



FARMINGTON SOROPTIMIST President Ella Cottone (center) and past president Grace Richardson (right) chatted with Hildegarde after the well-known singer's appearance at the Farmington Town Hall Thursday. The Soroptimists are sponsoring the new Town Hall series to benefit the Farmington YMCA Building Fund.

Hildegarde: Breath Of Eternal Spring

You might compare a visit from Hildegarde to a breath of spring—the eternal variety.

This handsome woman—a well-known nightclub entertainer for more years than she will count in public—led off the brand new Farmington Town Hall series Thursday, and had a few hundred women trying to guess the secret of her youthful appearance.

Hildegarde put on a good show at the Northland Theater to start things off.

SHE DID SO despite some genuine handicaps—a microphone that roared, not enough light on the stage, a slight cold.

These imperfections bothered her a bit, but certainly didn't throw her.

She gave out with familiar show tunes, some oldies in which the audience joined her, and Hildegarde's specialties like "The Last Time I Saw Paris" and "Darling, Je Vous Aime Beaucoup."

But it was after the luncheon at Glen Oaks Country Club that she and her audience really reached an understanding.

There she fielded scores of questions with disarming candor, stopping just short of giving real statistics.

IS SHE OVER 50? someone wanted to know. "Yes, of course, I wrote a book that said I was."

How about husband and children? "I have no children because I've never married, but I won't die guessing."

What did she think of mini-skirts? "They're very cute on the young; after 40 they should be mid-knee cap."

Hippies? "Those poor souls. Let's hope this is just a phase—it makes us look awful in the eyes of the world."

How does she keep her skin youthful-looking? "Plenty of lubrication—like you'd give a leather chair."

Does she approve of plastic surgery? "Yes. When the day comes, and it will be soon, I'll do it."

How old is she? "That's a good question."

Was she wearing a wig? "Yes. It cost \$150 plus tax, and I still have to pay to have it set. But it's a great help when traveling—I couldn't have had my hair done this morning."

Why does she play the piano with gloves on? "It started as a matter of timing—it's such a production to take them off—and now it's my trademark."

One question from Mrs. Maribel Chalmers, of Farmington, obviously delighted Hildegarde.

"When I was on my honeymoon 25 years ago," Mrs. Chalmers wrote, "I saw you perform in Chicago, and you looked older than I. Now you look younger than I—how can this be?"

Every other woman present wondered, too.



HILDEGARDE was introduced by Robert Chesley, president of Chesley Industries in Farmington and chairman of the board for the YMCA Building Fund.

Hippie Gets Jail Sentence

A long-haired hippie youth who appeared in court attired in a serapi, hippie-style, was found guilty on a disorderly person charge by Associate Municipal Judge Dennis Pheneey Tuesday.

Judge Pheneey sentenced Mark David Hackney, a 17-year-old June graduate of Farmington High School, to serve 10 days in the Oakland County Jail and fined him \$15 costs.

Hackney was arrested shortly after midnight Oct. 14 after he had shouted obscene remarks at police officers and, according to police, had used a vulgar gesture while driving on Grand River near Nine Mile Rd.

Hackney stood mute when the disorderly person charge was read, and an innocent plea was entered in his behalf. The case

was heard without a jury, and Judge Pheneey based the conviction upon testimony of police and the youth himself.

"I wish I knew how to get through to you," remarked the jurist as Hackney uttered an untoward series of comments while sitting in a half-sprawled at the defendant's table.

The judge first said he would defer sentence until Friday to ponder what punishment might be most effective, then later changed his mind and ordered Hackney to jail immediately.

The youth was described as having been a neatly dressed and well-groomed high school student whose attitudes and mode of dress changed radically when visiting California during the summer, where he was caught up in the so-called "hippie movement."

Help Asked For Blacklisted Driver



Sen. Philip A. Hart, D-Mich., says that Congress shortly will investigate the problems of the driver who is compelled by state law to buy auto insurance but is blacklisted by the firms selling it.

Hart told a meeting of the Cooperative Services that most insurance firms, in an understandable desire to "skim" the market, are reluctant to write insurance for persons in certain occupations or certain neighborhoods.

For example, he said, one major firm will not grant auto insurance to clergymen because, according to instructions issued to insurance agents, "clergymen tend to be pre-occupied and tend to drive with the attitude that the lord will provide."

OTHERS WHO find difficulty getting insurance at reasonable rates, Hart said, are doctors, beauty operators, painters, porters, cooks, editors, reporters, miners, soldiers, residents of the inner city and anyone else who has ever had an auto insurance policy cancelled.

"And policies," he said, "are sometimes very arbitrarily cancelled, perhaps after only one minor accident."

Hart said that persons in "undesirable" occupations or neighborhoods often have only one recourse: to buy insurance from a "high risk" firm, one that specializes in taking customers that others won't handle.

"But even after paying the high-risk premium, they are not safe," Hart said, "because many high-risk firms seem to be precariously financed and no less than 80 of them have gone bankrupt in the past few years, leaving their policy-holders unprotected."

TO ATTACK the problem of the bankrupt high-risk firms, Hart urged a plan to give auto insurance buyers the same kind of federal insurance that bank depositors have.

He proposed the creation of a Federal Motor Vehicle Insurance Guaranty Corporation, an agency similar to the self-supporting Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

But he said no clear solutions have yet evolved to the problem of the "undesirable" policy applicant and the hasty cancellation. He added, however, that the Senate Commerce Committee, of which he is a member, will shortly embark on an in-depth study.

Obituaries

MRS. CATHERINE N. RANDALL, 34, of 333 North Gengary Rd., Birmingham, was conducted in the First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, with burial at Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

Mrs. Randall died in Harbor Hospital in Detroit.

Surviving are her husband, John Randall, a son, David L. Randall, a daughter, Mary R. Randall, and a son, David M. Nichol, of Chicago, Ill.; three sons, Mr. W. W. Mather of Plymouth, Mrs. Leon and J. Warren of Farmington, Mass., and Mrs. Evan Fradenburgh of Fairfield, Conn.

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