

Editorial Page

Weeds Should Be Cut

Weeds in this portion of Michigan are very, very numerous—and we know there are no more in Farmington city and township than in most other southeast Michigan communities.

The township has tried in numerous ways to do something about this and has recently passed an ordinance under which weeds in a subdivision that is 60 per cent developed must be cut or certain penalties may be instituted. With townships hampered by lack of proper state laws, that's about all the township can do right now—despite a willingness to do much more.

However, in a city it is our understanding the laws allow much stricter control. We know that in some other cities it has been the practice to print a notice to the public that if weeds on vacant or residence lots are not cut by a certain time of the summer, then the city will go in, cut the weeds and add the cost to the owner's taxes. Because this, like taxes, becomes a lien on the property if not paid, it only takes a short time for the residents to get wise.

There are thousands on thousands of ragweed and other weeds here which cause a lot of misery to those affected by pollens. The "hay fever" season is soon over and, in fact, this hasn't been too bad a summer for sufferers.

There is thus plenty of time to consider what might be done before another summer, and another huge crop of weeds.

Don't Forget Polio Shots

There has been a recent late summer increase in crippling polio in southeast Michigan, which has alarmed health authorities.

We have just read that in the federal census to be taken in 1960 all people will be asked if they have had polio shots.

That's two more reasons everyone should get their Salk vaccine shots—but of course the only really important reason is that YOU may be the next person to be struck by this disease which often leaves the victim hopelessly crippled for life. The protection is such a small thing, in both cost and effort.

Certainly, immunization has continued to reduce death and crippling from polio. In Michigan so far this year only ten cases of paralytic polio and one death were reported (up to about two weeks ago), as contrasted with 16 paralytic cases and two deaths during the first part of 1957.

Since the Salk vaccine was field tested in ten Michigan counties in 1954, there has been a steady decline in crippling cases and deaths. In 1953 there was a total of 1,127 paralytic cases and 108 deaths. Last year the widespread use of polio vaccine had cut crippling cases to 121 and deaths to 12.

It is important that children and adults get their protection now, but it is really important that very small children be immunized before they get very old. After all, there will be 210,000 children born in Michigan this year, and if these are not immunized properly paralytic polio could make a tragic return.

If you have been neglectful too long, you should see your family doctor immediately.

The Farmington Enterprise

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

SOUTHFIELD—Whether or not the Franklin Village Volunteer Fire Department will continue to receive a grant of \$1,000 per year from the City of Southfield is now a hot issue.

The council is divided as to whether or not the payment, customary under township status, should be continued.

Speaking before the council recently, William Albee, commissioner of the Franklin Dept., stated that the money would be welcomed but, if cut off, it would in no way interfere in the emergency or standby service given Southfield in past years.

It was pointed out, however, that the department is fully voluntary and has no ties politically to the Village of Franklin. Because of this, it was emphasized, the department could be called to make runs in the vicinity and would therefore be used to Southfield if desired.

James C. Allen, city attorney, is of the opinion that the city can not legally make a grant for the use of the Franklin Dept., but can enter into a contract with them.

—The Southfield News

BINGHAM FARMS—The village council has run into one of those dilemmas that from time to time confront governments. The problem is whether the village should spend four cents worth of postage to collect one or two cents worth of interest on delinquent tax bills.

According to the village treasurer about 85 property owners have not yet paid their taxes prior to the August 31 deadline. On much of the vacant land, taxed at \$1.60 to \$2.50, would only amount to two or three cents while the postage to return the taxpayers' late payment would cost four cents.

Based on this, the council agreed to extend the tax deadline to Sept. 30.

—The Village Observer

PLYMOUTH—A stack of 90 petitions was filed with the City of Plymouth clerk a week ago which will place the controversial question of whether or not "buses by the glass" should be permitted on the November 4 ballot.

A check of every name on the petitions, 1,751 showed 278 to be invalid. This left 1,473 signatures valid. To have the question placed in a vote it was determined that only 1,385 signatures on petitions would be needed.

An attempt to place the question on the ballot two years ago failed because of insufficient signatures on petitions could not be obtained.

