

The Reader Expresses Views On Many Subjects

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following statement is from Aldo Vagnoni, chairman of the 19th District Democratic Organization. It refers to this newspaper's recent Public Affairs page tally of the votes of area congressmen on key issues. Vagnoni opened by saying the votes shown for Republican Congressman Jack McDonald are "misleading" and went on to give his reasons.)

As the article so correctly pointed out, the roll call vote on final passage is not always the vote that reflects how the individual congressman feels about a certain piece of legislation.

In Mr. McDonald's case, the key vote on such issues as rail control, public broadcasting, corporation, model cities, rent supplements, meat inspection and aid to elementary and secondary education did not come on final passage but on earlier moves to kill or water down the programs.

For instance, McDonald said he voted "yes" on the bill setting up the public broadcasting corporation which he points out will help Channel 56 in the Detroit area.

The record, as prepared by the impartial Congressional Quarterly, shows that the key vote on this issue was a motion to kill the public corporation provision and the proposed \$5-million appropriation. McDonald voted in favor of this motion on Sept. 21, 1967, (Congressional Record roll call number 270).

On rail control he voted against the original program when its consideration brought laughter from some of its opponents. (Congressional Record roll call number 176, July 20, 1967).

McDonald also voted "no" when an appropriation was added to the public health bill with the understanding that it could be used for rail control. (Congressional Record roll call number 285, Sept. 20, 1967). He then voted for final passage of the public health bill.

On model cities and rent supplements, McDonald did vote "yes" on final passage, but prior to that he voted to delete all but \$12-million of the model cities appropriation. (Congressional Record roll call 93, May 17, 1967) and to knock out the entire \$10-million for rent supplements. (Congressional Record roll call 92, May 17, 1967).

On meat inspection, a strong bill was passed only because the Senate won out over the House, which wanted a weaker control bill. At one point in the deliberations a motion was made calling on the House conferees on the bill to accept the stronger Senate version. Mr. McDonald voted against this motion, which, in effect meant that he wanted a weaker bill than the one that was passed. (Congressional Record roll call 417, Nov. 29, 1967).

ALDO VAGNONI
Chairman, 19th District
Democratic Organization
Farmington

Who Is His Boss?

EDITOR:
Edward T. Kennedy and his Bedford Township treasurer's office are employed, it has been my impression, by the taxpayers of the township.

After three years of trying to get first some information and then some action out of his office, I'm not certain he knows for whom he is working. In attempting to get the proposition and address on my tax statement I had written, called, called and written again. It turned out that I was in error in what I wanted. . . but Kennedy's office never managed to explain this on the telephone, or even to reply to my various letters.

For my \$700 annual kick-in to the treasury it would have been nice to get one letter. It would have saved both of us a lot of time and confusion. If he can't be courteous, perhaps Kennedy could at least make an attempt to be efficient.

W.T. RABE
2271 Pinecrest
Farmdale

Backs Harry Deyo

EDITOR:
In your issue of Jan. 17, there was a rambling letter by a Donald A. Strom, whose main theme appeared to be a personal attack on Harry N. Deyo of Plymouth. He stated with apparent acrimony that "I never heard of Deyo."

It would be rather interesting to know:

1. How long Strom has lived in Plymouth.

2. How much time he has devoted to Plymouth affairs.

3. His record of service to his country which he claims

to defend. Having lived in Livonia since 1939 I happen to know that Mr. Deyo was city attorney for several years and also judge for an additional period. If Strom never heard of Deyo either he never lived in Plymouth very long.

2. Failed to learn very much about his city administration until quite recently.

It would be most informative if your paper would publish the comparative records of public service, both civil and military, of these two men. I am sure if this record were to be made public Deyo would be recognized as a man who has served his nation well.

Whether or not Strom pledged to his church for 1958 is of no concern, nor does it bear on the discussion pro or con.

