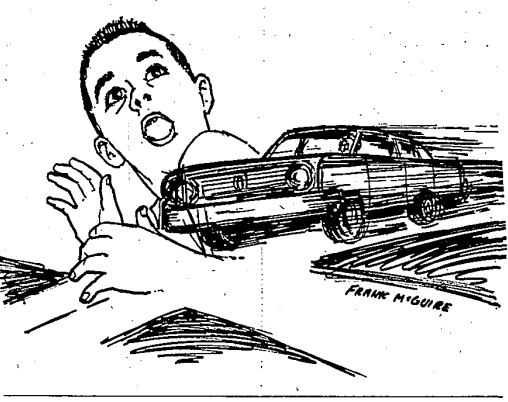




A Continuing Thread

Paul Chandler was not a man who would want to be "remembered" on the anniversary of his death each year with a sentimental editorial "tribute."

And that is not our intent today.

But it has been a year to the day since Observer staff members filed out of the church from his funeral, wondering in which direction, how and when, our newspapers would go.

The answer to that very personal query has been lived out by each of the 40 employees of this newspaper on a weekly basis ever since. Because The Observer staff feels a personal kinship to the readers of this newspaper, we are taking this occasion to share our feelings.

Our late publisher saw THE OBSERVER'S primary task as one of serving the community with an honest, lively and provocative newspaper—to stimulate debate, and to attack apathy.

And he instilled this fervent desire into everyone who worked under him.

His efforts, we think, paid off. Today, we are pleased that The Observer draws scores of letters to the editor each week from readers who have something to speak out about.

We welcome the telephone calls, the appeals for assistance in solving personal and public problems.

We welcome the news tips.

To our new and challenging competition, we bid a welcome.

Medics Versus Osteopaths

Integration plagues not only races and nationality groups — it also causes consternation in the ranks of medical doctors who eye the osteopathic profession with wild anxiety.

So far, medics have succeeded in barring their rivals from practicing in four hospitals, publically supported by 23 cities and townships (including Nankin and Garden City) that comprise the Peoples Community Hospital Authority; but the osteopaths are straining at the bit.

In April of 1964, the authority admitted its by-laws to permit the admission of osteopaths to its far only one hospital, under permission to use the hospital facilities in Ypsilanti.

Since that date — a period of 18 months, 85 osteopaths have applied but no action has been taken.

Osteopaths have been denied the right to

Legislative Verbalism

Our House of Representatives is meeting in a special session this month to get rid of legislation that should have been passed earlier but wasn't.

A crucial matter the House considered was a Special Higher Education Appropriations described by Rep. Vincent J. Pettipiece, D-37th, as "A \$12 million appropriation proposal which would be allocated among the smaller state colleges and universities to compensate for greater enrollments than anticipated when the general appropriation bill was passed."

What Mr. Pettipiece fails to mention is that the "greater enrollments than anticipated" were created when the legislature failed to back up with action a promise. Last spring, when members of the Senate Appropriations committee visited the smaller state colleges, legislators promised the college presidents that if enrollments were increased a reward of an additional appropriation would be made.

And so the smaller colleges, believing the

To Give Or Not To Give

Gift giving to school employees creates a problem much as it does in industry and in public life.

Livonia's School Board had adopted a recently-revised policy pertaining to this sort of thing but it lacks conviction.

The policy states:

"Students, parents and those persons or organizations interested in doing business with the school district shall be discouraged from the presentation of gifts to school district employees and the Board of Education members. If a person feels a well-intended desire to present a gift to a staff or Board member, the gift shall not be 'elaborate, unduly expensive or inappropriate.'"

"Discouraged" does not mean forbidden, and the guidelines are hazy at best. When does a gift become "elaborate, unduly expensive and inappropriate?"

By contrast the Ann Arbor Board of Education adopted a policy last year which declares that no public school employee may accept gifts, including Christmas presents, and employees may not take them from parents who give the gifts either on behalf of children or as the parents of a child.

