

Editorial Page

One Way Curtain

So far as the iron curtain is concerned, it seems that every time an airplane strays off its course and gets on the other side, it's always an American plane, and never one from the other side of the iron curtain.

Doesn't that make you wonder a little bit? We just can't seem to remember one single instance when a Russian or communist plane got on the wrong side, was forced down, or even warned.

That makes it seem pretty plain that the Americans must be either asking for trouble, or rather careless. We can't help but think these incidents could be stopped, if our occupation forces really wanted them stopped. We aren't saying they're deliberate, but we have to wonder even a little about that. Doesn't seem like one side can be wrong all the time, and the other right all the time.

Are we asking for blackmail and trouble?

The Flags Were Up

The Jaycees have done a good job getting the flags up around the business district the last few times it was possible.

Last Friday (July 4) their agreement with most of the businesses resulted in a pretty large share of the streets being decorated with our nation's colors. It certainly makes a nice showing in any community.

Our homeowners were pretty good, too. Quite a few flags hanging out in spite of threatening showers much of the day.

Next year it will be very interesting to see how many flags are displayed with 48, 49 (or 50) stars—in other words, how many will be displayed incorrectly?

Protect Against Polio

The polio season is just about upon us. This will be of little interest to about 10 percent of our population, because they have had their Salk vaccine shots.

For a few dollars (or for nothing at all, if you can't afford it) this 10 percent has positive protection against a nasty disease.

There is plenty of vaccine for everyone. In fact, the stuff is spoiling and some has to be thrown out because not enough are interested in preventing polio. That's your privilege, if you want it that way.

But if you do catch crippling polio, or if your children catch it, you have no one but yourself to blame. There are three shots in the series. The second is a month after the first. The third is six months after the second. Even the first two shots will give you a degree of protection. The third makes immunity complete. Your doctor has the vaccine.

You might remember this. Many people are now showing a reluctance to give funds to the March of Dimes, because they think there won't be any new cases, and they forget about the old cases that will need care and help the remainder of their lives.

If you get polio now, there certainly will not be sufficient funds to care for you—and there probably shouldn't be any funds allocated if you have failed to get your shots.

ALAS

Middle age is when you don't care where you go, just so you're home by 9 p.m.

The Farmington Enterprise

25223 Farmington Road
Farmington, Michigan
Telephone
GROEG 4-6225

Established in 1885 by Edgar R. Bloomer 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
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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS



NOVI—Grand River businessmen from Farmington to Brighton are taking the business bull by the horns.

Nearly 150 of them from Novi, Farmington, Brighton, New Hudson and an township have decided to go out after industry and commerce instead of waiting for it to come to them. They envision the future as an economic diamond in the rough and are determined to make it pay off with an intensive "Sell Grand River" campaign.

The group, known as the Greater Grand River Businessmen's Association was organized last winter to answer problems caused by the new U.S. 16 expressway from Farmington to Brighton.

Though plans for pushing greater Grand River are still in the talking stage, they already include: 1-Setting up committees to interest industries in locating in this area. 2-Extensive publicity campaign. 3-Township along the route to get their ideas. 4-Keeping up on new developmental trends such as new highways, new residential developments and new recreation areas.

The association is playing down potential rivalries between merchants and communities in the belief that what's good for one is good for all.

"If a shopping center locates in Novi and eventually one in Farmington," said president Greg Anderson, owner of a "Drive-in theatre near Brighton. "But if we fight each other, no one will profit."

—The Novi News

LIVONIA—Unanimously, the Livonia City Council votes to buy the 40 acres of land adjacent to the City Hall upon which is the future Civic Center.

Its more than a quarter-million dollar (\$285,000) land deal. The city will buy it for \$10,000 down and \$280,000 in 10 years, plus six percent interest. The price comes out to about \$5,500 per acre.

Comprehensive plans for use of the land for new civic buildings have been in preparation by top architects for months. None of these can be started until the city has a new source of money. A special election is probable in November.

It was pointed out that the land is being purchased with general funds with no new special taxes needed.

—The Livonian

PLYMOUTH—Tall shrubs on corner lots that cause driver vision hazards are the target of a new ordinance by the City Building Inspector.

Letters have gone out to 45 corner lot owners where shrubs cause an impaired vision, the inspector said, and many have already complied with the order to cut down tall shrubs.

It was pointed out that the zoning ordinance requires that shrubs be trimmed to a height of not more than three feet above the curb line for a distance of 50 feet back from the corner. There is one catch, however, the inspector said softly. Shrubs that were planted before this particular ordinance was approved need not comply. The ordinance was passed in December of 1953.

