Readers' Forum...

TV Viewers Won't Soon Forget Chicago Police

Appalled At Tactics

EDITOR:

Although it has taken me a week or two longer than I expected it to, here is my letter.

Firstly, I would like to say I was appalled at the tactics that Mayor Dick Daley and the Chicago police used during the Democratic Convention. The reasons are that although there may have been provocation on the part of the demonstrators, it is a policeman's job to maintain peace and law and order. This obviously was not done.

There also are laws against the sadism shown by the police. While the demonstrators may have deserved a whack or a little pushing, there was no call for police hitting them a good one in the ribs and one for good measure in the side of their head while putting them in the paddywagons. A policeman is supposed to be our friend; could you walk down the streets of Chicago feeling this way?

As for Mayor Daley, I cannot help but feel disappointed with the man. Come to Chicago the "Windy City" signs say. All Chicago has been full of lately is hot air. With all due respect to the man, I feel he really flopped during the Democratic Convention. He promised that there would be peace in Chicago if the Convention was held there. There was not!

What happened during the Convention marred Chicago's name as did the riots mar Detroit's name. John Kennedy's assassination mar Dallas' and Robert Kennedy's assassination mar Los Angeles. To think people were being brutally beaten in the streets of his city and he was sitting in the Convention Hall smiling and clapping for Humphrey. Can he be proud of this?

The second point I wished to write about was what the candidates offered to the American public. The Democratic and Republican parties had about the same platform, a peace candidate and an administration candidate. The men who got the nomination, got them because they had the political machines running not only for them but against their opponents.

I must say that although I do not agree with Richard Nixon's views, he did deserve the nomination. He worked four years to get it. I don't feel the same about Humphrey getting the nomination. As for George Wallace, I feel that he cannot be serious about the Presidency with views and asinine statements like his.

My third and last squabble is with the administrators of the Democratic Party. During the Convention you could sense who was running the whole show. Anything they wanted they got. They got the Georgia credentials fight, the Vietnam plank and most importantly the man they wanted, Hubert H. Humphrey.

When the move was made to adjourn by Don Peterson, he was ruled out of order. When the New York chairman was going to make a statement, his microphone was shut off. If you weren't a Humphrey supporter you couldn't get a seat in the gallery.

The Convention was a farce. There was no reason for McCarthy supporters to go. If you weren't pro administration you needn't have shown up. As one New York delegate so aptly put it, "Well, we accomplished a lot this convention. First we've lost the election." When Senator Ribbicoff nominated George McGovern it was the highlight of the convention. "How hard it is my friends, how hard it is to face the truth."

JACK ARTHURS

Really Singing

EDITOR:

You hit a "sharp" note with the article on "The Star-Spangled Banner" in Sunday's Observer. Professor Dunlap's comment that "he suspects it's not being taught well in school" may be generally true, but does not apply to St. Fabian's School in Farmington.

On the first day of school I asked my sixth grade class to sing our national anthem, and noticing that many seemed to mumble the words, I asked the class to write them down. With the exception of some Scouts, the spelling and wordings were amazing.

"O Say can you see" became "osakan you sea; "dawn's early light" was written, "donter elight, downdearly, donzerlee lle, and down's early li;" "proudly we hailed" was interpreted as "prodly we held" and "proddle we hale; "broad stripes" became "brought stripes;" "perilous fight" was spelled "pareless fle, paras offiles, and parious fite;" "twilight's last gleaming" evolved into "twylighs last gliming; "glorious light" and "glory is sight" were substituted for "perilous fight."

It was apparent that these youngsters did not know the meaning of the words they were singing.

The class assignment for that evening was to find a copy of the words, write them down, and try to learn them. Two other children were given special reports to do on the history of the song.

The next day I showed the students a picture of the "Star-Spangled Banner" as it is displayed in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., with its 15 stars; the reports were given, making it clear that the words were written at the time of the War of 1812; and then we sang the anthem in a key within the children's range. (Their voices, as a group, are higher than adults. However, this teacher suffered when we reached the "land of the free.")

The anthem is now part of our opening for the day for the whole school. The best singers are selected to lead the singing over the P.A. as the rest of the school sings along. Before long we hope to be the most well versed, well sung anthem-ites in the area.

