

# Editorial Page

## A Swimming Pool . . .

for Farmington is one possibility for a public project that is being mulled over by Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce. Other ideas are being considered, also, and it may be awhile before the group decides what project would be practical and attainable.

We'd like to give hearty approval to the idea for a swimming pool for this area. We've lived in communities which had fine pools, and know a pool is one of the best things available to give a huge segment of our young people one of the best types of recreation and exercise.

Just because we live in the water wonderland is no guarantee most of us do much swimming. Fact is, we're certain a large percentage of our population in Michigan can't swim well enough to save themselves in the water, let alone save another from drowning. One of the finest things the American Red Cross has done in past years is to provide swim classes for all ages where facilities exist and there is enough interest.

Over at Algonac one of the service clubs decided it wanted to back a swimming pool for the community, yet knew it couldn't take on such a large project all by itself. So all the service clubs there, plus the city and most other organizations, put together their strengths and it wasn't long until the city had a fine pool. If we remember correctly, it was dedicated only last summer. Incidentally, you'd think Algonac had plenty of water for swimming—but they know a public swimming pool has so many other advantages.

Up at Davison most of the community organizations started a year or so ago to raise funds for a pool. They are using every means, including a plan under which businesses went together and are operating their own special trading stamp plan, with profits going toward the proposed pool. Davison hasn't made it yet, but they will with that kind of spirit.

Farmington could do it, too, with our other organizations backing up the Jaycees.

## Used Homes . . .

sold quite well last year, according to one report from a realtor's group, even though sale of new homes didn't come up to expectations. Just how many new homes will be erected in Farmington Township this year is anybody's guess, but we're very certain the Township has and will compare to advantage over many other suburban areas.

But to return to the sale of used homes—good prices and fast turnover are quite important in an area where people are constantly being transferred or are moving for other reasons.

One northwest realty group which keeps tab of such things says recent sales activity has been good, especially for homes under 20 years old in desirable neighborhoods. They predict 1958 will be an excellent year for real estate, with the expected improvement in financing.

The group said December used home sales showed a 14 per cent increase over December of 1956. Sales volume was up in all price ranges with the most notable increase seen in homes priced between \$10,500 and \$15,000.

For 1957 sales totaled up to the third highest year in a 38-year tabulation, and reflected a decrease of only six per cent from 1956 sales. Average selling price of the total 1957 volume was \$14,400, up \$300 from the previous year.

So, sit back and relax, neighbor. It's nice to know those homes on which we are still making payments are not losing much in re-sale values.

## Auto License Plates . . .

are not being purchased at the Farmington office with any unusual speed these days, and we guess the picture is about the same over the state.

However, time is passing pretty fast. Remember the last minute rushes the last few years? If you got your license early, you felt pretty good about it when you saw that rush. If you hadn't, it was no fun waiting in line. Let's resolve to put it off no longer.

## The Farmington Enterprise

23623 Farmington Road Farmington, Michigan Telephone GR 4-6225

Established in 1855 by Edgar R. Blommer as "A Permanent Journal of Progress"

Published Thursday of each week at the City of Farmington and entered at the Post Office in Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, as second-class matter under Act of March 3, 1879.

RUSSELL S. STRICKLAND, Publisher  
J. DEB ELLIS, Manager  
MICHAEL J. KILLEY, Editor  
VICTOR S. HOWARD, Plant Superintendent

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION MEMBER REGULAR MEMBER  
NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES MICHIGAN PRESS SERVICE, INC.  
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVES, INC.  
494 70th Avenue New York, N.Y.

## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

**LIVONIA**—Donald Wilson was awarded \$10,000 damages in a Circuit Court over an old case where former Mayor Elbert M. Hartom fired him illegally as building inspector.

Two days after inauguration in 1954, Hartom dumped Wilson and replaced him with Hugh J. Wood, Jr., political manager of the Hartom campaign. He was installed in the job of building inspector after Mayor William Brashear replaced Hartom in office, Wilson none-the-less continued a case in Circuit Court.

The City of Livonia, as a municipal corporation, was one of the defendants in the case, along with Hartom and Woods, as individuals. The City must assume a share of the liability, though the administration changed long ago and Hartom was removed by the voters in 1955.

Circuit Judge Joseph Moynihan ruled in favor, 1955, but Hartom and Wood carried an appeal to the Supreme Court where it was dismissed with prejudice.

—The Livonian

**BIRMINGHAM**—A schedule of action to precede formal adoption of Birmingham's proposed new zoning ordinance has been submitted to city planning board and the Birmingham city commission.

The schedule tentatively provides for special public meetings with interested groups, a joint session of the planning board and the city commission and a final formal public hearing for adoption of the ordinance on Monday, March 3, in the commission room.

The public hearings are scheduled for January 22 and 30. The proposed ordinance will be reviewed by the planning commission on February 10, and the final review of the planning board and city commission will be held on February 19.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

**PLYMOUTH**—A 68 foot piece of property of Main St. across from the library has been offered to the City for \$24,000, plus some incidentals. The piece of property is 228 ft. deep and is now the site of a Dairy Queen.

