

# Editorial Page

## Unhappy Canadian Marriage

In Detroit we have heard a lot about the St. Lawrence Seaway and what a boon it will be when ocean liners start docking here and throughout the Great Lakes. We're beginning to wonder just how this marriage with Canada will work out.

Already Canadian newspapers are pointing out what they claim is the necessity for an all-Canadian seaway. And these Canadian newspapers are just reflecting the views of Ontario and Quebec citizens who don't want to be partners with Uncle Sam on this project.

Let's look at the reasons they give: 1. They don't like Jimmy Hoffa's threats to dominate the teamsters and stevedores, who are a key part of any shipping operation.

2. They don't like the union's insistence that the seaway boats hire pilots. Traditionally Great Lakes shipping has given the pilot's job to the captain, who must also be a qualified pilot. Considerable expense is spared by this procedure, also.

3. Canadians do not like the fact the seaway has been put under the Department of the Interior, and not the Army Engineers who have customarily handled canals and locks. They don't want politics—they want engineers, not political appointees, running the seaway.

We should not forget that only two of the locks will be in the United States waters. If Canada were to decide to build two of their own, they could have an all-Canadian waterway.

The seaway was blocked for 50 years by Eastern railroad interests and Gulf of Mexico shippers. When Canada threatened to build the seaway alone, the United States finally decided to cooperate.

If we look at these problems from the Canadian viewpoint, we may well wonder just how this great project will work a few years from now.

## Politics and Pie-in-the-Sky

You are hearing a great many promises now, for it's the season for baiting the electorate with choice tid-bits which some candidates hope will snare them some votes at the August primary.

...Over in Macomb county, a candidate for Congress promises to bring about a payment of \$2 to every person who votes. His name is Fred Nicholson. Why not \$1,000 instead? We'll be paying it to ourselves.

And over in St. Clair one Jose Rodriguez, who is a candidate for State Senator, says he'll try to get the Social Security retirement age cut to 55. Without going into costs involved, let's just note that Social Security benefits are a federal matter, and a State Senator has nothing at all to say about them. Maybe Jose got mixed up and meant to run for the U. S. Senate.

Most of the candidates have some more definite proposals than these, we'll admit. Thank God!

## Paving Moves Fast

Last week the paving construction crew worked in four spots in Farmington. After watching them, about all we can say is—wow!

Paving methods have certainly changed in the last generation. Builders get everything ready, throw the machine in gear, and a sidewalk superintendent has to be on his toes or the job is done before he gets settled. Looks like the City will be using its new paving before long.

## The Farmington Enterprise

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RUSSELL S. STRICKLAND, Publisher  
J. DEE ELLIS, Manager  
MICHAEL J. KILEY, Editor  
GEORGE E. EVANS, Advertising Manager  
VICTOR S. HOWARD, Plant Superintendent

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## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS



**SOUTHFIELD**—Long discussed improvement of Northwestern Highway took tangible form last week when the Southfield City Council gave state highway engineers the green light to start construction.

Outlined by state engineers was a Southfield extension of the John Lodge expressway starting with a three-level interchange at Eight Mile, ending with an interchange at Telegraph Road. Cost of the expressway will be met from the \$85 million road fund voted last year.

The general scheme calls for slight depression between interchanges with all mile and other major roads going over the expressway. The three level road-way would extend less than a mile beyond Eight Mile.

Alert to possible objection to the overhead construction, city officials and the public were told by Irving Rubin, local government representative for the highway department, that the state had not overlooked the need for esthetic value in the project and had hired noted architect Minoru Yamasaki as an advisor.

Rubin stated that although Northwestern improvement would be a boon to the north of Telegraph, this improvement had no place in the current plan. Available money and traffic volume will decide future plans, he said.

—The Four Corner Press

**NOVI**—One of the world's most modern telephone systems will be in service in Novi on Sunday. Michigan Bell Telephone initiated service in its new \$1,500,000 "Field-bus" exchange in Novi.

Some 3,000 telephone users in the two communities were tied into the direct dial service. Novi has had dial service in less than 100 homes and offices since last fall. The exchange was operated out of a trailer next to the Novi township hall. The trailer was removed immediately after the new exchange center in Novi was put into service Sunday.

—The Novi News

**PLYMOUTH**—Harold Fisher, new School Board treasurer, has been appointed chairman of a special committee to investigate the feasibility of removing a school-owned building for administrative headquarters.

