

Editorial Page

Christmas Business . . .

appears to have started last week with a rush, in a pattern very similar to that in recent years. From what we hear it is now underway not only in the Detroit area, but all through the country.

At a recent meeting attended by a number of citizens in the city and township, speakers brought out that they WANTED to do their shopping in this area, not downtown. They were glad to report steadily improving shopping facilities here, but it was their contention that people did all their shopping in the same area if they could, rather than part here, part there. They said they wished Farmington had wider selections.

Perhaps part of that is true, but we think that retailers in this area have been making some fine advances. We're also quite certain there will be even better shopping conditions here as population continues to increase and the demand grows.

Meantime we'd like to suggest to newer residents that they try shopping Farmington first, now and always. There IS a wide selection of Christmas and general merchandise, at fair prices with fair merchants standing behind quality items, and these merchants will grow as you patronize them.

Cheap Insurance . . .

is that given by Salk vaccine for polio, and Dr. Joseph G. Molner, Detroit commissioner of health, reminds us that polio is a greater threat than Asian flu. There have been well over 50 more cases of polio reported in Detroit this year than at this time last year.

Last year there were 15,400 cases of polio reported to the U. S. Public Health Service. Of that number only 19 had had three shots of the Salk vaccine.

That makes your chances 799 out of 800 of escaping the disease.

The vaccine has so cut down the polio toll that a nation may now be lulled into forgetting about it. Actually, only about half the people in the under-40 age group have had one or more shots of the Salk vaccine. Doctors say that if 85% of the people under 40 were given shots, polio could be practically wiped out in the United States in the next few years.

Now is the time to start the first shot, for maximum protection against polio next spring and summer. If you start now, your final shot will be next June. The cost of the series is very reasonable. There is no shortage of vaccine now and physicians can buy it from supply houses. Vaccine supplied to physicians by government funds is limited to the use of children under 14 and expectant mothers.

It's cheap insurance against a terrible disease.

Names of Juvenile . . .

offenders under law may not be published, but there are many thinking persons now who are asking if this is wise. A few days ago a probate judge at Battle Creek recommended repeal of this state law.

Here is part of his talk: "Several states have abandoned security laws governing juvenile courts, and I submit that Michigan's legislature might very well consider a change, at least granting the court the right to use its discretion in releasing names.

"Perhaps if parents knew that their youngster's name would be publicized, they might take an interest in the conduct and whereabouts of the child. Parental neglect and lack of concern is present in far too many cases that come before me in juvenile court."

Matter of fact, there are times now when newspapers and juvenile court officers do publish names of offenders who are already repeat offenders and have done something so serious that they should be tried under the senior courts.

The Enterprise is very willing to follow the law in most cases regarding non-use of juvenile offenders. But there are some occasional instances when we question if we should not do otherwise.

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

LATHRUP — The cases of some 22 alleged violators of Lathrup's controversial downspout ordinance gained another respite Monday night when their cases were adjourned at the southeast of the Lathrup City Attorney.

He asked the judge to postpone the cases until January 27. He said he and the attorney for the alleged violators had agreed between them that the cases should be postponed. The 22 Lathrup residents were ticketed by the city for failing to disconnect the downspouts at their homes as required by city law. The ticketed residents first appeared in court on October 28. The case at that time was adjourned until November 25.

—The Birmingham Courier

WAYNE — An all-out drive to give the area the concrete story of the proposed City of Wayne will not get underway until around the Christmas holidays, Village Magnate Wallace Arrowsmith has announced.

The Village Council decided to wait until the order setting March 4 as the incorporation election date has been passed by the Wayne County Board of Supervisors.

Arrowsmith stated that when the Council gives word a Citizens Committee will be established to present all the facts to the community.

Village President Duncan Miller, who originated the city idea more than four years ago, has announced that the Chamber of Commerce building will be used as city headquarters.

—The Wayne Dispatch

BUCHANAN — Christmas street lights and decorations will be going up this week.

Christmas lighting and decorations project is handled jointly by the city and the Chamber of Commerce. It was indicated that decorations and lighting will be much the same as it was last year.

—Berrien County Record

SOUTHFIELD — Almost 300 people who acted as a sounding board on taxes for the City of Southfield charter commission indicated that they would like to see the proposed city's tax rate limit set somewhere between 5 and 8 mills per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Clara Lane, township treasurer, reviewed the township's tax situation and explained that loss of the northern areas would not mean much of a reduction in taxes because most of the main functions and officials would be retained. "The only thing needed to carry on the city government.

