

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## It's Our Opinion:

### EDITORIALS:

#### The Qualifying Round . . .

is over and the main event is about to begin. While the nomination and election of public officials is hardly a game, it is a contest which should arouse the interest of every civic minded citizen.

Within the next month and a half, the qualified electors of Farmington Township will witness such a contest. In the end they and they alone will have to select the winners. It isn't an easy job, and yet it is a job that must be done if we are to fulfill our obligation to ourselves and our community.

Several weeks ago the Enterprise expressed the hope that there would be contests for the major Township offices on both party tickets. At the same time we committed ourselves to do everything possible to inform the public on the background, experience and qualifications of the various candidates. Preliminary work has already started on the gathering of this information. Unfortunately, all the planning in the world is of little value unless the various candidates are willing to cooperate in this information program.

On several occasions in the past, attempts to secure this information have failed because of lack of interest on the part of the individuals seeking public office. We feel a sense of responsibility in bringing these facts to the people, and we hope that the candidates in the coming Township Primary feel the same way.

In our opinion, this information will not only stimulate greater interest in the election, but will assist the voter in making an intelligent and objective decision. Upon these two factors rests the future of Farmington Township.

#### The Month Of January . . .

is symbolic of many things, including the tremendous progress that has been made in the fight against polio. Nowhere in our history can we find a more dramatic or more universal crusade against a dreaded disease.

We have attempted to assist and promote a great many March of Dimes campaigns during the years, but none holds more promise than this 1937 drive now underway throughout the Farmington community. Medical science has proven that infantile paralysis can be licked. Experts in physical therapy have proven that the victims of polio can be cured. No longer do we need to stand helplessly by while this once dreaded disease takes its annual toll.

But needless to say, the job is far from complete. We still have patients in the polio wards of our hospitals who need care and treatment. We still need trained personnel to help put these patients on their feet again. We still must work toward the development of a better vaccine which will erase the word "polio" from our vocabulary. All these things we must do if we are to finish the job.

Through your contributions in the past, you have had a vital part in this historic crusade. Don't let down now. Give to the Farmington area March of Dimes campaign this month and together we'll win the complete victory against polio.

#### The Slaughter . . .

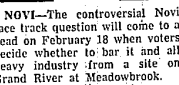
of human lives on our streets and highways during the Christmas holiday is a sickening aftermath of what was supposed to be a season of joy and happiness.

According to the National Safety Council, a total of 712 persons were massacred during the four-day Christmas holiday and thousands more were injured. For these people and their families, it was far from a joyous and happy holiday. It was a season of sudden and violent tragedy, of pain and suffering and heartaches.

How many of you were shocked when you saw the headlines? How many of you asked the question, "Why?" We hope that enough did so that it will never happen again. If the 712 names represented a four-day war casualty list, we would be alarmed. If it represented the toll from some strange disease, we would be horrified. But, auto accidents . . . they always happen to the other fellow.

This battle against death and injury will not be won until every person who gets behind the wheel is honestly convinced that it can happen to him. Only when this false sense of security is stripped away, only when we form in our mind the indelible picture of the horror that can happen, will we begin to win the battle.

### What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS



**NOVI**—The controversial Novi race track question will come to a head on February 18 when voters decide whether to bar it and all heavy industry from a site on Grand River at Meadowbrook. The election was made necessary when petitions were submitted demanding a constitutional amendment on a recent zoning amendment which makes construction of the track possible. The petitions submitted contained the signatures of 485 people. Only 100 were required to force the question to a vote of the people, it was indicated. Herbert Koester, president of the Novi Township Democratic Club and a candidate for township supervisor, submitted the petitions. He pointed out, however, that the signatures on the petitions represented a cross-section of the township regardless of political lines. Township Clerk Hadley Bachert said he scheduled the vote for February 18 to make it coincide with the township primary election on the same date.

—The Novi News

**BIRMINGHAM**—Westchester Village subdivision residents are investigating the possibilities of turning their area—east of Lahser between 14 and 16th Roads—into a home rule village.

Westchester residents see incorporation as a method of blocking any freeway that State Highway officials may plan to put through their area. One publicized route would have gone through the subdivision's center. Westchester leaders feel that, though highway officials have said they will not incorporate the area would take place, one spokesman commented, "The sooner the better. This is not pure a negative action. We're trying to give a community."

