EDITORIALS

March 7, 1963

What It Takes to Make A Good Community

An editorial which appeared in another Michigan weekly recently—"The Whitehall Forum"—on what makes a 'dead" community and what makes a 'dead" community caught our eye.

"dead" community caught our eye.
If puts only one big point across. That
is that it is the people living in a community that make it what it is or what it
is not. It points out that time and time
again in studies of towns across the
country that the towns that have grown
and prospered are those that have had
a good fucleus of "people who were loyal and progressive and community minded enough to give of their time and talent to help build their community."
"A good community deesn't just grow

ent to help build their community."
"A good community doesn't just grow
—devoted people have to steer its
growth. Do, we want a good business district? Bijsinessmen and customers, together, have to work to bring it about,
if the businessman sits or his tail feathers, expecting people will just 'naturally' trade with him, he will louse up not
only his own business, but that of every
other bijsinessman on the, street," the
editorial goes on.
"If the customer ignores the local

editorial goes on.

'If the customer ignores the local
stores, shops elsewhere first and does
only crumb' buying at home, eventually
the customer can expect to find only
'crumb' merchandise on the local

"If residents want 'the other guy' do the thinking for the town and the school, and the other guy to give his time and effort to bring advancement for the lown and the school, while they themselves use their time for fishing or golf or happy loading, they shouldn't be surprised to find the other guy also eventually giving up and deciding to fish

The time has come for us to take another long, hard look at our Social Security program, what has happened to it in the past 6 years, and what could be the end result if more and more benefit programs, are attached to it in the years to

As it stands today 3 and 5/8ths per-

Let's Review Our Social Security Program

and play golf, too."

A good example of what can be done in a community when a group of dedicated and community-minded citizens set their minds collectively at accomplishing a worthwhile program is provided by our public school system.

In the early 1950's we were still arather small community but the population explosion was beginning. By the middle part of the decade we were in serious trouble school-wise and it was found necessary to put many grades in our school system on half-day sessions.

A dedicated group of five School Board members, along with a concerned school system administrative staff, decided to do something about the situation. They laid out for themselves the monumental task of not only making plans to catch up with the present needs but also to get future needs satisfied prior to points of crisis. Not only did hely have to work-out short and long range plans but also for the statisfied prior to points of crisis. Not only did hely have to work-out short and long range plans but also go out and sell them to the citizenry. The job required a lot of time and effort but was accomplished. Since that time but the school Board and administrative staff since that time but the replacements have continued to be men and women with a spirit of dedication and willingness to work hard to retain the fine public school cystem we have today. Over the past few years they have also had some tremendous assistance from the School Citizens Advisory Committee.

We need more of this kind of dedicated spirit and interest and willingness to work in our properties of community affairs in Farmington.

The figuring is also done on the premise that there will be no increase in the rate after 1968 until the man reaches 65 and also that the \$4,800 maximum base will not be raised.

will not be raised.

Going in the direction we are now it is reasonably certain that both the rate and hase maximum pay on which Social Security will be laken out are subject to frequent adjustments upward in those later years.

later years.

It is interesting to note that for the first 13 years the Social Security program was in effect there were no increases but in the last 13 years nine increases have been crowded in.

later years.



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As it stands today 3 and 5/8ths percent of every dollar, a worker earns up of \$4,800 is taken out for Social Security. His employer is required to match this contribution dollar for dollar. The result is that 7 and 1/4 percent of the employer's total taxable payrolls are taken by the government to pay for the Social Security system. Further increases are scheduled for 1966; and 1968, without adding, to any present benefits By 1968 the total compined employer-employer rate will be 9 and 1/4 percent without any additions to the present benefit schedule. A young man who reaches age 20 in 1968 and starts working at a yearly rate of pay of \$4,800 or more will pay out of this 4 and 5/8th percent to Social Security. His employer will have to match this amount to make a lotal of 9 and 1/4 percent. This figures out to a total yearly Social Security payment of \$444. Now if this man should continue to work each year until he reaches age 65 it would mean that a total of \$19,980 would have been put into the Social Security fund by him and his employers. This makes no allowance-for the interest the money would earn over a 45 year period of time which would be a very creases but in the last 13 years nine increases have been crowded in. The Social Security program as originally conceived had a sound and just basis. As it is now developing it is leading us down a path to socialism. We are taking away a big incentive from our younger generation. We are squielching his desire to save; to invest enterprises that will give him a reasonable amount of regular income for his retirement years; or to set up his own program so that he can take care of himself in his older years. Our ever more demanding Social Security program coupled with our present system of progressive income taxes is taking away from all of us, and particularly our younger generation, the incentive to node a sound future for our selves by means of diligent planning and hard work practices.

Back in the Files

| 15 Years Ago | MARCH 4, 1958 | New School Sike | The purpose of Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are as school on March | No bids were received on the possing of noise of purposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the manage of a new shool sike for the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of March | No bids were received on the laws of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the manage of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such of the proposed Nobe-Will Standard was a started on Its large are such with the laws proposed its legislators which will make it light you can be interested to be proposed its legislators which will make it light you can be interested to be proposed its legislators which will be present law which allows proposed its legislators which will be present law which allows proposed its legislators which will be present law which allows proposed its legislators which will be present law which allows proposed its legislators which will be present law which allows proposed its legislators which will be present law with a large are clearly with the present law with a large are clearly with the present law with a large are clearly with the present law with

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This well driller is going fishing, but not for fun!

This well driller is going tishing, but not for run!

To the men who drill gas wells, fishing is not a pleasant pastime—
it's a painstaking, tedious job. It means that the well driller has to take
his large, heavy, cumbersome tackle (hooks and line) and fish aut
drilling sools that have become stuck or broken off deep in the certh,
Consumers Power Company, too, has an important and expensive task—
that of providing its customers with a dependable supply of natural gas
during the cold winter months. To assure a sufficient reserve supply, it
has underground storage fields near Marion, Michigan and elsewhere. Natural gas is pur back in the earth under a pressure of hundreds pounds per square inch and withdrawn as needed when gas consum tion is highest.

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