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Sincerely
Yours

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policy of this newspaper.

February 3, 1946

To the Editor:

Board of our new Consolidated School System is evidently finding itself handicapped by not having a working capital, to finance its plans, and the average taxpayer is going to be wiley about voting for another bonded indebtedness of this nature. A 16-acre site has been selected for the school expansion.

It will eventually be a city within itself. Inasmuch as it is totally undeveloped, it should have good housing plans, and although it is only built a unit at a time, it should be designed into a unit, but in its entirety. This requires architects with experience and vision — not a little guy who can draw a building, but one who can lay out streets, and assemble buildings into a school unit. Let's start with a good architect — like buying good cloth for a dress. Let's not make a mistake in laying on the pattern.

Before we heckle our board members more about fine schools perhaps we should start working on our State Legislature to get in motion the law that will abolish the five year limitation in School Bond Issue. Financing, the present needs of the school systems should be spread over more than a five-year period.

As taxpayers, we appreciate the problems of our board, but let them go a step further and have them give us a round figure they need to raise in this Five Year Bonded Tax plan. Just about how much do they need to "earmark" for the land, an architect, and buildings to get a unit in this expansion? We might better have a definite bond issue every year until we reach our building goal than try to vote for one big Bond issue and have the figures stagger the taxpayers.

Signed,
Imogene Bieking.

Feb. 3, 1946

To the Editor:

The second part of my Six Point Program for school building was in reference to the construction of temporary buildings for the relief of overcrowded elementary classrooms. In his report to the Board of Education on 10th December 1945 the Superintendent reported that there is an immediate need for six additional elementary classrooms and four additional high school rooms. This report and the analyses which went with it were apparently disregarded by the board or the statistical evidence disputed. It cannot be denied that our elementary classrooms are overcrowded. Contrary to a popular conception, overcrowding in a classroom has only a secondary relationship to the physical capacity of the room. Any room is overcrowded when the enrollment reaches that point where instruction begins to deteriorate; thus a class room that has to be jammed full of pupils to be overcrowded. Psychological factors in instruction are the important things, not the number of pupils necessarily.

My plan was for temporary relief for the overcrowded elementary rooms in both the Noble and the Farmington City areas, the two areas where the overcrowding is greatest. It was believed that such a program would operate to relieve the pressure on the overcrowded high school rooms; if it were not feasible to erect permanent structures at this time then temporary structures might be resorted to as other districts have done. It might even be possible to locate unused structures of other types, move them to the proper sites and recondition them for school use. I urged that this move be undertaken on or before the end of March of this year so that such buildings might be ready for September 1st.

Only a school architect could properly advise the Board on the feasibility of temporary or permanent structures.

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NOVI NEWS
By
MRS. GEORGE WAITE

The Frazer Stannans entertained at dinner on Sunday, the Fred Stannan of Farmington, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Himmelspach and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stuart of Lansing.

Floyd Darling is confined to his home by illness.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hines were

Thursday evening dinner guests of friends in Royal Oak.

The Mothers Club held a pot luck supper at the school Thursday evening at 7:00 o'clock, honoring their new principal, Don Archambeau and wife, and the grade teachers. Cards were played later in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Rainey and two children of Pontiac were the Thursday evening dinner guests at the Ford Brooks home.

Mrs. Art Trotter, who was knocked down by a reckless driver on last Monday afternoon, is still confined to St. Carmel Hospital, but is reported as getting along as well as can be expected. We all hope a speedy recovery for her.

Mrs. Doris Darling attended a 12-hour shower in Northville on Friday evening, honoring a cousin from Detroit who will be married on February 16.

The Degree Team of the Rebekah Lodge held their first party of the year at the home of Mrs. Lil Trickey, with her daughter, Loree, and Mrs. Alice Waite as assistant hostesses. There were 22 present. The election of officers took place with Mrs. Francis Curtis as president, Mrs. Irene Wendland as vice president; Mrs. Doris Darling as secretary and Mrs. Shirley Shepard as treasurer. Guessing games were played with honors going to Mrs. Mae Atkinson. Mrs. Irene Stannan, Mrs. Jean Munro and Mrs. Gladys Tremper, and the door prize to Mrs. Catherine Bachart. Lunch was served and they departed at a late hour to meet with Mrs. Mae Atkinson on the 7th of March.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shepard, who took a three weeks motor trip with some cousins from Detroit through the south, going down into Florida, returned home last Thursday evening.

Mrs. Ed Putnam has returned to her home after an operation at Sessions Hospital. Mrs. Nettie Phelps of South Lyon is staying with her.

The Blue Star Mothers are sponsoring a card party at the school on Saturday evening, January 9, the proceeds to buy a walk-a-chair. Table prizes and a lunch, as well as door prizes. Everyone invited.

Feb. 4, 1946

To the Editor:

In September the Parent-Teacher Association set up as its objective for the year — "To appraise the structure of the school district in terms of its educational efficiency."

Our programs have been aimed to make a study of our schools as they are today.

In October we heard about citizenship and how it works with a talk "Democracy in Action" by George K. Boltz, of the Detroit schools.

In November our program was concerned with the elementary school. Small conference groups were formed with a teacher from each grade leading the group discussion. A parent from each group reported to the group as a whole and these remarks were discussed and evaluated by Dr. G. Max Wingo, School of Education, University of Michigan.

In January, V. O. Bates presented the problems of the junior high school group in the form of a panel discussion by the teachers of that department and was followed by a movie on modern education.

Our March meeting is planned to study the senior high school subjects and extra curricular activities.

It is the duty of every parent and taxpayer to find out how your children's schools can be improved — whether they receive enough financial support, what kind of board of education you have and what legislation is needed to give your children and all children the best public education.

Why don't you come to our next Parent-Teacher meeting and add your voice to the united strength of an organization that wields a powerful influence in promoting the welfare of all children everywhere?

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. The February meeting will be a banquet with Mrs. Beatrice DeVos, president of the Michigan Congress of Parent-Teachers and Austin Grant as speakers.

Mrs. Warren Jof, President Farmington Parent-Teacher.

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GEORGE SANDERS and DONNA REED

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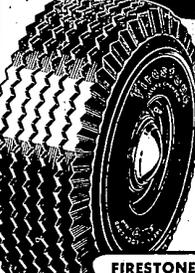
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