Editorially Speaking . . .

The School Budget and Pay for Teachers

A proposed $3 million-plus operating budget for the 1960-'61 school year was approved by the Farmington Board of Education last week. Since each and everyone of us pay taxes to the state and community, we are therefore all shareholders in this big business of education and should be vitally concerned with its operation.

Analyzing the proposed operating budget it is found that 77% of this total is earmarked for instructional expenses and that of this amount teachers' salaries alone account for 66.7% of it.

A look at the newly adopted teachers' pay schedule presents some interesting facts.

Under this new pay schedule a beginning teacher, fresh out of college with no experience, will be getting $4,500 a year. Although this is only $86 to $87 a week on a 52-week basis, it figures out between $112 and $113 a week for the approximately 40 weeks that the teacher is actually working. It is possible that the beginning teacher might have to supplement his or her teacher's pay for the first couple of years to make ends meet. But, summer jobs for teachers are available and we know of many who work during their summer vacation periods and have been for years. Another $500 and upward should be able to be added in this manner.

And, the yearly pay raises for teachers are fairly good and pretty much assured. The job, as long as it is wanted, is also fairly well assured since teachers continue to be in great demand across the country.

Under the newly adopted salary schedule, a teacher with five years of experience will now be making $5,650 yearly. This is an increase in pay of $1,150 over a five year period. The weekly pay figures out to between $108 and $109. Figuring it on the actual 40 work-week basis it comes out to about $142 per week.

And the pay continues to go up on the new salary schedule. The maximum pay for a teacher with 14 years of experience is now set at $6,900 or nearly $133 a week for 40 weeks of work out of the 52 in a year.

For the teacher who goes on to get a master's degree there is an automatic $300 a year increase waiting.

In our opinion, teaching is one of the most important professional jobs there is and the schoolteacher should obtain the best possible pay that can be given. Compared with what schoolteachers were making not so many years back, we feel that great strides have been made toward doing this.

But, we also feel that in getting teachers' pay in line serious consideration must be given to assure that an undue hardship is not being placed on the community taxpayers.

It is our opinion that the Farmington school system now has a fairly good pay structure for its teachers and that this might well be the point at which "the line should be held." We do not mean that annual increments should be stopped but rather that future pay increases over and above this should not be made, at least for two or three years.

We feel that the tax load has gotten just about heavy enough for most in the community. Perhaps in a couple years time some concrete steps to improve the tax base in the community shall have been accomplished. This is to us the real task that lies immediately ahead.

Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting in Farmington has outgrown the purpose for which it was intended. At one such of these meetings within the next few years it is very possible that some legislative action might be "pressured" through that could be very harmful to the community as a whole and action not at all desired by the majority.

We have made this observation after having attended and made approximate counts of the number of citizens in attendance at these annual meetings over the past four or five years.

As best we can recall, attendance has never run over 300 during this time and at this year's meeting, held Saturday, we estimate that there were less than 150 present. Based on a population of approximately 30,000 in the township, this means that less than one percent are actually taking advantage of the truly democratic rights which were granted to them under the township form of government through the annual meeting.

Although we are still operating under a township form of government, it is quite obvious that most of the citizens in the township are willing to have all action initiated and carried out by their elected officials. This is what usually happens when townships begin to become heavily populated.

It is our sincere feeling that the township form of government, set up on "true democracy" principles with everyone having a legislative voice at least once a year (at the annual meeting) was never intended for anything but sparsely settled rural areas.

We do not mean to imply by this that we are advocating a change in the form of government for the township at this time. We could cite some advantages to doing so but we could also cite some disadvantages.

All we propose at this time is that serious consideration be given to the abolishment of holding of annual meetings. This we feel should be done because of the seriously dangerous position the township citizenry is placed in from having unwanted legislature forced through by an organized pressure group at one of these annual meetings.

There are two methods by which the annual meeting can be abolished in any townships having populations of over 5,000. A resolution of the township board submitting the issue to the voters is one method. The other is by means of a petition signed by eight percent of the voters. In either case, the question is submitted to the voters at the next regular primary of general election.

Staman Acres Briefs

Gail Taylor
GR. 4-0949

Sunday, April 3 a surprise shower was given for Mary Caillouette in honor of Maurice and Mary's new daughter, Lisa. The shower was given by Joanne Smith, Charlotte Waskowski, Marie Schotten, Ethel Combs and Marian Knowles. Poem announcements were sent out to 37 guests for the Sunday supper. Charlotte Waskowski made the center piece.

The guests sat at pink colored tables with bouquets of pink, white and blue daisys, baby motifs and pink sweetheart roses. Each received a little booty favor filled with mints. Paula Scheff, Millie Unks and Lillian Bylski won prizes and Mary received many beautiful gifts from little Lisa.

Staman Acres has had many birthdays in the last few weeks. Taking his first breath was Jeffrey William Kemp born March 22 to Charlotte and Marvin Kemp at New Grace Hospital. Little Jeff weighed only 3 lb. 5 oz. at birth but is gaining steadily and will be home when he reaches 5 lbs.

