who used the old facility in the township hall will certainly agree.

We won't attempt to give credit to any certain persons, for this was truly a work in which a great many people over the years, and of late, have participated. The news stories in this issue of the paper will tell you about many of them. To some, it meant carrying on in the face of criticism or lack of interest, but they did carry on to success.

We've heard many comments about missing the library services in the enforced vacation. Why, even some of the high school pupils have used it as an excuse for not getting lesson work done, although there is a school library. They catch on quick—we suspect here—after the excuse will be that all the books they wanted were being used.

That's the way we believe the new library will be used!

## Interest in Elections

There is considerable interest already in the coming city council race, and that is undoubtedly good. It should bring out a good vote.

The Enterprise has no candidates, but aims to treat each with interest and fairness. When each announces we like to give a little preliminary data on him. After nominations have closed, this newspaper will send a questionnaire to each, asking personal information and training, and ask him to express his ideas on what he considers most important. These will be published impartially just prior to the election.

The same hold true for the township election, both April 6. The township races are partisan, of course, and may generate a different kind of heat than the city election.

Voting was very poor in the primary election all over. City and township citizens must certainly turn out better than last week!

## Blame Both Parties

As the result of the state conventions recently held by both Democrats and Republicans, and the standoff in the legislature so far, prospects of a fair and equitable solution to Michigan's tax situation appear to be pretty poor.

Both Republicans and Democrats can be blamed vigorously. Both sides appear much more interested in trying to put the other in a political hole than in trying to solve state problems.

We feel there are enough intelligent people in the state who would appreciate an earnest and fair approach to taxation. But some days we're not too certain.

## The Farmington Enterprise

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## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

**LIVONIA** — In an unusual joint announcement, two Livonia councilmen stated that they would follow the example of the city and cut two men from the city payroll immediately and set aside 20 percent of all future budgets for emergency maintenance and improvements. They will also ask that councilmen dedicate themselves from now on to "justice."

Robert Sasser and Jack Salvo, elected to the council one year ago, said they interpreted the sound bite of the Livonia order from the citizens of Livonia. All of the proposed improvement projects were deflected and any money left in the margins. This is the second time that improvement propositions have been turned down.

"We bring to the notice of the board and millage proposals offered were good ideas but it is quite apparent that the city is not prepared to meet the needs," the two councilmen said in a statement to the press.

To slash 20 percent from the current operating budget would involve an abrupt change in policy involving \$400,000 annually; it was estimated.

"We want half of this money to go into a fund from which future capital improvements—things such as police stations, playgrounds, and so on—can be made. The second portion of 10 percent would go for unappropriated surplus," the councilmen said in a statement to the press.

**SOUTHFIELD** — Will into the eighth month of its first full fiscal year, the City of Southfield council is digesting a report on the present and future status of the city, as submitted by the city administrator.

A cursory examination of expenditures and revenues appear to indicate that the city is in a position to pay the budget and suggests that there will be money left in the treasury when the fiscal year ends on June 30.

Revenue already received or due the city are estimated at \$934,000, almost \$6,000 more than anticipated when the current budget was adopted July 1 of last year. Against this figure is an estimated expenditure for the year amounting to \$930,000.

The resulting surplus of \$139,000 does not give a true picture of the financial situation since about \$80,000 in the maintenance of equipment for road, water, and sewerage.

—The Southfield News

**DEARBORN** — Mayor Deville L. Hubbard has opened an all-out war on the proposed police-fireman pay plan with campaign promises to the voters.

One method of attack is his now famous "explanatory captions," which he has convinced the council to include in the April ballot proposition speaking strongly against the proposal.

He is also meeting with groups of area anti-police-fireman and "advising" them to pull out of any campaign for pay increases or getting their proposals to the vote.

—The Dearborn Press

**NOVI** — Landfill problems were back in the municipal limelight in Novi. The village council last Monday adopted an ordinance to regulate the disposal of refuse on lands within the village and to regulate or prohibit dumping and depositing of waste, rubbish, refuse and other materials.