The building is located just south of the school bus parking lot. Fisher's suggestion at the School Board meeting met with considerable debate. Some opinion was expressed that the superintendent of schools should have offices remain in the same building as students to "command student respect and thus more obedience." Others felt this was not up to the superintendent. "It is up to the individual school principals to supervise the students," the superintendent has more important functions to perform," another board member stated.

The administration offices are presently located in the high school. The committee has agreed to study the matter in more detail and be ready to make recommendations by September.

—The Plymouth Mail

**BIRMINGHAM**—Facing a year of lowering revenues when every possible economy is essential, Birmingham schools have two unexpected and costly bills to pay.

The board of education gave the go-ahead to clear up a serious drainage problem at the high school. Estimates are that the cost of the 1,200 feet of underground drains needed will be around \$100,000.

The second unwelcome expense stems from the discovery of structural failure in six roof supports and improper concrete structure for new roofing to go on Baldwin elementary school. Architect Linn Smith advised the board Tuesday that it would cost as high as \$8,000 to replace the supports, test other concrete sections for failures, and to lay proper bedding for the roof to be laid this summer on the 40 year old school.

—The Birmingham Eclectic

**LIVONIA**—There are no signs and it looks rather bleak, but nevertheless Livonia made history last week when the "only a year old" Library Commission succeeded in acquiring permission to lease their first building and to staff it with three librarians.

Located on Plymouth Road, just west of Farmington Road, the city will lease the building for three years after which it is hoped a larger building will be constructed by the city.

In the meantime this 40 by 55 foot new one will do the job fine, according to the Wayne County Library Commission, and will probably be open for use by October.

—The Livonian

## The Road Toll

By Jerry Marcus



The Travelers Safety Service

Collisions with fixed objects added 143,080 casualties to the road toll.

## MICHIGAN MIRROR •

by ELMER WHITE

### All Favor Constitutional Changes But Ideas on Methods Are Varied

**SENTIMENT IS ALREADY BEGINNING** to fall on the issue of a constitutional convention for Michigan more than four months before the November election.

The issue goes on the ballot automatically but the results are much less certain.

If approved, the state will call a constitutional convention the next year to rewrite the basic law of the state. The last wholesale re-write was in 1908.

It has been changed by amendment 63 times since then. Dozens of other proposed changes have been rejected by the voters.

Republicans are split on the issue of whether to call a convention. One side of the party—suspected to be the majority—believes more amendments can be voted to make the desirable streamlining changes.

This would retain the basic 1908 document under which Michigan lives but add features to fit it to modern society.

On the other hand, Paul D. Bagwell, the Republican candidate for governor, is using a 1908 Oldsmobile in his campaign to dramatize the need for a new constitution.

Still other Republicans are indifferent because by using the present method of selecting delegates to a constitutional convention—three from each senatorial district—they would keep control of its product.

Democrats would like a new constitution, but... They feel the method of selecting delegates, with the Senate in control of Republicans, would be undesirable. They would like a method of dominating the new constitution by changing the way delegates are chosen.

Democrats claim, on the heels of sweeping election victories in the past 10 years, that they constitute the real majority. They blocked enabling legislation during the 1958 session, arguing that some fairer method should be devised. Democrats favored choosing delegates according to House districts.

The argument goes back to the 1952 constitutional amendment which created the "balanced legislature." In theory, the Senate was to be given 24 seats based on area

and the House 110 seats based on population.

However, the amendment kept the moiety clause, a headache for popular parties since governments were first invented. It works this way.

The state is divided into 110 districts according to population. Any district with one more citizen than the minimum required is given another seat.

Democrats feel this grants unequal representation to the rural Republican areas. They delight in stating that the minority Democrats in the legislature represent more people and obtained more votes than the majority Republicans.

Republicans fear that some of the most cherished of the present constitution's amendments would be altered or dropped from whatever new document the convention drafted.

Republicans would like to keep the "balanced legislature" and most leaders of both parties want to retain the basic tenets of state civil service.

Recognizing its faults which, they agree, can be corrected, neither party publicly wants to return to the pre-1941 era when technical experts and stenographers were hired for their political ties and not their talents.

Some of the farm groups would like to abolish the amendment which legalized the sale of oleo margarine, feeling it severely damaged agriculture and the sale of butter.

