

Editorial Page



SOUTHFIELD—About 40 Southfield township residents, on a 1958 - '59 township budget of \$465,195 a week Saturday with their fingers crossed. About 18,000 were eligible to attend and express a voice vote at the annual township meeting.

In the first place the budget is \$25,000 less than actual expenditures last year and in the second place those at the meeting hope and expect that Southfield, excluding the City of Lathrup and villages of Westwood, Franklin and Bingham Farms, will on April 21 complete incorporation as the City of Southfield.

If the proposed charter for the city is rejected, Southfield township could be in serious financial difficulties before the end of the next fiscal year unless a second charter is drafted and adopted beforehand.

Some of the budget reduction reflects the incorporation of Westwood Village which will be paying in actual services or equipment within the township.

Last year Southfield officials signed a check for \$500,000 to operate. Residents refused to vote a millage increase needed to balance the budget, so services were slashed.

—The Four Corners Press
NOVI—Novi's fight to stop dumping operations on a farm near Willowbrook Village was dropped last week after a circuit court judge told board members they would have little chance of winning. But the judge did state a decision was made on conditions under which the land fill must be conducted.

As a result, Willowbrook residents will have a large scale dump less than a half mile away from their 350 homes up ward of two years.

The decision to drop the fight was over Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Frank L. Doty inspected the dump site and ruled informally that Novi's case was weak. He said the board was risking a large damage suit if it held up dumping operations any longer.

The dumping is designed to fill a 300 acre large hole on the Silver Brook Farm on 10 Mile near Meadowbrook Road which the owner says will eventually be developed for homes.

The dumping decree signed last week by Judge Doty provides that Novi not interfere with the land fill operation but that: (1) - only dry trash and no garbage will be dumped; (2) - dumping must stop between June 30 and September 1 each year and must be completed by Nov. 30, 1958; (3) - the area must be fenced in and trucks must be covered with tarpsaulins; (4) - the dumping area must be covered with dirt between June 30 and September 1 and all evidence of the dump must be cleaned up and covered by June 30; (5) - any violation of these provisions will be treated as contempt of court.

—The Novi News
PLYMOUTH—Possible construction of an addition to the Plymouth Township Hall and of a new fire station at Lakeside Village, are among the topics covered at the Annual Township Meeting. Only 30 citizens attended the meeting, most of them with questions, complaints or suggestions concerning the township.

The meeting also brought approval of the 1958 - '59 budget which will raise the income by 10% over the past year's. The fiscal year ended March 31. Total income during the 1957 - '58 year was \$108,463.12. This year the income is expected to drop to \$102,034. Expenses are expected to be about \$2,000 higher than the income, but a sizable balance from last year will handle the deficit.

A resolution was approved to obtain architect's plans for building an addition to the present township hall and also to give consideration to making an addition to present fire department facilities. Another resolution was also passed to investigate the possibility of locating a fire sub-station near Lake Pointe Village in the northeast part of the township.

—The Plymouth Mail
BLOOMFIELD TWP.—Appealing in person to Michigan state officials in Lansing for tax relief, a group of Bloomfield Township tax protest committee members were referred back to their township officials.

The group was given a written statement from a representative of the Michigan State Tax Commission which reads: "No state agency has jurisdiction over the amount of tax levied for township, city, school, county or village taxes."

A spokesman for tax protest group said that Township Supervisor Arno Hulet had told them that the blame for recent tax increases lay with the state equalization board.

The tax protest group spokesmen said that the letter signed by 400 protesting tax payers, which was taken to Lansing, will now be turned over to township officials. With it will go a covering letter that says future increases in taxes will be vigorously protested.

—The Birmingham Excelsior

THE AMERICAN WAY



1958 Carpetbagger

MICHIGAN MIRROR • by Elmer White

Governor Given Reorganization Power by Action of Legislature

GOV. WILLIAMS will be the first Michigan chief executive getting a chance to use reorganization powers sought by government reformers for eight years.

Many people were amazed when Republicans joined Democrats to enact a law enabling the governor to reorganize state government, held in check only by a legislative veto.

