

Plymouth Voter Predicts 25.5 Pct. Hike In Taxes

EDITOR:

Prepare yourself for a severe jolt when you receive your next tax bill in Plymouth. Why? To begin with, the equalization factor has been increased by the county. In Plymouth Township this alone will equal an increase of approximately 7 per cent. This will increase taxes by 7 per cent over last year. In addition, the schools are asking you to approve an increase of 8 mills (\$8 per \$1000 equalized value). 3.5 mills in a regular and 4.5 mills in added millage.

By a recommendation of the school board, voters will not be allowed to vote on the two millages separately. In addition, the school board will also assess you 2.37 mills for debt (you have no vote on this). This will total 6.87 in new millage or \$6.87 per \$1000 equalized value.

What effect will all of the above have on the tax bill next year? My arithmetic shows me it will increase your tax bill 25 per cent. Add to this a .5 mill required for the fire department (already approved but not levied) and the increase is 25 1/2 per cent.

It looks like \$0.48 mills per \$1000 valuation in Plymouth Township. Remember the township operates on only one mill plus two mills for sewer and water expansion.

With all of the publicity being given to the needs for the added millage, I feel it is only fair to the taxpayer that he know what he is up against. Remember approximately 80 per cent plus goes for operation or services. Wages and salaries are the key.

Why am I so interested in presenting this information? As a citizen I contribute many hours of my time each month to the community gratis towards encouraging industry to locate here to relieve the taxes on the homeowner.

According to Mr. Rossman, Superintendent of schools, if a home can be sold for about \$55,000 you pay your year for schools. If your home is worth less, then industry must assume the difference. I am now asking myself whether I am wasting my time. Why?

The teachers' union is demanding a 20 per cent increase in wages plus all the usual fringes and improvements. Do you get a 20 per cent increase each year? What good does it do for myself and others to see what we can do for the schools when each year the union sits there waiting to grab it all.

The money which should go to increased enrollment and improvements goes to the union and you are asked for additional millage to cover the shortage plus some extra. This has been the same story each year. It will continue every year unless we start right now today "No."

The proposed school budget does not appear unreasonable as a budget, providing the dollars required are not inflated. Included is money for a 4 per cent salary increase. The budget was drawn in March,

based on an estimated valuation of the district at \$200,000,000, up \$10,000,000 over last year.

If the union rejects a 1 per cent what will happen? There is only 4 per cent in the budget. What is the answer? By now the actual valuation of our district has been released by the County. It is a matter of public information. It is well over \$200,000,000. The Union is waiting to get this figure plus information from Lansing and when they do, this will, to a great degree, determine what the settlement will be. The big question is, will they get it?

As a result of the valuation increase, we could expect the school board to reduce the 2.37 mills for debt. This remains to be seen.

Last year the school board gave the union an agency shop. Actually it should be called a closed shop. If a teacher refuses to join the union or refuses to pay the union dues, the school board is required to fire the teacher.

We were assured this was meaningless as the teacher could petition the Tenure Commission for protection.

Early this month, the Tenure Commission, meeting in Saginaw upheld the union and fired the teachers who appealed for justice. The pattern is now set.

The time now is as good as later to start asking some simple questions such as:

1. Why are the demands of the union being kept secret un-

til a settlement is signed. If the taxpayer is to foot the bill, he should know what the bill is.

2. Why aren't any elected school board members on the negotiating team representing the taxpayers? Why only employees of the board. Why not a citizen or citizens at large.

3. What limit has been set as to what the final offer will be? If you live in Plymouth Township your taxes increased 78.5 per cent in 1967, 10.5 per cent in 1968, 25.5 per cent increase for 1969, ask yourself just where will it end. Only you can supply the answer.

F. MILLINGTON

He Supports Tax

EDITOR:

I would like to comment on the upcoming millage election for the Wayne Community School District.

As a businessman and someone who lives in the city of Westland, there is nothing that I would rather see than a reduction in our property taxes. It is hard for me, however, to see this come about at the expense of the education of our school children.

In a time of plenty, (or so it may seem) I doubt whether I could walk the halls of any of the schools in our system and say this is where we must cut our spending. To say we must start with our children and then work our way up to ourselves would indeed be neglecting to provide society with informed minds that are capable

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

of taking on the obligations we adults are imposing on them. Until a better method of financing our schools is devised I will remain a "yes" voter, because starting with our children does not seem the way to inaugurate tax reform.

FLOYD LASUER
Westland

Parents, Not School Should Set Code

EDITOR:

Three cheers for Mrs. Knit-

tel's letter concerning the student's manner of dress. This is a matter between the student and his parents - not the school. I would be the first to say that my taste and that of my daughter certainly is equal to or surpasses any of the school administrators might suggest.

To me, it is incredible that they should concern themselves with a matter such as this.

MAE O'DRAGO
LIVONIA

How To Impress School Boards

EDITOR:

I believe you periodically publish reader viewpoints in some such column as "The Reader Speaks Out."

For whatever use you may elect to make of it, I respectfully offer the following:

The Board Will Not Be Impressed.

The March 16 issue of the Livonia Observer reported in a front page article the details of two Livonia women's opposition to the introduction of a "right" sex education course for second graders at Grant elementary school.

While my wife and I happen to be of that part of society which would oppose such a course for essentially the same reasons the ladies opposed it, that is not why I am writing. My concern is with two other observations reported as part of the overall dispute which

both disturb and alarm me. The first had to do with "objection professionally and personally" on the part of Sp. of Education Yates that the ladies elected to make their petition to the Federation of Civic Associations instead of the School Board.

I suppose we should feel sorry for Sp. Yates' feelings, but I don't. It will be a sad day indeed when concerned and involved citizens are denied access to any democratic organization capable of "hearing out" and hopefully "representing" concerns of the citizenry in general.