Ann Arbor School Supt. Jack Elzay announced the policy was set, that all of the faculties in the school system, with the exception of the elementary school, voted to ban gifts totally.

I know that one time as a substitute school teacher, I ignorantly accepted a box of candy from one of my students and it soon became apparent to me that this action influenced decisions I made regarding this pupil.

It looks from here like Livonia school officials might use more precise language in this gift-giving policy.

BILL GAIL

Judges Challenge Justice

Recent headlines have exemplified an unhealthy situation in area courts and law enforcement agencies. It would appear those who administer justice need administering. Charges of illegal activity against area justices, municipal judges and the Wayne County Sheriff's Patrol must cause citizens to doubt the effectiveness of Wayne County justice.

Situations which can only hamper law enforcement, which by now is common knowledge to us all, are:

- Two Nankin Justices, George Perry and Michael Bradley, have voluntarily vacated their positions after being charged with "misconduct of office" by Grand Jury Judge Edward S. Piggins.
- Piggins and his staff are investigating the Wayne County Sheriff's Patrol for ticket-fixing, a practice of ignoring justice to those who pay.
- Garden City's Municipal Judge, Russell Swarthout, has vacated his office and is on medical leave after being indicted on charges of income tax fraud.
- Livonia's Municipal Judge, Robert Lorion, has been arraigned and will answer to a jury on charges of assault and battery against his 19-year-old daughter.

An attempt is not being made to imply that any of the above individuals or the Sheriff's Department are guilty of criminal action. At this time, all are innocent since none have been tried formerly in court. It is in keeping with the American system of justice that we in our "majority rule" assume all these men to be innocent under the law until the law decides their guilt.

Their County Sheriff's office, however, can and must be questioned. As purveyors of justice, each was committed to society to live above reproach which has not been in the above cases. In other words, he who would cast stones should be without himself. If one cannot administer justice without reproach, he should not accept the responsibility justice demands.

This may sound like a plea to get the politicians out of court, and maybe it is. But civil service is not a cure-all for the problems of this judiciary, which is evidenced by the patrolman hired under civil service with quite a sizeable list of convictions.

If any of the above persons are found guilty, we also must accept guilt for voting them into office. For those who are purged from all guilt, let's re-examine their responsibilities and conduct their business hereafter in such a manner that we can see any possibility of condemnation.

EMORY DANIELS

The Readers Speak Up Offer To Tape Family Voices For Soldiers

Editor:

Last Sunday, on one of the radio programs, I do not recall which, it was stated that during his visit to Vietnam, Governor Romney asked a number of the Michigan boys what they would like most for Christmas and how 85% of them said "A tape recording from home."

In that radio broadcast, relatives of Michigan boys abroad were asked to try to send a tape recording to them in time for Christmas or as soon thereafter as possible. It was also pointed out that those boys who are lucky enough to have a tape recording from home play it over and over again, with tears, and especially when they expect to be ordered to the front.

We realize that very few people have a tape recorder of their own, and may not know where to get one, but we would like to come to our house to make a tape recording for their loved ones who are in the Armed Services abroad only we would only be glad to help them.

It is understood that there will be absolutely no charge for this assistance, with the possible exception of the few pennies that the tape costs. We are, was in World War II, often told us how he "longed to hear our voices" when he was at the front.

If families of soldiers are interested call KB 2-8986 after 7 p.m.

WILLING TO HELP

Contradiction?

Editor:

It is possible that you have seen the contradiction between two of your Dec. 1, 1965, editorials. In the editorial reprinted from the Michigan Statesman, the theme seems to be a reminder of the Constitutional protection of the right of free speech; the following editorial equates the concept of "rule by law and not by men" with the Communist dictatorship of proletariats.

In one editorial you favor restriction of the government by the Bill of Rights; in the next one you condemn the Birchers for taking the same position.

As you should know, the Birch Society is loudly in favor of our unalienable rights as guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

You equate the Birch opposition to pure democracy with the Communist acceptance of democracy which permits the majority to exercise complete control over individual action and individual life.

