

# Editorial Page

## The Lions Club

of Farmington has mailed out their Blind Aid Seals to all residents of the area, and their annual sale is well under way. Some early returns are already in, but not enough to tell anything yet about how results might run.

Many people here know about this fine project, how it works and what the money is used for. Those who don't, we'll try to explain the plan and urge those, who feel they can, to support it.

It's a project the Lions have taken to their hearts and really worked at. It's authorized by the Greater Farmington Chamber of Commerce, and many other groups.

The drive raises funds for leader dogs for the blind, and it also assures that no needy child in any school, either public or parochial, will fall behind in his school work because of faulty vision. Every cent turned in on this drive goes to work with the blind — none for the work involved, which the Lions take care of.

Frankly, the Farmington Lions need a bit more of your help this year. During the past year they spent \$300 more on this work with the blind than they raised through sale of the seals.

So, if you've put aside the letter you got containing the seals, it might be a good time to get it out and seriously consider whether you'd like to support this project.

## No Marked Change

in business over the nation is the general estimate for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, in its November issue of its monthly review, "Business Conditions." The bank's economists write that nationwide business developments have so far failed to give evidence of either a "fall upsurge" or a "measurable dip" in activity.

We should point out that the figures quoted are for the entire nation. What is true in the Detroit area is not necessarily true over the vast area of this country, where sometimes business conditions are a little more stable than in Michigan, which has its seasonal ups and downs.

Total output of goods and services in the U.S. is estimated to have approached an annual rate of \$40 billion in the July-September period—a gain of 5 per cent over the same months last year. Over-all output and employment, the bank says, continues to be sustained by advances in the service "industries"—finance, utilities, trade and government.

Although physical activity remains relatively stable, most dollar measures continue to move up. The nation's growing capacity to produce, and an easier labor supply have stemmed the rise in prices of many finished goods. Nevertheless, the consumer price index was still tilted upward in late summer as prices of food and most services advanced further. On the other hand, commodity prices at wholesale declined somewhat in the early fall months.

Here's the misleading thing about these figures, however. Higher prices, according to the bank, accounted for at least half the "rise" in business activity during the past year. For example, in the recent July-September period, when retail trade exceeded 1956 by 6 per cent, prices at retail were 3 to 4 per cent above a year ago.

## The Football Wars

are about over for this year, and now the Big Ten championship is decided in favor of Ohio State. That university, also, will represent the Midwest in the annual Rose Bowl contest.

But for University of Michigan fans, there's still a big game ahead, for this Saturday they play Ohio State. If Michigan could pull an upset win it wouldn't mean anything in the Big Ten race, but what it would do to the Michigan ego! Go, go, go, Michigan!

### LIMERICK OF THE MONTH

A crime most uncouth and unsavory,  
Held the Bishop of Wessex in slavery,  
With hoots and with howls,  
He would free these ovals.  
He kept in an underground aviary.

## The Farmington Enterprise

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## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

NOVI — Novi's future was altered almost overnight this week with the announcement that a \$400,000 development will be built in the western part of the township within the next five years.

The development will include 2,000 homes, a shopping center, motel, restaurant, apartment house complex, an independent water system and a \$300,000 sewage disposal plant and sewer system. The development's estimated population will be 12,000 which will more than double Novi's current population and make it a 'city' as large or larger than many in the area.

The huge development was announced this week by Thompson-Brown Company of Detroit, the firm which pioneered the nationally-renowned Kendallwood development in Farmington township.

It will cover 100 acres lying one mile south of the new Lincoln plant and extending both east and west from Wixom Road. Its commercial area will front on the Grand River. Wixom Road intersection.

Plans for the subdivision have been under study since last March and were outlined to the township board at its last meeting. Board members met with Thompson-Brown officials last Saturday to get further information and take a look at Kendallwood.

Novi Supervisor Frazer Staman hailed the new subdivision as "another sign that Novi's future is just around the corner."

According to Ross Campbell, vice president of the firm, work on the development will begin immediately.

