

# Editorial Page

## Free Enterprise . . .

suffered another of the continuing cutting off of its roots by government last month through a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service. Also involved is a trend toward government control of advertising through the power of taxation, and a little bit of the right of free speech.

The action may not sound like too much on the surface, but there's more to it than that. Specifically, the Internal Revenue Service disallowed a deduction of \$23,000 contribution by a gas and electric company toward an institutional advertising campaign in newspapers and trade publications. IRS says this, through advertising, attempts to influence legislation or intervenes in a political campaign.

This ruling, and some pending legislation, aims at any contribution to an organization which uses the money for advertising that explains the position of the sponsoring group on pending legislation, either on the federal or local level.

A specific example: if a group of local advertisers contributed to a fund for advertising, explaining their opposition to expansion of the wage-hour law, or any other law affecting them, the contribution would not be tax deductible.

This is an obvious effort by the government to employ a tax penalty to circumvent the freedom of speech and of the press by taxing the expression of opinion.

## Have You Heard . . .

about the lathe that cost \$12,000 in 1942, but which took more than a million dollars to replace? Here's the story:

In 1942 Thompson Products Co. of Cleveland bought a lathe. The cost was \$12,000. Under federal tax laws the cost could be depreciated over a 14-year period. So, recently when the lathe had to be replaced, Thompson had \$12,000 set aside, plus an additional \$1,000 which was the resale value of the old lathe.

However, in 1956 a lathe that would perform the same functions as the old model that had sold for \$12,000 in 1942 was selling for \$35,000 and a new model with attachments to meet the advanced needs of the industry cost \$67,000. So the company found itself with only \$13,000 to buy a \$67,000 piece of equipment. The additional \$54,000 had to come from profits.

But in order to clear \$54,000, Thompson had to make a profit of \$112,000 before taxes, and in order to make that much profit the company had to sell more than \$1,250,000 worth of products to customers.

It took a million and a quarter dollars of sales for the company to replace one lathe, and not one cent went to the stockholder. A million and a quarter dollars to replace one machine so three Thompson employees—one shift—could continue working.

This is something to consider when unthinking, unknowing people scream about high corporation profits. No profits, no new machines, no jobs.

## NOT SO DUMB

"I don't mind the style or color of the shoes, but I want low heels," a sweet young thing told the assistant.

"To wear with what, miss?"

"A short, fat, elderly business man."

## BIGGEST TROUBLE

Perhaps the biggest trouble with the younger generation is that it has no one to learn from except the older generation.

## The Farmington Enterprise

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## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS



**SOUTHFIELD**—Selection of a major park site and a master plan for the City of Southfield are the recommendations of A. W. Stephens in a letter addressed recently to the Southfield parks and recreation board.

Stephens, an engineer who has made a specialty of surveying and pin-pointing most practical play sites for Metropolitan Detroit areas, was asked to look over the City of Southfield, appraise its needs and make recommendations.

It is Stephens' opinion that: If the 26-square mile area is to be served, there are close to two dozen parcels of land of varying degrees of suitability for park purposes, ranging from 35 to 110 acres.

Using the play plan of a neighborhood community, activities for young and old would include softball, baseball, art, skiing, skating, day camping, swimming, music, sailing, archery, badminton, basketball, ping pong, shuffleboard, dancing, etc.

This program is presently being carried out in the neighborhood community on the school grounds to an extent of about 55 percent with a \$93,000 budget met equally from city and school district appropriations.

The biggest factor, is the acquiring of additional land for play areas based on projected population before it is bought up for other purposes, Stephens pointed out.

School site prices within the past few years have ranged from \$5,000 to \$10,000 an acre and a park site would probably come to the average of these two figures, Stephens said.

Eighteen possible play sites and "rough" ratings have been turned over to the Southfield parks and recreation board for its study of the recreation problem.—The Southfield News.

**NOVI**—Residents of Novi will vote September 22 on whether to accept its newly completed village charter. At the same time, a bid for a new school building to serve if the charter is approved. The election date was set last week as the village charter commission completed the document and prepared to send it to Lansing for approval by the governor.

Chairman Walter Tuck said that his staff has set aside time for publication and discussion of the charter to insure that many Novi residents would not be away on vacation. He added that the commission would meet with any Novi organization between now and the election to explain details of the charter.—The Livonian.

**LIVONIA**—A proposal by Councilman Robert Sasser was made to the Livonia City Council last week that a proposition be placed to a vote of the people asking them to approve an increase in the city tax rate limit from 5 mills (\$5 per \$100 assessed valuation) to 10 mills.

