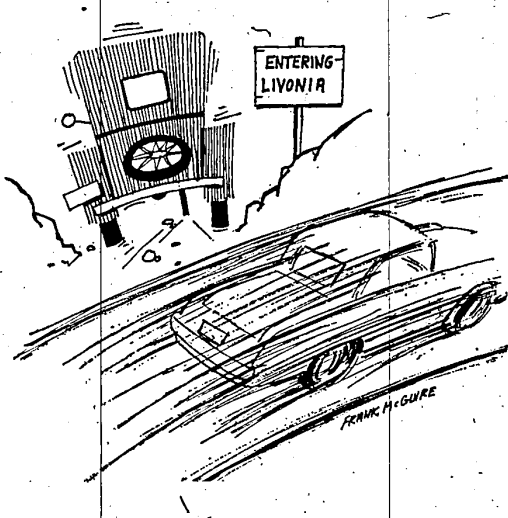


Observing the Scene...

By MYRA CHANDLER



For Shame, Bethlehem!

Judging from the reaction of federal officials last weekend to the hike of prices by the Bethlehem Steel Corp., we are getting ready in this country to throw out price as a means of allocating our resources.

Pulling out the crying towel, President Johnson has waved the flag on high with a declaration that: "It is time to consider the larger national interest, to weigh the impact of unnecessary price action against the impact of our men in Vietnam, and to act accordingly."

His Council of Economic Advisers has labeled the move: "Inflationary and not in the public interest."

If this type of government distributes to follow all price increases in any sector of our economy, we might just as well give up our present monetary system and turn con-

THE READER SPEAKS UP:

Objects to School Millage

Editor: As a property owner and taxpayer, I want to voice my objection against the school election this Jan. 7th. Everything that is done to a complete fraud, by trickery and deception by the School Board, and its \$25,000 Superintendent of Schools, Schools.

This statement in your Dec. 22nd edition was stated by the Superintendent. Quote — Although the Nine Mills are NOT COMMITTED TO ANY PARTICULAR EXPENSES, Are the property owners and taxpayers asked to vote on a blank check? And the nine mills used in any way, shape or form as they see fit? Come, come now, the board members and the superintendent are not to be taken in by this. It is not to be approved by the people that pay the bills, namely the taxpayer and property owners.

There shall not be any swimming pool, no lounge room, no office space except that which is required for each room, and the teacher, locker space for each student built right into the center floor space, also drinking fountains, all fills to be cut out completely. If the parents want the frills and fancy this and that they must be made to pay for same in advance, so the school board has their money to have these frills installed, and they only used by those that pay for them.

School construction costs can be cut down at least 25%. And that only one architect be employed to design our schools, and present a complete cost in itemized form invoice, for every piece equipment, or any item going into the school, this to be approved by the people that pay the bills, namely the taxpayer and property owners.

As a property owner and taxpayer, I make the following recommendation: That at once that the Livonia school system be turned over to a board of management that has the ability and the capacity to operate the system, until such time that a complete investigation can be made, by outside investigators from the Federal government. And that 15 property owners and taxpayers are part of the team to make this investigation, and that no one can be on this team that has prior knowledge of the school system, or its present management. And that 15 people are not to be politicians, or hold any other position.

And that this body of men be given complete authority to make any change, or changes, they deem necessary for the good of the community, and its school system. And that the property owners and taxpayers be given a complete findings printed in the newspaper, and that the newspaper, and investors, to make recommendations for changes, where it's better management, and less costs and that the present management and the superintendent be relieved of all duties until a complete investigation is made into the school system. And that the superintendent be given the right to protect your right as a voter, and property owner.

Have you Mr. and Mrs. property owner and taxpayer, received a \$4,000 dollars increase in your school taxes? And you have not been increased, what should a person pay taxes when one gets a \$4,000 dollars increase in one year, and paid for by the taxpayers? And the superintendent of Livonia.

How about those people that pay their property taxes that have no one going to school any longer, and the Senior Citizens that have no increase in their incomes, yet they are asked to pay this heavy load. My only hope is that they use their heads, and do not let for this his, his, and hog wash.

The property owners and taxpayers shall have a say in the matter of spending our tax money, and for what purpose. And that no money can be spent for salaries, purchase of property and equipment, until we have first approved by a REFERENDUM VOTE by the property owner and taxpayers.

