

The Farmington Enterprise

A. C. Tapp Publishers J. M. Tapp	
Established in 1888 by Edgar R. Bloomer as "A Permanent Journal of Progress"	
SUBSCRIPTION RATES	ADVERTISING RATES
1 Year \$2.00	Duplex, per inch . . . \$75
Out-Of-State \$3.50	Reader Ads \$50
Single Copy \$10	Cards of Thanks 4c word



Published Thursday of each week at City of Farmington and entered at the Post Office in Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, as second-class matter under Act of March 3, 1879.

Phone: GRenleaf 4-6225

National Advertising Representatives
MICHIGAN PRESS SERVICE, Inc.
100 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.

It's Our Opinion:

EDITORIALS:

The Cost Estimates . . .

on the proposed joint water system for Farmington and Southfield Townships as well as the City of Farmington is rather staggering at first glance, but it takes a lot more than one look to grasp the whole picture.

There is certainly no denying that the \$2,480,000 estimate for the main supply lines and laterals in Farmington Township represents a lot of money. But when we consider the urgent need, the number of persons to be served and the length of time which will be allowed to liquidate the obligation, the proposal is more realistic than first appears.

It is interesting to note that the latest estimate is some \$800,000 higher than the first proposal submitted about two years ago. This is partly due to an increase in the size of the proposed water district, but it is also partly due to an increase in the costs of construction. Certainly this cost will not get any less as time goes on. Portions of Farmington Township, particularly, need water and need it badly. In fact, the engineer's report lists 2,400 potential residence and business customers in Farmington Township, representing 7,800 persons.

While no definite cost formula has been worked out per customer as yet, it is easy to see that the unit expense, when spread over a 30-year period, would not be excessive. To this, of course, must be added the cost of water from the City of Detroit, which would still be a small price to pay for the benefits of health, safety and convenience that this service would provide. It certainly would not be greatly more than the cost of drilling and maintaining the average well and would be far more dependable.

The major problem is one of financing, and this requires active support and participation on the part of as many potential customers as possible. The people in the "dry areas" of Farmington Township have waited a long time for this vital service. They shouldn't have to wait any longer. We have a concrete plan before us, which, from all appearances, makes sense. It is going to require a lot of leadership and a lot of cooperation to get it through, but it must succeed if the health of our citizens is to be protected and the growth of our community is to be maintained. We've said it can't be done long enough . . . it's time to say it will be done!

The Heart Of Christmas . . .

is about to make its annual appearance once again on the streets of the Farmington community.

This Friday, December 14, the Farmington Goodfellows will take over in mass to do their part in assuring that no family in the community will be forgotten this Christmas. Like so many other things, one person or one group can not do it alone. It takes the help and the cooperation of everyone if it is to be successful. This is as it should be.

Maybe you have wondered sometimes what makes men leave their busy stores and business places to go out on the street, usually in the snow and raw wind, to sell Goodfellow Papers? It's a good question and it's got an equally good answer . . . "the heart of Christmas" . . . the satisfaction of helping others who need help.

You, too, can capture that "heart of Christmas" by helping your less fortunate neighbors. That dime or dollar you give to the Farmington Goodfellows this Friday will bring more joy and happiness to someone than you can imagine, and in turn will bring greater satisfaction to you.

Call it the "Spirit of the Season," "The Joy of Giving" or "The Heart of Christmas" . . . call it what you may, but it's very real and very wonderful. Give to the Farmington Goodfellows this Friday and see for yourself!

At A Recent Meeting . . .

of officials from six southeastern counties, a statement was made to the effect that many residents of the suburban area want city roads with county taxes.

In many respects this statement is true. It is impossible to get something for nothing and everybody knows it. Yet at the same meeting it was admitted that our highway laws need revising for greater economy and efficiency. Here in Farmington Township, extra funds have been appropriated by the Board for road work, yet the County Road Commission has been unable to carry out the recommended projects or expend the funds for one reason or another.

If the suburban areas are to grow and prosper, they need good roads and it will cost money, but, equally important, they need improved laws and procedures in order to get the most out of each tax dollar.



NOV—After several months of stormy public debate, a controversial zoning amendment that would allow the establishment of a race track in Novi township was passed Monday night by the Township Board. Members voted unanimously for the amendment.

Within minutes after the board meeting ended, however, petitions were being circulated in the Township chambers to call a public referendum on the zoning change. Petitions were also turned over to the directors of the Willowbrook Community Association which had indicated a strong opposition to a race track in the community in the past. If these petitions are signed by some 255 persons within 30 days from Monday night, the issue will be forced to a public vote.

The land where it is proposed that a race track and sports arena be built is located on Grand River at Meadowbrook.

—The Novi News

SOUTHFIELD—A voting misuse by 533 voters brought about defeat of Southfield's second proposed city charter by a slim 43 votes as 6,066 persons cast their ballots on December 3.

The charter undoubtedly would have passed had the 533 persons who voted for city candidates for offices only and who either forgot about or overlooked the charter proposal had pulled either the "yes" or "no" lever, indicating their being for or against the charter as presented. Most of those who did not vote on the proposal were from the south end of the township where the vote ran 3 to 1 in favor of the charter.