—The Plymouth Mail

BIRMINGHAM—The long-standing problem of adequate drainage facilities in south Oakland County is going to see some action soon.

Dr. Albert E. Heustis, state health commissioner, this week called a meeting of all communities involved, including Birmingham, stating that the state's major drainage problems will now be considered together rather than separately, as in the past. Dr. Heustis said that the department was making the move because to date there has been little hope that communities would be able to do anything separately to improve conditions which are a threat to people's health.

"Sewage backs up into basements of many homes in the area and flows out of manholes and floods public streets during storms," the health department said.

"Systems are so inadequate that even in dry weather they frequently discharge sewage into the open Red Run drain and then into the Clinton River."

Other meetings to discuss the situation further and also possible means of correction are being planned.

—The Birmingham Ecumene

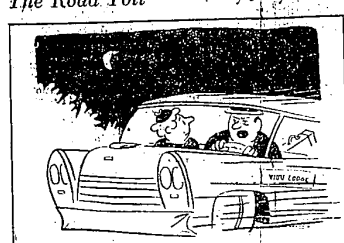
SOUTHFIELD—A reminder from the office of Southfield's city clerk, Patrick G. Flannery, is that all public business to be brought before the City Council must be cleared through the clerk's office no later than 5 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the next regular meeting.

Individuals or delegations wishing to appear before the Council and be heard will be required to follow this procedure in the future, it was emphasized. Only in "distress" emergencies will this rule be relaxed.

—The Southfield News

The Road Toll

By Jerry Marcus



"I'll pull off the road and rest when I'm good and ready!"



8,660 lost their lives between midnight and six a.m.

MICHIGAN MIRROR • by ELMER WHITE

State's Penal Code Has Many Inequities; Some Laws 'Ancient'

PRISONERS are people in trouble. They spend a part, perhaps most, of their lives behind bars because they violated the law that society has developed to govern itself.

Michigan has 10,000 prisoners in three major institutions at Jackson, Marquette and Ionia; the Cassidy Lake Training School, the Detroit House of Correction and 12 penitentiaries.

Because penology has become a science in Michigan and elsewhere, prisoners no longer are lashed or starved—but major faults still exist.

"If you want to see what a prisoner looks like, look in the mirror," said Robert M. Scott, youth division director for the state's penal code.

Director Gus Harrison points to the law which provides for longer terms for those who use burglary tools than for using them.

There are 21 offenses in Michigan for which a life sentence can be imposed.

There are broad inequities between the stiff penalties for crimes against property and the lighter sentences for offenses against people.

The severe sentences for forgery and embezzlement, for instance—up to 10 years—are forced into the law books years ago by banking interests to protect themselves.

Michigan's penal code still contains a penalty for inciting Indians to riot. Because of the probate court waiver law, children under 17 can be sent to prison and treated like adults.

Inequities in the system were brought to a head following the 1952 riots at Jackson, which spawned the major reorganization in the state corrections system.

Most of the ills of the system were traced by the experts to the penal code. Citizens groups are campaigning with officials for reforms.

Penologists insist that their concern in changing the penal code is not to soften conditions for inmates or coddle criminals who break the law.

"We believe that a more equitable code will give Michigan a better chance to help prisoners rehabilitate themselves and be restored to society," said Harrison.

Short of statutory changes, the corrections system has developed a program of self-help in each institution and camp.

There are Alcoholics Anonymous units inside the walls—even at Cassidy Lake, where prisoners are all under the minimum age of 21 which would qualify them to obtain liquor.

There are veterans' organizations, public speaking groups and even academic programs. State-paid chaplains have been given a larger role in rehabilitation.

Where, psychologists, "eggheads" of the profession, who counseled inmates, ran into conflicts with custodial personnel several years ago, they now work together more harmoniously.

The Red Cross depends upon prisoners in state institutions for donations where blood supplies are diminished in civilian blood banks.

At Jackson, prisoners stage shows and boxing matches to raise money for furnishings for a new chapel. Help from the free world has been forthcoming, but more is needed.

Prison newspapers, often are the gauge of the men behind bars.

Looking Back

Through The Enterprise Files

Twenty-Five Years AGO

July 6, 1933

City Building

Plans for a construction program to be undertaken by the City of Farmington with money received from the national government under the new Federal system of grants to municipalities, initiated by the Roosevelt administration, were presented by Street and Sewer Commissioner Emory Hutton and Mayor Howard Warner at a meeting of the City Commission Thursday night.

