

Editorial Page

The Recent Decision . . .

of the City Planning Commission in recommending extension of the commercial zone to both sides of Mooney Street from Grand River to Shiawassee is almost certain to draw some protest from residents.

Only recently a proposal to rezone a portion of the property for multiple dwellings was met with strong objections by adjacent property owners. Certainly people have a right to object and to explain their reasons—that's why we have public hearings. At the same time the Planning Commission and the City Council have an obligation and a responsibility to weigh all of the facts, both pro and con, and render a decision which, in their opinion, will be most beneficial to the entire community.

Most changes in zoning develop out of a need for something. Maybe it's a better tax base, or improved usability of the land or even conformity to a changing situation. Regardless of the need, these changes often disrupt the plans and the ideas of adjacent property owners. Naturally they voice objection, as they have a perfect right to do. Thus the Council is faced with the problem of trying to meet a need while at the same time providing as much protection as possible to residential property.

The first question must be, what is the need and how urgent is it? In our opinion, a more adequate tax base is the principal need. If we want to maintain the attractiveness of Farmington as a place to live and to do business in, we must equalize our tax distribution and thus lower the individual burden. A second question that must be answered involves location and usability of land. Will commercial development provide the best possible use for this land? Would it be as beneficial to the community and to the residents if used to some other purpose? The third question concerns the relationship of the proposal to the over-all changing situation. As Farmington grows there is more and more need for increased shopping and service facilities. Is this proposed rezoning in keeping with the demands of the growing population?

In our opinion, these are the key questions which must be answered if an objective and constructive decision is to be made.

The Warning Flags . . .

are being hoisted in anticipation of a tidal wave of motorists on our highways and by-ways during the coming Fourth-of-July week-end. If you're a smart skipper, you'll heed those flags.

Remember you're at the mercy of the storm and the only way to play it, is "safe" right down the line. In case you need a little reminding, a total of 6 persons were injured in separate auto accidents in the Farmington area during the last Memorial Day week-end and 12 persons were injured in seven pile-ups on the following week-end. Despite the warning flags these people got slapped by the tidal wave and what started out to be a pleasure cruise ended up in a rude and painful beaching.

So remember if you must drive this week-end, heed the warning . . . don't become another name on the casualty list.

The Tide Of Battle . . .

has a way of shifting when one least expects it, leaving an exposed flank or a weak spot in the line. So it was recently when the U. S. Supreme Court freed five Communist leaders on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to justify their conviction on charges of conspiring to advocate the violent overthrow of the Government.

The decision came on a 4 to 3 vote and was based on a review of a specific case involving five West Coast Communists. Since the decision is founded on basic principals of law and comes from the highest court in the land, there is no question but what it creates a serious setback in the battle against Communism. We do not question for a minute the Supreme Court's right, ability or judgement in this case. We do, however, as a result of the decision, see an urgent need for tightening our laws to protect our democracy.

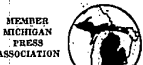
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BUCHANAN—The new parking meters which were installed throughout the city this week will have colorful posts not only to hold them up but also to give information to drivers.

The two-hour meters downtown will get aluminum paint jobs for their posts. Ten hour meters in the creek parking lot and further out from the downtown area will have yellow posts. Red has been selected for the posts of both the 24 and 12 minute meters.

Barrien County Record.

• **BIRMINGHAM**—The "ole swimmer hole" has a new twist this summer. Birmingham swimmers can swim in two shiny, Olympic-sized pools with outdoor terraces. But the pools may be with note they say many around parents protesting the fee of 35 cents per child for 40 to 50 minutes of daily swimming at the new Derby high and Birmingham high pools.

Many mothers are circulating petitions for presentation to the Birmingham City Commissioners next Monday night, according to Mrs. Gilbert Goode, Jr., of 965 S. Bates. Mrs. Goode said approximately 200 were expected to sign the resolution asking for the reduction in the costs now being charged.

Questioned by the Birmingham Eccentric, recreation board member Roland Reese and Recreation Director Robert R. Girardin both stated that the crux of the problem was swimming lessons being given during the swimming program at the two schools.

"The people in this community have repeatedly emphasized that first they want their children to learn to swim," Girardin said. Girardin stated that half of each swimming period presently being conducted between 12:30 and 5:30 daily is being devoted to lessons from qualified instructors. He indicated that this was the cost of operation and is the primary reason for the high rate.

Mrs. Goode, mother of five, contends that the pools should be for those who can't afford to provide swimming at country clubs, summer camps or family owned cottages and that if any rates at all are necessary they should be kept very low.