The property which owner, Mrs. Florence Greenlawn Neal, sent to the council placing the property on the market was filed without comment.

Neal sent in her letter that she felt the site would work very nicely for a small needed city hall.

"I have a fixed price of \$500 per foot and will sell to the City of Plymouth with a down payment of \$8,000, plus a paid-up receipt for the balance due on the paying of Michigan State University a long-term six percent contract."

—The Plymouth Mail

**DEARBORN**—How Dearborn is saving tax money by contracting for services is a subject that is gaining nation-wide attention among municipal officials.

Dearborn is now contracting for six activities and taking steps to farm out even more city work to private contractors.

"We are into contracting for services a few years ago mainly because of the prosperous conditions existing then in the automobile business resulting in a shortage of manpower for public jobs and the high standard of Dearborn's municipal services was endangered, the city purchasing agent said.

Now contracted for is window washing in all city buildings, tree trimming, painting of public buildings, painting and striping of all crosswalks, janitor services and leasing of heavy equipment.

More contracts and more savings are in prospect, too. The washing of police cars, trucks and other vehicles cost the city about \$38,000 in one year. For this year this work by private car wash firms shows that between \$5,000 to \$8,000 a year can be saved.

—The Dearborn Independent

**NOVI**—Treachorous Novi road is on the books to be completely rebuilt and widened from Northville to Grand River. Work will start in the next three years. It will cost upwards of \$500,000 for the five mile route.

In revealing the plans, Oakland County highway engineer Paul Van Rookel called Novi road "one of Oakland County's worst conditions."

## IT'S A FACT

This Spring over 150 leading citizens from most Michigan communities met at Michigan State University to review budget needs of the 35 Michigan United Fund Agencies. The name "Carey" was much in evidence.

He has been with A.U.F. since 1954, member of its board since 1956. He serves without pay just as all committee members. His paying job is assistant field president of the Kelsey-Hayes Corporation of Detroit. His job and background make him ideal for his volunteer job.

Native of New York State, he is a Notre Dame University graduate with a wife and 4 children. He sees that all Fund budgets are "sharp-penciled" to assure that funds are wisely used.

Michigan United Fund

## MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

### Government, Industry Start "Michigan Means Business" Drive

**LAUDABLE HARMONY:** government and industry are starting a joint campaign to sell Michigan to the world and each other.

It is part of a program to look, on the other side of the state's economic and the flight of business and industry to other states because of taxes and labor costs.

Dan Gerber, president of Gerber's Baby Products at Fremont and chairman of the Michigan Economic Development Commission, said the theme of the campaign is "Michigan Means Business."

The public hearings are scheduled for January 22 and 30. The proposed ordinance will be reviewed by the planning commission on February 10, and the final review of the planning board and city commission will be held on February 19.

"The need is for Michigan people to cooperate in solving their problems and to cooperate in selling their state," he said.

About 100 of the state's leading businessmen and industrialists have agreed to take part in a program as "Industrial Ambassadors" to carry the word of Michigan's attractions on their travels around the nation.

The campaign broadsides do not get into the controversy over taxes and labor costs which has raged over the past two years.

The significance of the 1958 election is not lost by either party. Democrats feel it is their last chance under Williams to take full control of state government. Republicans know they must start a comeback soon, or maybe never.

Democrats are aiming for a new campaign when Democrats seek to extend their almost blanket control of state elective offices.

Gerber said 20 new industries located in Michigan in 1957.

The instate political effort, successful, the GOP charge will lose some of its punch when the votes are counted next November.

First, he told state agencies their budgets would be slashed before they got to the legislature. Then, he told them to save all the money they could this year.

After declaring that the legislature was in no mood to raise new taxes this year, Williams freeminded more money with a tax on corporate incomes.

Republicans held the line on the budget and have held off on further taxes whenever possible.

Williams took an economy tact this year. Opponents relate this effort for economy to the fall election.

(Continued on Page 4B)

**LOOKING AHEAD**  
by Dr. George S. Benson  
DIRECTOR - NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
Searcy, Arkansas

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

## YUGOSLAVIA

**BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA**—Dear Dr. Benson: In this 100 per cent Communist Yugoslav State the living standard of the citizens is (the lowest in Europe, The Yugoslavian industrial worker is paid an average of 16 cents an hour. The population—perhaps 75 per cent of the population—exist in a deeper state of poverty, and yet these two groups are the very ones for whom Communist Party leaders all over the world promise to make a paradise on earth. The sight of widespread poverty is depressing, but even more so is the atmosphere of the Police State.

My first view of downtown Belgrade has left a picture on my mind's eye that will remain with me always. Our plane trip from Vienna, in a Yugoslavian airliner, was not able for the fact that there were only eight passengers—in a 65 passenger plane (not many people were going to Yugoslavia). I was met at 4:30 p.m. at the Belgrade airport by Branislav Milosavljevic, Communist Party official and assistant dean of the department of agriculture, Belgrade University.

