

Observer Readers Speak Up on Large Variety of Current Issues

Bills Dangerous

Editor: You and your readers should be informed of the possible effects of H. B. 2643 and S. B. 868, presently being considered by the Michigan House Committee on Towns and Counties and the Senate Committee on Municipalities.

S. B. 868 is the same, but apply only to local governments employing more than 10 men as policemen and firemen. The policeman who carries an extinguisher in his car, arriving at the scene of a house fire, could peremptorily refuse to use a regulator. The fireman assigned to a heart attack case could refuse a resuscitator. The fireman, on duty about 100 days a year, could also refuse to assist in the maintenance of police records. He could also refuse to direct traffic around a fire scene, to prevent cars from

ruining the fire hose which costs \$150 a foot. Whom could government require to use hydraulic rescue equipment after a building explodes? The mayor and other elected officials on a city street, should the policeman on the scene have the authority to refuse to help you?

Policemen and firemen exist only to serve the people who pay their salaries. Should they be able to refuse to serve you in the manner directed by your local officials? Should our state legislature tell you that you can require your life-and-death employees to do? Is Laissez the source of the money with which you pay your employees, or does the state get its money from you?

If you have any opinion on this matter, please call or post or post card to Representative James Tierney who serves on the House Towns and Counties Committee, would be appropriate. GLENN S. LEONARD, Director Oak Park Department of Public Safety

Editor: The Observer has interviewed Public Safety Officers from other communities that have integrated programs, plus have read articles published by professionals on the subject, both pro and con. The Observer has not stated this program will be a sure fire success — we have agreed with the Livonia Council of Civic Association when they said why not try the program, in a limited way and on a trial basis. Then evaluate the results.

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A Few Money Facts

IMPRESSIONS, by Sue Shau-gnessy ran an article about the flag flying in an upside down position on the \$10 currency bill. She erroneously called it "the coin of the realm." Currency is not coin.

This upside down flag story is an old, old one to coin and currency collectors.

From personal memory, I can only go back to the year 1938, when the Jefferson nickel was first issued. Then the story was—old Uncle Sammy made a mistake and left the flag OFF of Monticello, the home of Jefferson and therefore was calling them all back!

Twenty-eight years have gone by and poor Uncle Sammy is still making a mistake! Now look in your pocket and pull out a Roosevelt dime. Under the trapezoid (to you, Americans!) if you look close you can see the initials of John Sinnock, the sculptor.

Here again our ever-present friends who see what they want to see, not what the facts are, said that this proves that Roosevelt is "buddy" of Joe Stalin (J.S.) and therefore the government is going to call them all back! This began in 1948 and 18 years later we are still waiting for the government to call them in!

The next chapter jumps to 1959 when the Lincoln cent was redesigned on one side in honor of good old Abe's birthday. In writing the monogram "United States of America" the letter "n" in the word "of" is smaller than all the other letters in the monogram.

Here again, despite the explanation of the designer, Frank Gasparro, who said that he purposely made the small "o" in question to "break the continuity of the design" was of no avail to the breed who will see only what they want to see. This must be a mistake, they say, and the government must simply call them in! Even though the same effect was used by designer Sinnock of the Franklin half-dollar in 1948 and still waiting to be called back!

So dear, the Bureau of printing and engraving (the Treasury does not print the bills) did not make a mistake. The design on the back of our present \$10 bill was first used in 1928, that's right! 38 years ago and although there have been slight design changes since then the flags in the scene have not been changed. With a good magnifying glass you can make out the dots (stars) and the proper upright position, and the bars (stripes) become very pronounced, also in their proper position.

There is one thing that this can be sure of and that is this: When Uncle Sam makes a mistake in printing or minting (take in printing or minting) of currency, stars and coins that the hobbyists will pay fantastic prices for these slips in the night! This rule has had only one exception in the history of our Country when an error occurred in the Dag Hammarskjöld stamp. In this particular case the Postmaster General ordered a reprint of 5 million to counteract the "profit" motive and eventually the 5 million figure ended up by being over 50 million deliberately printed errors. Shortly thereafter, the Postmaster resigned amid all sorts of charges from the citizens.

One more item about our Grand and Glorious Flag—did you know that at one time in the history of our Country, in a span of one year and one day, its citizens lived under three different flags? I wonder how many of my fellow Livonians know when this occurred?

JOHN MATIKA, Livonia.

Save the Township

Editor: The township form of government for Farmington Township, Oakland County, is presently under attack by township officials and some of their appointees. They would scuttle it—in favor of forming a home rule city. Last November they secretly prepared, circulated and filed a petition for incorporation of the Township, excluding the city of Farmington.

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