Just ask the Detroit Tigers to put our 40 sixth graders in front of a microphone at the stadium. We'll give them the most rousing anthem they have ever heard.

MRS. CYRIL JOHNSON

Defends Police

EDITOR:

Leave it to the Observer to get a distorted and onesided story on the editorial page concerning the Chicago Convention. Perhaps if some of you had been standing in front of the Conrad Hilton and got bopped on the noggin by a coffee pot of human excrement tossed out of the 15th floor window, you might have had a slightly modified version.

This drivel about "children in the streets" is enough to make a mule vomit. These "Children" managed to send 180 Chicago police to the hospital and the one still in there awaiting plastic surgery was probably cut by some petunia petals.

The "thin, blue line" of officers dedicated to the protection of all citizens and law enforcement for all, is growing dangerously thin, and nonsense like you are spouting on your editorial pages will do nothing to improve the situation.

Delegates who went to the convention hall in the prescribed manner encountered no difficulties -- and there were no assassinations. The Chicago police handled a very difficult situation without allowing a pack of misdirected idiots to burn the town down, and my hat is off to them and Mayor Daley.

STEWART M. RICE
Farmington

(Editor's Note: We will fight for the right of readers like Mr. Rice to disagree with us. However, two of our veteran staffers were in front of the Conrad Hilton and in the park for three of the four nights. In truth the policeman's lot is not a happy one and there was provocation. But we feel a cracked head in exchange for an insult is no bargain at all.)

Time To Act

EDITOR:

Deeply engrained within the legal and historical framework of the American government, is a very singular and powerful "animal" of sorts, the political party. The political party has long served as a complementing functionary for man's need to develop an orderly and systematic means of attaining power with which to control the political and bureaucratic establishments of this country.

During the mid-1800's, America first began to feel and react towards a definite limiting of the multiple political arena, and started its slow, but progressive, phase of political polarization. The after effects of this political undercurrent have been gradually surfacing, until today, we find ourselves either within the mobility and power channels of the two party system, or on the outside looking in.

Within the apathetic acceptance of this polarized political reality, we fail to realize the serious consequences of disengaging personal freedom for the total cohesiveness of group political power.

Middle class America, a broad expansive spectrum of political, social and economic backgrounds is ready to repel the change of tomorrow and slide deeper and deeper into the lethargic, status quo condoning environment of the affluent generation.

The very act of placing party lines and party ties before the qualifications of the candidate, the very act of voting for the party instead of the man and the issues, is one of self-sterilization and naivety.

When the power elite of the party, knows and knows for certain they can control your vote through the party image and your own ignorance, then you are no longer a meaningful contributer to an ongoing society, a society of change and revolution.

In short, you are duped. You are merely a political pawn, lost in the intricacies of caucus room balloting and power politics.

I say that political polarization is a longstanding myth, kept alive by the sheer lifeforce of the political party, and the political underlings who keep that force viable.

Liberal Republicans advocate certain goals that touch sharply and specifically upon the programs of the liberal Democrats.

Party lines are no longer divided on issues but rather they are divided because people continue to refer to themselves as staunch Democrats and dyed-in-the-wool Republicans.

It is a time of crisis and decision for the American people. We need direct assessment of the political machinery of this country, and an honest evaluation of its democratic efficiency.

LAWRENCE KUPFERSCHMIDT

What About Roads With Chuck Holes?

EDITOR:

Residents of the township can share the pride of the township officials by noting the sign at the new Drake Road Paving Projects (11 Mile to Grand River) complete with curbs at the intersection. The sign proclaims that "The township paid 50 per cent of the cost of this road paving."

It would appear somewhat coincidental that this paving project just happens to pass the doorstep of the new Thompson Brown Subdivision. The paving terminates at 11 Mile which of course is just short of where the present taxpayers reside. Paving the Grand River to 11 Mile stretch of Drake is not unlike building an elevator and hoping a structure would be built around it.

Compare now the 11 Mile to 12 Mile section of Drake which is always full of chuck and sink holes. I'm sure the insurance companies have paid enough each spring in tow charges to pay for many loads of rock.