"For 40 minutes of swimming they want to charge more than it costs for the movies and almost as much as for a day at the beach in a commercially owned pool, which has to make a profit," she commented. "They think of the money first and the good it will do last."

The Birmingham Eccentric

• **NOVI**—Novi Township may have harness racing by next year, a spokesman for the proposed Novi race track said this week. State Racing Commissioner James H. Ingles, however, called the forecast "a little optimistic at this time."

B. F. Gregorie, a leading figure in the syndicate which hopes to build the track, said the structure would probably be broken next month unless unforeseen complications develop. The many problems encountered for the past several months—including the problem of providing sewer facilities for crowds of 20,000 people or more have been overcome, he said.

Proposed at the site at Grand River and Meadowbrook is a \$5,500,000 race track and sports arena.

Gregorie again stated that racing would be only part of the program at the proposed arena. He indicated that the sports center was being designed to host activities the year-around including boat shows, conventions, automobile panoramas, polo games and other sports events and exhibits. He also hinted again at the possibility of holding baseball and football games indoors at the arena.

The Novi News

• **WAYNE**—Again this year, 1,000 free Detroit Tiger baseball tickets will be given away by Wayne merchants who are helping wholeheartedly with another giant Kids Day promotion, similar to one held last year, and again being promoted by the Wayne Dispatch.

The tickets are available free of charge to all youths between the ages of 8 and 18. Parents who act as chaperones will also be given free tickets. Tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis, it was indicated.

Ticket holders will see the Tigers play the Boston Red Sox on Thursday, July 11.

Buses will park before the stores of each of the participating merchants and pickup all who plan to attend. The total of 20 buses arranged for will form a huge motor caravan to the stadium.

The Wayne Dispatch

The word salary comes from "salarium," meaning salt money, since Roman soldiers received part of their pay in salt.

Why do people who dislike each other cross paths so often?

What a Neighborhood!



MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

Better Protection From Sex Criminals Nearly Year Away

TRAGIC DEATH OF A DETROIT CHILD touched off new activity to provide improved legal protection from sex criminals. But at best, it will be nearly a year before laws change.

Mary deCausin, six years old, was found assaulted and murdered. A 50-year-old grocery clerk named Lawrence Richard Turner confessed the crime. His record showed that 23 of his 50 years had been spent in hospitals, reform schools or prisons. He had been charged with sex crimes as long ago as 1940. In 1942 he was convicted of criminal assault and sentenced to a term from 15 to 30 years. As law provides, he was given maximum time off for good behavior.

The warden urged that Turner be placed under psychiatric care. To prison officials it could be clearly predicted that the convict would strike again.

But under existing Michigan law, there was nothing that could be done. So Turner was permitted to go free even though medical science indicated what would be the result. As predicted, Turner did strike again.

Most appalling thing about the present situation is that it could so easily happen to another little girl any time. Alan Canty, director of Detroit's Recorder's Court, psychopathic clinic, says he knows of one other man who is as apt to commit this type of crime as was Turner. He also says he knows of "many others" just as dangerous as is Turner. Included is one man who has a record of assaulting 12 girls, often using knives. He was sentenced 9-10 years in Jackson, was released as law provides after six years for good behavior.

Appointment of a committee to study sex criminals was called for by Detroit's Senator Harold M. Ryan, a Democrat. This committee would be expected to come up with suggested legislation to correct the present situation.

Laws controlling sex crimes are difficult to draft. The subject itself is complicated and legisla-

tor's reactions to it vary.

For six years the legislature has dealt with bills on the sex-criminal subject. All failed to pass.

Robert E. Waldron, Republican representative from Grosse Pointe, was author of some unsuccessful bills in the last session. "If such laws had been in effect when Turner was convicted in 1942," he said, "Turner could—and probably would have been removed permanently from society."

Waldron's bill would have:

1. Provided for indeterminate sentences (one day to life) for convicted sex criminals with sadistic tendencies.
2. Provided protection for the defendant by allowing periodic psychiatric examinations and reviews by the state parole board.
3. Established a clinic at Jackson to provide special treatment.

Opposition to Waldron's bills during the last legislature, including opposition by Sen. Ryan and Canty, was on grounds that it included too large a scope of sex criminals, jumping "petty" offenses like groping forms in the same category as murderers.

Soonest hope for correction of the big loophole in Michigan's law is the 1958 legislature to take action along line recommended by the study committee. Since sex crimes, it is commonly agreed, are committed by mentally deranged people, whose behavior can

(Continued on Page 6B)



ATTENTION AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOLS!