The whole system reverses the normal relationship between the legislature and the governor, in which the lawmakers enact and the governor vetoes or approves.

The history of the idea in Michigan began with an ambitious reorganization program started eight years ago.

Launched by the legislature, the survey dug into every phase of state government and made 31 reports. The executive reorganization plan was the pivot of them all.

Numerous proposals for specific reforms were the twigs on the tree, but the executive reorganization law was the trunk.

Researchers reasoned that the administrative head of government should be responsible for his own operations and should be the most familiar with the weaknesses and strengths of the agencies.

The executive reorganization plan was offered to the legislature each year and each year it was defeated or left to gather dust in a committee room pigeon hole.

Only a few political scientists believed it would pass this year. It passed the House 66 - 36 and the Senate 19-11.

Critics of the idea argued that the legislature is the state's law-making body and should propose, debate and fire the kinks out of reorganization ideas before they are put into effect.

Backers of the idea said that the legislature, in session for three months or more each year, could not possibly know the details of a functioning department and whether it should be merged with another.

The bill, as passed by both houses, allows the governor to propose mergers and abandonment of agencies but he cannot propose new agencies.

Safeguards have been written in



A FARM EDITOR SPEAKS
Tom Anderson, editor of the publication of Farm and Ranch magazine and a number of other agricultural publications, is recognized throughout the nation for two personal qualities: (1) an unusually good knowledge of all phases of the farm problem; and (2) a courageous frankness in talking about it in millions of farmers. He has just written an article for "American Mercury" magazine. With his usual accuracy of facts and personal conclusions on one of the most important problems facing the American people...

"There is no palimpsest way to solve the farm problem," he writes. "In corrective change, somebody always gets hurt. But much is more painful than the disease. The farm problem is curable. All we need is an honest approach—a non-political, long-range determination to do the job right enough to make it work and sufficient fairness to farmers and consumers alike... a plan which will dispose of surpluses without dumping or drawing (it's been seriously suggested that they be consigned to the bottom of the ocean)... a plan which reorganizes supply and demand in a plan which treats the farm problem not just as an economic problem, but also as a sociological problem."

A Gradual Process
"How do we get back to a free, controlled, supply and demand agriculture without hurting the many people? It can't be done suddenly. But we should make a beginning, now... No subsidies or free services for the lawyer-farmer, doctor-farmer, and part-time cowboy. Let them produce all they want and sell it to anybody they can—except the government—free enterprise style. And good luck to them."

"What a goal for the small 'inefficient' farmer? Those who have neither the land, know-how nor desire, ought to make no industry. Or to put it in another way, if they insist on staying on the farm they should not stay on a permanent basis... If people choose to stay in rocky, eroded, isolated areas unfit for farms or industry, they should stay on their own, not at the expense of the rest of us."

Specific Suggestions
Getting into the specifics is a remedial program, Mr. Anderson suggests: 1. Disposal of surpluses. 2. Institute a five-year plan of sliding price supports, working toward no supports, except in drastic emergencies. Government would make no more delayed sale loans but conservative loans like a bank would make with the collateral fully covering it—this would force out of farming many medium and large operators who've been producing for government instead of for the market. With no acreage controls and marketing quotas, no surpluses, and fewer producers, prices might even go higher than now.

3. Make ineligible for any government subsidies or services (including county agent services) every farmer who non-farm income (based on last three years' income tax report) exceeded, say \$5,000. 4. Make farm losses non-deductible from non-farm income. 5. Fully covering it on its own fee tax-wise. 6. Subsidize the subsistence farmer not to stay in farming where he hasn't a chance to earn a decent living, but to get a good job in town. 6. Subsidize industry to move to rural areas."

Tom Anderson makes it clear (Continued on Page 4B)

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (April 13, 1933)

Ping-Pong Champ
Spencer J. Heene retained his Farmington singles ping-pong championship by winning the tournament held last Thursday at the Otis-Grace Motor Sales. He didn't lose a single game in the tourney. The semi-finalists were Wayne Wikson against Curtis Hall and Heene against Bob Cook. Heene defeated Harrison Johnson, H. Trayer, Cook and Wikson in that order in tourney play. Plans are now being made to match the state and Detroit city champions against the ping-pong team from the University of Michigan in an exhibition in Farmington in the near future.

