

In Our Opinion . . .

Parents May Be Breaking The Law

It has come to our attention that many "well meaning" parents are breaking the law — unknowingly or intentionally. We like to think it is unintentional and simply a matter of being uninformed or too indulgent.

We're referring to the increasing number of youngsters operating motor cycles, motor scooters, and other motor-driven conveyances on the roads today. We have observed some very young-looking operators, but haven't questioned it because the older we get, the younger the young ones seem to look.

However, a local insurance agent with a sincere desire to save people from becoming involved in expensive insurance problems and accident headaches brought the matter to our attention.

He stated that a number of under-age operators have been apprehended and "grounded," but that there are many more than can be checked completely by our police officers. "The problem lies with the parents," he said. "Either they don't know the law, or they ignore it."

We checked into the law using "What Every Driver Must Know," an illustrated digest of the Michigan Vehicle Laws, which anyone may secure from the local police department or from the Secretary of State's office.

Under "Motor Driven Cycles" the booklet states: "A motor driven cycle is considered a motor vehicle and includes every bicycle with motor attached, motorcycle or motor scooter having a motor

which produces not more than 5 MAXIMUM BRAKE HORSEPOWER which may be driven with a REGULAR OPERATOR'S, CHAUFFEUR'S OR A SPECIAL RESTRICTED OPERATOR'S LICENSE obtained with the following conditions:

A. Person must be 15 years of age or older. B. Must successfully complete Driver Education. C. Must pass all tests including road test. D. Original fee of \$4.50 is required. E. A Temporary Permit will be issued if all tests are passed. F. Special Restricted Operator's License is issued by the Department of State.

The law is clear regarding age. An operator of any motor-driven cycle must be at least 15 years of age. The special restricted license is issued only to persons 14 and 15 years of age and is issued only in very special circumstances with limited hours of operation clearly indicated.

Therefore, any youngster under 14 years of age, and most youngsters under 15 years of age, are in violation of the law if they operate any motor-driven vehicle.

We are in complete accord with the wording of the law and would like to see every violator apprehended. We're having enough trouble with the lawfully licensed drivers. Let's keep the unlicensed ones off the roads. We urge all parents to know the law before they allow their youngsters to operate any motor-driven vehicle — even "just a little motor" on a bicycle.

★★★★

Michigan Week — A Time For Pride

Traditionally the Enterprise limits its news coverage and editorials to the Farmington area; but, for this time at least, we are going to stretch our wings and talk about Michigan. Too often we tend to become involved in just "Farmington" and forget that we are only a small (though important) part of our great state.

Next week, May 15-21, is Michigan Week, and everywhere in Michigan people will be talking and living the glories of their state. The theme this year is "Michigan — Dynamic in World Progress."

Every citizen is expected to take part in Michigan Week, and we hope that the citizens of Farmington will use the occasion to learn more about their state, its people and places, and join in selling the advantages of Michigan to people everywhere.

More and more Michigan Week is being observed in neighborhoods and in homes. This year families have been urged by the state chairman, Paul Penfield, to have one important meal during the week made up entirely of Michigan foods.

Every church is expected to observe Spiritual Foundations Day next Sunday, May 15, with recognition of the early history of the church and the part which the faith it represents has played in the development of Michigan.

Each day is a special day: Monday, Our Government Day; Tuesday, Our Heritage Day; Wednesday, Our Livelihood Day; Thursday, Education Day; Friday, Hospitality Day; and Saturday, Our Youth Day.

Statewide, many important events are being held. The official kick-off of Michigan Week this year is at Sturgis on Saturday, May 14, when Governor Romney will address a luncheon and lead a big parade. The traditional opening ceremony of Spiritual Foundations Day takes place at Starr Commonwealth in Albion at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday the 15th.

Farmington has its own proud place in Michigan history which is celebrated during our annual Founders' Festival; but let's take time out from local pursuits and problems next week to boost our own great state — Michigan!

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago

MAY 11, 1961

Clean-Up Campaign
The South Farmington Civic Association swung into high gear this week as their annual Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Campaign went into its second week. City and Township officials have joined with the Association in urging all residents to support the community-wide effort.

