

Readers of The Observer 'Speak Up' on Issues of Current Concern

Insurance Experience
Editor:
On Saturday at 11:30 a.m. we retired and at 1:45 a.m. a neighbor called, saying someone had hit our station wagon

which was legally parked in front of our house.
Two young men, so drunk they couldn't stand, came to the door to inform us they had hit the car, but told us we didn't need to worry because

had insurance. We had them in and called the police. They were so drunk, they even fell off the chair they were sitting in.
The police came, took all necessary information, and asked us what we wanted to do. We offered to put the boys in a cab and send them home — wasn't that kind of them? The boys, however, came to pick them up and naturally were very upset. They also said they had been called on Monday, my husband called the insurance company and was told that an adjuster would be at the shop the next day. It would cost \$400 to repair, but the adjuster offered my husband \$150, although the insurance in my policy was \$400. The Triple-A will never handle anything for me or any one else I can influence about their insurance. No wonder they can have such handsome buildings, etc.

They are immature enough to be "afraid" at night, why did they do this? This occupation is a disgrace. Amidst their cries of "My husband is gone for 24 hours at a time" are a few advantages they choose to ignore or not mention, as the case might be. What other father is home both day and night five days out of eight? Now they will have to spend only two working days (which is every other day) to have a Kelly of three days off. They are Kollys, and counting only work more time with their wives and children than the average father. Many of these men even choose to work a second job on some of their days off and still can manage to spend five nights out of eight with their families. Poor men! The only root they have left is to work one day and have three off. They have summer vacations, winter vacations, sick leave, early retirement, etc. If a fireman plays his cards right he can stretch a one-week vacation into 21 days off by starting with Kellys, and counting only work days, not off days, and ending with an off day. He could stretch it even further, if he switches or Kellys with a buddy, and this was before the amendment. They already had 248 days off a year! How many now?

To the many dedicated firemen, I say, "Congratulations." To the saboteurs, if the shoe were on their foot, they would have it made! To Mayor Moskie, of whom I am not an ardent admirer, I say, "I hope you stick your nose and get more than one-third of the firemen's time spent on 'work-days' working, not sleeping, eating and relaxing. I am an avid supporter of a 'Shangri-La' for Livonia's firemen."

Mayor but I hate to think what would happen without a capable Fire Department. I am quite sure the Council could do a good job of running the City without the veto power of the Mayor. I really don't know what the answer is, do you?

I think we all know that Livonia being strategically located is bound to grow regardless of who is Mayor, but these internal problems that are easily getting out of hand are not going to help in the least and some measure should be taken to stop them at once. I personally think I have one answer for it, but I refrain from putting it in print as it might be detrimental and cost a lot of money. I remember you told the taxpayers in no uncertain terms what to expect if he were elected but now it is too late

least for the time being. It is hard to beat "The Power of the Press," as you know, and this is I think an issue of prime importance. Won't you give us your opinion.
Sincerely yours,
CLARENCE M. MCINTYRE
Livonia

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Playboy Firemen?
Editor:
They may cause a great deal of controversy. However, I feel that it is my right to express my opinion of our "Playboy" firemen.
The people of Livonia have been duped again by the firemen's cry of "undoir," which means to be their greatest talent. Many, or some if you prefer, (and I did not say all) of our fair fire-fighters were unparents of their own children. They are unable to come with the strain of an eight-hour shift with eight hours of work expected. No wonder they have heard them describe as "a cushy job." The firemen of Livonia "have it made." These are the same men who pushed through the amendment of advancement by seniority. They called "Politics, unfair practices" because they were not qualified for jobs with greater responsibilities. Personally, I would like to feel, in time of emergency, that the man with the best qualifications, not the most seniority, was making the decisions. True, this is a hazardous occupation, but it is the job of coal miner, window washer, steel worker and thousands of others too numerous to mention.
Now we have been barraged with cries of, "I need my husband at home more. Our children need their fathers. It's 24 hours of my life gone." What about our salesmen, our truck drivers, and other workers who must be absent from home for even longer hours? Shouldn't they too have their hours reduced by Charter Amendment? Who forced these firemen into their "chosen profession"? Where were these wives and children when husband and father chose to be a fireman? If

we are without a car. We are the losers for being nice to someone and not pressing charges against the driver. We are the losers for being the kind of money to pay for the drunken pleasure of anyone. I wonder what a person has to do to be fair play — it seems being nice has cost us \$400. The Triple-A will never handle anything for me or any one else I can influence about their insurance. No wonder they can have such handsome buildings, etc.

Candidate's Thanks
Editor:
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the winners of the recent election and to extend to all of them my best wishes for a cooperative and progressive administration of our state government.
My grateful appreciation to those who worked for me and voted for me in the past election. Let us all unite to keep Michigan on the go.
Very truly yours,
LONNIE H. BRASHEAR

We Need Wisdom.
Editor:
Your Facts and Opinions of Nov. 4 place you far above the average politician in your analysis and dedication to the principles upon which this nation was founded.
We can and are equipped to use our great wealth and technology to end poverty and exploitation of our land and her people.
All we lack is the wisdom and courage which was carefully spelled out by the framers of our Constitution and Bill of Rights. And long before that, our forefathers gave mankind a formula which seems not to impress the powers of suspicion, fear and hate at all.
The world, hungry and weary of war, watches while we decide whether to implement our ideals or go the way of ancient Rome.
CLARA M. VINCENT
Livonia

One Man Rule
Editor:
Well the elections are all over, and I suppose to the winners go the spoils. I want to congratulate you on your success and feel you will do an excellent job just as you did as Representative. I suspect you will find a lot of strangers there and it may again be a lonesome for awhile but I know you are capable of overcoming a little obstacle like that. More power to you, and the very best of luck.
I feel sure you are aware that you are leaving our Livonia politics in quite a mess. I was wondering if before you left you could drop another bomb in your paper that would shake things up a bit. The last one you exploded certainly settled the Mayorality issue, and I am wondering if something couldn't be done to bring this man down off of cloud nine and make him a little more realistic, at least to realize there are other people in the world with opinions and that he can't always be the only one who is right.
This mess over the Fire-Department really has me (and a lot of others) burned up to say

the least. That statement in the paper about what he would do if he didn't get his own way sounded very much like "Hillery" talking. Taking the furniture, etc., out of the fire station was in my opinion about the most idiotic thing I ever heard of. There are innumerable things to be taken into consideration — to name one, what happens if we have a fire while the men are out to lunch? Just wait till they get back! Sounds like his thinking. I understand the "GREAT MAN" is worried about the added cost, but at the same time he wants his office completely refurnished and hang the cost.
I would suggest if we move the furniture out of the fire station let's move the furniture out of the Mayor's office. We could get along without a

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