The increase in taxes for the average homeowner would be \$1.75 per year, Sasser estimated.

The additional 5 mills would provide \$400,000 annually for sewer expansion (2 miles), \$300,000 for a civic center and parks (1½ miles), development of existing industrial area which would be in a few years pay for itself (½ mile); provide garbage and rubbish pickups, at city expense (1 mile).

The key to the plan is that the new millage would be spread over the entire tax base, including business and industry, and hence would leave the homeowner with a minor share of the increased load. Industry and business pays perhaps 65 percent of Livonia's total taxes.—The Livonian.

**BIRMINGHAM**—Launching of an economic missile aimed at competition from outlying shopping centers was discussed by about 50 Birmingham business leaders and commercial property owners last Tuesday night.

The meeting was called by a sub-committee of the Birmingham planning board. A master plan was called for similar to plans now being put into effect by three other communities, to put deteriorating business districts back on their feet.

Paul Moffet, of Birmingham who set up a master plan for Royal Oak said, "the problem of shopping centers is that the old business district rises today in any community of 30,000 or more."

"As soon as you give people a place to shop in an attractive surrounding, in a place that charges no more, people will prefer to shop there," he said.

Both Moffet and Planning Commission David Geisler, outlined plans for rejuvenation of the old business district by re-routing of through traffic around the area, creating attractive areas with pools, shaded walks, conveniently located telephones, plentiful parking and the creation of an atmosphere where "the pleasure is in the shopping."—The Birmingham Post-Herald.

## The Road Toll

By Jerry Marcus



The Travelers Safety Service

229,700 pedestrians paid the road toll in '57.

## MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

### Smaller State Political Parties Continue to Seek Spot on Ballot

**SMALLER PARTIES** in Michigan's political phalanx are stirring to get on the 1958 state election ballot, that any one of the needed 15,000 valid signatures to go on the November ballot but other, more familiar names made it.

They are the Socialist Workers Party, the Socialist Labor Party and the Prohibition Party.

State Law requires them to get three percent of the total vote to be automatically placed on the ballot. In the past few years none has, so they return by petition.

One state election division official mused on a mystery last week.

"Why is it that these minority parties can obtain so many more signatures to place their names on the ballot than they get votes in the election?" he asked.

The answer, of course, has to do with the nature of the man. By signing the petitions and working for their own beliefs, some go on record and fulfill their own philosophies, but citizens, there is a strong tendency to cast a vote for the candidate who has a better chance of winning. Others sign petitions as the line of least resistance to the time; forget or ignore the action at voting time.

Michigan has never discouraged minority parties, but rather, has encouraged them. The same elections officials had an explanation:

"Even the majority parties were once minority factions."

**THE HIRE NOW!** CAMPAIGN, launched earlier this month by the Michigan Employment Security Commission, cannot help but have value to the state's economy. All of the program is to remind employers that there is now an unusually good source of skilled workers, and to encourage them to hire as many as they can use.

Obvious benefit, of course, is a job for an unemployed person. Indirect benefit means that that worker and his family will stay in Michigan rather than move to another industrial area.

Economically it means that the more workers who start receiving wages he earns and be taken off the list of those who receive unemployment compensation. Dr. H. H. Brown, director of the fund is tremendous. If strained sufficiently, it could be completely depleted and cause still another serious problem for state government.

Success marked the start of the campaign. Before noon the first day, 1,500 officers had 40 new requests for workers. The real results cannot be measured until June 30, when the promotion draws to a close.

Employers seeking skilled or unskilled workers for full or part time jobs are urged by Max Horton, director, to contact the nearest office of Michigan Employment Security Commission. Theme of the Hire Now! campaign is "If he works, you profit."

**MICHIGAN'S RICH** tourist industry is expected to feel the first serious pangs of the economic slump this summer.

For several years, the dollar volume of the vacation industry has ranged between \$500,000,000

## Looking Back

Through The Enterprise Files

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

JUNE 1, 1933

**Annual Meetings**  
Three school districts in this area will hold their annual meetings of electors on Monday, June 12.

Farmington District No. 5, comprising the City of Farmington and part of the township will elect two trustees. The terms of president A. L. Ross and Treasurer Arthur Lamb expire.

West Farmington District No. 4 will have Starr Graham up for re-election to the office of moderator and a new director will be chosen. Amasa Grace, the present director, is moving from the district.

Nichols No. 2 District will meet at the same time. The position of director is vacant and Stanley Drake will be a candidate for re-election as treasurer.

All other schools of this vicinity will hold their annual meetings at a later date.