Maternity Case
The maternity case handled by Farmington City Police Officer Ronald Watson was termed "elementary" this week as both mother and son are doing nicely. The baby was delivered by Watson in the back seat of the police car when it became apparent he would wait no longer to enter the world.

New Principal
Robert E. Rowe was named this week as the new principal at Middlebelt Elementary School.

River Glen
Preliminary plans for an 80-unit apartment house development on a 5½-acre site in the City of Farmington, north of Grand River and just east of the Farmington Junior High School, were revealed by Thomas A. Duke at the City Council meeting.

10 Years Ago

MAY 16, 1956

Race Track Plan
The Farmington Township Board tabled action on a proposed race track on a 24-acre site in the Township. The matter was tabled in order to allow further study on the proposal.

Mayors' Exchange
The annual mayors' exchange day program in Farmington this year will bring the mayor of Empire, a small community near Traverse City, to town while Farmington's Mayor Robert Lindbert visits the north country. Mayors' exchange day is held in conjunction with Michigan Week observances throughout the state.

Mortals Board
Tapped for membership in the Mortar Board, an honorary women's society at Michigan State University, was June Turner of Farmington.

League of Commerce
A meeting of the Inter-Lakes Conference Student Council was held this week at Farmington High School.

Falcons Edged
The Farmington High School baseball team was edged by Van Dyke's nine last Friday, 4 to 3.

15 Years Ago

MAY 16, 1951

New Council
Voters will go to the polls this Monday to vote in a five-man City Council, under provisions of the new Farmington City Charter.

FHS Thinslides
Five Farmington High School thinslides, under the direction of FHS track coach Don Hosler, won first place medals last week at the Central Michigan College Relays. Taking first place berths in their events were Barbara Dick Yokom, Gordon Harris, Bob Mansfield, Jim Bryan and Charles Comp.

Jaycee President
Edgar West was elected President of the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce at their annual election of officers meeting.

Road Resurfacing
Grand River Avenue will be resurfaced from Farmington Road east to Eight Mile Road this summer, according to a statement released this week by the State Highway Department. Grand River has many small pot holes in its present concrete surface.

Letters to The Editor

Twp. Pre-Incorporation Study Report Completed; David N. Mills Speaks Out Against Inc. of Township

To the Editor:
Farmington Enterprise

The Farmington City Council has issued a statement to the effect that the officials of the City of Farmington were never consulted by the Farmington Township officials about the matter before a decision was made to file petitions to incorporate Farmington Township as a township without including the City of Farmington. As reported in the Enterprise, however, our Township attorney still vociferously insists that the City councilmen were consulted beforehand and indicated no interest and that it was at least partly for this reason that the City councilmen then arranged to go ahead with incorporation petitions excluding the City of Farmington from the new proposed city.

Whether or not such contact was made with the City officials is of no consequence whatever, and any expression of interest on the part of the mayor or councilmen of the City of Farmington would be irrelevant to the issues here involved. Thus, our Township attorney well knows the formation of a new home-rule city out of an existing city and part or all of a township does not require the consent of the mayor or any councilmen of the existing city nor any resolutions or other action on the part of its council. Certainly some attempt should have been made to ascertain at least in a general way the feelings of the people of the City of Farmington before a decision was made as to whether to include it in any new proposed city. But the way to ascertain these feelings is definitely not to ask the city councilmen or the mayor, who like all government officials have an obligation to maintain the government of which they are a part and not having it swallowed up by a larger unit of government.

Just as our township officials might have a natural bias in favor of increasing their own governmental powers by converting the township into a city, I believe that the handling by our township officials of the City of Farmington problem is symptomatic of the hasty and ill-conceived manner in which the entire incorporation situation matter was handled. It is quite apparent by now that nobody has any real forethought to the problem of precisely what territory the new proposed home-rule city should encompass. For example, whether the City of Farmington should be included or excluded, whether the township's two villages should be included or excluded, and whether there should also be included the small portion of West Bloomfield Township which is part of the Farmington School District which remained being too small and poor to provide even the minimum services expected of it by its residents. I know of no threat whatever of the formation of additional, small cities within Farmington Township and no such city has been formed or even voted upon since the incorporation of Farmington City decades ago. Royal Oak Township's most critical problem is quite different from ours in another most important respect, since it involved the existence of a school district which was too small and poor to provide and

pay for efficient education service. We sincerely hope that you, which were once one of the township having their own separate school districts), — rather than a large school district (like ours) which also includes the prosperous portions of the township and city or cities within it.

