



By W. W. EDGAR

The Stroller... The Hesitant City Loses

Back in the days when the schools across the land concentrated on teaching the three "R's"—reading, 'ritin' and 'rithmetic—each student was given what was called, for lack of a better word, a "copy book" for his penmanship class.

This was a booklet with lined pages and a trite saying, written with a beautiful Spencerian hand, at the top of each page. This one line was to serve as an example and the student was supposed to try to duplicate on each line in the booklet.

While no particular mention was made of it at

the time, these sample lines also were designed to serve as guide lines in life. There were such trite sayings as:

Make haste slowly.

The early bird catches the worm.

Look before you leap.

It takes a lean horse for a long race.

Winners never quit—and quitters never win.

Strike while the iron is hot.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

Little attention was paid to them, as so-called mottoes, until one afternoon when we turned the page and came to the new line—"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again," our old maid teacher scoffed.

A NEW TWIST

"WE'RE GOING to change that," she said, "and make it read—'If at first you don't succeed, quit.'"

She explained that there would be times in our lives when it would be foolish to carry on and that to do so would be wasting time.

Looking back, The Stroller recalls a neighbor back home who spent seven years in the freshman class at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania and then went to work as a laborer with the County Road Commission after his father died and the flow of cash stopped.

Until our old maid teacher asked us to change the one line, however, we youngsters had paid little attention to the contradictory lines. Yet, as the years moved along, we have come to find out that these lines should have warned us that life was filled with contradictions.

In that old copy book was a line to fit almost any situation and as The Stroller meanders around the suburban areas these days he can't help recalling one of favorites far back in the booklet that read:

"He who hesitates is lost."

Throughout Observerland you'll find many an example where this old saying came true. What's more, each hesitation has been a costly one.

A GOOD EXAMPLE

THE STROLLER never passes the city hall in Livonia without recalling the night, back in 1952, when the City Council hesitated on building a com-

plete city hall. Before the members was a design for a building that would include such things as individual offices for the council members, a courtroom and the other spaces needed for an up-to-date operation.

But there were some who figured that the cost—close to a half-million dollars—was too much to spend at the time. It mattered little that the city had the cash on hand (the race track money). It was felt that the taxpayers might revolt. So in that hour of hesitation it was decided to eliminate the courtroom, the private offices and a jury room for the time being.

Time has proven this was a mistake.

Now, to get the same facilities, the City of Livonia is talking of two buildings—a new city hall and a court building—that will cost at least 10 times what the original building would have cost back in 1952.

Over in Farmington a few weeks ago, the members of the Library Commission almost made the same mistake.

After dicker over the possibility of a federal grant for a new facility, the commission decided to proceed with the building for fear its cost will double in a few years. Time should prove this as a wise move.

A COSTLY WAIT

THE CITY Commission in Plymouth, too, has found that hesitation can be costly.

Three years ago when it was suggested that an ice arena should be built as a memorial to the city's centennial, the price was set at \$600,000. It frightened the members into a period of hesitation.

Now, overruling the plan, the Commission finds that the cost has jumped \$200,000.

It was the same with the new high school.

First estimates several years ago placed the cost at \$6 million. The voters hesitated, then turned down the millage proposal. So what happened? They later approved the building—at a cost of more than \$10 million.

Guess he should have paid more attention to those old copy books.



PROS IN READINESS -- University of Michigan's Woodwind Quintet will perform at the North Farmington High School symphony band concert Feb. 28. From left

are Nelson Hauenstein, flute; Florian Miller, oboe; Louis Stout, French horn; Lewis Cooper, bassoon; and John Mohler, clarinet. (Evert photo)

Eases Fatigue

Actor Arthur Kennedy has taken off for his farm at Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, and works the farm until the next call from his agent.

Highlight Of Symphony

FARMINGTON University of Michigan's Woodwind Quintet will highlight North Farmington High School's symphony band concert Feb. 28. Tickets are \$1.25 for adults and 75 cents for students.

The NFHS band will play for the concert as well with Mark

Thiel as trombone soloist. They will perform three numbers to be judged at the District Band Festival in Troy on Mar. 7.

Tickets are available from band students, at the high school or may be purchased at the concert if any remain.

Two persons were arrested by Livonia and Farmington police after the police interrupted a break-in in progress Tuesday at 2:30 a.m.

After a chase on foot of about one-half mile, Farmington police captured George Thompson, 17, of 34035 Harlow in Farmington.

Livonia police requested assistance from the Farmington force made possible the capture of the second suspect, Thomas H. Buchin, 18, of 21033 Gill Farmington.

They were arraigned before Livonia District Judge James Mies, who set bond at \$1,000 each. No pre-trial examination has been set.

Arrest Two

BE OUR GUEST

Ladies Day
10 a.m. Every Thursday
Free Movies at
Civic Theatre
February 19
Tours, Mine
and Ours
Starring Lucille Ball
Sponsored by
FARMINGTON
MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

Oakland Traffic Toll Down By 5

Fourteen died in Oakland County highway crashes last month, a decrease from January of last year when 19 lives were lost, according to the Traffic Improvement Association.

The severe January weather was a major factor in the lower toll, said a TIA spokesman.

