

Editorial Page

Postal Rates . . .

should be increased this year, and there are a couple of bills being considered in Congress to accomplish this. They differ in some respects, and it is likely that in the last couple of years those differences of ideas have had as much as anything to do with the failure of rate-increase legislation.

One of the differences of opinion this year revolves around whether or not a postal pay raise bill should be tied to the postal rate increase bill.

It appears there is much more agreement this year on the fact that first class mail should go up to a five cent non-local rate, and a four cent local letter rate. It is also proposed that three cents be charged for post cards and drop letters, and that air mail rates be increased.

We think these proposals are likely in the public good, and overdue. Postal costs have increased greatly, just like everything else. For first class letter mail the three cents now charged has not been changed since 1932.

A number of increases are being proposed for second and third class rates, and we'll agree that there should be increases. It is the second class rates which would affect newspapers. We'd like to point out here that a few years ago the newspaper rate was increased 30 per cent over a three year period. Now one of the recommendations is that these rates would again be increased by 60 per cent, with four annual raises of 15 per cent. We'll agree there should be a further increase, but we think that this large an increase would be so stiff it would put some newspapers out of business and others at quite a disadvantage.

What bothers us more than anything, though, are the attempts being made to give "controlled circulation publications" the same mailing privileges and costs as real newspapers. In case you don't know, that is a fancy name for the free sheets and throwaways some now get through the mail. It doesn't include the myriad of mailings by legitimate business, shopping centers and others who pay for this service by the piece—and this rate will likely be increased also, as it should be.

So we say that generally all postal rates should be increased this year; as well as postal workers' pay. Some other postal systems of the world, in recognition of their higher costs, already have established a five cent rate and in some cases even higher. Canada has had a five cent non-local and a four cent local rate since 1954. And, of all the postal services, first class letter mail is the only service which has made no contribution whatsoever, in terms of rate adjustments, to help defray the increasing postal costs.

The increased need for funds for intercontinental missiles and space projects will undoubtedly make Congress look again at any government service which can be made more nearly self supporting. The postal service will be a prime candidate.

Voluntary Tests . . .

should be allowed by law for evidence of drunkenness, in our opinion. These chemical tests have been a source of argument over all of the nation for a number of years.

Opponents have used the argument that they are not necessarily conclusive. This has confused the issue enough to thus far defeat possible legislation.

A law would be fair and in many instances helpful if it were worded so that voluntary chemical tests for evidence of drunkenness would be permitted. There would be instances where voluntary tests would be helpful to persons unjustly suspected. Moreover, the record built up over a period of time would be extremely helpful in determining whether or not involuntary testing would be a good thing.

We'd like to see the legislature give serious thought to such a proposal, which we hasten to add is not original here.

An agenda is often a device to prevent unexpected subjects from coming up for discussion unexpectedly.

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

SOUTHFIELD—Registered citizens of the area proposed for Southfield City will have the privilege April 21 of expressing at the polls their approval or disapproval of a charter now being drafted and ready for public examination.

This is the third completed proposed charter for Southfield, but the first in a new attempt to complete incorporation as a home rule city in an area now reduced by exclusion of the north end of the township which, on February 3, adopted a charter and became a home rule village.

The first charter vote in June of 1955 lost by a margin of less than 50 votes. A second try in April of 1956 resulted in a wide defeat of the proposal, mainly due to accelerated opposition from a minority group.

The current charter in many departments parallels or differs in only a small degree from its predecessors, but some sections show marked changes. Hence, the focus is on the decision to keep city elections on a non-partisan basis. The seven member council has also been retained but there is considerable fluctuation in the mayor's powers and method of election.

The tax limitation rate differs in the new charter also. The first charter called for a 4 per cent limit on \$1,000 of assessed valuation, and the second for a 5 mill limit. The new charter calls for a limit of 7 mills per \$1,000.

—The Four Corners Press

PLYMOUTH—The Plymouth Township Board formally dedicated a sewer system at its last meeting.