But this doesn't mean much earlier action, turning down a request for land-filling to Gus McCready has been carried beyond the council. He is operating the land fill under board of health specifications for 30 days.

"If the board of health should find anything wrong with the landfill—I'd shut it right down," McCready said.

—The Novi News

**PLYMOUTH** — Downtown merchants are expected to appear soon before the city commission to propose a lease arrangement for the Central Parking Lot on the free parking area offered customers.

Thirty members of the Retail Merchants Committee of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce made the decision last week.

The free parking concept has been the goal of downtown merchants and they feel that parking meters and the inconvenience that goes with them—especially if one is issued a ticket—drive away customers.

They feel this will be especially true when more shopping centers open with plenty of free parking.

—The Plymouth Mail

The up-to-date house has wall-to-wall carpeting, wall-to-wall windows, and back-to-the-wall financing.

The committee of legislators

## THE AMERICAN WAY



Blind "Figure" Skating

## MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

### Legislators Have Estimated 1,000 New Laws Planned for Michigan

**CITIZENS WILL OBEY** between 100 and 200 more laws next year.

These will be the successful bills from the estimated 1,000 legislators will sponsor in the weeks and months ahead.

The new laws will range from some obscure correction in the drain code to important and perhaps vexing, revisions of the state's infrastructure.

Michigan's present laws would fill a good-sized bookcase. Some are ignored, like the prohibition against watching a ball game on Sunday.

Lawmakers have created their own legends in Michigan.

One member of the legislature is said to have come to a session pledged to vote "no" on everything simply because "the people have too many laws now."

Another this year sponsored a bill that has been defeated every time it appeared since he first introduced it. The bill, "Quarter-Century Club."

Statisticians curious enough to do the job once figured it costs \$2,000 to sponsor a bill in the legislature.

The bill starts as an idea in the mind of someone who sees the need for more controls, fewer controls; better law enforcement, or less; more state services or, maybe, for no reason.

There is always a number of bills legislators sponsor because a voter back in their districts asked them to, and most of them die without fanfare or excessive sorrow.

It is then possible for the legislator to return home and order on the floor what he had the idea, thusly:

"Gee, I tried on your bill. I introduced it and fought like a tiger, but then the fellow (somebody) wouldn't go along."

Proposals come to the legislature as ideas and are put into bill form by experts known as bill-drafters. It is a rare occasion when a legislator drafts his own bill.

Each bill must be read three times, though the first two times are within seconds of each other. This is immediately before it is referred to a committee for study. The third reading is just before a final vote.

Usually, a bill is never completely read aloud.

Committees work on a bill, listen to the pros and cons. The committee vote is often the most important. Many bills never get out of committee to be considered on the floor.

When they do, they are placed on a debate schedule known as "general orders" or "special order on general orders," giving it a priority. After debate, it goes to third reading.

Third reading brings the final vote and, if successful, the process is duplicated where the bill is sent to the governor's office for his signature.

MORE THAN 300 state employees will get an extra pay raise July 1.

It will be in addition to the seven percent that granted all employees under the merit system by the state civil service commission.

Reason for the extra increase involves adjustments in ratings and levels and the changes are being made generally in the highest and lowest classifications.

The cost will be between \$157,000 and \$230,000 a year.

CONSTRUCTION of a new 10-story state office building, estimated at \$8,000,000, has apparently been shelved for this year.

So long as we are full of self we are shocked at the faults of others.

## Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

### 25 Years Ago FEBRUARY 22

**Dividend Paid**

Because of Washington's Birthday, the Farmington post office was closed Thursday, and thus some depositors of Peoples State Bank of Farmington had to wait until Friday to find out some good news.

The surprise, which most of them didn't even know about, was in the form of dividends for 5 percent of their deposits. This brought the total amount paid out dividends to date up to 15 percent.

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### 5 Years Ago FEBRUARY 25, 1951

**Building Ordinance**

The Farmington Township Board agreed to give serious consideration to the drafting of a building code, at its regular meeting Tuesday night.

Supervisor Ernest Blanchard indicated that a building code could be adopted to tie in with the present zoning ordinance.

