

'My Attendance Nearly Perfect,' Says Petitpren

EDITOR:

In reply to Willis Young's letter in last week's Reader's Forum: We need more citizens like you who care about our government.

Thank you for being a student of my legislative record. My only regret is that after six years of near-perfect attendance and in 1970 session a 99.3% record, he should only look at a partial absence for one particular week. Let's look a little closer at your homework.

The House of Representatives met each day at 9:30 a.m. and worked until 11 p.m. for the four days he studied with the exception of Monday, June 22.

The Senate met each day at 2 p.m. and adjourned between 5 and 5:30 p.m. each of the days he studied. The one exception was June 22 when the Senate commenced at 8 p.m. and adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

New to look at his summary, one must grade him with a D grade. He left out the vital information. He failed to point out that I was excused by the House members not at 9:30 a.m. when the session began, but at 6 p.m. when we recessed for dinner, and that excuse was for the balance of the day's session.

The legislation under consideration—those roll call votes—were voted to send the legislation to conference committee. The conference committee, as you know, is composed of equal numbers of senators and representatives who work out compromises and take their recommendations back to both chambers.

On Friday the House of Representatives commenced at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 5:45 p.m., and I have a perfect record of voting.

An emergency meeting oc-

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.

curred which required my presence in the district and previous commitments to UAW and the 15th District Democratic Executive Board to speak for endorsement were met. With these exceptions, my record is nearly perfect for six years.

It was probably an oversight, but in his studies, he neglected to notice that his candidate for the Senate was totally absent on Monday, June 22, and missed 18 roll call votes.

I encourage Mr. Young to continue his interest in the Legislature but advise him to spend more time on his homework.

REP. VINCENT PETITPREN

Candidate for senator

19th District

Stempion Short On Solutions

EDITOR: I recently received a "Michigan Legislative Report" from Rep. Marvin Stempion about his resolution to amend the State Constitution. Supposedly, the resolution is to stop our increasing property tax bills each year by restoring the power to increase such taxes to people at the ballot box.

I suspect that if the decision to raise property taxes is to be

made at the ballot box, property taxes will stop increasing. However, since we can't vote out inflation, the expenses of our state services will continue to rise.

The Constitution directs the Legislature to impose taxes sufficient with other resources to pay the expenses of state government. Presumably, legislator Stempion has met his responsibility of considering alternative sources of revenue if property taxes fail to keep pace with our state economy as a consequence of his amendment.

However, he failed to indicate in his report what alternatives he has in mind. If it is another form of tax on the people, why doesn't he say so?

CHARLES W. CHANDLER

Livonia

Abortion Brutalizing

EDITOR: It is said by some that because of the abortion, the world is wrong. I have no right to impose my conscience on the countrymen. Let the "liberal" laws go through. I don't have to live with their permissiveness.

To this I reply that such a climate as will then result will brutalize and dehumanize our society—that same "better world" we are hopefully building for our children. I subscribe to the poet's argument that no man is an island unto himself; what you do affects me.

We have already seen that where abortion is accepted by the state, the next step down is euthanasia and infanticide. Is this to be our better world?

I have sat through four incredible hearings on the "liberal" abortion bills and have heard young and healthy and well-dressed young women testify that they had their unborn child destroyed because one "didn't feel like having one" at that time and another wanted to continue university work and didn't want the expense and inconvenience.

Two parents testified they should have had their child aborted because its pregnancy caused them suffering, though in each case the child was born healthy and normal. I suggest that testimony like this is symptomatic of a sick society.

There were, of course, some genuinely moving tales of tragedy and hardship, and the observer can only confess to the humblest sympathy with such as these, and to resolve to help wherever possible to allay their suffering in positive ways.

But the overwhelming majority of the pro-abortionists argued not from personal experience but from the theory of the great "emancipation of women." At the risk of being trite and repetitive, I submit that license is never freedom, that the human spirit is truly free only when shouldering its own burdens, and that all suffering cannot be purged from the human experience by government decree.

The Aldous Huxley book, "Brave New World," penned in 1932, describes brilliantly what a nightmare society can result from the government planners. Its inhabitants float through life on a dope ridden cloud which prevents their discovery of how drained of meaning their life really is.

PAULA ERVIN

Plymouth

YES Records Complete

At a recent Livonia School Board meeting, it was stated: "The previous Youth Employment Service was discontinued because of its inadequate record keeping." This was subsequently reported in Livonia newspapers.

The Youth Employment Service was responsible to the mayor and the Youth Commission, and was a valuable service to the community. I have been a member of the Youth Commission for many years and the director of YES submitted faithfully an itemized monthly and year-end report to the Mayor, Council, and the Commission.

Mrs. Tagami (the director) also personally reported once a month to the Commission.

How can the statement of inadequate record be made when no one bothered to view the service when functioning or interview personally the director or any commissioner? There were records of the applicants, employers, how many hired, and what type of position.