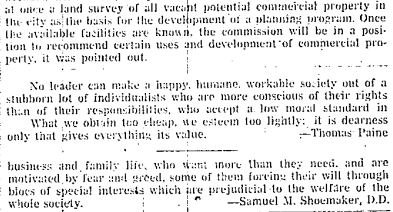
School Finances
Treatment of eight school districts sending pupils to Farmington High met with the Farmington School Board Wednesday evening to iron out problems of finance made acute by closing of Detroit banks. With a month and a half of school remaining, the Farmington trustees appealed to members of other boards, indebted to Farmington for their pupils, for assistance. The total of tuition due from surrounding districts would be sufficient to pay up Farmington teachers for the remainder of the school year and would also enable the Board to pay its bills, according to figures given out at the meeting.

TEN YEARS AGO (April 15, 1948)
Traffic Ordinance
A new Farmington City ordinance was passed upon and given its first and second readings at the City Commission meeting on Wednesday defining the powers of the police department, location of street signs and signals, speeds, etc. This will replace a previous city ordinance controlling such matters. The enactment of the new traffic ordinance is part of a program to completely revise and bring up to date all ordinances and records of the City of Farmington including the city charter.

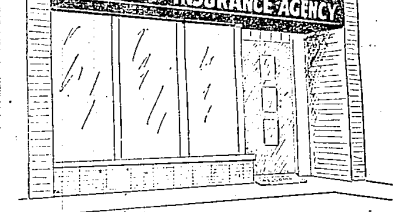
FIVE YEARS AGO (April 16, 1953)
City Planning
Expansion and development of the Farmington City shopping area was the principal topic discussed at the regular meeting of the City Planning Commission held on Tuesday. It was pointed out by Bayard Tupper, chairman of the land use committee, that additional shopping facilities and service must be developed in the city if we are to meet the demands of the growing population. Tupper stated that on the basis of estimates by the Detroit Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission, the City of Farmington is expected to have a population of between 3,457 and 4,600 by 1959 and a population of between 4,725 and 5,265 by 1975. The commission decided to initiate at once a land survey of all vacant potential commercial property in the city as the basis for the development of a planning program. Once the available facilities are known, the commission will be in a position to recommend certain uses and development of commercial property, it was pointed out.

No leader can make a happy, humane, workable society out of a stubborn lot of individuals who are more conscious of their rights than of their responsibilities, who accept a low moral standard in life, who are too cheap, too selfish, too lightly, it is dearness only that gives everything its value. —Thomas Paine

business and family life, who want more than they need, and are motivated by fear and greed, some of them forcing their will through blocs of special interests which are prejudicial to the welfare of the whole society. —Samuel M. Shoemaker, D.D.

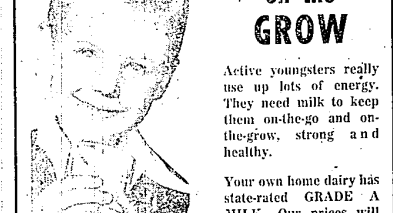


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CLOSED SUNDAYS



Michigan Newspapers . . .

are planning an industrial promotion program which will work to build payrolls throughout the state, and announcements of the details will be forthcoming soon. Initial plans have been disclosed by Robert S. Marshall, president of the Michigan Press Association.

The newspapers hope to carry on a major program in community industrial development, and to work closely with the state Economic Development Department.

Part of the program will be to run a series of advertisements explaining importance of supporting industries and payrolls, so that they do not take off for other states.

A High School . . .

graduate at nine years? Well, he's just a product of our times. Among the graduates of a Detroit high school, fully accredited by the North Central Association, is a young fellow who is now in a state institution for the feeble-minded. He has an IQ of 59, which gives him the mentality of a nine-year-old.

The Farmington Enterprise

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