LEE KATTERMAN celebrated his 8th birthday March 19 with 8 friends. The boys played games and had birthday cake and ice cream.

The Sedloskys had two birthdays at their house. David was 7 on March 20 and Barb turned 4 on March 27.

Because of the measles David had to postpone his celebration to March 26 when some of his friends enjoyed a party with a Huckleberry Hound theme. Maryann Schotten and Allen, Jeffrey and Julie Bylski helped Barb to celebrate her birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Youngquist were the weekend guests of the Al Reynolds family. The Taylor family also had a guest for the weekend. Mrs. Bea Burnett, June's sister, was visiting from Vermontville, Michigan.

Nature is the most thrifty thing in the world; she never wastes anything; she undergoes change, but there's no annihilation — the essence remains. —T. Binney

Save 10c but travel ten miles —Where's the saving?

Do You Remember . . . .

PICTURED ABOVE are members of the third and fourth grade classes of the Farmington schools in 1915. Floyd Sallow, City of Farmington DPW Superintendent, was kind enough to pore over the picture and make the following identifications: standing left to right: Ellen Voss, Ara Goers, Dorothy Wixom, unknown, Isabelle Pauline, Edna Kregar, Helen Steel, Ethel Becker, Viola Walters, Trena Catherman, Elvira Esch, Agnes Barnhart, Charlotte Prindle, Margaret Kregar, Helen Prindle, Miss Day (teacher) ,Janette Hamilton, Helen Pauline, unknown, Phyllis Conroy, Margaret Bryan, Nettie Staman, Ula Durham and unknown.

Sitting are Margaret Pecket, Alice Clare, Howard Otis, Albert Reidel, E. Meesnes, Cecil Habormikle, Merideth Steel, Leon Newman, unknown, Narwood Tibbets, William Dickerson, E. Reidel, James Bryan, Percy Pauline, Gerald Parker, Lemual Irving, Kenneth Wixom, Floyd Sallow, Harley Walters, Fraser Staman, Albert Esch, Harold Grace, Kenneth Voss, John Westfall, York Conroy, Austin Habormikle, Carlton Allen and Fred Allen.

Looking Back in the Files

15 Years Ago
APRIL 5, 1945

Drive Successful

As usual both the city and township residents came through with flying colors in the recently completed Red Cross Drive which netted a total of $10,446, according to Chairman, Mrs. Joseph DeVriendt.

Throughout Oakland County the response to the Red Cross Drive has been excellent and to date reports from all cities and townships indicate the final figure will be well above that of last year.

Mrs. DeVriendt wishes to extend thanks to all the workers who gave so generously of his or her time and effort to enable Farmington to do its share in the War Fund Drive. Thanks were also extended to each individual and business house in the community for the splendid cooperation shown by all toward the success of the drive.

10 Years Ago
APRIL 6, 1950

Annual Meeting

One lone resident of the township and four members of the board were in attendance at the annual meeting of the Farmington Township Board held Monday afternoon at the township hall.

The meeting lasted less than an hour with two major motions being made and approved. A total of $1,000 was appropriated to the Farmington Township and city Library Board as both the city and township have representatives on the board. Another motion which was approved called for the granting of $500 to the three cemeteries in Farmington Township.

Census Begins

Census takers began invading the Farmington area last Saturday. Roads, turned into mud by the spring thaw and recent rains, made the going pretty tough which led officials to estimate more than two weeks time would be required to complete the census.

Census takers have found most persons contacted so far very cooperative. One questioner said most of the people she had encountered seemed surprised at the brevity of the questionaire.

5 Years Ago
APRIL 7, 1955

City Voting Heavy

Voting in the Spring election in the city Monday was surprisingly heavy with approximately 49 percent of the registered votors going to the polls. On the other hand only 23.6 percent of the registered township voters cast their ballot.

Interest in the non-partisan council race was responsible for the large city turnout. A total of 886 votes were cast out of a total registration of 1,801 while in the township only 1,510 votes came from the registration of 6,400.

V. O. Bates, Harvey E. Chapman and Paul S. Caulkins were elected to the city council. Bates receive a total of 480 votes followed by Chapman with 385 and Caulkins with 366. Bates is the only incumbent having been appointed to the council two months ago.

As a result of the voting, Bates and Chapman were elected for terms of four years each while Caulkins will serve for a term of two years. The organizational meeting of the new Council has been set for next Monday evening, April 11.

All Republican township candidates were elected by large margins. In the race for state officers, Republican candidates held a majority in both the city and township.

In the non-partisan contest for Supreme Court Justice, D. Hale Brake led in the township while Leland W. Carr was top in the city. All four proposed amendments to the state constitution carried by large majorities.

Area Marines In Maneuvers

Marines Pfc. Edward A. Mahaney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Mahaney of 30695 Greenboro rd., Farmington, and Gunnery Sgt. Raphael C. White, of 21400 Randall St., Farmington, took part in a huge amphibious landing exercise, March 2, on Formosa's southern coast with units of the Okinawa - based Third Marine Division.