Five mills would bring \$349,933.80 yearly to the city. Added to estimated tax returns from the State as well as local income from fees, licenses and building permits this would mean a \$500,000 budget would be possible for the new city.

According to Township Supervisor Eugene Swem this would do no more than maintain the township level of services as provided for in the budget passed in April. This budget was short almost \$100,000 when voters failed to approve a 9 mill voted increase to balance the budget. The village in some service cuts such as rubbish collections.

Several of those in attendance at the meeting were present to press for the holding of the tax limit to 8 mills. When it was proposed to set the tax limit at 8 mills, the group attending the meeting were split nearly evenly.

If the city adopts a charter, the only change to be made will be between what township residents now pay—\$1.81 per \$1,000 assessed valuation—as it equalized—and what the commission writes into the charter.

—The Four Corners Press

NOVI — Incorporation officials were nearly finished this week with the mountain of paper work connected with the incorporation of the township as a city.

"We've felt for several months that we had almost everything wrapped up" said the chairman of the incorporation committee, but there always seems to be one more thing to do.

The incorporation committee was expected to speed up the final phase of its work to keep pace with fast moving events in Northville and Wixom. Northville annexed 220 acres of Novi township last week and Wixom has now voted to become a city.

As a township, Novi has little protection against annexation by the two communities. But, as a village, all Novi residents would be able to vote on any annexation attempt, making annexation of any of its territory difficult.

Opposition to the incorporation move, which for a while it had thought would be dropped, has been renewed by the Novi Township Farmers and Landowners Protective Association.

—The Novi News

Don't expect to be paid a dollar an hour for your working hours when you then use your leisure hours as though they were not worth five cents an hour.

—Henry L. Doherty

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What Did I Do?



MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

Legislature to Face Tough Money Problem in Coming Year

MONEY TROUBLES will be the toughest problem faced by the 1958 legislature.

State agencies have asked for \$405,000,000 for the next fiscal year. This is about the same requested from the previous legislature, which cut \$60,000,000 from the combined proposed expenditures.

The problem is more compelling this year because last year lawmakers slapped a moratorium on all but "normal" expansion—the extension of services to cover . . .

Higher education. Rep. Willard Bowerman (R-Lansing) suggests liquidating the \$50,000,000 veterans' trust fund as a stop-gap measure.

Republicans are charging it is a political technique, demanding vastly expanded services in an off-year and trimming the budget to the bone in advance of an election campaign.

Key legislators, leaders in the belt-tightening crusade of last year, see no way out of another squeeze this winter in the absence of new revenue.

Two tax committees are studying the state's tax structure but both say their reports and recommendations will not be ready until 1959.

Financial experts see a decline in the sales tax revenue this year, creating the necessity of augmenting school aid from "other sources"—but there aren't any "other" sources.

That is the dismal side of the picture.

Even more dismal is the need for more facilities for higher education, mental health and other functions of government.

Williams is considering an extensive bond financing program for the colleges and universities. At least two Republican legislators are ready to go along.

Rep. George Sallade (R-Ann Arbor) has proposed a bond issue to build the needed buildings for . . .



LOOKING AHEAD

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

THE FREE ENTERPRISEERS

NEU - GABLONZ, WEST GERMANY — In this amazing little city on the doorstep of the Berlin A.P.Z. Southwest of Munich I have found a wonderful story and a mighty advertisement for private enterprise. Thirteen years ago the Nazi Panser division kept an ammunition dump here on a wooded knoll. Twelve years ago the U. S. Army swept in and took it. Eleven years ago, with the war over and a detachment of U. S. occupation troops settled at the dump, two bedraggled men walked into camp and asked to see the Commanding Officer.

The men were hungry and fastidious. Their only belongings were a handful of personal effects carried over their shoulders in crude cloth knapsacks. They had tramped all the way from Gablonz in the Czechoslovakian Sudetenland, searching for a place to make a new home. The Army C. O. referred them to a refugee camp near Landsberg, some 15 miles distance. But the two Czechs didn't want refugee camp life; they flied the locks of the country surrounding the ammunition dump.