WESTWOOD VILLAGE — If the attitude of 250 East Beverly residents who attended the Westwood village charter commission's explanation of the proposed charter for the new village's government Monday is any indication, the charter will be favorably accepted.

Not a single objection was voiced to the commission's outline of village government for the area.

The plan set out for an election to adopt the charter but is expected to be determined when Westwood and the Southfield City charter commissions meet on the question.

Under the proposed charter taxes will be limited to \$5 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation with the provision whereby the residents can vote an increase of up to another \$5 per \$1,000 for a three-year period.

### The Four Corners Press

BIRMINGHAM — Tax assessment procedures in Birmingham are basically sound and result in fair and equitable assessments, a special three-man committee officially reported this week to the city commission.

This taxpayer study substitutes assessing policies of former City Assessor Elmer Haack and present assessor, Clark Hagstrom.

The special committee made four suggestions it feels will further strengthen the city's assessing methods:

- 1) To provide more field inspections so there will be more complete discovery and recording of taxable property.
- 2) Revise the building cost schedule used in determining assessments to a new base year of 1955. (The city is now using the generally accepted 1941 base year.)
- 3) Review and revise depreciation rates so they will reflect variations in physical depreciation due to age and quality of construction and use and maintenance of buildings.

4) Record on all assessment descriptions the reasons for deviations of individual buildings from standard cost schedules.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

BUCHANAN — The daring young man on the flying trapeze will be very much a part of the show when the Patterson Bros. circus comes to Buchanan next week. The circus is being sponsored by the Moose Lodge with proceeds to be used for the remodeling of the new Moose Hall.

—Berkshire County Record

PLYMOUTH — Although the interest in oil and gas well drilling has dwindled greatly in the Plymouth area, a drilling rig has been busily at work for many weeks within sight and sound of the Plymouth city limits.

A driller who took a special interest in the drilling operations here several years ago is drilling on Chesapeake and Ohio property located at the eastern end of Shearer Drive in Plymouth Township. The well is now down over 4,300 feet.

Oil and gas was first discovered in this area early in 1954 on a Salem Township farm.

—The Plymouth Mail

## Time for Thanks and Giving



## MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

### Taxes on Industry, Business Stir up Political Fight Again

TAXES AND THEIR IMPACT on Michigan's business and industrial life are becoming the biggest political news of the year.

The issue has been blown into the hottest off-year fight between Democrats and Republicans in decades.

Republicans got in the latest blow, citing the departure of the Dajny Manufacturing Co. of Plymouth, and a small firm in Crosswell for other states where taxes are lower.

They charge that companies are leaving the state because Gov. Williams is threatening new fiscal policies and additional expenditure.

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## LOOKING AHEAD

By Dr. George L. Bennett  
EDITOR - FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE  
Baptist, Indiana

Glenn Green continues his dispatches from Europe. — G.S.B.

### THE DEAD CITY

EAST BERLIN, GERMANY (SOVIET ZONE) — Dear Dr. Bennett: It is a shocking experience to come into this Communist-ruled city after having seen the teeming, thriving, rebuilding city of capitalist West Berlin. Although the city is a shocking experience to come into this Communist-ruled city after having seen the teeming, thriving, rebuilding city of capitalist West Berlin.

At least that is the way this Communist-ruled place has affected me. I came into East Berlin by train from West Berlin. As we moved toward the Iron Curtain our coach was a normal hubbub of people talking. Suddenly the talking stopped. I looked around. The scene was eerie. People had ceased talking to each other. They gazed straight ahead. Without moving their heads, my German companion whispered: "We're in the Soviet Zone."

People in the Soviet Zone find it healthier not to be caught talking to each other. You can't trust anybody. The Secret Police and their spies are everywhere, listening, checking up.