Two charter amendment proposals will also appear on the ballot. One calls for the raising of pay of the city commissioners and the other making the supervisor an appointive job rather than an elective one.

When it was announced about two months ago that another attempt would be made to get the "buses by the glass" proposal on the ballot, the Chamber of Commerce came out in favor of its passage. It was their expressed feeling that the present dry law in the City of Plymouth was discriminatory and placed an undue burden on city business as compared to similar businesses lying just outside the city limits.

So far, there has been no organized opposition here.

—The Plymouth Mail

WAYNE—The City of Wayne, the turbulent question that has troubled the community and twice started litigation, is as much undecided today as ever.

Trouble lies in the fact that the Ford Motor Company is fighting incorporation of the city and has been granted a permanent injunction by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Victor Targonski until further hearing on the matter can be held. Ford Motor Company contends that though the city incorporation proposal carried for the entire area, the residents in the Nankin Township portion voted strongly against it. Their contention is that the township residents are being forced into the city against their will.

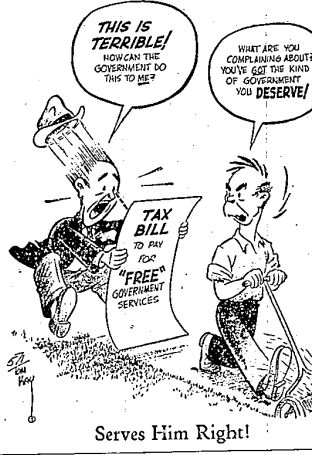
—The Wayne Dispatch

BIRMINGHAM—Only three of the nine incorporated cities or villages in the Birmingham area have passed ordinances making the new school bus law requiring cars to stop for halted buses in both directions. Under the new State law, which became effective September 13, all cars must stop at both front or rear of halted school buses except on divided highways or in incorporated cities or villages. Since the law does not apply in incorporated areas, special ordinances must be passed.

The Birmingham City Commission ruled at its last meeting, however, that it did not feel this protective measure was necessary in the City of Birmingham.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

THE AMERICAN WAY



MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

Water Shortage Big Problem In This "Water Wonderland"

PARADOX: Michigan is bordered on three sides by water; has more than 11,000 inland lakes. It boasts myriad streams and rivers stretching in every direction across the land. But, Michigan has a water shortage.

It is a problem of mal-distribution: enough water is not at hand in the right place. Enormous new uses of water for farm irrigation, for industry, for sewage disposal systems, for mushrooming cities and for recreation emphasize the shortage.

The legislature is concerned. The problem has been growing more acute for five years. It is approaching the critical stage as industry and cities expand into new areas.

Rural areas, which once made Michigan an agricultural state, are shrinking under pressure of progress in other fields. Now, only 10 per cent of the population is engaged in agriculture.

Farmers are turning to irrigation to make the fields do more work; to produce food for Michigan's 7,000,000 people and other markets.

Experts recommend that artificial ponds be created to collect water during the winter and spring for use during the hot, dry summer.

George S. McIntyre, state director of agriculture, contends ponds are impractical because of the large investments, land and equipment.

As the study goes on, the problem becomes more serious. Industry needs more water in its processes.

A new copper mining technique to coax low grade ore out of the ground in marketable quantities uses tremendous amounts of water—1,000,000 gallons for each ton of ore mined.

The process, which has been tested and proven in the Upper Peninsula, promises to bring another economic boon to the state. But the supply of water must be guaranteed.

The Bear Creek Mining Co., planning an installation in the Upper Peninsula, is waiting for, among other things, the certainty that it will have sufficient water over a long period of time.

Top, James Goulette (R-Iron Mountain) said the company, assured by geologists that the copper field exists under Lake Superior, is not interested even in test borings until making sure of water.

New cities, spreading out from the metropolitan centers are preparing sewage disposal

NOVI NEWS • BY MRS. GEORGE WAITE

The Lance Whitmore family entertained Mr. Whitmore's mother from North Carolina this past week.

Mrs. Hyrthol Harsh, in the hospital for a major operation, is now convalescing at home and is much-improved.

The Frank Tammi's are entertaining company from Florida this week.