Story Was True — The two men begged shelter for 14 persons in one of the unused frame buildings at the dump, and the privilege of earning their "keep" by day and working at their craft by night. They said they were decorative glass and jewelry artisans. They said they had 12 companions straggling on behind. They told the C. O. they wanted to establish an industry that "soon will be selling merchandise all over the world."

The skeptical American officer gave them shelter. Then he sought through Army channels to authenticate their story. It was true. For two centuries Gablonz in northeastern Czechoslovakia, had been world famed in the glassware and costume jewelry trade. It was a city of 25,000 highly skilled artisans whose products from several hundred small workshops were in great demand throughout the world. But Gablonz had fallen under the control of the Communists. And the Gablonz free enterpriseers couldn't knuckle under to the Reds. One day the Communist militia came and drove the people from their homes and workshops.

Forced Out — The Gablonzers had to leave behind their priceless tools, their property, virtually everything they owned. Gablonz became a ghost town; its people scattered and fleeing westward toward freedom.

The U. S. Army Officer improvised housing and shop arrangements for the 14 Czechs. The industrious refugees earned their upkeep, and they began working at their creative art. Other Czechs from Gablonz came to the old army barracks and began working at their creative art. Other Czechs from Gablonz came to the old army barracks and began working at their creative art.

Pressure groups are forming in Lansing, while officials shudder at the thought.

Dozens of bond issues to build new schools and improve local services have been voted down in the past year and business and industry are up in arms over the state "tax climate."

The Daisy Manufacturing Co. of Plymouth said it would move to Rogers, Ark., next spring, blaming Michigan for its losses.

(Continued on Page 3C)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (December 1, 1932)

Teachers' Pay — Farmington Board of Education Thursday took, with great reluctance, drastic action in the face of a financial situation that threatened to force closing of the school. Notices were prepared to be mailed Friday to all teachers and employees indicating to them that effective January 1 their salaries would be reduced 50 per cent. In the notice to the teachers, the Board stated that the cut will mean that the teachers will receive their full rate of pay for four months and will suffer the cut for five months. The result will be reduction in teachers' pay total costs for the year of over 25 per cent. In effect until such time as the tax payment situation improves. Even with this sharp reduction in instruction costs, the present outlook gives no guarantee that the school will be able to be kept open anyway.

Bank Claims — More than 300 persons are in danger of losing opportunity to realize on the claims against the Peoples State Bank, Receiver John N. Daley warns. This is the number of depositors and other creditors of the bank who have not yet filed their claims, with only a week remaining. Daley said that law rarely permits extension of time granted beyond the closing date.

TEN YEARS AGO (December 4, 1947)

Water-Bond Suit — Holders of bonds of the Farmington Township Water System brought action this week in the Federal Court to secure payment of past due principal and interest. Service on Farmington Township officials was made early this week and a return will be filed on or before December 22. An official for the township contends that payment of the principal and interest on these water department bonds is not a general obligation of the township. Revenue from the water department has not been sufficient to meet principal and interest on the due dates, the officials stated, and therefore the entire amount is now in default.

FIVE YEARS AGO (December 4, 1952)

Livonia Post Office — Three men from the Farmington Post Office will possibly be moved this week, along with their routes, to the newly opened post office in Livonia. The new office opened on December 1 as a branch of the Detroit post office. Postmaster Frank C. Middel stated, however, that the fast growing community may soon have a post office of its own.

Road Restrictions — Information on recommended weight restrictions for various types of streets and highways secured by the Oakland County Road Commission is now being studied by the city attorney pending the drafting of a proposed weight restriction ordinance. The purpose of the ordinance is to place truck weight restrictions on secondary residential streets in order to protect the lives of citizens.

LIMERICK OF THE MONTH

A sensitive damsel in Butte,
Had a figure decidedly cutte,
"Til a man with a quip,
Put his hand on her hip,
So she busted him one in the snutte.

The Enterprise is the Only Newspaper Devoted Exclusively to News and Events of Interest to the Residents of the Farmington Area.



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Holidays Are Busy Days

Let Us Help With YOUR PARTY

You can save a lot of work and worry by letting us prepare some of the food for your holiday entertaining. Many Farmington hostesses do this — let us tell you about it.

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Other favorites include prepared shrimp with our own cocktail sauce, party sandwiches, a large variety of cold cuts, and our delicious home made pies.

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