Scene of Desolation  
We walked from the station to Unter den Linden, which 15 years ago was Berlin's palatial world-famous Avenue of State. Everywhere along our route was spread the bomb's destruction and desolation; untouched, untended by the Communist bosses. The three or four buildings left standing in a mile-square area are now Communist Party headquarters. As we walked through the barren, silent Unter den Linden I saw Party functionaries peering down at us from these offices. We walked on — to the big Berlin marketplace square where Hitler used to rant and rave as his Nazi hordes chanted. The Reichstag has remained intact. Today Engels Place. The whole area today seems as dead and as old as an ancient Roman ruins.

A mile deeper into the city we came to one of the main shopping centers — Alexander Place. Here we found a sprinkling of people on the street, most of them shabbily dressed. The shop windows were darkly barren, some were boarded up; only a few displayed merchandise and all of it (Continued on Page 3C)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (November 17, 1932)

Medical Aid  
Means of providing medical care for township indigents if the township system of welfare administration goes into effect January 1, 1933, was discussed by the Township Board Tuesday night. The plan which found most favor was to retain most of the doctors living in the city and township, paying them by the month for their services. All the produce raised for welfare purposes under the supervision of Road Commissioner Clayton Goers has now been harvested and is ready for use. Money raised through the benefit affair October 28 is being distributed now. It was pointed out that careful records are being kept of the distribution of donated funds so that there will be no duplication.

First Snow  
The first opportunity to try out the Farmington City grader as a snow plow came Wednesday morning when a seven-inch fall of snow made driving particularly difficult. The city has had the grader for sometime but up to this time no snow had fallen which was heavy enough to warrant its use.

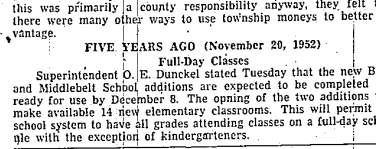
TEN YEARS AGO (November 20, 1947)

Full-Day Classes  
Farmington City Assessor Arthur Lamb released information this week on the tax rates in the City of Farmington for the current year. The total tax rate will be \$21.05 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. This is a decrease of \$1.02 from last year's rate of \$22.07. A breakdown of the rate is as follows: County Tax Rate, \$6.02 per \$1,000; County Debt, 48 cents per \$1,000; School, \$13.00 per \$1,000 and School Debt, \$1.55 per \$1,000. Mr. Lamb pointed out that these rates are based on the assessed valuations in the city and not on the equalized valuations.

Help County  
A proposition that Farmington Township cooperate with other townships in the county to provide funds with which to hire additional men for the Oakland County Sheriff's Department staff was turned down by the Township Board. Township Board members stated that since all townships were not being asked to contribute and since this was primarily a county responsibility anyway, they felt that there were many other ways to use township moneys to better advantage.

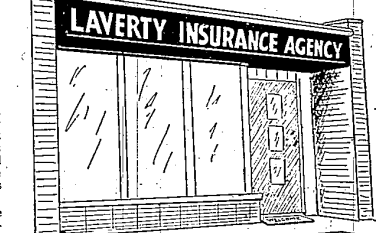
FIVE YEARS AGO (November 20, 1952)

Superintendent O. E. Dunckel stated Tuesday that the new Bond and Middlebelt School additions are expected to be completed and ready for use by December 8. The opening of the two additions will make available 14 new elementary classrooms. This will permit the school system to have all grades attending classes on a full-day schedule with the exception of kindergartners.



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Adjust Carburetor Idle. Clean Fuel Pump Bowl. Adjust Automatic Choke.

### ENGINE

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### COOLING SYSTEM

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### EXHAUST SYSTEM

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### AIR CLEANER

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## Rich-Creamy-Delicious EGG NOG

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Our holiday Egg Nogs have proved very popular, both at the dairy counter and on the dairy route trucks. It's a full quart of really delicious food, good for young and old—truly a holiday treat.

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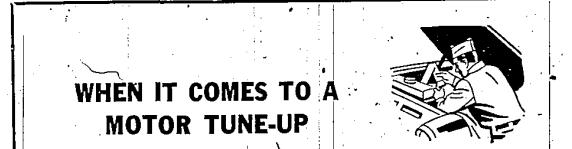
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