—The Birmingham Eclectic

**ROMEO**—Romeo Community school is getting \$38,500 increase of the December allotment of state aid, Macomb county treasurer Lynn Whalen reports.

The total mailing to 29 central school districts in the latest apportionment was \$1,053,642, Whalen said. East Detroit, the county's most populous school district, got the biggest share: \$175,830. It was followed by Mount Clemens, \$138,600, and Roseville with \$127,170. The three districts in St. Clair Shores received an aggregate of \$180,722. Little Macomb District 2 Fractional received \$230.

—The Romeo Observer Press

**SOUTHFIELD**—Candidates for a reorganized Southfield zoning board are scheduled to meet at the township hall on Berg Road January 7. Seven members will be appointed to fill four-year terms. A reduced board under the chairmanship of Robert F. Wuoril of 23120 Circle Drive earlier this month rested in a body at the suggestion that the board reorganize.

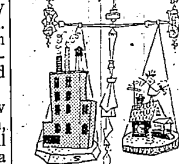
—The Four Corners Press

**SOUTH LYON**—According to a recent news item which appeared in the Santa Ana Ledger of Santa Ana, California, movie star Jane Withers is planning four dress shops which she will open on Pontiac Trail in Woodside Acres subdivision, just south of the South Lyon city limits.

The news item as it appeared in the Santa Ana Ledger read: "Actress Jane Withers, soon to be seen in George Stevens' 'Giant' for Warner Brothers, is now supervising the designing of four dress shops which will cater to the needs of the well dressed girl from 1 to 90. The shops will be built on property she owns in South Lyon, near Detroit."

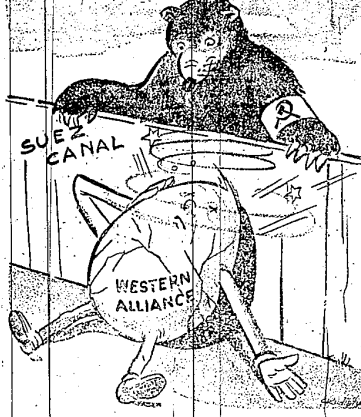
What shops will be for infants, with everything from diapers to booties the second shop will be for small children, the third for teenagers and the fourth for adult women.

—The South Lyon Herald



Industry paid 54.5% of all personal property taxes in Oakland County in 1933 according to records reviewed by Oakland County Planning Commission.

### "Love That Scrambled Egg!"



**WHO WANTS TO BE FOREMAN** in a shop where workers are paid higher than the supervisor? Who wants to be boss of a business where employees earn more than the man with the most responsibility? The answer, obviously, is "no many."

Yet the income circumstances of our state government provides for an important part in the lack of enthusiastic candidates.

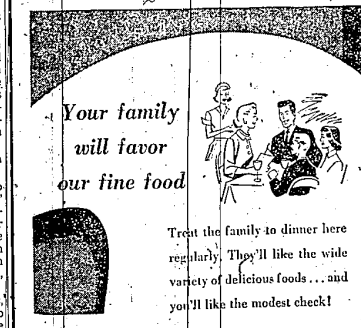
The state superintendent of public instruction is paid \$12,500 per year. He is responsible for the education of Michigan's nearly 11 million children. But four employees of his department, all of whom enjoy the securities of civil service, receive higher salaries. The present superintendent has indicated he has not yet decided whether he will run for reelection in April. Surely his position is an important part in his decision.

If he had maintained his former capacity as deputy superintendent, he would now in all probability be drawing more than \$15,000 per year. Superintendents of schools in many localities are paid this amount. In Detroit and several of the larger cities salaries are as high as \$30,000.

The tremendous responsibility of the state highway system rests in the hands of a man paid \$12,500. He handles more than \$200 million per year. On the highway staff are at least four people receiving salaries higher than the commissioner.

When the top job in a department pays less than subordinate positions, it is understandable that competent, professional people would prefer not to be "promoted."

Perhaps less desirable than the salary deficiency is the political aspect. The administrator must run for office each term. This is almost always a physical and emotional trial as well as an expensive



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**LOOKING AHEAD**  
By Dr. George B. Sweeney  
GRAND OAK - HADSDON  
OAKTON - HADSDON  
Sandy Adams

**YOUR JOB NOW**  
A century ago one of America's most ardent advocates of individual freedom sounded a warning in a public address in Boston. "The maw of popular liberty must be gathered each day, or it is rotten," he said. "Only by uninterrupted agitation can a people be kept sufficiently awake to principle not to let liberty be smothered by material prosperity." Republics exist only on tenure of being agitated. These wise observations were made by Wendell Phillips, journalist and patriot of 1850.