Officials of the Fred E. Green-spaw Building Company, Lake Pointe Village, contrary to an agreement to draw up a bill of sale declaring to township property all properties on the Lake Pointe Village site in connection with the water and sewer system.

The township supervisor indicated that the formal dedication was necessary to facilitate FHA loans for Lake Pointe Village homes. This was previously declared they would only authorize loans for a "limited" number of homes until the operation of the sewer and water system was officially taken over by the township.

The Board agreed to issue specifications and receive bids on water meters which will be placed in occupied homes. Unit owners will receive free water and sewer service.

—The Plymouth Mail

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—The commercial area was set up as a "pilot" special assessment sewer district last week by the city commission as its initial step in an interim system of laterals engineered to connect with the North Evergreen sewage disposal authority.

This district will serve as a basis for splitting up four other districts—Bloomfield Hills Country Club, Kingsley Inn and adjoining terraces, Cranbrook and Brookside.

After estimated costs have been made on these internal systems, the commission plans to seek financial advice on methods of assessing for these internal systems. The city at-large is expected to pay for the main trunk interceptor.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

NOVI—Novi township may be facing a \$75,000 suit for refusing to allow dumping on a farm near Willowbrook Village.

Chris Nielson, owner of the farm on 30 Mile Road west of Meadowbrook, said Friday he intended to sue the township for that amount. Nielson charges that a decision last Friday night to refuse a dumping permit was "cut and dried" and that there is no valid reason for the denial.

The board denied the application on grounds that the dump could easily turn into a nuisance and that, because of a high water table, it might pollute the water supply for nearby Willowbrook Village. Dumping had been stopped earlier at the farm by the township. Nielson had contended at this time that he intended only to fill in low spots on farm lands and that the rubbish would be covered over with three feet of dirt as it was hauled in.

THE AMERICAN WAY



MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

Dems. Announce "Batting Order," GOP Still Looking for Players

DEMOCRATS have given the GOP the umpire their batting order for the 1958 campaign as Republicans intensified their search for challengers.

The umpire in this political ball game for high states is the voter who goes to the polls next Nov. 7. Technically, the Democratic lineup is only tentative, but the choices are not expected to have more than token opposition in the primary.

First to announce was Lt. Gov. Philip A. Hart, who will go after the seat now held by U. S. Senator Charles E. Potter, now finishing his first six-year term.

Hart's announcement included a generalized blast against policies of the Eisenhower administration. He attacked the foreign policy, economic doings at home, and failed to mention Potter.

Potter charged immediately that Gov. Williams "made up Hart's mind for him" and exclaimed his challenge "to the swim."

The Potter charge carries a good deal of truth, if significance, can be attached to Williams' statement months ago that two officers—governor and senator—remained open for Democrats.

"I will run for one and Phil for the other," he said.

The Hart announcement made Williams' decision to run for a sixth term ineluctable. Williams, evading a presidential berth in 1960, feels he would be more attractive as a six-term governor than as a one-term U. S. Senator.

Williams allowed Hart to announce his candidacy for the Senate first for publicity reasons, observers said.

"Obviously, it was to draw attention to Hart because he (Williams) felt he had no opposition and he wanted to do that a good turn," said one Republican leader.

Both Hart and Swainson, now Senate minority leader and a strong voice in party councils, are wounded veterans of World War I. Swainson walks on a pair of artificial legs.

Both are good speakers, Hart has presided over the Senate for three years and Swainson has been in his position of party leadership on the floor for two years.

Williams, grooming Hart for the next step in his political career, has turned over a large number of speaking engagements to the 46-year-old lieutenant governor.

LOOKING AHEAD
By Dr. George S. Benson
DIRECTOR - NATIONAL COLLEGE PROGRAM
Spring, Arkansas

WE WILL WIN!
OKLAHOMA CITY—America is going to win the victory for freedom. My confidence in this achievement has been hard hit at times through recent years but there are inspiring signs today showing that greater and greater forces are being mobilized to strengthen and safeguard the structure of American freedom.