Six projects were listed: 1. Sewer connections between William and Grand River; William and Oakland; Farmington Road and Thomas St. and Farm Road and Oakland. 2. Cleaning of open ditch on Farmington Road. 3. Sidewalk construction particularly on Brookdale and Lakeway. 4. Sidewalk repairs elsewhere. 5. Roadwork particularly on Shawassee and at McGee Hill. 6. Bridge work on Shawassee at Nine Mile.

The total cost of construction work was set between \$6,000 and \$8,000. The government will pay 30 percent in a direct grant if this plan is approved.

The Township of Farmington has felt the effect of the return of better times. It is reported that 15 to 20 persons are being taken from the welfare rolls in Farmington each week. Several men are going back to work in Detroit area factories now and farm jobs are edging up.

TEN YEARS AGO

July 6, 1943

Wading Pool

Farmington children took their first dip of the year in the wading pool in the Farmington City Park Wednesday in spite of the rather cool weather.

The pool was opened as a part of the Farmington Area Summer Recreation Program. Built by the Farmington Kiwanis, the wading pool was first opened in 1941. The pool will be open every day from 1:30 to 3 p.m. and he under the supervision of the Farmington Recreation Commission.

Summer Concert

The first concert for the summer will be put on by the Farmington Summer Band is scheduled for Tuesday July 13 at 8 p.m. on the lawn in front of the Farmington High School auditorium, Director Lloyd Smith announced.

After the concert a free movie and display, sponsored by the C.G. Cam, Limited, of Detroit, is to be shown.

FIVE YEARS AGO

July 9, 1953

Street Improvements

Bids are now being taken for the construction of curb and gutter on Oakland Ave. between Grand River and Farmington Road as the first step in the long-range program of street improvement. City Manager James Tennant stated that plans are being made now for the eventual installation of curbs and gutters on all city streets.

Tennant indicated that the Oakland project would include not only the putting in of about 1,000 feet of curb and gutter but the laying of a new bituminous concrete surface.

School Census

Officials of the Farmington and Clarencville School Districts are scratching their heads. In spite of periodic increases in classroom facilities, the supply just doesn't keep ahead of the demand.

According to 1953 census figures, there are 1,226 boys and girls under five years old in the Farmington School District as compared to 1,715 last year. In the five to 15 year old group there are 3,800 as compared to 3,215 at census time last year.

According to Clarencville census figures there are 1,115 children in the district under five compared to 964 last year. There are 2,336 in the age group from 5 to 19 as compared to 2,098 last year.

Normandy Hills

AUDREY ROGERSON
GR. 4-0555

The Steinsult family traveled down to Eldorado, Ill. to visit relatives and friends. They stayed at the home of Leas and aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. Butler. One of the highlights of the trip for Stan was the 25th reunion of his High School class of '38.

Also on the traveling list for the weekend—the Lassicks enjoyed a trip to Cheboygan to visit relatives and friends. The Hooper family spent the weekend in Boston with relatives. Dorothy and Bob Clark with Ronnie and Alan spent the weekend up north with Dorothy's mother and dad. The Fabich family enjoyed a pleasant holiday weekend in Buchanan, Mich.

On the Fourth of July the High-larks entertained 60 members and friends of the Olsego Ski Club. During the afternoon they enjoyed swimming in the pool and a steak barbecue. In the evening they were entertained with some films on skiing.

Kay and Dick Hampton entertained Mr. and Mrs. Butler for a picnic barbecue on the Fourth. In the evening Dorothy's mother and dad had a picnic with 20 young people from the Ward Memorial Church for a picnic supper.

The Schmidt family returned last week from an extended tour of the west. They traveled thru Colorado, south thru the Grand Canyon to New Mexico, then out to the west coast. One of the points of interest was a stop in Anaheim, Calif. to see Disneyland.

Susan Thorpe and Carol Schram were weekend guests of the Schmidt girls at their cottage on Wampler's Lake in the Irish Hills.

The Conways had a bon voyage party Sunday evening for Lorelei's mother and dad, Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell. Mr. O'Donnell has just retired. They left for a three month visit with relatives in Scariff, Ireland.

Mark Conway is just recovering from a bout of rheumatic fever. He is up and around now but will have to take it easy for a while.

Any man who will look into his heart and honestly write what he sees there will find plenty of readers. —Edgar W. Howe

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