

Editorial Page

The New Bridge

Quite a number of auto drivers have quickly learned about the new bridge being open on old Grand River, in the Kensington park area, so that one may now drive the old route. There hasn't been a great deal of publicity about it, either.

The state highway department and Commissioner Mackie are to be commended for restoring use of this good road. It will keep some slower moving traffic off the expressway, and provide an additional entrance to the city on week ends when there is much traffic.

It has another advantage we hope will never be needed. Ever since we had a chance to study the proposed routes to relieve the city of Detroit in case of an air attack, we've been concerned that people in the Farmington area could well get caught in a traffic jam that might be fatal. Re-opening this good road gives just one more exit route.

It will take at least another year to determine if re-opening will help the remaining business firms much, or bring back any that had to close earlier. We're not too optimistic about that.

We do know that downtown Farmington is quite a different place from what it was a couple of years ago, and that Grand River businesses west of the city aren't the only ones which have felt the effects of the new expressway.

Bigger Heels

We're all for bigger heels — not the human kind, but the leather ones that women wear. Why? We've seen a couple of floors lately.

Many floor coverings in stores are of resilient material, and in a few instances the floors have been nearly ruined by female employees wearing the sharp heels. It's a problem in the Detroit area, but we note that a large office building in New York City and another in London have banned wearing of these heels.

Wait — it might all be a dark plot. Maybe this is some of the planned obsolescence we've been hearing about.

Citizens For Michigan

Preliminary organizational work has started in Oakland county for Citizens for Michigan — identified strongly with George Romney, but now working toward a large balanced group which will be dominated by no one person or clique.

A few Farmington people have indicated interest, and others might if they knew how. Anyone interested in how to join or how to organize a local group may write to Citizens for Michigan, Box 550, Ann Arbor.

One of the things they're apt to receive is a leaflet titled "Toward an Informed Electorate." We like the quote from Thoreau which reads:

"I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them but to inform them; discretion by education."

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

WIXOM—Preliminary steps to adopt an ordinance to prohibit liquor violations by youths and to amend the "offense ordinance" has been taken by the Wixom City Council.

Under the proposed ordinance, minors in possession of alcoholic beverages or intoxicating liquors—and persons furnishing liquor to minors would be subject to city prosecution. The proposed change in the ordinance provides for a maximum jail sentence of 90 days and a \$500 fine for convicted violators. As the ordinance stands now, the maximum jail sentence is six months. The fine is the same.

The change was made after it was learned that state status prohibits cities of Wixom's size from setting jail sentences at more than 90 days.

—The Novi News

DEARBORN—The state Tax Commission last week slashed assessments on Detroit Edison Company property in Dearborn by \$1,500,000. The assessment will mean Dearborn's city government will lose approximately \$27,000 in tax money a year. It was the second such slash in a year.

The Tax Commission reduced millions of dollars in property tax assessments in Detroit suburban areas.

The commission's secretary said, "local governments are not bearing heavily enough on G.O.P. voters."

Mayor Orville L. Hubbard's reaction to the Detroit Edison assessment slash was swift and bitter.

"Detroit Edison ought to be ashamed," he said.

"It's had the cream of the utility business in Dearborn. We pay the company \$250,000 a year for street lighting alone."

"If this is the way they feel we are seriously considering hiring an electrical engineer to study whether or not it would be practical to build our own electrical plant in Dearborn."

Assessment on Detroit Edison property in Dearborn was reduced from \$9,411,360 to \$7,909,360.

—Dearborn Press

SOUTHFIELD—The City Council yelled "Hey cabbie!" last week but not because it wanted cab at all.

The Council was yelled because of a zoning ordinance violation that came to light when residents of Oakwood registered a complaint about conditions arising from the operation of the Southfield Veteran Car Co. on the residential street.

An investigation was made by Southfield police department in complaints made by residents of Oakwood. The investigation, and other matters related to business operations are conducted there.

The fact that most of the complaints made were determined to be true didn't really concern the Council, however. It's only concern was with violation of the zoning ordinance which prohibits business pursuits on residentially zoned property.

The Council voted to revoke the license of the cab company, pending a hearing on the matter.

—The Southfield News

BIRMINGHAM—Although Detroit will charge the South Oakland water Authority 12 cents per thousand cubic feet of water, rates will not go up in Birmingham until it is determined whether there is need for raising along the increase to the consumer.

The previous SOC Authority rate was \$1.50 per 1,000 cubic feet. It has been increased to \$1.62.

The Authority has agreed to absorb the November and December additional cost which amounts to about \$13,000.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

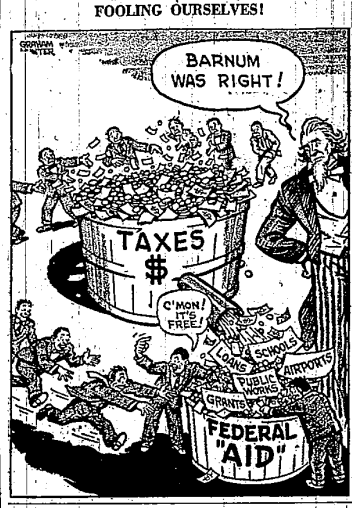
PLYMOUTH—Board of Education members spent much of their time at a meeting last week working out details of the \$4,500,000 bond proposal that will appear on the ballot Nov. 23.

There will be four propositions. The first two will deal with the \$4,000,000 bond issue while the last two will be devoted to the \$500,000 issue to build an auditorium.