"The history of liberty is the history of the limitation of governmental power; not the increase of it. When we resist concentration of power we are resisting the process of death, because the concentration of power is always what precedes the destruction of human liberties." President Woodrow Wilson said this. The founding fathers of our nation said it, perhaps in slightly different words, over and over again as they worked upon the construction of our Republican form of government, dispersing the powers into three branches, hemming them in with many safeguards, and retaining most of the governmental powers to the states.

It would be comforting to know that every high school boy and girl in America can recite these words of Woodrow Wilson on government limitation and have a clear understanding of their meaning. Unfortunately, it just isn't so. Thousands of our high schools do not offer citizenship education, American history, American government, American economics. A few decades ago the textbooks and courses in these subjects began to disappear. Other textbooks and courses were substituted. Fewer and fewer children studied American history and American government; and very few indeed studied the great advantages of our American system.

Parents Want It

In more recent years, realizing the importance of our children knowing the advantages of our system, parents have been asking for American citizenship courses. Teachers and educational administrators generally have been anxious to establish such courses. But they found that textual material and course outlines were not readily available. Hundreds of parents and teachers in all parts of the nation have written to ask that I direct them to proper materials. This has been a problem nationwide.

For a number of years, however, the Harding Academy which is the high school branch of Harding College has been teaching American citizenship and developing materials and techniques. Superintendent Perry Mason has recently published high school course outlines in American Government, American History, Civics, and World History. For the benefit of the parents and educators searching for such information, I will discuss these outlines in this and (Continued on Page 7B)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (June 30, 1932)

New postage rates which apply to all first class matter and air mail will go into effect on Wednesday, July 6. The rates for all first class letters going out of the City will be raised to three cents. This includes letters for delivery or collection by rural or star route carriers at all offices. There is to be no change of rates on letters for local delivery at offices not having carrier service. As Farmington is in this class, letters addressed to persons within the city limits may still be mailed at the post office for one cent. Rates on post cards and private mailing cards will remain at the same rate of one cent in all cases. Air mail rates have been raised to eight cents for the first ounce or fraction of an ounce and 13 cents for each additional ounce or fraction. The new rate for letters in business reply envelopes is three cents an ounce for each ounce or fraction plus one cent additional charge for each letter.

TEN YEARS AGO (July 3, 1947)

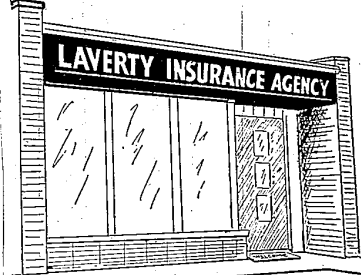
Memorial Plans

Some progress on the planning for a memorial for the boys of the City and Township who gave their lives in World War II was reported by the Memorial Committee at its meeting Monday night. Requests for ideas were made recently and it was indicated that the general trend of the replies is that a library or community center would make the most fitting tribute. A suggestion being received most favorably by both the City and Township as well as the Memorial Committee is that an addition be made on the Town Hall building to open it for public gatherings. Also discussed was the possibility of using the basement for a kitchen and dining room area. This proposal calls for the landscaping of the west side of the grounds and the conversion of the area into a memorial garden.

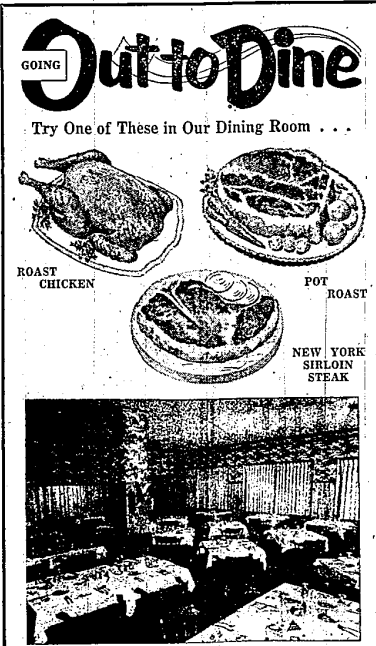
FIVE YEARS AGO (July 8, 1952)

New High School

Construction contracts for the new Farmington High School were awarded Monday evening at a special meeting of the School Board. All of the contracts were awarded on the basis of original bids prior to the proposed modifying of plans. Superintendent O. E. Dunkel indicated that the District had sufficient funds with which to build the building in accordance with the original plans, not allowing any money for classroom equipment. In order to have sufficient funds for equipment, the Board previously felt it would be necessary to eliminate some rooms in the originally planned building. It was later agreed, however, that any modifications in the original plans would be a considerable sacrifice and it would be better to proceed with the first plans anyway. Dunkel stated that approximately \$22,000 can be taken from the 1952-53 operating budget to be used for equipment and that there will be a surplus of approximately \$33,000 in the 1953, 1954 and 1954 debt funds.



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