A Bedraggled Procession  
He had visited our Kiwanis Club in Searcy in 1952 when he was studying agriculture practices in Arkansas and other states for the Tito government. At that time he was Communist of agriculture for the People's Republic of Serbia, the province in which Belgrade is located. His job was abolished a short time later when agriculture affairs were centralized in the hands of a national commissar.

Now he's at the University. He drove me to my hotel (in a tiny auto owned by the government) and we arranged to meet an hour later to stroll through Belgrade's downtown area before dinner.

Since the hotel was just a block from Belgrade's main street, I immediately sallied out alone to get a glimpse of the city. As I turned into Terazije, the main square, I was shocked. There were no automobiles on the street, no vehicle traffic. But up and down the sidewalks there moved a procession of people. Their clothes were pitifully shabby. Some were barefooted. Many of the men were unshaven.

Many wore dirty, stained undershirts—the only clothing above the waist. Trousers were patched like those of tramps.

Low Living Standard  
Industries begin work at 6 p.m. and close for the day at 2 p.m. Shops and stores close from 7 p.m. (Continued on Page 5B)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (January 12, 1933)**  
**Flasher Light**  
Motorists approaching the intersection at Farmington Road and the Cut-Off now find the danger somewhat diminished following the installation of a flasher warning there. The amber warning was installed a few days ago. A sizeable quantity of brush at the southwest corner of the intersection which obstructed a driver's view until he was almost at the corner has also been cut down. Although some safety has been provided by these two measures, some still feel that a red and green stop light is needed at the intersection. Meanwhile there is a continued effort to have the red and green stop light at Grand River and Orchard Lake Road removed. It is pointed out that this measure is only a very small amount of traffic coming out Grand River from Orchard Lake Road, there is no need for the light there. At the City Commission meeting last week the sheriff was asked to study the situation there and see if he did not agree that there was no need for a light at this point.

**TEN YEARS AGO (January 15, 1948)**  
**School Petitions**  
Two petitions proposing separate action regarding buildings for the Clarenceville School District were presented to the Board of Education at its regular meeting Monday night. One called for the construction of four additional classrooms on the Edgewood elementary school and the tearing down of the temporary building on the Eight Mile School site and the construction of a permanent classroom here in its place. The petition also asked the Board of Education to purchase more buses to transport school children of the District in. The other petition asked for a resubmittal of the new gymnasium proposal as well as additional facilities for the Middlebelt Road school. It was estimated that a spread of 131 mills would be necessary for the proposed construction of the gym and three classrooms.

**FIVE YEARS AGO (January 15, 1953)**  
**Park Commission**  
Another request for action on a petition to establish a parks and recreation commission in the township was filed with the township board. Richard Priebe, spokesman for the group that filed the initial petition, quoted a state law requiring the township to take action on the appointment of a commission within a month after being petitioned to do so when told that no action had as yet been taken. Supervisor Blanchard stated that he would take the matter up immediately with the township's legal counsel.

Enterprise Classified Ads Are the Least Expensive Advertising Media in This Area. Try One!

**LAVERY INSURANCE AGENCY**

**FIRE - LIFE - AUTO**  
30760 Grand River (Near 5 Mile) Phone GR. 4-6933

**We Are Starting The NEW YEAR off**

with this Special Service Offer.

**LUBRICATION With Oil Change 75c**



In Addition -- We Will DO ALL THIS!

- CHECK AND INFLATE TIRES
- CLEAN AND TIGHTEN BATTERY TERMINALS
- CHECK AND FILL BATTERY
- CHECK HOSE CONNECTIONS
- CLEAN AIR CLEANER

**INSPECT THE FOLLOWING**

- WINDSHIELD WIPERS
- LIGHTS
- BRAKES
- WHEEL ALIGNMENT
- EXHAUST SYSTEM
- STEERING GEAR

BUY NO CAR UNTIL YOU SEE THE NEW CHEVROLET!

DRIVE IN AND SEE US!  
"The Dealer Who Gives Service With a Smile"

**BILL ROOT CHEVROLET, INC.**  
GR. 4-0500  
32715 GRAND RIVER, IN FARMINGTON

**Dining At It's Very Finest**

There is more to pleasurable dining out than the food, although here we think that's mighty important.

The "Extra" that brings the real enjoyment is pleasant surroundings, plus efficient service. Everyone at Himmelspach's always remembers this.

**MAKE IT A WEEKLY HABIT TO TREAT THE FAMILY TO A DINNER AT HIMMELSPACH'S**



Where QUALITY is Tops!  
Closed On Sunday

the FINEST OF DINING SERVICE at  
**Himmelspach Dining Room**  
33219 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161

Greenland's icecap covers 700,000 square miles, an area nearly a fourth the size of the United States. In some places it is more than 10,000 feet thick.