It is proposed that Thomas St. be made two way and that diagonal parking be set up on both sides of the street.

### 10 Years Ago FEBRUARY 24, 1949

**Superintendent Flying**

Louis Schmidt, superintendent of the Clarenceville School District, is one of those picked by the group led by the Farmington Local of the Michigan Farmers' Union. The meeting held in Farmington Town Hall attracted about 50 farmers.

On Monday evening a second meeting was held for further organization work on the Farmington Local of the Michigan Farmers' Union. The meeting held in Farmington Town Hall attracted about 50 farmers.

### Normandy Hills AUDREY ROGERSON GR. 4-6995

The Snyderers had as houseguests for the weekend Barbara's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wilcox of Grand Rapids.

Leatrice Steinsult underwent surgery this past week. She is in the Crittenton Hospital, the address is 1550 Tuxedo, Detroit, for those of you who might wish to send cards. She is expected to remain in the hospital for about ten days.

Francine DeGree has returned home to New Jersey. She has been visiting with Walter and Hazel for the past two weeks.

The Habicht family spent the weekend in Buchanan, Mich., visiting Myra's family.

Elaine Hughes, sister of Mrs. Gloria Nowroski, gave birth to a 7 pound, 13 ounce baby named Timothy recently. Mrs. Nowroski's two children have been staying at the Hughes home while she is in the hospital.

Farmington's loss is Grand Rapids gain as the Hans Thomason family completed packing and made their final move last Thursday. They are now residing in East Grand Rapids.

### Jrs. Exploring Science Series Starts Feb. 28

James A. Fowler, curator of education at Cranbrook Institute of Science, has announced that a second spring "Exploring Science" series for junior members will begin Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m. at the auditorium of the Institute.

Subject of this first program will be "Exploring a Coral Reef" featuring the Institute's new Coral Reef exhibit. There also will be color slides and motion pictures of present-day coral reefs as well as pictures of a fossil coral reef like those which abounded in Michigan 300 million years ago.

Succeeding programs will be illustrated by movie slides or exhibits, with an occasional demonstration or museum tour.

March 7 will feature "Bird Migration" with Walter P. Nickell in charge, and on March 14 the group will explore amphibians, with special emphasis on the frog, toads, etc., to be found in this state. No program is scheduled for March 21, so that those young people who participate in the Detroit Science Fair may attend. Some of the exhibits from the Fair will be seen during the March 28 program at the Institute.

Junior members of 10 years or older are eligible for this series, and each may bring one guest, child or adult. There is no charge for the programs.

Further information on Junior memberships may be obtained by telephoning MI 4-660, ext. 73.

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## Begins Army Reserve Duty

Paul R. Hoofnagle, 2525 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Army Reservist, began six months active duty training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, on February 22. Major General Theodore S. Riggs, Commanding General, VI U. S. Army Corps, announced.

Hoofnagle is a member of the 703 Tank Battalion Company B, Pontiac, Army Reserve.

After completing his tour of duty, the reservist will return home to fulfill his military obligation by serving with the Pontiac Army Reserve unit.

"The penalty for not having prejudices is that you have to use your head." — Franklin P. Jones.

Buy in Friendly Farmington!

## Off-Street Parking

Survey and layout work was started this week on the proposed parking area along Thomas Street in the center of the business district.

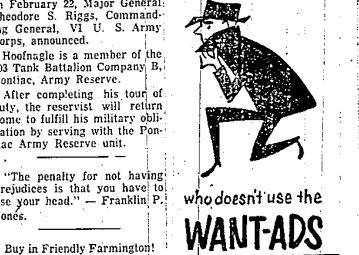
The survey and layout work is being done by Russell Cole. Preliminary work is expected to be completed in about a week.

It is proposed that Thomas St. be made two way and that diagonal parking be set up on both sides of the street.

Visitations at six Nebraska state parks hit an all-time high of 558,285 in 1954, an increase of 26,700 over 1953, the National Wildlife Federation has been informed. Sixty-nine per cent of the visits were concentrated in the June-August period of mid-summer.

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