Only about 60 per cent of the 14,565 registered voters took time to cast ballots.

One more attempt is still possible to get majority favor of still another proposed charter before a June 7, 1957, deadline. Lengthy legal maneuvers would all but rule this out, however.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

DEARBORN—A six-foot water main now being installed along Waverly and Payne avenues promises relief next summer for West Side Dearborn and Dearborn Township residents who recall past years' hardship of producing a trickle of water, city engineers indicated.

The main, which will extend across the northeast corner of Dearborn, will connect shipping tunnels Detroit with 150,000,000 gallons of water a day and will lift the load from Dearborn's major main. With the expanded facilities of Detroit's Springwells Pumping Station and the new main, engineers predict ample supplies of water supply would use in the future. Sprinkling bands will be forgotten, they said.

—The Dearborn Independent

SOUTHFIELD—The "iron pipe" ordinance drawn up by the Southfield Township Board was passed by a unanimous vote last Monday night. The law directs that sanitary flow shall be through an iron pipe or other approved closed construction to a point 10 feet beyond basement wall. Metropolitan builders had voiced strong opposition to the ordinance in the past months.

In passing the ordinance, the Board conceded that the township would undoubtedly be taken into court. With this thought in mind, a last minute addition to the ordinance was made. It stipulates that those opposing the ordinance must ask the court to declare all its clauses illegal the court might give dimly or obtain a separate ruling on each of the individual clauses. Defeat of one portion of the ordinance will not affect the balance of the code.

—The Four Corners Press

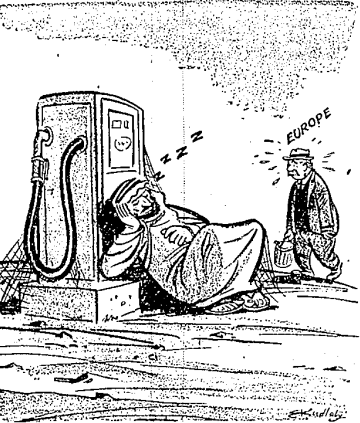
The average U.S. production worker in manufacturing has to labor only 60 minutes to earn enough money for one pound of round steak, a dozen eggs, a quart of milk and a pound of bread, according to the National Industrial Conference Board.

Legal beagles know that the most expensive kind of clause to negotiate is the Santa Claus.



First newspaper published in Oakland County was the Oakland Chronicle, started in 1830 which was moved shortly to Detroit, later to become known as the Detroit Free Press under the Oakland County Planning Commission.

Not Open for Business



MISSING—23,000 MICHIGAN VETERANS! That's the number who have yet to apply for their state Korean bonus.

Major Gen. George C. Moran, state adjutant general, warns that the time is now growing short. According to the terms of the act, final application must be in the mails before midnight of March 6, 1957.

Except for the stragglers, most of the Michigan bonus money is paid. General Moran states that payments now total more than \$56 million to some 204,170 veterans.

There were 3,948 claims rejected and 1,646 are still being processed.

When the state bonus act first took effect, 14 Army officers and 17 civil service employees were needed to handle the avalanche of claims. Now only one officer and 14 civilian employees remain on the staff.

About 35 to 50 claims are received weekly. At this rate only some 700 will be received by the March deadline. The question remains: where are the 22,300 other eligible veterans?

"CHRISTMAS TREE BOULEVARD," a stretch of US Highway 27 in Osage County, is once again open for a one month season that will provide an ultimate \$5 million crop and happiness in thousands of homes throughout the state.

Ordinarily a normal part of the state highway system, Christmas Tree Boulevard gets its name from the many truckers' depots that open each year set up shop, stocking the sweet-smelling greenery that means Christmas through-out southern Michigan and parts of Ohio and Indiana.

Some 1,350,000 trees make up the 1956 crop. By Dec. 14 most will be in city lots or already reaching homes for decoration.

While the selling season is short—approximately one month—it is the result of long years of hard work in a risky business. A



Operating just within the law, the professional phenomenon finds civic organizations, businessmen and the general public easy pickings.

His method follows a similar pattern wherever he sets up operation. (Continued on Page 4C)



Where QUALITY Is Tops!

Closed On Sunday

the FINEST of DINING SERVICE at

Himmelspach Dining Room

33219 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161



WHO OWNS AMERICA

Who owns American big business? The Communist and Socialist agitators would reply, "Wall Street, or a few rich capitalists!" The home-grown political demagogue would say: "The selfish vested interest, the privileged few." The well-intentioned do-gooder would say: "The fortunate wealthy people." What would you say? The answer is vitally important because in the world we live in a combination of forces seeks to drastically change the American economic and political structure—with our individual freedom at stake.

Here's the answer: American big business is owned by 8,630,000 men and women, most of them with incomes of less than \$7,500 a year and living in the small towns of America. When all business in America is coupled—big, medium-sized and little—there are nearly 16,000,000 owners.

