

**STOMACHE-ACHE MAY BE SERIOUS MATTER**

Got a stomach-ache? Here is the story.

Dr. William Rottschaefer, U-M senior clinical instructor in surgery, says that it's no laughing matter.

"A child's tummy-ache, especially, is a very real problem," said Dr. Rottschaefer.

First of all, a stomach-ache covers a pretty broad area of abdominal organs, such as the stomach, small intestines, large intestines, liver, gall bladder, bile ducts, spleen, pancreas and appendix.

And as if that weren't enough, there are the so-called "referred pains", those connected with pneumonia, pleurisy, and inflammation of the peritoneal sac (which is the lining of the cavity where the heart is located).

Dr. Rottschaefer lists several possible causes of abdominal pain: contamination by bacteria; appendicitis; blood disturbances; injuries; inflammation; poison; and aches caused by the nervous system.

**POSTMASTER AT PONTIAC DISCUSSES RATES**

(This article specially prepared for the Oakland Citizens League by Leslie H. Dean, Sr., acting postmaster, Pontiac, Michigan.)

Efforts to increase service and bring postal rates in line with costs has increased interest in operation of the postal service. From the time Benjamin Franklin first formulated postal policies in the Continental Congress in 1775 the postal service in the U. S. has developed into the largest and perhaps most vital service provided citizens by the federal government.

You will note that I refer to it as Postal SERVICE. That is exactly what it is—and what it will continue to be until the charge for the service is equivalent to the cost of the service.

The only year that the Post Office Department ever worked on a balanced budget was in 1948—and then only because thousands of employees worked on payless overtime in order to keep mail moving to aid from our armed forces. In addition to handling 3,730,495 tons of mail comprising more than 38 billion pieces, the Postal Service also processed more than 762 million other transactions. Registry, money orders, postal notes, insured mail, collection-delivery, special-delivery, and so on.

Congress has voted slight increases in pay to the approximately 450,000 postal employees from time to time, although reluctant to do so because each increase puts the department more in the red. Only slight increases in the cost of service have been charged the patron.

Because starting wages are low, in comparison to local industry, there is a large turnover in personnel. A clerk or carrier starts at \$3.27 annually and receives an annual increase of \$1.00 for five years. In industry, a worker would receive top salary long before nine years had passed. The work requires expert knowledge of distribution, transportation, accounting and administration. Because of the constant labor turnover, the major part of the work falls on the regular employees. Many man hours are lost because of a lack of public knowledge of postal rules and regulations by patrons.

Your Postal Service is here for one reason: Service. We want to be sure that letters and packages get where they are going and in good condition. By knowing the rules, you save time and inconvenience for yourself and postal employees. Your Postal Service has come to be an absolute necessity.

Congress will undoubtedly raise postal rates in all classifications in 1954. The Carlson Committee, under Sen. Frank Carlson (R. Kan.) has been studying the Post Office and its costs and is due to report soon. The Post Office bookkeeping system is said to be outmoded and confusing, with little information available on cost ascertainment.

Arguments are raised over whether the Post Office should lose money on business mail or not. The question is asked whether the government should lose money on butter or wheat, either. Merely raising the rates may not solve the problems. It has been found that by raising rates and getting less business (some magazines are now being distributed by truck, outside the mail, for example) the Post Office "loses" less on each piece, theoretically, but it loses more over all because of less income.

The Oakland Citizens League.

**- Obituaries -**

Eleanor Marie Thurston

Eleanor Marie Thurston, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harley M. Thurston of 19761 Seminole Avenue, Redford Township, died suddenly Saturday morning, December 19, 1953. The baby was born November 24, 1952.

Funeral services were held on Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock from the Thayer Funeral Home with Rev. Russell L. Lincoln of the First Universalist Church of Farmington officiating and burial took place in Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery.

Surviving besides her parents are three brothers, Norman, Sheridan and Douglas; and her paternal grandfather, Mr. Phillip Thurston of Lucas, Kansas.

Mrs. Gladys M. Grosvenor

Mrs. Gladys M. Grosvenor of 22823 Lakeway Avenue, Farmington, died unexpectedly Wednesday evening, December 16, at her residence.

Mrs. Grosvenor was born November 19, 1895, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the daughter of Edward and Nettie Estabrook Silson. She attended school in Ann Arbor and Detroit. On September 15, 1915, she was united in marriage to Earl B. Grosvenor. Mr. and Mrs. Grosvenor had lived in Farmington for about sixteen years, coming here from Northville.

Funeral services were held on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. from the Thayer Funeral Home with Rev. Carl H. Schultz officiating. Burial took place in Acacia Park Cemetery.

Surviving besides her husband are three daughters, Mrs. Eleanor M. Catherman and Mrs. Jane Robinson of Farmington and Mrs. Vivia G. Allen of Pontiac. She also leaves one sister, Mrs. Margaret Sharkey of Largo, Florida, and six grandchildren.

Neal Hardy, of Garden City, was the Saturday afternoon guest of his mother, Mrs. Christina Rehlin, on Mayfield Avenue.

**DONDERO CITES NEW TAX SAVINGS SLATED FOR JANUARY 1 CUT-BACK**

Congressman George A. Dondero this week pointed out that it was the \$14 billion cut in the federal budget voted earlier this year by Congress which made possible the 10 per cent reduction in federal income tax rates scheduled for January 1.

"It is now estimated," Congressman Dondero said, "that approximately 7,000,000 Americans, who paid federal income taxes in the present calendar year, will not have to do so at all next year."

These comprise heads of families with at least two dependants, earning no more than \$2,000 per year. "But these are not the sole beneficiaries of the cut in tax rates," he continued. "Every other taxpayer in the income brackets up to \$25,000 per year will receive the ten per cent cut in rates. Only those in the highest income brackets will benefit less by reason of smaller percentage cuts in tax rates."

"In addition to these present-

age cuts in federal income tax rates," said Congressman Dondero, "there is some talk about an increase in exemptions for those with dependents. It seems probable though, that exemption increases may be put on a stand-by basis, to be applied by order of the President, should it seem desirable to boost the purchasing power of the public."

**Trees Enter Winter Under Dry Conditions**

Michigan rainfall has been about three inches below normal the past three months, warns William B. Love, municipal forestry and parks extension specialist at Michigan State College. Trees are going into winter under drought conditions.




**GREETINGS**

We cannot help but think of our many friends who have made the past year so worthwhile. To all of them, we wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**FARMINGTON RECREATION**

*Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year*



**PHIL THOMAS**  
23623 Farmington Road

*Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year*



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**Greetings**


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**Greetings**

From the sincerity of our hearts comes this wish for a truly joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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**Season's Greetings**

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**Holy night**

In the hush of a mid-night clear, the herald angels sang out to praise the new-born King. May His message of peace and good will lighten your heart and brighten your home this Christmas and all through the New Year.

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**Merry Christmas**

To everyone at Christmas time comes the joy of giving and receiving. It is our pleasure now to offer our sincerest wishes for a very cheerful Holiday to all our friends.

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