Under pure democracy as practiced by the Communists, even a man's life can be taken by "majority rule." An opposition Press is not permitted because the majority has voted that opposition will slow progress.

If you are interested in the distinction the Birchers make between democracy and republic forms of government, I suggest you read "Republics and Democracies" by Robert Welch. You may be surprised to find that he is not only in favor of "social democracy," but believes as you do that we need Constitutional restrictions on government to protect our individual freedom to protest.

Unfair to Firemen

Editor:

The Mayor's fight for an integrated police and fire department has finally reached home by taking the food from the mouths of the firefighters' families. On Dec. 1, 1965, the salary of the policemen was raised over \$1,000 to a figure of \$7,494 per year. The firefighters were given a \$200 increase to a salary of \$6,635 per year.

Since the beginning of our city, policemen and firemen have been paid equal wages. This year the Mayor has pressured the Civil Service Commission into giving the policemen \$800 more a year. My question is why?

But I receive no concrete answer. Yet I remember that the policemen's union, the Moeke last election while firemen opposed him.

Only one occupation exceeds firefighting in deaths and injuries—logging. Policemen are far down the list in this respect, according to a government survey. The firefighter works 56 hours per week by state law and yet is paid on a 40 hour basis. Policemen are paid for schooling and for overtime work. Firemen have never been paid for overtime nor ever given compensatory time for overtime worked. In the United States one firefighter is killed every 13 minutes and two are disabled every day.

An example is firefighter Wesley Wiser, father of four, who, incidentally, has received any pay from the City of Livonia since October. Why, then, is a policeman paid \$800 more?

The personal director of the City of Livonia, Mr. Miller, agreed with the Firefighters Association that firefighters need more than \$7,000 to be a representative of our city and live decently in Livonia. We have not received this figure because the Mayor rules, the Civil Service Commission, who decides our salary figures. The Mayor is attacking the morale of the firefighters with new rules, regulations, increased work schedules, and paid city attorneys to slant question fires his way.

We were denied a pay increase in July of 1965 because the Mayor found a legal loophole after the City Council had given the raise to us.

People of Livonia, we are but 60 men. We argue and fight with the City even to keep what has already been given to us, we receive reprisals when we

Back The President

Editor:

Just a brief note concerning the Vietnam war. I most certainly think we should back the President in his stand against communism, and certainly if the communists win in S. Vietnam, they go elsewhere also.

As far as these little boys burning draft cards and the like; I think a lot of it would be stopped if they were ignored. A lot of these kids just want to be seen on TV and get their name in the papers.

If the TV cameras, and the reporters would stay away, the whole thing would cease. I know reporters have their jobs to do, but I think they are just adding to the fire.

MR. RICHARDS
Garden City

Gone Far Enough

Editor:

I am a 14 year old boy attending Whitman Junior High School. I have been extremely upset by the recent demonstrations against U.S. foreign policy in Vietnam.

These demonstrations are a disgrace to the country, and simply show the Communists how the Americans do not want to fight and see they fight harder and longer, to make us tired of the war, and so make us leave.

I do not think that these demonstrations should be forcibly halted, but the people that burn draft cards should be arrested and punished. This has gone far enough!

JIM PEACE,
Livonia

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Observing the Scene...

By MYRA CHANDLER

How many more must die?

How many more innocent little children who depend on marmalade laws to protect them must sacrifice their lives as did little Sharon Borg of Garden City on Nov. 16?

How many, before police chiefs, public safety directors and county commissioners will approve a needed traffic light. Openly, these people admit traffic lights will be put in if enough are killed.

For Sharon Borg's mother and father their daughter is just one child too many killed on the Cherry Hill Road where a light has been needed for a long time. Drivers on Cherry Hill between Middlebelt Road to Inkster have no stops to slow their speed and children cross frequently to go to a store and also to get to Hicks School.

Neighbors are up in arms over the lack of protection. Cherry Hill and Henry Ruff needs a light desperately. Police Chief Maurice Foltz of Farmington said a traffic light is needed at Powers Road and Grand River to break the flow of traffic. Many students attend Our Lady of Sorrows grade and high schools—unprotected.

