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Serving the rich Northeast: Farm, County and South Oakland County Suburban markets with a group of affiliated newspapers in Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Redford, Garden City, Westland and the Township of Plymouth, Farmington and Redford.

And What Now, Plymouth?

A court decision, that could have a far-reaching effect on communities throughout Michigan, was handed down by Circuit Court Judge Victor Baum last week, declaring a provision of the Plymouth City Charter unconstitutional.

The charter provision, which requires a candidate for city office to be a resident and a property-owning taxpayer for two years, was challenged by Rev. Peter Schweitzer, Associate Pastor of the First Methodist Church in Plymouth.

Rev. Schweitzer took the City to court on the grounds that the provision deprived him of the opportunity to become a candidate for the City Commission and also denied those who signed his nominating petition of the right to vote for a candidate of their choice.

Most of the long-time residents of Plymouth poo-pooed the suit. "He won't have a chance," was the comment. "That provision is in charters in cities throughout the state. He has to be wrong."

These same persons are shaking their heads in wonderment today. Rev. Schweitzer did win and the court opinion strikes at every charter having a similar provision.

In his ruling, Judge Baum, in effect, said the charter was written for the benefit of the rich and not the poor. He pointed out that the writers of the charter must have had this thought in mind when they wrote the provision.

As an example, he pointed to a person of considerable wealth who conceivably

would winter in the South during the winter and then move into an apartment in Plymouth during the remainder of the year.

This man, the Judge said, would be deprived of the right to run for office in the City of Plymouth regardless of his stature. He could be the most astute statesman in the city but because he wasn't a taxpayer and property owner, he couldn't become a candidate.

Rev. Schweitzer deserves praise from citizens of the City of Plymouth for challenging the provision and taking it to court. He is being censured in some places but in this modern world it is refreshing to see a person of the stature of Rev. Schweitzer get up on his toes and say, "This is wrong and I'm going to challenge it and try to correct it."

The City Commission, as expected, has decided to appeal the decision, principally on the grounds that Commissioners don't care to have the charter declared wrong.

But even on the Commission, there are two members—James McKeon and Robert Smith—who had enough courage to tell their fellow members they were opposed to an appeal because they felt the decision was right.

Perhaps, it's time for the City Commission to consider taking another good look at the Charter. There are Commissioners who feel some of the city ordinances, passed long after the charter, are outdated and should be changed. Why not the charter? —R.T.T.

From the Publisher's Desk OBSERVATION POINT

By Philip H. Power

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Observer Publisher Philip Power just returned from a trip abroad. Among his experiences were numerous rides in taxicabs in Istanbul, Turkey. The following is taken from the notes he managed to scrawl during one of his rides.)

ISTANBUL—New York cabbies and New York taxis are supposed to be the most famous in the world.

London taxicabs, with their high-sided, austere all-black bodies and calm drivers, are surely the most dignified in the world.

Tokyo's taxi drivers, who know only the location of the accelerator pedal are the most suicidal in the world.

But Istanbul's taxi system, considered as a system, is the most unusual in my experience.

Brother, forget about calling your local taxi cab office to ask for a radio cab to come to your door. Forget, in fact, about calling the cab office at all. I tried numerous ones, aided by a skilled Turkish speaker, and got no answers from any of them. Most don't even have phones.

No, indeed. You don't call cabs. You don't even go out to your nearest cab stand to see if one is there.

In Istanbul, you stand on the corner of a street, eyeing the squash of traffic going by—donkeys, ancient buses, men with four-foot high loads on their backs, an occasional black limousine belonging to a (successful) Turkish businessman, and an incredible screaming, belching, wheezing, rattling horde of cars.

Out of this, you may just barely be able to pick out the particularly wheezy and rattling form which belongs to the Turkish taxi, called a "dolmeh." Other than being more decrepit than the run-of-the-mill Turkish car, a dolmeh is distinguished by a small

strip of black and white checks running just below the windows and a very small taxi meter hanging precariously out the right window.

This meter does not work. I have never seen a Turkish dolmeh driver get out and I do not know if any of them work.

But all dolmehs have them; they act as a key identification symbol and no more.

So this dolmeh comes along, filled with people, on its way to rattle past you.

At this point, it is of vital importance to remember Turkish dolmeh etiquette, which is as rigid as that at an international diplomatic conference.