The Bob-Masters are moving into their newly built home on Eleven Mile.

The T. K. Arnolds of Grand River, who is now in Canada where he has a new job.

Mr. Charles Kerby has returned home after being in Canada and several Michigan cities with his horses.

Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

On September 7, 1933 The National Retail Association has come to Farmington as a local movement with formation Wednesday evening of an organization to bring it home to the people.

Selected to head the group is Kenneth Loomis.

The citywide campaign is to start next Thursday. The Farmington NRA branch is to cover the city only. The first project planned for the group was that of canvassing the entire business area to see that all businessmen have the Blue Eagle displayed. The next task will be a complete canvass of the residential area to obtain consumer support of NRA.

Tax Rates
A plan outlined by representatives of a Detroit firm whereby Farmington citizens could pay back taxes at about 30 cents on the dollar appears unlikely to be put in effect here although it has been reported to have worked well in Birmingham. The plan is quite complicated but does result in a savings to areas having very bad financial conditions.

The fact that Farmington's condition is somewhat better than that of many neighboring communities makes adoption of the plan less attractive.

TEN YEARS AGO

September 9, 1948
School Opening

Doors swing open today in schools of the Farmington Township School District with a record number of students trekking back to classes. An anticipated enrollment of 1,150 is expected in the elementary grades and 650 are expected in the junior and senior high grades.

Pie Contest
Women of Farmington will vie for the title of champion in the Farmington Apple Pie Baking Contest being held this afternoon at the Farmington Town Hall.

The Kiwanis Club is sponsoring the contest. O. E. Dunkel, superintendent of schools, is chairman of the contest.

Fruit growers in the Farmington area have been invited to display baskets of various types of apples with the hope that a large variety will be shown.

The Farmington Enterprise will donate prizes totaling \$22.50.

FIVE YEARS AGO

September 10, 1953
New Amendment

Another new amendment to the Township Zoning Ordinance was proposed by the Township Board and a resolution adopted indicating intention to amend the ordinance to include that portion of land on the Grand River Cut-Off from Drake to Gill Roads. At the present time the land is unzoned and unclassified. By including this property as Residential IV, all of Section 28 will be zoned.

Polio Hospital

The formal opening of the new Sister Kenny Polio Hospital in the west wing at Children's Hospital, Farmington, has been set for September 15.

An open house will be held from 2 to 8 p.m.

The new branch will accommodate 50 polio patients.

It was indicated, one of the primary reasons for setting up a center here was because of the fact that so many polio patients in the state come from the Detroit area.

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Writes Book On Franklin

A book written by Burt Wood on the history of Franklin Village, "The Town That Time Forgot," has now been printed and is being prepared for publication.

One of the early settlers in the quiet, little community, Wood has included in his book interesting facts about the village and the many old-timers who settled there, and in the surrounding area.

Included are some enlightening mentions of early settlers in Farmington. An old 1825 Atlas showing the location of Franklin and points of interest there and in the vicinity, including the adjacent portion of Farmington township, will be reproduced on the book's cover. It was supplied Wood by prominent Farmingtonite in years past, Ward Eagle.

Wood expressed hope that the book would be completed in time for the big, annual Franklin Round-Up.

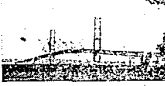
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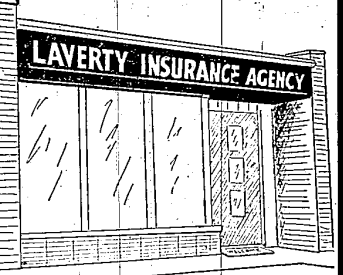
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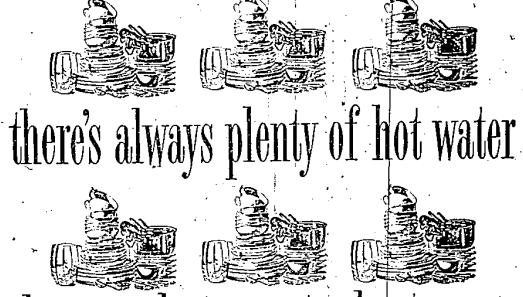


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