The exercise called for the Third Marine Division to assemble in the area on March 20 along with units of the Hawaii - based First Marine Brigade and U.S. - Republic of China navy, marine and air force elements.

Purpose of the operation, which comprised over 18,000 Marines and 70 Navy ships, was to promote closer working relations between U.S. and Republic of China forces in practicing the conventional and vertical assault type amphibious landings.

Dickie Lou Market is open nitely until 12 and Sundays until 9 p.m.

Three Hurt as Car Jumps Road

Daniel Tuch of Detroit and two passengers in the car he was driving were seriously injured when their car jumped off the expressway on the curve near Halstead Road and sailed 150 ft. through the air.

The three teenagers were taken to St. Mary's Hospital for treatment. All Tuch's teeth were knocked out and his nose was broken. In addition he suffered other facial cuts as well as internal injuries. Both passengers suffered facial cuts and internal injuries.

Township police said that the car was travelling in excess of 90 miles per hour when the accident occurred.

Ends Training At Fort Bliss

Army Pvt. Charles L. Ashmore, 23 is receiving the final phase of six months active military training under the Reserve Forces Act program at Fort Bliss, Tex. The training is scheduled to be concluded April 11.

During this phase, Ashmore is being trained in the duties of a Nike-Ajax missile crewman.

He completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Ashmore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Ashmore, 21033 Inkster, Farmington, is a 1954 graduate of Clarenceville High School.

Naturalness in its deepest sense is the criterion of worth in this world. —Sam Campbell

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News Tidbits of Interest From Orchard Meadows Subs

Daniel Hickey GR. 6-1869

Recently Bill and Marilyn DeHaan entertained Bill's brother and sister-in-law from Grand Rapids over the weekend. A Saturday evening dinner out, followed by a Ridgedale Players production and a lot of talking over of old times just about filled in the weekend agenda.

While we are on the subject of the DeHaan's, Bill was fortunate enough to get away from the snow and cold here for a couple of days last week. On Thursday evening, bill hopped a plane for California on a business trip and was back home in Farmington on Saturday evening. There is proof that this really is the jet age.

The fairer sex is not always the female. When Frank and Cathy Stevens returned from Florida last Sunday morning Frank was the fairer of the two. Of course, Cathy had a week's start on Frank in the suntanning department. They both reported they had a wonderful time and beautiful weather for their Florida vacation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Scot Brown, after twenty-one there is no aged mentioned, just many happy returns offered.

Queen for the day on Saturday, March 26th, was young Miss Kim Bridges who celebrated her seventh birthday. Eight of her little friends joined in to help her cut the Bunny Cake. A full Easter motif was carried out right down Bonnets, baskets and an egg hunt. A grand time was had by all and all of the little girls looked just like they had stepped right out of the Easter Parade.

Phyllis Crump volunteered her services recently to drive her daughters, Diane and Carol, and some additional Brownie Scouts down to the Fred Sanders candy factory in Detroit. Free samples were given to all which made the trip an even bigger success.

No Loss of Status

The two Clarenceville teachers who have been granted scholarships will suffer no loss of status in the school's salary program if they decide to return following their tour of study, it was announced at the March 24 meeting of the Board of Education.

Buy in Friendly Farmington!

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CLIFTON WIRTH, Advertising Manager
JOSEPH MULLEN, News Editor
VICTOR S. HOWARD, Plant Superintendent

Raise Funds for Scholarships

Kingsley Inn will set the stage today for the fourth annual Spring Scholarship Benefit, presented by the Womens' Auxiliary of Michigan State University Club of Oakland County.

Spring wools and silks and summer cotton blends will highlight the showing following the noon luncheon.

Bridge with table prizes will conclude the event of which the proceeds will help make available two scholarships to Michigan State University for Oakland County high school students.

Nothing so much prevents our being natural as the desire of appearing so. —La Rochefoucauld

VFW Post 4033 Plans Joint Installation

The Farmington VFW Post 4033 and Auxiliary will hold a joint installation of officers on Saturday, April 9 at 8 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Home, 23414 Orchard Lake Road.

Installing officers for the Auxiliary will be Emma Momber of Royal Oak.

The public is cordially invited and refreshments will be served.

Win Pistol Award

Repeating last year's performance, the Michigan State Police No. 1 pistol team won the National Indoor Sectional Pistol tournament at Detroit by topping 15 other teams with a score of 1132 out of a possible 1200.

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FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT NATURAL GAS

BAMBOO NETWORK

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STEEL ARTERIES

Now man probes deep into the earth — close to the mile mark — for this wonder-fuel, Natural GAS! A specially-developed steel pipe carries this "stored sunshine" thousands of miles — over mountains, under rivers — through underground passageways to cities throughout America. Utility companies then distribute it to homes and industries.*

* In ancient China, bamboo pipelines were satisfactory only for very short distances—today, pipelines bring this wonder-fuel from faraway places. Consumers Power Company receives its Natural GAS from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Louisiana.

GET THE FACTS — BETTER YET — GET GAS! PG. 6292-21