With the November 8 election only a few short weeks away, shouldn't some of the issues begin to flutter forth from their cocoons of silence? Foremost one to face the Farmington voters is surely the city's proposal that they annex some 2400 acres of the Township including its industrial core. When this proposal first was made very shortly after the June 6 election at which the Township voted not to be incorporated as a home rule city, our reaction was, "This is too rash, too ill-advised, too sudden." It will cause a rift between the two communities which could be irremediable. For, indeed, the electorate had resoundingly stated that they wished to remain a Township and be left alone to pursue their own destiny.

To be fair, we sought out the reasons

be left alone to pursue their own uctiny.

To be fair, we sought out the reasons for the City's action. They were spelled out in four point justification:

The added land will provide a means of good economic growth without resorting to higher taxes.

It will increase the actual area which can be used for recreational facilities (skating rinks and such) which both City and Township can enjoy. In line with this, there will be additional funds for beautification and cultural programs, both greatly needed for the area.

area.

It will provide a much increased capacity for local employment allowing residents the added time, comfort and convenience of working and living in the same locality. This will prevent the community from being a part-time community from being a part-time

own.

■ It will give the City a bigger
roice in being recognized in state and
reater Detroit projects and prompt a
vider interest in present school and

library programs.

Seemingly, the next step would be to weigh these points against four objections of the Township which would thus be deprived of its desirable ter-

thus be deprived of its desirable territory.

• Away will go the industrial park
and its satisfying base of tax dollars
which they have struggled so hard to
bring into existence.

• The tab for the Tarabusi sewer arm which services the industrial park will continue to be paid in large part by the Township. The voters agreed to accept this assessment for a 20 year period. By a quirk of law, the annexing territory would absorb only about 11 per cent of this debt.

• Acres to be annexed will become a divider, geographically cutting off one small southwestern portion of the Township from all the rest.

• The concept as a whole violates what should be the inherent right of a governmental unit to exist as an entity of its own choosing.

Is'nt it ironic that this issue, of such moment to both Township and City will actually be decided numerically by the residents of Independence Green? In most instances, not being landowners, they are neither economically nor emotionally involved.

Their I andlord is, however. If his property becomes attached to the City, he stands to benefit well in excess of \$300,000 in sewer tap-in fees for the unbuilt portion of the apartment. Possibly this would explain an eagerness to see that all of the apartment dwellers get registered in time to vote. The kindest thing they could do for their new community is not to become embroiled. When there are 8000 Township families paying for a sewer that is in danger of being lost to them while the payments will continue for 17 more years, it would be truly magnanimous of the deciding voters to maintain a dignified neutrality.

That annexation is a legal procedure and a self-serving one cannot be gainsaid. After perusal of Arnold Toynbee's 12 volume Study of History, however, we are firmly convinced that no lasting good was ever derived from aggression against one's neighbor. Textbooks on municipal government bearout that annexation is never a satisfactory answer to civic problems for very long. The territory annexed require more annexation ad Intinitum.

Anyone for a return to peaceful coexistence?

10 Years Ago

Room For A Drop-In Center?

Last week, this space was devoted to dult education "Drop-Ins". This week, nother type of Drop-In has been requested as part of the Farmington

quested as part of the Farmington scene.
Senior citizens who form a segment of the county population 48,000 strong need drop-in centers where they can get together for daily companionship and recreation. Sights are set on securing six to eight of these centers throughout the county. This announcement was made by the Oakland County. Commission on Economic Opportunity. Trailer parks where large numbers of these retired people reside tend to keep them isolated from community life. Lack of transportation also hinders them.

While there are two fine Senior Citizen clubs in the area, their monthly meetings are too infrequent to satisfy the needs of their members.

5 Years Ago

In Cedar Rapids, Iowa where one fifth of the population is more than sixty years of age, a wonderful Senior Citizen Center has recently been completed. Generous builders and tradesmen saw to it that a \$90,000 structure was put up for an actual cost of \$45,000 and the beneficiaries are happy and grateful.

No such elaborate plans are visualized.

grateful.

No such elaborate plans are visualized here, but it is hoped that a suitable vacant property may soon be found to provide a cheerful almosphere for getting together. The recurring theme at Council gatherings is the loneliness of the elderly.

Project Director George W. Cherry at 334-2434 would appreciate any information which might lead to locating such a nobly-intentioned facility. Possibly some service organization seeking a project for the coming months will find that this one just fills the bill.

Looking Back in the Files

15 Years Ago

Şepteraber 14, 1966 THE FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE 5A Sen. Candidate Chides Voting Registrars

Declaring that present inertia and smugness in neglecting to encourage greater cities and the state of the state sensities of the state of the state sensities of the state of the state sensities in the 24th District, proposed that door the state Senate in the 24th District, proposed that door to door voter, registration be immediately, instituted in Michigan.

The candidate, a We's the state of the state o



Public Letterbox

The Enterprise:

the four boys said they lived in Rimbertey: 1 did not an included party and load estruction of maple, beech, oak and cherry trees on my property. The vandals have never been seek the property of destruction, the loss therefore is personal, amounting to hundreds of dollars.

Labor Day when walking in the woods, 1 heard chopping the sown with than array of tools; saws, hatchets, nails, hammers, etc. 1 asked what they were chopping the four tools probably from age eight to 13, chopping trees down with an array of tools; saws, hatchets, nails, hammers, etc. 1 asked with they were chopping the four the boys to build a fort in the woods. They knew that taxes had to be paid by the people who owned houses or lots, and one said his parents on property that was not property

SEPTEMBER 14, 1981
Returnent
City voters made it clear at expose 1 month of all municial employees by approving yover a two too me margin a range in the city charter hich will bermit the City puncil to do so.

Light Vote As was predicted earlier was a value to Tarapata, architect.

As was predicted earlier was a value to Tarapata, architect.

As was predicted earlier was a value to Tarapata, architect.

As was predicted earlier in the city charter high fich of the fine potential of the provided provided to the completity for the provided provided

BILL FREEHAN of the Detroit Tigers is shown pinchili-ting for the Big Brothers to whom these youngsters have not yet been assigned. The Tiger players taught the boys something about hitting, throwing and fielding a baseball because there are no fathers at home to work with them and as yet no Big Brother volunteers.



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 89c

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