Proposed with the \$4 million is the building and furnishing of a combination junior-senior high, remedial and present junior high, the erecting and furnishing of elementary and high school buildings either in the form of new buildings or a swimming pool addition to the present junior high and the acquiring of additional school sites.

—The Plymouth Mail

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Political, Money, Safety Problems All Beset State

INTERNAL BICKERING is being suppressed in both camps as Republicans and Democrats point for the 1960 elections.

Babeling within the state G.O.P. is aired whenever there is a clash between "liberal" Lawrence B. Lindemeyer, the state chairman, and Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, the "conservative" pictured in some circles as losing his grip in Michigan. Much of this has been in the news lately.

Extra-party disputes among Democrats are more subtle. Personalities, not philosophies, are at odds within Democratic ranks.

The Iron Man of state Democrats, Party Chairman Neil Stabler, has managed to keep the lid on the potpourri of candidates eager to try for Gov. G. Mennen Williams' seat if he decides to run for a seventh term.

It hasn't been easy with men like Secretary of State James M. Hare, whose strong showing in leading the ticket in the 1958 elections puts him in a commanding position for the 1960 election.

At least one 1958 election winner is not expected to be among the Administrative Board candidates in 1960. Frank S. Seymann, twice elected Attorney General, resigned to become a probate judge.

His replacement is expected to make a strong candidate a year from now. This M. Smith, elevated to the Administrative Board after building a solid record as chairman of the Public Service Commission, is the first Negro to serve on the Board.

Williams' appointment of Smith was whisked through the Senate for confirmation with almost unprecedented speed. The only objections came from senators who said Smith would be hard to replace on the commission.

STATE MONEY WOES are not the only matters commanding attention of the Administrative Board members this fall.

When the Supreme Court decided to throw out the penny use (sales) tax increase, Attorney General Fred A. Adams who led the fight to have it tossed out, was arguing a U.S. Supreme Court matter.

Adams was in Chicago for hearings ordered by the nation's highest court on Chicago's attempt to divert more water from Lake Michigan.

"A victory on the water diversion case would cost the state before the 1960 elections, would do much to boost Adams' stature."

Power, navigation, recreation and fishery interests have a vital interest in the case, as do all property owners along Michigan's Great Lakes shoreline.

Under the tax case, the water diversion case finds almost everyone in Michigan on the same side. Adams' fight against the water "tax" can only win friends here. It's like being against sin.

TRAFFIC SAFETY is a major concern of Secretary of State James M. Hare when he is not wrestling with state fiscal problems or patronage squabbles in his auto license branch office system.

Hare, once seriously injured in an auto crash, credits his work in traffic safety for his success at the polls.

Michigan has a major traffic safety promotion on Tap Nov. 15. It is Safety Sabbath, an eight-day program intended to focus attention on the moral

responsibility of the individual driver.

"We need local enthusiasm and a understanding that spiritual serenity and a brotherhood attitude is a basic element in maintaining sound and care-free driving habits," Hare said.

Un-American is the brand name Edward Hutchinson (R-Farmington) put on one traffic safety proposal mentioned by Hare at a Safety Commission meeting.

Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

15 Years Ago
NOV. 2, 1944

War Fund Drive
The drive in Farmington to raise money for the United War Fund is scheduled to end this week. Just what success the drive has enjoyed here in Farmington is not yet known, since no collection figures are available. Farmington's share of the total quota which is being raised by Oakland county is \$4,240.

Blood Bank
Although registration of blood donors was very slow in the early part of the campaign, sufficient registrations were made during the last few days to make the visit of the mobile unit one of the most successful here to date. The unit secured 251 pints set earlier. One donor, Howard Middlewood, gave his ninth donation. Lawrence Hill donated his tenth pint of blood.

Theatre Party
The Halloween party at the Civic Theatre was hailed as a huge success, and the boys and girls seem to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It is estimated that more than 600 children were turned away because there was no more room. Under the direction of Mr. McConnell, theatre manager, an afternoon of fun and entertainment was carried out. A special cartoon feature was shown and prizes were given out.

10 Years Ago
NOV. 3, 1949

City Hall Remodeling
City Commission this week awarded a contract to have the front of the city hall building re-modelled. Work is expected to begin in about a week. The contract was for about \$4,000. Plans call for the moving of the police department to the east side of the building while the west side will house for the city clerk and city treasurer. A customer counter will also be built in the police department. The re-modelling will offer greater working space for city officials.

Old Resident Dies
Myra Walcott, resident of Farmington Township since 1866 died in her sleep here last Wednesday morning. Mrs. Walcott would have been 93 on December 4. She was born in Canada and had lived in Pontiac for several years before moving here.

\$4,800 Goal
Hopes for a single charity drive here took a setback this week when the Infante Paralytic foundation withdrew from participation. It dropped the local goal to \$4,800. Fund drive officials are confident that Farmington will obtain its goal. Consequently, the Fund Drive will not be the only charity campaign in Farmington this year.

School Closed
Students at Clarenceville High received an unexpected holiday Wednesday when plumbing broke-down and forced the closing of the school.

Mrs. Victor Small, 29093 Moran road, returned home last week from California where she visited relatives during the past month.

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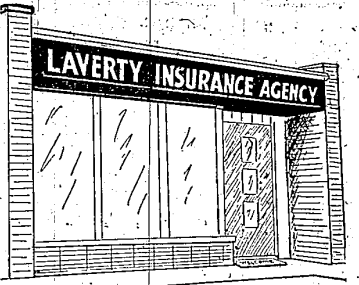
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