And that no school building to cost more than two million dollars. And that all schools be built on the ground, and all spaces and subdivided into required rooms to hold 40 pupils, this to constitute a class of pupils.

Give Teens A Chance!

Operation of a teen club in Livonia may be curbed following a report of drinking, profanity and other examples of misconduct by youth making use of the club's facilities at 35803 Plymouth in Livonia.

None has claimed that the behavior viewed by police represents all of the teens attending the club. But the misconduct has certainly caused enough trouble to warrant the suspension of the club's permit. It's the old story of a few bad apples giving the bushel a foul smell. The misconduct will be stopped but it should leave the lesson that privileges demand responsibility.

The story of the Livonia teen club has no correlations so far with a group in Nankin Township known as the Westland Teens. The Westland Teens is a club organized on an operative basis with the eventual goal being the purchase of its own teen center.

Presently, the Westland Teens hold weekly meetings at the Army-Navy Union Hall, Venice at Dorcy. They hold parties, social events and other functions to raise funds for the Teen Center which is to include a recreation room, crafts room, study room, snack bar and dance floor. At least, these are the aspirations of the Westland Teens.

The club politics its own affairs and punishes those who insist on causing trouble. An aura of adult guidance rather than supervision prevails. The Westland Teens have a great potential in Nankin simply because they have decided to help themselves and more importantly to control themselves.

This cooperative approach to providing recreation and facilities to teens in Nankin could be a model for all communities to follow. What the Westland Teens are doing now should be done in every other municipality in the state.

Committees studying needs of drop-outs and delinquents are useless; we know what they need and that is something to do. Why delay giving them something to do, let them do something to do themselves. Give teens this opportunity and your committees will have to find something else to study.

EMORY DANIELS

Clear Four Schools in Four Minutes in Livonia's First Emergency Drill

School and community officials are seeing to it that any possible disaster in Livonia, be it high winds, fire, or blizzard, will be handled with alacrity as far as its schools are concerned.

Last month, teachers, students, first aid specialists, civil defense administrators and many other community leaders and parents participated in a simulated emergency drill which made it possible to evacuate four schools in four minutes each and to reach the safety of assigned homes within 12 minutes.

Students in Rosedale, Cleveland, Garfield and Jackson schools filed out of classes and headed for homes or pre-arranged destinations after a long ringing of an emergency bell at precisely 2:45 in the afternoon.

Bicycle riders at all schools led the evacuation so that they would be under way seconds before other students so that those on wheels would not run into walkers.

George Calkins, safety coordinator for the Livonia school district, expressed satisfaction with the smoothness of the operation and the manner in which many community agencies cooperated in the exercise.

"All concerned city agencies, the American Red Cross, auxiliary police, civil air patrol cadets, professional people, and our school custodians and teachers worked together in effortless harmony," Calkins said. "It bodes well for future, more extensive, evacuation points."

Calkins pointed out that in case of actual emergency, such as a tornado alert, teachers and custodians would have to fill all the roles handled in the simulated alert by non-school personnel.

Robert Davis, deputy director of Livonia civil defense, said

that the program has practical importance because most of the city's structures are not strong enough to withstand severe weather. It is necessary to disperse children as quickly as possible, he said.

Students who normally ride a bus to the schools were assigned to special homes in the area. These homes were assigned after the students' parents designated them on a questionnaire sent home several weeks ago.

In the spring, additional tests will be made in designated senior high and junior high schools, Calkins said, after the results of the December alert and evacuation had been studied, an unnamed community official said.

"If the program is carried out on a regular basis, Davis said, such alerts will be a success. It is this year in schools and some public places."

Davis also commented on the many ways in which school, municipal and agency people worked in harmony to achieve a successful trial evacuation for a possible future disaster alert.

Top Area Planner Sets Livonia Talk

A top-flight planner in the metropolitan Detroit area will be on hand to discuss city planning with the Livonia Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Improvement next Wednesday.

Paul M. Reid, executive director of the Metropolitan Area Regional Planning Commission, will speak on area problems in planning. He last addressed a Livonia audience about 1 1/2 years ago, when he spoke on planning concepts to members of the Chamber of Commerce, obtained during last month's three-hour study-hour of Livonia, which one taken by 50 citizens will meet at 8 p.m. Jan. 12 in the Livonia Police Station meeting room. Committee officers hope for 150 active members of the group from all areas of the city. Results of studies and recommendations are transmitted from the Committee to the Planning Commission.

