

He's a Marine!
 Marine Private Peter R. Carr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carr, 31225 Myra, Livonia, has completed individual combat training with the Second Infantry Training Regiment at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND IN THE WANT AD SECTION!

JUST CHATTIN'
Wails of Taxpayers Pose Big Problems But Can Be Funny
 By W. W. EDGAR

One of the best of the old time comedians who paid annual visits to Detroit on the Keith vaudeville circuit was Bert Williams, a fellow who worked in black face and whose doleful appearance and melancholy tones always drew capacity throngs to the Old Temple and the New Detroit Theaters.

One evening at the conclusion of his act he walked into the wings of the New Detroit Opera House on Randolph Street, collapsed and died.

His memory still lingers on because of two songs he made famous—"I ain't never done nothin' to nobody" and "It's a wonderful thing for somebody—but somebody else, not me."

Every now and again you hear someone try to revive them, but nobody ever could come close to old Bert, with his shuffling walk and rolling eyes.

Member of this great old character, who was national celebrity in the days before the radio and TV screens brought entertainment right into your living room, came tumbling down through the years every time I happen in on a meeting of the City Council or any of the planning commissions in the suburban areas.

For, sure enough, I'll hear some one or some group complaining that the population being discussed might be a wonderful thing in some other area of the city, but not for them because they would spot their neighborhood, depreciate property values and otherwise be detrimental.

As I sit and listen to some of this wailing I can almost hear old Bert Williams sidling, "It's a wonderful thing for somebody—but somebody else—not me."

As the population explodes and new subdivisions spread across what only a few years ago was farm land, the complaints become more plaintive and one would almost think the world was coming to an end if their wishes were not granted.

One group opposes a proposed shopping center at the corner of Schoolcraft and Farmington Road in Livonia, another is bitter in its opposition to the extension of an industrial strip on Eight-Mile Road—even though it would match a strip across the road which is in Farmington jurisdiction. Still another group vehemently opposes the approval of a subdivision because the lots are not in half acre sizes. It matters not that the subdivisions on both the north and west sides may not have lots quite that large.

After visiting a few of these meetings one has the impression just how much patience a member of the planning commission or the city council is supposed to have to carry on the work of attempting to plan suitable communities.

These folks, many of whom have moved to the suburbs for fresh air and what they figured would be low taxes, fail to realize that thriving communities must have a bit of everything—industry, shopping centers, apartment schools, churches, theaters, parks, playgrounds, auto washes, parking lots, nurseries, etc. and that they must be spread about where they will do the greatest good for the greatest number.

Some of the complaints are puzzling and seem to be without rhyme or reason. I recall a case during my days on the City Council when the officials of a civic association representing one of our largest apartment subdivisions at the time, appeared before Council and demanded that the area to the east of them be zoned for residential use as far as the eye could see. It was developed on the same high plane. They insisted that there be no downgrading, no green belts or any other device to mar their standards.

This was fine except—that to the north the subdivisions entrenched on industrial property to the south there were plans for an industrial road close to the railroad tracks.

On another occasion I had a request from the new section of Rosedale Gardens for street lights in the same amount as those in old Rosedale.

In the time they were installed, then, much to our dismay, came a complaint.

One of the young fathers appeared before council and complained bitterly. He said he wanted to be a good father, wanted to raise and educate his children and that in order to do this, he had to work—and work hard. Therefore, he said, he needed rest and lots of it and that he wasn't getting it.

"There's a street light right in front of my house," he pointed out in rather pathetic tones, "and the light shines right in my eyes. I don't see the rest I need."

There was silence for a moment, then Councilman Jack Wood turned to his chair and rendered an opinion that has become part of the lore of the city.

With very stammered lips and a red face he said:

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PICTURE TALK by Les Wilson

Are you sure you've "unwrapped" all your gifts?

Naturally you've gotten to the gifts that were sitting underneath the tree, all frilled up with your name on them. But I'm talking about the gifts around the tree. Those wonderful holiday pictures you took of the kids and family and friends. They're great gifts. But they don't do you much good if you've left them in your camera, still "unwrapped".

So pop out that exposed roll and bring it in (along with any other you've shot) for clear, sharp prints and sparkling color slides you'll be proud to show and share.

When you come in to pick up your pictures, it's a good idea to go through them right on the spot. That way you can have the best ones made up into extra prints or beautiful, big enlargements in black-and-white or color. Believe me, family and friends who live far away enjoy your letters even more when they include a snapshot or two. Keeps them up to date like nothing else can.

And the enlargements, of course, are something you'll always treasure—for your mantle, for a dresser or desk, or to add to a family photo wall.

So make sure you "unwrap" those exposed rolls. Bring them in to us. In a few days, you'll have some more really wonderful Christmas gifts.

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