**City Budget**  
The Farmington City Commission will meet next Monday, June 5, to take official action on the proposed 1933-34 budget which met with general approval at the public hearing last week.

The budget as it now stands represents a cut in city operating expenses of one-third on the total for the past fiscal year.

**TEN YEARS AGO**  
JUNE 1, 1948

**Recreation Program**  
Dr. M. E. Whitehead, president of the Farmington Recreation Commission, announced this week the appointment of William Nuse as director of the recreation program to be inaugurated in this area this summer.

Nuse, at present an instructor at Ypsilanti High, will join the Farmington teaching and coaching staff this fall, but will come here this summer to direct the recreation program.

Tentative plans call for an eight week, recreation program this summer. Activities are planned at several outlying schools as well as in the City of Farmington.

A total of \$250 each has been donated by the Farmington Township Board, the Farmington City Commission and the Farmington Board of Education to aid in the financing of the recreation program for this summer.

**Theatre Party**  
Two full-length movies will be featured at the first annual Lions Club Theatre Party to be held Friday.

Proceeds will be used to aid needy blind in this area and to assist in the Lions Club Sight Conservation Fund.

**FIVE YEARS AGO**  
JUNE 4, 1953

**Area Storm**  
The worst electric storm in some time hit the Farmington area with sudden fury last Saturday afternoon, downing power lines and flooding several streets.

City and Township Police as well as fire department volunteers were busy well into the evening marking fallen power lines. Bell Telephone and Detroit Edison crews were on duty both Saturday evening and all day Sunday restoring service. No serious damage to homes was reported.

**School Plans**  
Plans are now being made on the organization of classes in the Farmington School District for the opening of school next September.

Sixth graders from the Middlebelt School area and fifth and sixth graders from the Ten Mile School area will meet at the present high school. The grades will occupy eight classrooms in the building with the rest of the room used for seventh and eighth graders.

All of the high school grades will be transferred to the new high school building when it is officially opened in September.

"Although 'buck' usually brings to mind a male deer, it is also the name for the male of several other species, including rabbit, caribou, antelope and trout.

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## Staman Acres

SUZANNE SIVY GR. 4-7874

There will be a meeting of the Staman Acres Civic Association on Friday, June 5th, at 8 p.m., at the Farmington City and Loan Building, Orchard Lake and Ten Mile Roads. The guest speakers will be Robert Nelson to talk on the League of Suburban Associations membership, and Robert Burton of the Farmington Woods Charter Committee. Elections will be held and any member who will not be present may vote by proxy.

On Wednesday evening, June 11th, the Staman Stitches will meet at the home of Joanne Smith on Staman Circle Drive. Co-hostesses will be Barbara Katterman, Pat Burke and Maddy Hyduk.

The Spring Festival of Music was presented on Wednesday evening, May 28th, by the fifth and sixth graders of Ten Mile elementary school. The multipurpose room of the school was artistically decorated with reminders of the 1920's. A bicycle built for two, a horse and buggy, and a man on a flying trapeze were some of the decorations made by the sixth graders to correspond with their selection of songs. Diane Caruthers, Betty Jo Maldonado, Pam Ware, Bobby Williams, Tommy Donahue, Chris Christensen, Paul Esser, Keith Thompson, Allen Hart, Stuart Sivy and Suzie Turner were those youngsters from Staman Acres who took part in the concert.

Margaret and Ed Wheeler have been entertaining their relatives from Ohio for a rainy weekend. Ed's mother, Mrs. Margaret Wheeler, and his brother, Dick Wheeler, along with Ed's cousin, Ellen Ryan, enjoyed their visit to Staman Acres although the weather was a little wet.

Tommy Bursiek has recently recovered from the measles and is returned to school.

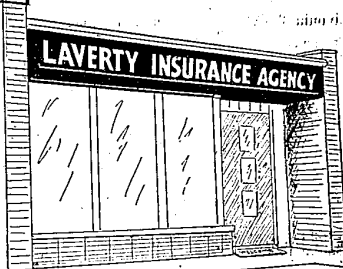
**STORK REPORT**—Mr. and Mrs. Leo Sivy of Staman Court proudly announce the arrival of their daughter, Sharon Laurie, Sharon Laurie, born June 1, weighed 9 pounds.

Pete and Virginia Klopp spent the Memorial Day weekend visiting Virginia's father. The Klopps left Thursday afternoon to travel to Port Austin, Michigan and arrived home in Staman Acres on Sunday evening.

No evil is without its compensation. The less money, the less trouble; the less favor, the less envy. Even in those cases which put us out of wits, it is not the loss itself, but the estimate of the loss that troubles us.

—Seneca

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