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THE MICHIGAN MIRROR

By GENE ALLEMAN

(Continued from Page 2)
Timken Axle Works for a year, 12 hours a night, and then came back to the farm."

When he was 18, his father rode and Vic took over the 230-acre farm.

He married Bertha Byers, also of the Soo, when he was 20. "She's the one responsible for my education," he says. "Along about the time I had been married a year, I decided I needed a bit more education, and she coached me. I was good in math . . . poor in English." His English still is not too good.

He began his political career in 1925 when he was elected treasurer of Sault Township. In 1930 he was named supervisor, a job he held for six years, holding all the important posts. In 1936 he came to the legislature.

"Then I had to start studying again," he says. "I attended all the lectures I could find and took a correspondence course. My wife still was beating the stuff into my head."

In the legislature, Knox's primary job was as committee member under the late John Espie, whose Ways and Means committee virtually was dictating the state's financial policy.

The last two years Knox has been primarily occupied with budget and taxes, actively opposing Governor Williams' four per cent corporation tax on all sides, and lately he has been hounding for the constitutional convention.

"Look back four years," he says, "when we still had a good balance in the general fund, albeit the

money was going out faster than it came in.

"Since then we have added to the state income by \$51 millions. And a year ago we still had a \$21 million operating deficit. We levied additional taxes on corporations (the franchise tax) which brought in another \$16 million. This year we find a \$42 million deficit." This is his favorite subject.

"Everything we have done in those four years turns out to be purely stop-gap to keep the state solvent. This year we turn around and levy \$30 to \$33 million more in adjusted and new taxes which will keep the state from going any deeper. We may possibly say possibly — be able to apply \$3 million of that on the present deficit, but if inflation continues to spiral the way it has the past four years we'll be hopelessly lost.

"We can't afford to guess. We must have a constitutional convention and revise this hodge-podge taxing system we have. The people won't stand for any more new taxes . . . we'll have to find some way of getting along on what now is taken in by rechanneling that revenue and making it work for the state."

Members of the Michigan Legislature are finding that allocation of tickets for the address of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur in the Capitol on May 13 is becoming a headache and almost a political liability.

General MacArthur insists on speaking at the Capitol itself, such as is customary for joint meetings of the House and Senate. He ruled out an appearance elsewhere.

The Capitol is not only a fire hazard, but the seating capacity in the House of Representatives is quite limited. Only a comparatively few persons can be accommodated.

The City of Lansing is planning a two-hour parade, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., with high school bands coming in from many towns and cities.

The Capital City welcome is being planned on a non-political basis, since the General says he is not a candidate for public office and has withdrawn his name from all state primary elections to date.

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-- LOCALS --

Social Security Field Man Establishes Hours Here
O. H. Anderson, field representative from the Social Security Administration branch at Pontiac, will be in Farmington the first and third Wednesdays of every month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Farmington Municipal Building on Grand River Avenue to file claims and to clarify and help with social security problems and questions.
Need for a field representative to visit Farmington has arisen because of the increased number of persons from the area who have traveled to Pontiac in the last year on Social Security business, Anderson indicated. The periodical visits are for the convenience of the citizens, he commented.

Mrs. Belcher Serves Red Cross in Germany
Mrs. Monique Belcher of 3070 River Lane, recently completed six months of service as an American Red Cross Gray Lady at the 10th Field Hospital in Würzburg, Germany. Red Cross authorities in Germany report.

At present, 213 of these volunteers are serving at hospitals in Germany, Austria, France, Italy and England. Additional Gray Ladies are being trained by the Red Cross for service at every major military hospital in Europe.

Mrs. Belcher, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence O'Carroll of 3070 River Lane, is the wife of Sergeant First Class James J. Belcher. As part of her Gray Lady service, she makes the rounds of the hospital wards, talking to the hospitalized servicemen and taking them books, games, magazines and writing materials.

Farmington GM Workers Receive Awards
A total of 117 salary and hourly employees of the Ferretted Division of General Motors Corporation were guests of honor at the Division's annual Twenty-Five Year Watch Award Banquet, held at the Statler Hotel in Detroit on Friday, April 18. These men and women from the Ferretted plants in Trenton, New Jersey; Columbus, Ohio and Detroit have been with the Division since 1926.

Included in the group who will receive the 25-Year Watch Award are Clarence F. Roberts of 20414 Mayfield and Lester A. Morrison of Farmington.

IT'S A BOY!
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ham, Jr., of George Washington Drive in Southfield Township, announce the birth of an eight pound, eight ounce son, Ralph Ernest, born at New Grace Hospital, Detroit, April 8. He is the first grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ham, Sr., of Oakland Road.

Last year 37,100 Americans were killed in traffic accidents.

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SEE PAGE 2, Sec. 11

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