

"Township Drama Ridiculous"

Mr. Ward Eagle, through the Enterprise, replies to my letter of the previous issue in the same medium, in such manner as to make it necessary for me to reply in a more emphatic and specific letter.

In his first paragraph, he refers to my statement that it would be just too bad for the subdivision residents if the opposition were elected, stating that after diligent searching for the reason for that statement, that he had to come to the conclusion that it was imagination on my part and further, that it was an attempt to set one people against another by me.

Mr. Eagle further disclaims any responsibility for any or all statements made during the recent campaign and challenges me to produce the evidence.

He further states that I am opposed to cutting taxes. He also says that the supervisor receives a salary of \$4,500 per year. He contends that cutting salaries among township officials is going to be of a material advantage in reducing taxes, and he in conclusion, thinks that I am highly indignant in thinking that mere farmers—those men who, to use my own words, are so near-sighted and close to the ground that they cannot see over their own horizon—should expect to have any voice in township affairs.

That it is my opinion the farmers only part in township affairs is to sit back and pay taxes or bills created by officials who pay little or no taxes and whose main concern seems to be to get out a large vote on election day to keep themselves in office, and then he very dramatically closes his letter by saying: "Taxation without Representation did not work in 1776 and may yet hit a few snags."

Now isn't that a plaintive letter?

Mr. Eagle, let us be honest and frank both to the people of the township and to ourselves.

First, did I, in my previous letter, say that you personally made

some statements derogatory to the subdivision lot owners?

No, I did not. But I am going to now.

When you sat on the board in 1929, you sarcastically referred to the delinquents in this end of the Township at various meetings and so did another official, and isn't it a fact that at those meetings, Mr. Campbell and myself told you that we resented the implications, that it was no disgrace to be poor, that eventually back taxes were paid and with interest?

And isn't it a fact that regardless of our resentful attitude, you allowed your poor judgment expression?

Further, isn't it true that a Republican running on a Republican ticket and a Democrat running on a Democratic ticket, accepts the tenets of their respective parties and that both parties make candidates responsible and a responsibility? Sure it is.

Then isn't it true when you joined the small clique who were seeking office or favors, that you accepted their responsibilities and isn't it true that some of the members of this small clique made several remarks or gave expression to words that hurt? For instance, such as "The scum of Clarenceville."

That remark was made again after the primaries as it was before the primaries.

You are aligned with these people. You accepted their aid and followed their guidance and naturally, you must accept their mistakes and their ill-advised attacks.

And you must admit that it would be just too bad for the people of the subdivision if officials were elected to serve on the board who did not have enough interest in the people of the subdivision to defend them from being classed as "scum."

Mr. Eagle, you said that I have attempted to set the subdivisions against the farmers. You know better than that. You know that a certain few on your side of the fence must accept that responsibility.

You say I am opposed to lowering taxes because as you imply

in your letter, I opposed cutting the Town Board's salaries.

Let me ask you direct—"Do you know personally where I failed to help or to take action that would reduce taxes substantially? No, you do not."

What, may I ask, is your attitude on the Twelve and Thirteen Mile road light situation and have I not worked consistently for two years to eliminate these lights which are expensive and wasteful?

This is a matter which means thousands yearly to the Township taxpayers and isn't it a fact that some of your friends are opposed to the removal of these lights?

What about fire protection? Doesn't that cost money? And isn't it true that the arrangement this Board has approved of is less expensive and more efficient than the one you were in favor of when you were on the Board? Also is it not a fact that it would cost a great deal less than the present method of providing fire protection?

At this writing, the Town Board has received a bill from the City of Farmington for three calls in the Township this year. Total of the calls is \$150.

That should have been a part payment on the new apparatus but is now a matter of service only, and isn't it a fact Mr. Eagle, that when you served on the Board, you favored the purchase of a \$10,000 truck and that this Board favors a \$3,800 truck?

Would you call the above policies economical and a step in the right direction? Sure you would, if you were considering this carefully.

Now, let us take up the Supervisor's salary.

Did you not try to mislead the public when you stated that this office carries a salary of \$4,500? Isn't it true that the salary is \$2,500? That \$1,300 is paid out for clerk hire and that \$700 is allowed for expense?

Isn't it true that even today, \$2,500 a year is not a princely sum?

Isn't it true that the \$1,300 is actually being paid out for clerk hire?

Isn't it true that at one time

when you were on the Board, Mr. McCracken stated he gave his son an extra \$200 out of his own salary because his son stated that \$1,300 was not enough for the work involved?

And isn't it also true that under existing conditions, \$700 for expense is not too much?

Could you purchase a car, operate and provide fuel, oil and repairs for a car for \$1,400 over a period of two years, and make it pay? I am afraid not.

Now, Mr. Eagle, please figure out how much a 25 percent cut in salaries would mean in cents per thousand, in terms of valuation. Would it go anywhere near the amount involved in fire protection and on the light question? I know it would not and so do you. Yet, you oppose this savings.

Now let us take up the matter of my indignation at "mere farmers" who expect to have a voice in Township affairs, but who are not allowed any privilege except to pay their taxes.