The City of Farmington has offered to stand the entire cost of erecting a light—the State Highway Department says a light is not needed and they will take it down. It doesn't make sense.

In Farmington Twp., traffic lights are even more sparse—and with people moving in faster than Oakland County officials can keep up with, there are several dangerous situations. Middlebelt and 11 Mile Road, Orchard Lake-11 Mile, 13 Mile and Middlebelt and 13 Mile and Farmington all had accidents reported. Supervisor Curt Hall is presently conducting a survey which will be presented to State Police Commissioner Davids—deciding factor. Hope another Sharon Borg does not lose her life while the investigation is in progress.

A really frightening area is the location of the new Adlai Stevenson High School—Six Mile just west of Farmington Road in Livonia. There is also a grade school in that area. The speed is posted at 50. The school is now open and the caution signs "School" are often not seen by drivers as they are driving in the dusk of early morning or late evening when these students are darting back and forth across the street.

Citizens are doing everything they can to call attention to these areas. One parent in the Stevenson area suggested, until the County acted, the school should bus these kids to the school door. To save a life it might be the most practical thing to do.

Russell Harrison, Wayne County Traffic Safety Division should be contacted for Wayne County.

Not only does it chill the hearts of parents who consider their children are crossing these dangerous areas—but citizens must also drive with fear and foreboding when they sail into these areas not knowing just when a child might make a run for it.

I understand the legislative mailing has had a high content of letters from citizens complaining about the lack of protection. A bi-partisan planning is going on with GOP, Dems and Secretary of State's staff to come up with a traffic program that is more concentrated. The State Highway Commission has supported a one cent per gallon hike to State motor fuel taxes to finance an ambitious \$1.3 billion dollar construction program. Poor road design is supposed to be a factor in fatal accidents.

Perhaps some of this money can be channeled into better safety devices on the roads we already have.

When you consider \$1.3 billion for the State it is inconceivable for anyone to tell us they cannot afford a traffic light that costs \$1,000.

Parents should write, call, poster and picket for these needed lights—their local police chiefs, government heads and County Commissioners.

It takes time—but to save a Sharon it would be worth it.

She Was Killed

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Pity Neglected Dogs

Editor:

With the approach of this Christmas season let's spare a thought for those neglected dogs at the various dog pounds, who have known nothing but fear, neglect and abuse.

If these animals could only go into homes where children were taught from the beginning the abhorrence of killing and tormenting any living creature, but this is not the case. I have known of many instances where a puppy was just a football for the children on Christmas Day, and the following day it was thrown in the alley.

The kindest thing we can do for them is to have them put to a merciful death, at the expiration of the time allotted for the owners to redeem their animals.

This precludes the further suffering of these poor animals. They usually go to homes where more neglect and abuse awaits them. Death is preferable to further misery.

LILLIAN UHR

Thanks Men in Blue

Editor:

I would like to thank the Farmington Police Office who went out of his way to assist me in finding the Calvary Baptist Church.

When I stopped to ask his assistance, he radioed and got directions and then personally escorted me to the location of the church.

Once again I would like to say thank you very much.

GERALD J. GAZDA,
Photographer Observer
Newspapers.

Patriotism Lacking

Editor:

Last Saturday was a bright change from the normal routine of events we make up an average weekend. The parade held in Farmington honoring the fire prevention was colorful, lively, short, and sweet.

But to my dismay I witnessed such a display of nonchalant patriotism, that I felt ashamed that we have forgotten so much in such a short length of time.

As the flag approached, only the policemen standing in front of me paid respect by saluting. Not a hat was removed, that I could see, and it wasn't even cold outside.

Later, in front of the police station, as the national anthem was being played, I stood milled about or talked to friends as unconcerned as if Brahms' Lullaby was being played.

What has happened to the pride of this nation for itself? Just we have to be a soldier or policeman to stick out our chests and say "I'm proud to be an American!"

AMERICAN

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