Sincerely,
David N. Mills

The following statement has been released by Calvin F. Oppenheimer, Secretary of the Farmington Township Pre-Incorporation Study Committee.

To the Residents of Farmington Township:
We are pleased to announce that this committee, appointed by your Township Board, has completed its study on the question of incorporation of our township. During our four months of diligent study, we amassed great volumes of facts, statistics, and information concerning this very important matter. It would not be practical to provide it all to you, so we have condensed it into a very short summary report which is currently under-going final preparation and printing. We hope to have a copy of it in the hands of every voter-family in a week or ten days. Watch for it.

The following are the highlights of the report:
Our boundaries must be made secure in order to protect our industrial tax base, and ensure development of our community according to well-thought-out plans and zoning which rigidly controls population density at a low level. Any depreciation of zoning will cause a corresponding depreciation of property values and an increase in population density resulting in additional local taxes as well as school taxes. The only sure way to protect us from annexation of any part of the township by an adjacent city, or from incorporation of parts of the township, is to incorporate the entire township as now proposed.

Taxes would not increase as a result of a change in type of our local government. We could operate a city to provide the same level of services that presently exist with no increase in local taxes. As people want more governmental services, taxes must increase whether we are a township or a home rule city.

The transition to a city would be very minimal since we already have building, police and fire departments. Only a Department of Public Works for road maintenance would be required. Gasoline and weight taxes related from the state would be great enough to permit better road maintenance than is currently being provided by the County. Cities have no other responsibilities that townships do not also have.

No change in the "rural atmosphere" of the community would result from a change to a city. This atmosphere depends primarily on the home rule charter and the elected officials, both of which are controlled by the voters.

We feel our community has matured to a point, where we can better guide our destiny and govern ourselves through home rule rather than through township government which is controlled by state law without regard for our particular problems.

lens or desires.
We sincerely hope that you will study the report when you receive it. Then make your own decision as to how to vote on this vital question on June 6. Remember—this election does not convert the township into a city. It merely gives us the opportunity to formulate a home rule charter under which to govern ourselves, as opposed to a township form of government prescribed by state law.

This charter would be voted upon at a subsequent election for acceptance or rejection by the voters.

As related to the matter of incorporation, we also recom-

mend the following:
1) Familiarize yourself with the candidates for charter commission who will draw up the charter. From these, vote for those best qualified and will most positively carry out the wishes of the people; and

2) Be cautious of conflict information and rumors which may reach you before election time. This might well be designed to mislead you, play on your emotions and confuse the issue at stake.

Calvin F. Oppenheimer
Secretary, Farmington Twp. Pre-Incorporation Study Committee

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 89,886
STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE PROBATE COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND
Estate of AUGUSTA HOWE, Deceased.

It is Ordered that on May 11, 1966, at 9 a.m., in the Probate Courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, a hearing be held on the petition of Beatrice Reeves for the admission to probate of an instrument purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of said deceased, and for the granting of administration of said estate to the petitioner.

Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.

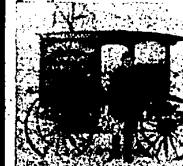
NORMAN R. BARNARD,
Judge of Probate
Dated: April 18, 1966
Max Hulett, Atty.
35801 Shilwaukee Avenue
Farmington, Michigan
April 27, May 4, 11

No. 89,892
STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE PROBATE COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND
Estate of JAMES F. SEASONS, Deceased.

It is Ordered that on June 6, 1966, at 9 a.m., in the Probate Courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, a hearing be held on the petition of Charles A. Seasons, Administrator of said estate, praying for the examination and allow-

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MICHIGAN WEEK

MAY 15-21

Michigan... dynamic in world progress

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MAY IS NATIONAL TAVERN MONTH

This is National Tavern Month—the time when America's brewers pay special tribute to the friendly folk who serve the friendly brew. So why not stop by your favorite tavern, enjoy the great refreshing flavor of a nice cool beer, and mention casually to the tavern-keeper that you're glad he's there. We are.

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