The public, too, has a great stake in the November election on the issue of calling a constitutional convention. Many of the major reforms have been initiated by popular petition, the civil service amendment, for instance.

Difficult and uncertain procedures remain, however, before the new constitution can be developed and finally drafted and put into effect.

The convention will extend at least five months—if one is called, and the newly proposed constitution must be submitted to the voters at another election.

The whole affair is certain to produce two major campaigns, one for and against the calling of a convention and another for and against the final constitution.

## Looking Back

Through The Enterprise Files

Twenty-Five Years Ago

July 20, 1933

**Sewage Treatment**  
A sewage treatment plant to be built at a cost of \$5,500 to \$7,000 has been added to the public works program proposed for Farmington City.

The whole program, as mapped out by Mayor Howard Warner and Street and Sewer Commissioner Emory Hutton, will be presented at a special meeting of the City Commission called for next Tuesday.

Although detailed plans will not be disclosed until after the Commission has discussed them, Commissioner Hutton has indicated that the amount the city will ask will be many times that originally set to be asked for at last Commission meeting.

The necessity for a sewage plant for Farmington was pointed out to the mayor and the commission when they visited Lansing on Tuesday. State officials said that a plant of this nature would be more likely to obtain Federal approval than any other project.

**Registering Jobless**  
Registration of all unemployed in Farmington Township will begin at the township office in the welfare store at Clarenceville Monday. The Township Board decided on this action at its meeting Tuesday night.

TEN YEARS AGO

July 22, 1948

Township Police

The Township Board, at a special meeting held last Tuesday night, voted to purchase a police car equipped with a two-way radio and to hire a police officer for the purpose of patrolling the township. In the past it has been necessary for township residents to call in either State Police or County Sheriff patrolmen.

Applications are now being taken for men qualified for the job.

FIVE YEARS AGO

July 23, 1953

Hunting Ban

A special election to determine whether or not Farmington Township is to be closed to hunting is expected to be held early in October. Township Clerk Harry McCracken stated Tuesday. It is certain that it will be held prior to the opening of the 1953 hunting season, he added.

Fund Drive

Father Thomas Beahan, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, announced at all Masses Sunday the more than \$100,000 in memorial gifts had been subscribed toward the parish expansion fund. The purpose of the drive is to raise funds for a new parish high school building.

## Normandy Hills

AUDREY ROGERSON  
GR. 4-6995

The Hamptons had as house guests Mr. and Mrs. Porter Vermer, Jr., vacationing here from Pittsburg, Penn. They enjoyed many sightseeing trips around the Detroit area. Mrs. Porter, especially enjoyed a day shopping at Northland Center. Beverly Hampton returned with them for a visit to Pittsburg.

The Women's Bridge Club invaded the Men's Poker Club Friday night at the Thompsons. After the card games they all got together for party games and refreshments. Among those in the crowd were Mr. and Mrs. Hacht, Mr. and Mrs. L. Houghton, Mr. and Mrs. S. Thorpe, Mr. and Mrs. W. DeGree, Mr. and Mrs. R. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Hampton with house guests Mr. and Mrs. P. Vermer, Mr. and Mrs. M. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. D. Rogerson.

Leigh and Greg Strasser are enjoying a week vacationing with their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Sturdevant of Detroit.

Stan and Dorothy Thorpe, along with Margaret Holmes and Bill Kennedy travelled up to Stratford, Ontario, Canada, Saturday for the Shakespearean festival. They saw the play "Much Ado About Nothing." The whole town prepares itself for the festival every summer.



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smile when you outfit them for school... via an NBD savings account

Who knows better than you the expense of outfitting a growing child for the call back to school this fall? Remember last year? It was money for a new hat and coat. Or a new jacket and helmet. Money for new dresses, blouses, shoes, mittens, jeans, shirts, shorts, boots and belts. Pencils, notebooks, rulers. On and on and on until you thought the bills would never stop.

This year, plan things so that you can take back-to-school expenses right in stride. Start tucking away a few dollars every week in a National Bank of Detroit savings account.

Then when school bells ring, you'll hear only a pleasant melody. No scrimping, fretting, scrambling or straining at the budget for you.

Open your account now—one dollar will do it—and save regularly at any of NBD's 61 friendly neighborhood offices, where sound management policies put solid security behind every dollar on deposit.

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