Mayor for disposition.

Openings to citizens are available on these subcommittees: Community Planning, Neighborhood Improvement, Public Information, Capital Improvement.

At Wednesday's meeting, an evaluation of the information obtained during last month's three-hour study-hour of Livonia, which one taken by 50 citizens will meet at 8 p.m. Jan. 12 in the Livonia Police Station meeting room.

The Reader Speaks Up To Voice Appreciation

21. somebody side-swiped my car in the parking lot causing \$100 dollars worth of damage. I have 100 dollars deductible so I have to pay the \$9 dollars.

I can't understand how anyone can damage somebody else's property without leaving their name and telephone number. Don't people have consciences anymore?

M. Grace

Plymouth Thanks
 Editor: On behalf of myself and the students of Plymouth Junior High School, I wish to thank you and your staff for the wonderful cooperation in our recent essay contest. The enthusiastic response of the staff and student body was most gratifying.

Again we wish to thank you for your cooperation and help.

CARL V. TAYLOR
 JUNIOR, PLYMOUTH

Discouraged Driver
 Editor: While registering for an evening class at Bentley High School on Monday, September

Observing the Scene...

A brand new year — a time for reeducation, new pledges.

In re-evaluating, have you noticed there is a concentrated effort to make urban living more attractive?

Hired publicists, newspaper feature writers and inter-city shop owners are making an appeal to the more cosmopolitan among us to move back where the driving is less; where there is more to offer in the world of entertainment and culture; where there are delightful apartments and swimming pools to match; and the children aren't excluded either for there are play areas and schools built within stopping distance away.

Those of us who have a stake in suburban living would like to keep the image of the graceful life in suburbia alive.

No matter how gracious the home, wife and kiddies — if papa has to fight one hour of hectic traffic to arrive at his Shangri-la, it just can't be worth it.

Lo, but for petty politics we in the suburban area could have a swift artery on which to travel to and from business activity and such.

Every other suburban area is serviced by an expressway but these particular ones. This year The Observer pledges to work toward getting the action started.

Traffic lights are another weak spot of our areas. Move to suburbia for the safety and welfare of your children we thought. Fishers and Warsaw are safe enough for a population of a few thousand, but when you get in the area of 50,000 and over, more stringent traffic measures are a grave necessity. We pledge to work toward needed traffic lights.

Community planning (and the statesmen necessary to carry it out) is another area The Observer pledges to support this coming year. We are sick and tired of expedient politicians who don't wait to rock the boat before elections.

The trustee or councilman who will see the need and have the courage to catch the ball and run with it until the goal is reached is our type of individual — all too rare, in the suburbs, in the state, in the country. When we find him we pledge to shout his name in bold-face type.

Through the coming issues we intend to elaborate on these pertinent issues that affect our local living. The one regret I personally have is that the voice working toward truth and reform will be missing from the scene. He is David Eslisa.

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Vietnam Soldier Thanks Livonians

Livonians received the thanks of a Vietnam-stationed soldier in a letter sent to Mayor Harvey Moeke at City Hall last week.

Billy Joe Haydock, 128th Avn. Co., 11th Avn. Co., APO 96245, San Francisco, wrote:

"My name is Billy Joe Haydock, stationed in Vietnam. Sir, I have received a number of Christmas cards from the fair people of Livonia. I want the people to know how much I appreciate everything. The folks people have built the morale up for the troops serving in the Republic of God Bless you all. I am in an Aviation Unit. My job over here is a machine gunner on a UH-1D helicopter. I am stationed 40 miles northwest of Saigon at Phu Loi (nicknamed Camp Pias). God bless you all. We sure do have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Billy Joe Haydock

Teeners Need Place of Own

Where youngsters are concerned, food is a primary consideration. They'll go for a snack any time — and it might as well be at home.

A snack center can be built in a basement corner by Dad and his teen-age helpers by following a free plan. There is a serving counter, plenty of storage space and a supplementary on-wall cabinet with sliding doors.

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Mailman Speaks Up

Having been a letter carrier for 12 years, can honestly say that this is the first time I have ever heard anybody complain about that junk they call mail. (But please, don't pay for anything.) (Dec. 29 issue.)

It would probably be better if we left the social security check, the pay check and the important mail and delivered this junk, however, the word "junk" is given to this mail be-

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or thousands — to invest — learn about Mutual Funds — and what they may do for you.

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