I believe that a number of Livonia citizens in addition to myself will have interpreted Dr. Yates' statement as arbitrary and impertinent.

The second observation was the reported statement that the School Board "would not be impressed" by a petition brought before them. My first conclusion here is that it is, perhaps just such high-handed conduct as this that prompts

(requires) us to appeal to some other source for help. In this case the Federation.

My stronger reaction, however, is one of indignation and insult. I feel certain that many Livonians have taken note of this matter. Has the Board become so righteous and inflexible, or perhaps autocratic that they no longer incline to a responsive ear to the people they represent?

Well, we are people to be dealt with. It may be we don't choose to be treated so shabbily. It may also be that we have recourse to action which will "impress" the Board.

Until we drop some of the costly and refined programs -- or receive more courteous hearings with regard to them, we just won't hear very well the requests for increased tax authorization.

K.J. YOUNG
LIVONIA

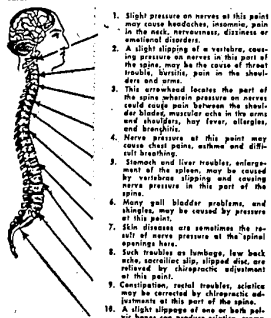
KRESGE'S

SELL-A-BRATION

3 Big Days
THURS.-FRI.-SAT. ONLY

SPINAL NERVE PRESSURE CAN CAUSE MANY AILMENTS

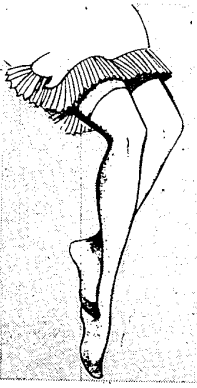
The ailments mentioned below are some which may be caused by vertebrae in the spinal column slipping out of alignment and causing pressure and irritation on nerves. Study the chiropractic chart below and you will understand why over 30 million people have benefited from chiropractic care.



Regardless of what your ailment is, if it is related to the spine, chiropractic care may be the answer to your health problem. Find out NOW if yours is a case for chiropractic. Call for appointment.

DR. LESLIE E. BOWERS
Chiropractor

13990 Mariner Road, Livonia
(1 Block North of Schoolcraft)
425-5454



3 Days—Our Reg. 86¢
Junior Miss Nylons

Sheer—seamless mesh nylons designed with the youngest girl in mind. In moisture, acetate, cotton, black, brown and grey. Size 4-10.

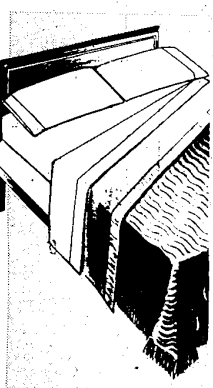


Today's "In" Look
Go Pow-Wow Pretty In Apache Ties With Rings

63¢

Like It? Charge It!

The fashion trend leads to turned-on accessories in apache ties and rings. Apache ties will set the look long and come in colors and prints wild as war paint. Get several! 54" Long Acetate Ties! Soches In The Going-out Colors. 97¢



3 Days—Our Reg. 2.96
Chenille Bedspread

Give bedrooms a dash of glamor with cotton spreads with fringe trim. Double bed, 8'x10' and twin size, 7'x10', in white and colors.

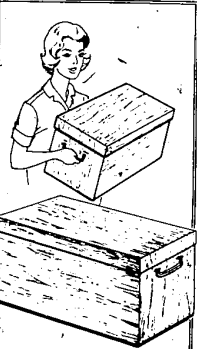
2.44

Hudson's Big Game Preserve



Keep your furs safe and comfortable through the summer months. Bring them to the Fur Salon at your nearest Hudson's store. We'll give them the kindest care in our cool, clean vaults. When you're ready to show them off again—you can pick them up at the same convenient spot.

*You may leave your furs for storage, cleaning and repairs in the Fur Salon at Hudson's Northland, Eastland, Westland, Pontiac, Oakland; in Fur Storage, 17th, Downtown



Reinforced Fiber Board
Store-All Chests

Reg. 1.57—3 Days
Sturdy, convenient chest in 28 sizes, 18" Plastic handle.

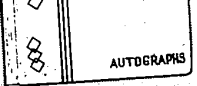
1.27



Comfortable Agilon® Anklets

Our Reg. 68¢—3 Days
Moist, anklets can be worn with slacks and capri pants. In slacks, black, brown and grey. Size 4-10.

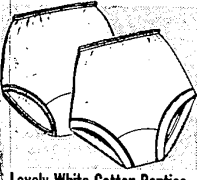
47¢



Attractive Autograph Books

Our Reg. 48¢—3 Days
Books are 6"x5" and have 35 multicolor slotted sheets. Pop-up color covers are pulled.

38¢



Lovely White Cotton Panties

Our Reg. 44¢—3 Days
Delicate hand leg panties with elastic waist, in 12 and 14. Size 4-10.

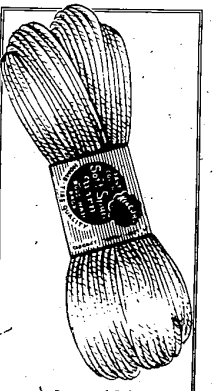
28¢



1-Lb. Green Tree Canned Ham

Our Reg. 1.17—3 Days
Delicious canned ham is ready to cook. It's sure to please your family.

99¢



In Dozens of Colors!
Kentucky Rug Yarn

Reg. 31¢—3 Days
Big 3rd skein for wool knitted, crocheted, woven rug and more.

4 for \$1

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★ WONDERLAND CENTER
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