This is not a reference to our successful space satellite or the shock of awakening to the menace of world Communism which the Russian atomic bomb sent to millions of our people. The encouraging signs were talking about are more fundamental and far reaching. They are signs hailing up from the grass roots, from people all over America.

Important people, from a region embracing Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, gathered recently for three days at Oklahoma City's first Freedom Forum, Central Christian College which is holding a brand new college plant here, co-sponsored of the Forum with the National Education Program. By popular demand of the 115 conferees and the industrial and educational leaders of the area, the CCC Forum is to become an annual affair.

School Workshop
A feature of the Forum was an evening session devoted to ways and means of bringing American citizenship education—showing a number of other things—the advantages of the private ownership economic system—to the school children of this whole mid-continent area.

There were 45 educators among the 115 conferees. They were enthusiastic about the citizenship education materials presented at the Forum. These materials included five course outlines for high schools—American History, American Government, Civics, World Government, and American Economics. They also included classroom movies dramatizing the facts about our economic system and our constitutional Republic.

The educators included many high school principals, school system superintendents, classroom and science teachers, as well as college professors and college heads. They snapped up the citizenship course outlines like hotcakes. Many of the school administrators took sufficient quantities to distribute to all teachers in their senior high schools. They expressed gratification for the guides and the material recommended in them.

The Vital Need
This is a wonderful sign testifying to an awakening patriotism and
(Continued on Page 4B)

Republicans have in Potter the only certain candidate in the 1958 elections.

They still lack an obvious candidate for governor, though Rep. George Sallade (R-Ann Arbor) has said he would like to go against Williams. Party leaders have quickly been mentioning House
(Continued on Page 4B)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (February 16, 1933)

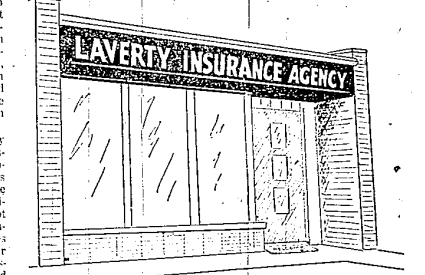
Democrats Banquet
Approximately 100 Democrats gathered in Farmington Tuesday for a dinner and speeches by leading members of the party in Oakland County. It was the sixth of a series of meetings being held in various parts of the county. Speakers stressed the gravity of the crisis now being faced by the people of America and particularly of Michigan and called for a united and unselfish program for the public good. Paul Pore of Farmington, called upon unexpectedly for remarks, called for the casting aside of all party considerations by members of both major parties and declared that the duty now calls for all to stand forth united as Americans.

The "banking holiday" called Tuesday which will continue through Thursday of next week was met with equanimity by most Farmington residents. After having been without a bank for almost a year, Farmington was used to having no such establishment open. Other communities in the state were hit hard, however, it was reported.

TEN YEARS AGO (February 19, 1948)
Dumping Warning
A warning was issued this week that dumping of garbage and rubbish along the roadside in the township will not be tolerated. Township Health Officer Dr. John F. Vas indicated that anyone caught dumping rubbish or cans and the like will be punished to the full extent of the law. He stated that with spring and summer months approaching it is even more important that such unhealthy practices be halted. The situation has been bad here for some time, he said, but it seems to be getting increasingly worse.

Hunting Menace
The menace of hunting within the boundaries of Farmington Township was brought to the attention of the Farmington Township Board by residents. One resident stated that he not only has suffered property damage because of hunters but that his wife had actually been shot at. He added that his home had also been fired at. Since hunting in Southfield Township has now been ruled unlawful many hunters are coming into Farmington which is the closest point to hunt outside of the north part of Detroit, it was pointed out.

SCHOOL NEWS
Monday, March 2, has been set as the deadline for the receipt of secured bids on the purchase of \$50,000 in tax anticipation notes of the Farmington Township School District. The loan is being sought in anticipation of undistributed state appropriations for the school year 1952-53. The funds are needed to meet current operating expenses. It was pointed out.



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