In America today we are experiencing a period of unparalleled prosperity. And many of our people are apathetic, unworried, in spite of the continued centralization of economic and political power in our national capital. They are not agitating against big powerful government. They are not agitating against the centralization of taxation—a \$29 billion Federal budget, a \$29 billion national debt, a 26 1/2 per cent Federal tax on our incomes, and a subtle gathering of power to Washington, power that can be transferred only by taking it away from the individual citizens of the nation.

**Power With Money**  
Indeed we do need to agitate against the growth of Federal government! The major source of the great power which our Federal government has garnered to itself in the last 25 years is money. It is an economic power that is being wielded. It comes from taxes. The economic power has shifted from the grassroots, where the people can best control it, to the nation's capital, so long way from home. In 1914, 70 per cent of all government expenditure was at the local and state levels. Today only 30 per cent is at the local and state levels, and 70 per cent is in Washington.

It is easier to expose and abolish governmental waste and graft at the local level than at the Federal level. But our apathy, our failure to agitate against big centralized government and the gradual loss of individual freedom, has permitted the Federal government to become dominant in the economic life of the nation, and to become wasteful and extravagant with our hard-earned cash.

**Citizens Organize**  
The Second Hoover Commission, headed by leading citizens and members of Congress, is dedicated to eliminating waste in the Federal government, improving efficiency while lowering the cost to every citizen. Its objectives and its personnel have (the endorsement of President Eisenhower and former President Truman. Through the support of citizens at the grassroots, the Committee for the Hoover Report last year agitated through Congress a number of reforms which will improve governmental efficiency and cut the cost. Every citizen owes it to his future (Continued on Page 3B)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (January 7, 1932)

**Receive Tax Money**  
Return of more than \$9,000 in delinquent tax monies from the County Treasurer to Farmington City and Township this week has temporarily relieved the financial situation in several school districts. Several schools, confronted with the possibility of having to close through lack of funds, will now be able to carry on through the winter. The entire amount of Township money returned will be received by the school districts. District 6 gained the most from the tax return, it received \$2,952.89, or more than a third of the total return. District No. 5 profited to the extent of \$2,389.52 by receiving \$527.34 from the Township and \$1,862.52 from the City. No. 5 Fractional also received a large share in the Township return, getting \$237.59.

**City Wages Cut**  
Downward revision of salaries of municipal employees, to keep the City in good financial condition, were acted on by the City Commission last week. The reductions will result in a saving of \$1,400 a year and are expected to be an important factor in aiding the City to complete the present fiscal year without borrowing. The revisions were asked, not because of any present financial embarrassment, but in view of reducing expenses before trouble developed rather than after as many other governing units have done, it was pointed out. Approved was a \$125 per month for the police chief, a \$125 per month for the city engineer, a \$100 per month for the assistant city engineer and a \$100 per month for the night man. The cuts in salary are scheduled to go into effect in February of 1932.

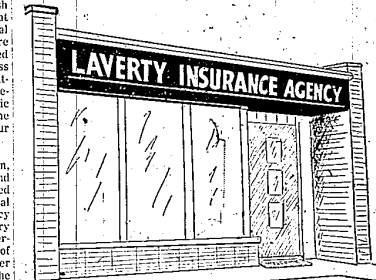
TEN YEARS AGO (January 9, 1947)

**Floral Park Water**  
At the City Commission meeting Wednesday evening a more adequate means of determining the amount of water used in Floral Park subdivision was discussed. At the present time 11 residents and four business places are securing city water. Since only a master meter is now in use, it has been possible to bill individual users for only double the minimum rate. This has been collected in a lump sum from Ray D. Baker, subdivision owner, and he in turn has collected from individual owners. Action on any changes in this procedure was delayed for another quarter, pending legal counsel.

FIVE YEARS AGO (January 10, 1932)

**Zoning Election**  
Registrations are now being taken for the special election on the proposed Farmington Township zoning ordinance set for Monday, February 18. Friday, January 15, is the final date for registering. McCracken emphasized that persons who are already registered in the Township need not re-register. Unofficial observers indicate that the special election will draw a heavy vote. Numerous inquiries have been received regarding the special registration and a number of groups have requested extra copies of the final draft of the ordinance, it was indicated.

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