You do not wave your hand hopefully, in an attempt to get the dolmeh to stop. You do not shout, "Taxi!" (or in Turkey, "Dolmeh!") in a loud voice. You do not even produce the Turkish version of, "Hey buddy! Going my way?"

Instead, you scream the name of the general area you want to go to, looking questioning all the while.

"Taxim?" you bellow, referring to a central square in Istanbul, "Beleskon?" you shout, if American, referring to the Istanbul Hilton Hotel.

At this point, it is the dolmeh driver's move. Generally, he nods his head vigorously up and down. Although this means "Yes" in American, in Turkish it means "No, I am not going where you want to go, as any fool can plainly see."

This happens about six out of every seven times with a dolmeh.

Once in a while, the dolmeh driver will shake his head from side to side, reluctantly. This means, "Yes, it does happen to be going in the vague direction you want, and as part of my



Letters to the Editor:

19th GOP Critic Expounds

Dolores Kory's letter is the same old record, played over and over.

"We good Republicans for the party want and work for party unity," but, in moderate, liberal middle-of-the-road, (Rep. State Chairman) Elly Peterson clique language. They really mean to do it. This clique's philosophy is run a winner even if he or she is a Democrat.

Hand-pick primary candidates and support them with Republican Party funds. Or their clique is fairly defeated, set up an illegal organization as they did in the 12th, 14th, and 19th Districts and will do in other areas in the future. Even their Wayne 19th Chairman title is an illegal rump position. The general public is beginning to question the "why" of so many revolts in Republican ranks.

"With Elly Peterson's clique always saying, we are the white hats. True, some of the conservatives don't support the Presidential aspirations of our greatest Governor and this is treason to their Romney-type Republicanism. I, personally, don't support our greatest Governor, for good Republican reason. I believe. One good reason is the well-developed callouses on either big toe, from putting his foot in his mouth."

"I predict party unity for our Republican party when party rules and election laws apply equally to all Republican candidates."

Bruce E. Duke, Farmington

More G.O.P. Criticism

Thank you for your coverage of the 19th GOP. It is known that there are problems of friction and dissension; so therefore, it is good that the facts are brought out.

In your March 8, 1967 issue, under the heading, "VIEW FROM INSIDE GOP," you printed a letter from Dolores Kory, in which she stated, "To have thoroughly understood the two-camp view of the Oakland delegation however, one needed to witness the district convention, Jan. 31." With this she then proceeds to try and explain what happened, why she is so happy about that and implies that the group she supports has been officially empowered by the

county body.

So, let's take just a brief "inside view." First of all, I think we will all agree that this should not come from someone who was down in Wayne County someplace attending the 19th District Wayne convention while the 19th District-Oakland convention was being held out in Walled Lake.

Now let's take a look at the issues. The problem is not that the 19th convention didn't recognize the recommendations of the several legislative district caucuses. The 19th congressional district did not call such caucuses prior to the convention. It was Oakland County headquarters who put out that call. Further, I have no intention of following the lead of the letter and demand the efforts of any person in the GOP. Regardless of their views, they are doing what they can, and also without quarrel. Therefore, all that has followed is nothing more than a pressure group trying to impose its will and take over with its own people. And this they label unity.

Why is this whole situation about? It is basically very simple. The Oakland County organization is attempting to control the 19th Congressional District. The 19th Congressional District, in accord with the State constitution is attempting to run its own affairs. It is not a new group. Those that were responsible for the activities of the 19th last year, which included the big GOP landslide, are the same people who are being called names today. It is their effort to bring in new workers and promote experienced people to more responsible positions that is being ridiculed by the

Counties tightly held little closed fraternity of personal opportunists, apparently because they don't recognize some of the names of the newcomers who are being welcomed aboard from all over the district.

So, there is the problem, Mr. Voter, your problem. It is your problem because you elect the party precinct delegate who does the first round of voting on the party organization ladder. Know your organization, as best you can and if possible, work in it. But, if you had to vote right now what would be your choice? The tightly held little organization not actually functioning within the constitution of your state, that cannot face defeat, that preaches unity while creating a party split. Or the organization that believes in running its own affairs; that seeks responsibility; that seeks and welcomes volunteer workers and has as its one goal the Party's success on election day with the Party's candidates who were chosen without interference at primary election.

Stephen H. Bruce, City of Farmington

Answered Need

Instant action plus courteous aid could well describe Farmington Police Department, particularly the two officers connected with the call to my home.