Isn't it true that E. Blanchard is a farmer? Where do Arthur C. Coers and M. Bachelor originate from? Do you come on the Board again?

And isn't it true that former officials on former boards were farmers?

Must it be a case or whole hog or none?

You say I am opposed to the farmers of the Township. You know better.

You know that I am opposed to a matter of ten or fifteen farmers who have banded together to wreak vengeance on your present board because of certain ills which this board is not responsible for and because of certain mis-statements of some of these men and women have made.

I have some very good farmer friends in the Township and I respect their friendship and sympathize with them in their tax troubles, as I do with the people in the subdivisions, who have come out here to sink all they possessed in a home which they are faithfully trying to pay for and to build up into a home of peace and pride.

I believe it intentional on your part to twist my now famous, or

infamous, "horizon" statement, to suit your needs or perhaps I had better repeat it again.

This statement was made by me at a meeting of the Town Board. It was addressed to eight or nine individuals and it was meant for them, not to every farm. It was made by me because these individuals persisted in ignoring the fact that the built-up portions of the Township need fire protection and because these same individuals persisted in making grass fires the only important fires occurring in the Township and a farm spray-rig the only apparatus adaptable to fire protection in the Township.

I still hold to my opinion that any farmer who considers grass fires and orchard-sprayers of the utmost importance in the Township on the fire proposition, has his eyes too close to his own horizon and I believe every fair-minded man and woman agrees with me.

Now, Mr. Eagle, I do not expect the taxpayers who farm to sit back in their chairs, say nothing and pay taxes. But I do expect them to be fair, to respect other citizens as they wish to be respected. To consider the needs of the public at large and to be tolerant. Fortunately, most farmers are fair, honest, tolerant and considerate. It is just a few that I am at odds with, Mr. Eagle.

In concluding, Mr. Eagle, I must thank you for honoring me with sufficient ability to get the people out on election day and to vote in such large numbers in such manner as to show definitely that your platform was not stable, nor popular with the people and is a confession from your own pen that you did not have the goods.

I know you included me when you said the officials wanted to keep themselves in office, so it becomes necessary for me to tell you that I am not an office-seeker, that if elected in April, I will surrender my office to anyone in the Township who will take the position and who will be able to prove that he or she is open-minded, fair, and considerate to all of the people—if it is necessary to prove to you and your friends that I am

fair and honest.

Mr. Eagle, taxation without representation in this Township is the bunk. You know it, why say more?

Thanking you for, the honor and flattery, I am
WALTER HEADERLE.

REGISTRATION NOTICE

For Election held April 6, 1931. To the Qualified Electors of the City of Farmington, State of Michigan.

Notice is hereby given that in conformity with the Michigan Election Law, I, the undersigned City Clerk, will upon any day except Sunday and a legal holiday, the day of any Regular or Special Election or Primary Election receive for registration the name of any legal voter in said City not already registered who may apply to me personally for such registration. Provided, however, that I can receive no names for registration during the time intervening between the second Saturday before any regular, special or official primary election and the day of such election.

Notice is hereby given that I will be at the Fire Hall, City of Farmington, Tuesday, March 17, 1931, the 20th day preceding said election from 8 a. m. until 8 p. m. on said day for the purpose of reviewing the registration and registering such of the qualified electors in said city as shall properly apply therefor.

Notice is hereby further given to the qualified electors of this city that I, the undersigned Clerk of said city, will register qualified electors who may apply at my office on any business day in the year up to and including Saturday, March 28, 1931, the last day for general registration by personal application from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

The name of no person but an actual resident of the City at the time of registration and entitled under the Constitution if remaining such resident to vote at the next election shall be entered in the registration book.

N. H. POWER,
City Clerk.
Mar 5-12

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BY LADIES OF THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Saturday, March 14, 1931
Afternoon and Evening

Saturday Bargains

IV or Green Cake and Bread Boxes with movable shelf. Enameled white inside.

17 to sell at \$1.19 each

Enameled Kitchen Ware in white and colors. Assorted patterns. **Choice 75c each**

Tea Pot and Coffee Pots in both aluminum and Nickel. Any size, any one for **\$1**



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WITH PHILGAS FOR FUEL

No matter where you live, you can have Philgas service, with a Jewel Gas Range. Two new models at new low prices with many new features never before combined in a Gas Range.

We want you to see this wonderful new stove in operation Saturday. Be sure to come in and get some of the Goodies from the Ladies and inspect the New Jewel Stoves.

Cookie BAKE!

HOT, DELICIOUS, FRESH BAKED

Made right here in our Store on a New Detroit
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By Ladies of M. E. Church

Saturday, March 14, 1931
Afternoon and Evening

Saturday Bargains!

17 RAG RUGS, bright colors, 27 inch x 54 inch to go at **59c each**

25 JANET OVAL CHENILLE RUGS, beautiful patterns and colors, fancy fringe **\$5.50**

BROWN EARTHENWARE TEAPOTS, two sizes at **55c and 75c**

SPECIAL THIN BLOWN TUMBLERS, Saturday only **6 for 39c**

Come Saturday

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