All files were intact when the service was disbanded. If the files are incomplete now it is no fault of Mrs. Tagami. The service should have been gradually tapered off from City Hall and into the present location. All efforts must now be duplicated.

Just a few years ago the Citizens Research Council of Michigan reviewed the Service and gave it its approval; this would not be the case if there were inadequate records.

DEL LAMB

Livonia

City History Is Important

EDITOR:

I see where Livonia Observer Editor Dan Gilmarin questions the importance of a seventh grade history book on Livonia. Perhaps you should have turned the page from your editorial and read W.W. Edgar's column on the back. It stated: "Guess we should have paid more attention to those old copy books."

Perhaps by teaching our youth about the history of Livonia and of America and of the world, and hopefully instilling some pride in historical traditions, future generations won't need to waste to escape through the use of drugs.

Yes the drug problem is important today, but how are we raising future parents to combat it? Dr. Salk didn't help polio by manufacturing more iron. He looked back to find causes and discovered how to eliminate the cause, instead of treating the results.

Perhaps it is time the new, young staff of the Livonia Observer looks back in its files to the days of the Livonian and recalls some of the fine history of Livonia. At least Mr. Edgar still remembers.

GEORGE A. CALDER

Westland

Some Folks Still Do Care

EDITOR:

A note of thanks. In this day of turmoil and strife, it is gratifying to know that so many people really do care for each other. We have lived in this community for the past 28 years and made many friends.

Recently my husband, Earl, was taken very ill and had to be hospitalized where he passed away on June 16, 1970. When it was learned that he needed blood donors, many, many people came forward and donated theirs. Others took me to and from the hospital night or day.

David R. Whitney is the manager of the Harris Livonia Chapel on Farmington Road just north of Five Mile. A graduate of Wortham College of Mortuary Science, Dave has been a member of the Harris staff for nearly a quarter century. A dedicated family man, active in Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce, he takes an interest in many community and church affairs. In addition, Dave plays golf, square dances and belongs to the National Campers and Hikers Association. By vocation, education and experience David Whitney exemplifies the excellence of the Harris staff.

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To all of these people and to wonderful children that you are giving thanks to for your being there. God took him from me, but he left me all of you. My thanks also to Livonia's 588 FARM of which Earl was a charter member, for their lovely service.

MARY WORMEN

Livonia

High Costs In Livonia

EDITOR:

Now that the arbitration panels are giving raises to all that ask, they probably don't pay property taxes and live in another neighborhood.

Livonia has beautiful schools, but per capita I'll bet they are turning out the most dumbest. A child can go for two weeks and sit in the study hall and not be missed from class.

I thought Livonia was broke. I had to put in 136 feet of sewer line—the city's responsibility—at my expense of \$2,500. The taxes keep going up \$100 every year like it was a law.

I'll have to get a second job and a bigger money bag. I can satisfy the treasury department. Soon I won't be able to live in Livonia. I see a lot of people will have to do the same.

DONALD DEMAN

Livonia

Get Facts On 'Cyclists'

EDITOR:

R. Thompson's crude remarks on motorcycleists were incorrect as to the motorcycle act. I suggest you get someone who is willing to get the facts before they run off at the mouth (eg pen) to rewrite the story.

Agnew was right about you! DONALD H. GRIMSLEY

Livonia

Thanks From Stevenson

EDITOR:

I believe the students and staff of Stevenson High School owe the Observer Newspapers staff a vote of thanks for our helping in making this another fine year for our school.

We would like to thank you for the number of things including:

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activities and student achievements have received in the newspaper this year.

The time staff members have spent in speaking to classes at Stevenson.

The hiring of Stevenson students from our graphics, journalism and photography classes.

The help the production department has given our school newspaper in publishing the paper at a moderate cost.

The willingness of your staff members to meet and talk with students seeking summer or permanent employment.

This is the kind of interest in schools and students that we very much need, and for which we are very grateful.

JAY FORMSMA

Principal

Stevenson High School

Livonia

A Small Town Asks For Help

EDITOR:

The people of St. Johns, Mich., have a very serious safety problem. The town of St. Johns is divided by a major highway, U.S. 27.

We realize that all of you who travel along highway U.S. 27 are anxious to reach your destination, but we, the people of St. Johns, are endangered by your hurry. We are the only town between Lansing and Sault Ste. Marie which you must go through.

We must cross your path each day to do our daily tasks. Our children must cross it to go to school. We have had several deaths on U.S. 27 within St. Johns. The most recent a 12-year-old child. We ask your help to avoid more accidents.

27, please write your state representative and state senator urging the rerouting of traffic around our town. This will not only aid our bid for safety but make four trip up north that much quicker.

In the meantime, please drive carefully. If you save a life you may never know it but if you take one, you will never forget it.

MRS. GEORGE ROCHON

St. Johns

St. Johns

Student Finds Jobs Scarce

EDITOR:

I am one of the many college students who can not find a full time summer job. I have unsuccessfully filled out applications since May. You know who I find working

in the places I apply at? Mar-

ried women and elderly

who really do not need the job