EDWIN M. SELF
11009 Melrose Ave.
Livonia

Rate Hike Works

EDITOR:
There has been one noticeable change in postal service since the recent increase in rates. The time of delivery has been stabilized.

In the good old days of five cent first class and eight cent air mail, we never were sure whether our mail would be delivered at 10 in the morning, or at 1 in the afternoon. The time varied like the weather. Now, however, we seem to be on an even keel. The current arrival time is 3 in the afternoon.

No use getting optimistically geared up for a morning delivery—just compose yourself and hope that the 3 p.m. deal does not deteriorate.

Delivery by mail of an out-of-town newspaper also has been stabilized. Before the post office got all the extra look, we would receive the paper on the date of publication only about four times out of five. Usually, the Saturday issue would not arrive until Monday. Now that has been changed. The paper is delivered one day late every day.

One more increase and the post office will have to put on an evening shift to accomplish further stabilization. Then we can look for our overdue mail to arrive along with the late, late show on TV.

STEWART M. RICE
34442 Nine Mile
Farmington

Suggestions To Board

EDITOR:
As you probably are aware, many parents living in the Calistoga Gardens Subdivision, whose youngsters are scheduled to attend Franklin next year are very concerned about the quality of education they have had during their secondary years.

During the seventh grade they were assigned to Frost Junior High on afternoon sessions for the first semester. The second semester of the seventh grade they were assigned to Stevenson for regular program, sharing the building with the high school students. The first semester of the eighth grade they were assigned to Bryant Junior High on afternoon sessions. The second semester of the eighth grade year they were finally in a place known as "home", Holmes Junior High.

In all probability the administrative staff has taken this into consideration, however we feel this particular group has been handicapped. We can't believe that any other group of youngsters in Livonia has had the same handicaps as this group.

We are recommending that the Board of Education give consideration to the following:

1. The students who have had the handicaps mentioned above be assigned to morning hours.

2. The students who live north of Lyndon be assigned to Stevenson High School because of distance involved. It would be impossible for participation in activities beyond the normal school day if assigned to Franklin.

3. Consideration be given to assignment of the Tenth graders to the three existing high schools with additional staff members being added on a staggered schedule.

4. We do not, under any circumstances, feel that a family should have two or more students in grades 10, 11 and 12 in different high schools, which does exist in the present plan.

We would be most happy to meet with the Livonia Board of Education if necessary.

Sincerely,

LYNN NUTTER
15042 Houghton

Teachers Have 'Beef'

EDITOR:
If James Fenimore Cooper had been on hand to write his book, he would have found that teachers "had to blaze the trails" to find their way to Cooper School on Monday morning, January 16, 1968.

According to Ralph Reed's

article of January 17, 1968, "the Livonia School Administration, which rarely lets snow interfere with classes, got its maintenance crews out early and within 16 hours on Sunday had cleared school entrances and parking lots, making it possible for buses to operate Monday."

If Mr. Reed had climbed out of his warm bed and viewed

first hand the undrivable situations, he would then have had a much more accurate report. He would have seen children being dropped from their buses on Ann Arbor Trail and walking through "knee-deep" snow and unpaved entrances with teacher's cars backed on to Ann Arbor Trail causing traffic tie-ups.

Teachers who spent the day

drying out children's wet clothes find little to brag about. It should also be noted that our staff members were subjected to the same conditions and were at the school to greet the children when they arrived, not the opposite as was cited in the article.

We feel that a more accurate report would better inform the Livonia taxpayers of the needs

of the Livonia Public Schools. CONCERNED TEACHERS OF THE COOPER STAFF

Can't Stand 'Beauty'

EDITOR:
After reading in the Observer about the award bestowed upon our fair city for beautification, I felt compelled to write and inquire why in their tour they

neglected the beautiful sight at 18411 Middlebelt where there are a total of 13 junk cars in the back yard.

It is very discouraging to spend money on your own property and have to live next door to such a sight.

MRS. WILLIAM J. HANDLEY
18425 Middlebelt
Livonia

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