Doubting that our citizens realize how capable these men are prompts me to thank them publicly.

Sincere "thanks" to all for capable performance of duty when this John Q. Public required aid.

Mary Ann Pappas, Farmington

OBSERVING the Scene...

By MYRA CHANDLER

Lightning coming out of the sky doesn't strike everyone, but when it does, it usually is a disaster.

We take certain safety precautions to avoid being struck by this uncertain instrument of death.

Likewise, a criminally insane person does not strike everyone, but like lightning, when it does it is usually fatal.

Unfortunately the protection of the helpless in the face of this menace is not good. Not only is the public unprotected, but in a sense, the criminal himself should be better protected by law since his crime is not that of a normal person.

Several incidents have triggered off the Legislators in Lansing to study our entire Probate Court with an eye to more rigid control.

The history of the Royal Oak sniper arrested in 1957 is a case in point. Even he, as unbalanced as he was proven to be, was relieved when he was arrested after terrorizing the entire section of Oakland County for a six-week period and committing unprovoked attacks, often savage on 16 women. It was revealed when he was arrested he was a devotee with sadistic, murderous urged directed mainly toward women.

Everyone agreed, separately, this 19-year-old should be confined, psychiatrists, law enforcement officers and the courts. But now, 10 years later, he is about to be released on a writ of habeas corpus filed last week in Ionia County Circuit Court. He was transferred out of Oakland County jurisdiction when he was transferred on request from Ionia to Detroit Lafayette Clinic because psychiatrists there wanted to "study him" as his brother was there as an outpatient. No records transferred with him—and no history accompanies this man as he faces an entirely new group in judging him insane—or sane and able to take his place in society. Yet the doctors as late as May 1966 refused his release on the grounds he was not cured.

Captain Robert Turner, Chief of the Livonia Detective Squad, pinpointed the problem as lack of communication. Arresting officers, often the most familiar with the case, never get the opportunity to view the doctor's conclusions after examination—they do not have the opportunity to consult with the psychiatrists as a normal procedure. They should.

Suicides, and here of late a suicide-murder, probably could have been avoided if a 48-hour commitment hadn't been interfered with, two lives might have been saved, one of a normal, healthy boy, and one of his father who might have been cured.

Another case in Livonia is of a young girl, 22, who stole a car. Her mother has been trying to get help for her for years and cannot get the authorities interested.

The girl talks normal, looks normal, and yet, it is normal for a young, attractive girl to live in a dump outside the City of Wayne, in the back of a truck? Hardly.

But authorities' hands are tied.

There are so many unrelated procedures to go through, so much red tape. The Prosecutor will not issue a warrant for the girl unless she is brought in with her accuser. The accuser is ready, but the girl doesn't want to, she is unbalanced and doesn't respond normally to a request to come to the Police Station for questioning.

Something must be done to help this person before she harms herself and others.

The procedure for commitment, in the case of a person suspected, but not as yet guilty of murder or violence, is request from family or other citizens (with proof) for 48-hour commitment. The Prosecutor has to approve the commitment before the warrant is issued. The person is then taken to Wayne County General Hospital where approval must also be given by the hospital for the 48-hour commitment.

If both approvals are obtained the person is committed for 48 hours to await a report from three psychiatrists. The doctors may ask for two five-day stays, if they deem it necessary.

By then there is either recommendation for a court hearing, or the person is released. Often the person is released to one member of the family who says he prefers to take the person to a private doctor. There is not much follow up should the request (and it usually is) be granted.

If there is any estate involved, Capt. Turner says there is usually a "loved one" that does not want to see the money administered by the court, (procedure in the case of a criminal is person). Usually the "loved one" is more interested in their supervising the "chore."

It is Captain Turner's opinion there should be a meeting of the minds—a conference at least, between the court, the law enforcement officers and the psychiatrist before any action is taken to release a person with criminally insane tendencies. Sometimes the family interferes because of a fear of social stigma.

No one can oversimplify the complications involved, but certainly the three agencies plus the family of such a person should communicate, and should be made to do so by law.

Leading Magazine Articles Say: "The Health Of Our Nation Is Bad!"

This in spite of the highest costs in health care, preventive care is less costly than remedial care.



Are You Hungry All The Time!

Do You Eat A Lot Of Food. And Still Feel Hungry?

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