Slippery streets and impaired vision from slush on windshields frequently impeded drivers toward lower driving speeds and fewer trips. Drivers are warned that February and March are traditionally high traffic death months due to short daylight hours and frequent changes in driving conditions.

Shepherd Club Not Connected With Classes

FARMINGTON The Detroit German Shepherd Dog Obedience Training Club, Inc., does not hold obedience training or any other form of training on Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m., according to an officer of the group.

Last 4 Days

Midwinter Sale

Mrs. Thelma Gathan, treasurer of the organization, said the name of the club has been used to promote classes held on Tuesday nights. The club has no connection with Tuesday night classes, she says.



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OFFICIAL NOTICE OF SALE

CITY OF FARMINGTON, COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN
\$50,000.00 GENERAL OBLIGATION STREET IMPROVEMENT BONDS (Districts Nos. 69-44 and 69-45)
\$75,000.00 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT STREET IMPROVEMENT BONDS (Districts Nos. 69-44 and 69-45)

Said bonds for the purchase of the above bonds will be received by the undersigned at the City Hall, 25001 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan, until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, on the 2nd day of March, 1970, at which time and place said bids will be publicly opened and read.

Said General Obligation Bonds will consist of one-half coupon bonds of the denomination of \$5,000.00 each, numbered consecutively in direct order of maturity from 1 to 10, both inclusive, will be dated January 1, 1970, and will mature serially without option of prior redemption as follows:

\$1,000.00 September 1st of each of the years 1970, 1971 and 1972, inclusive
\$10,000.00 September 1, 1970
\$10,000.00 September 1, 1971
\$10,000.00 September 1st of each of the years 1972 and 1974
\$15,000.00 September 1, 1975
\$10,000.00 September 1st of each of the years 1976, 1977 and 1978

Said Special Assessment Bonds will bear interest from their date at a rate or rates not exceeding five and forty-five one hundredths per cent (5 45%) per annum expressed in multiples of 1/8 or 1/20 of 1%, or any combination thereof. General Obligation Bonds will bear interest from their date at a rate or rates not exceeding eight per cent (8%) per annum, expressed in multiples of 1/8 or 1/20 of 1%, or any combination thereof. Said interest will be payable on September 1, 1970, and semi-annually thereafter on March 1st and September 1st of each year. The interest rate on any one bond shall be at one rate only and shall be represented by only one coupon for each coupon period and all bonds maturing in the same year shall carry the same interest rate. None of said bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum which is less than 80% of the rate borne by any other bond of this issue. Both principal and interest will be payable at a bank or trust company qualified to act as paying agent under the Statutes of the State of Michigan or of the United States of America, to be designated by the original purchaser of the bonds. The designation of the paying agent shall be subject to the approval of the City. Accrued interest to the date of delivery of such bonds must be paid by the purchaser at the time of delivery.

For the purpose of awarding the bonds, the interest cost of each bid will be computed by determining, at the rate or rates specified therein, the total dollar value of all interest on the bonds from April 1, 1970 to their maturity and deducting therefrom any premium, or adding thereon any discount. The bonds will be awarded to the bidder whose bid on the above conditions produces the lowest interest cost to the City. No proposal for the purchase of less than all of the bonds herein offered, or at a price less than their par value, will be considered, provided, however, bids for said Special Assessment Bonds at a price not less than ninety-seven and fifty one hundredths per cent (97 51%) of their par value will be considered.

The Special Assessment Bonds are issued in anticipation of the collection of a like amount of the nine (9) deferred installments of special assessments on Special Assessment Bonds Nos. 69-44 and 69-45, inclusive for the purpose of paying part of the cost of street improvements in Special Assessment Districts Nos. 69-44 and 69-45, and the full faith and credit of the City are pledged for their payment. The City will be required to pay taxes without limitation as to rate or amount for their payment.

A certified or cashier's check in the amount of \$2,500.00, drawn upon an incorporated bank or trust company, payable to the order of the City of Farmington, must accompany each bid as a guaranty of good faith in the part of the bidder, to be forfeited as liquidated damages if such bid is accepted and the bidder fails to take up and pay for the bonds. No interest will be allowed on the good faith checks, and checks of unaccepted bidders will be promptly returned to each bidder's representative or by registered mail. Bids shall be conditioned upon the unqualified opinion of Miller, Canfield, Packard and Stone, attorneys of Detroit, Michigan, approving the legality of the bonds, which opinion will be furnished without expense to the purchaser of the bonds prior to their delivery. There shall also be furnished the usual closing certificates dated as of the date of delivery of and payable for the bonds, according to a statement that there is no litigation pending or to the knowledge of the signers thereof, threatening, affecting the validity of the bonds. The City shall furnish bonds made for execution with the purchase. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. Bidders containing the bids should be marked plainly "Proposal for Bonds". In the event that prior to delivery of the bonds the interest received by private holders from bonds of the same type and character shall be taxable by the terms of any Federal income tax law, ruling, regulation, or court decision, the successful bidder may, at his election, be relieved of his obligations under the contract to purchase the bonds, and in such case, the deposit accompanying his bid will be returned.

ELIZABETH BRINES, Clerk, City of Farmington
APPROVED: January 6, 1970
STATE OF MICHIGAN
MUNICIPAL FINANCE COMMISSION
Publish February 18, 1970

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