I would wonder if some rock scraping could be left over from the paving project that could be used to build a substantial base in the 12 Mile Drake sink hole. At present this section of road receives a maximum amount of use with minimum maintenance (and this is mainly by residents).

I am sure the same pressure the Township exerted to the county to pave could be exerted to correct the sink holes and thus ensure a minimum of trouble next spring.

EDWARD K. BENDA
36480 Howard Road,
Farmington Township

Is Farmington A Special Class?

EDITOR:

Re: "Wallace: Simple, Uninformed, Bigoted"

Doesn't Mr. Power think the people in Westland, Livonia and Redford Township should know better too. . . . . or is it his opinion that people in Farmington are a special class of intelligentsia?

I trust this was a "slip of the pen" -- or I would be forced to believe Mr. Power's choice of words describing Mr. Wallace also applies to Mr. Power.

ELEANOR M. McCUTCHEON
17686 Park Lane, Livonia

Answers McNamara

EDITOR:

As a taxpayer in Livonia I wish to respond to the article by Councilman McNamara in your paper. Hopefully, I can do so with some rationality, since I do not feel that the Councilman has utilized this method to any appreciable degree.

The question which I wish to raise, is: "What other property owner on Newburgh Road has asked for payment, especially to the amount of $15,000 per acre, for their right-of-way land --land which could not be sold, anyway?"

The statement was made that St. Mary Hospital was built with, and operates from, private funds. The latter may be the case, but if my memory serves me correctly--and I have lived in Livonia for ten years --a goodly portion of the funds for the construction of the hospital was raised by public subscription.

In this case it puzzles me why taxpayers should be asked to subsidize a private operation twice --with aid in construction and in a taxpayer subsidy. In no way do I wish to discount the value of the hospital, but I do feel that the picture should be painted in a clear and forthright manner.

There is no question about the drain being needed by all residents, business or otherwise, on Newburgh. But again, how many of these others have demanded funds for their contribution to the right-of-way?

When are some members of the Council going to stop this political self-advancement (?) and realize that it's about time Livonia had a Council working for the City, rather than one where some members perpetually look for undercover ways for self-grandisement?

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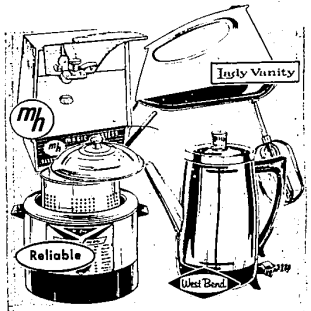

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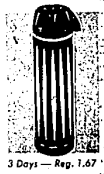

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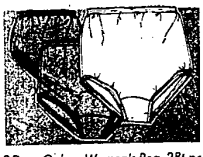

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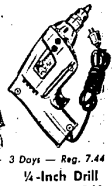

3 Days — Reg. 7.44 ¼-Inch Drill — Limit 1 — 6.44

Pistol grip power drill. Die cast aluminum housing.

10" Teflon® Pan — Our Reg. 1.77 — Limit 2 — 1.44

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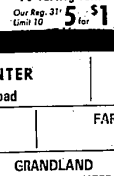
Kiddies' 2.37-2.76 Slacks, 3-6x — Limit 2 ea. — 1.76

Hershey Kisses — Reg. 79¢ lb. — Limit 2 lbs. — 58¢ lb.

Thermal Blanket — Our Reg. 3.56 — Limit 2 — 2.44



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Misses' Regular 3.77 Knit Sweaters — Limit 2 — 2.44

Acrylic knit in wide range of colors. Washable. 34-40

3 Days—Reg. 68¢ Pk. Toilet Tissue — Roll in Pkg. — 10 — 63¢

Limit 2 pacts. 650 Sheets, 4½x4½. 2-ply facial type

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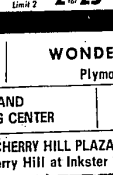
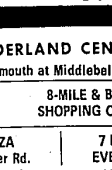


200 Tissues — Reg. 2/39¢ — Limit 2 — 2 for 25¢

Bayer Aspirin — 100 Tablets — Limit 2 — 44¢



Mouth Wash — Reg. 32 Fl. Oz. — Limit 2 — 34¢

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25 Treble keys, 4 chord keys. With Magnus music book.

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