Details Of Ownership

A recent study of the question, "Who Owns American Business," showed that approximately one out of every 12 adults in America owns an interest in some corporation whose stocks are listed in Wall Street, and that about one out of every five of six employed persons in America have a financial interest in some company.

Here are some of the details: For the first time (in 1954) women outnumber men as share-owners in corporations—by a margin of 51.4 per cent to 48.4.

Approximately 12 per cent of the shareowners have incomes under \$3,000 per year. Twenty-six per cent have incomes from \$3,000 to \$5,000, and 26 per cent have incomes from \$5,000 to \$7,500.

America's typical shareowner is 48 years old, three years younger than his counterpart just four years ago. That, among the people who became shareowners for the first time during the last four years, the average age is 35. The typical shareowner is a high school graduate and lives in a community of about 25,000.

Other Wealth

We can add to this widespread corporation ownership under American capitalism these facts: The farms of America are owned by 23,000,000 people; the houses of America, worth \$200 billion, are owned by approximately 100 million people; our 50 million automobiles are owned by nearly 40 million families. In fact, the whole wealth of America is distributed out among the whole adult population.

The broad distribution of America's material production has come about because of America's unique economic and governmental system. It is correct to say that what we have in America is "People's Capitalism." With the freedom, the incentives and the widespread opportunities that are built into the American system it was inevitable. (Continued on Page 3C)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (December 17, 1931)

Reduce School Tax

A reduction in the tax rate for School District No. 5, Farmington City, has been made by the Board of Education. The rate this year will be \$10 per \$1,000 valuation compared with \$12 per \$1,000 charged for the past several years. The Board made the reduction following the re-assessment of the property in the district by the State Tax Commission. The new rate was determined upon as that necessary to raise the same amount of taxes as the \$12 rate provided under the former law. It is reported that the Farmington District is in good financial condition compared with many others in this section of the county and state. Numerous districts in this area have been forced to either delay teachers' pay or issue scrip. Thus far, however, Farmington district has been able to meet its monthly salary rolls on time and pay every teacher in full. The total monthly payroll is about \$3,500.

Cut-Off Plans Set

Plans of the State Highway Department for construction of the Grand River Cut-Off from Farmington Road west to meet the main Grand River pavement at Halsted Road have now been completed. The continuance of the highway was made possible through the reaching of an agreement with C. F. Smith, whose large estate stood in the path of the highway as originally laid out. Plans were changed from running the highway through the middle of his estate to shifting it to run along the south line of his property, which Smith agreed to. Construction is expected to get underway early in the spring.

TEN YEARS AGO (December 19, 1946)

Unsanitary Conditions

A complaint was entered by residents living in Grand River Crest Subdivision No. 2 with the Township Board against the erection of prefabricated homes in the vicinity of Inkster and Ontago Streets. The homes are being erected without any facilities for water or sewage disposal, it is contended. Several instances were cited of unsanitary conditions which prevail in this area. The Board assured those present at the Township Board meeting that they would contact county health authorities and get legal advice to ascertain just what can and should be done.

Goodfellow Sale

The Farmington Goodfellow committee disclosed this week that \$720.00 had been collected in the 18th annual Goodfellow paper sale held last Saturday. Funds from the sale will be used in orders for food and clothing for needy families in the community. Thus far the needs of 30 families in need of assistance have been brought to the attention of the Goodfellow committee, it was indicated.

FIVE YEARS AGO (December 10, 1951)

Hire Assistant Manager

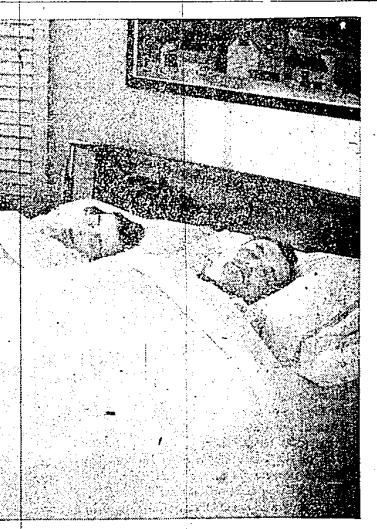
The City Council Monday evening approved the appointment of James Tennant as Assistant City Manager on a 30-day trial basis. Tennant will serve as an assistant to Mayor Ken Loomis, acting city manager, for a few weeks to see if he is fitted to conduct the operations of a city. It is expected that if Tennant proves satisfactory, the Council will name him City Manager.



FIRE — LIFE — AUTO

30760 Grand River (Near 9 Mile)

Phone GR. 4-6933



Is a good night's sleep worth 2¢?

That's all it costs—2¢—to give you cozy warmth all night long.

With an automatic blanket you can have all-over warmth—as much or as little as you like. You select it . . . a thermostat does the rest to keep you comfortable.

Automatic blankets really save you money because you need only one blanket for each bed. No need to have that extra blanket handy. Just one blanket to launder, one blanket to store.

Saves on heating, too. Set the house thermostat lower during the night. Under your automatic blanket you're always cozy warm, no matter how cool the room.

Get an automatic blanket

See your dealer or Detroit Edison