

Editorial Page

Sunday for Voting?

Michigan can't be very proud of the number of people who voted Tuesday. It was a poor percentage of the numbered registered, and the number of registered-voters is also far too low.

About every two years, around the time of elections, there is some discussion of ways to get out better votes. Some countries have compulsory voting, and they aren't iron curtain countries either.

Some European countries vote on Sundays, and this seems like a sensible solution. The cause is so worthwhile we doubt if many churchmen would object strenuously.

While we're on the subject of voting—some of our radio news men have recently "analyzed" the elections claims made by the two major parties, in such a way as to make the platforms and claims of each side look pretty silly. We'll agree that politics does get pretty silly the last couple of weeks before an election, but we all expect it. Purpose of the newscaster is to make himself seem real smart and cute. We have a suspicion the real result would be to make some people say, "What the heck's the use voting?"

But we can't blame the poor vote in Michigan onto radio newscasters. Perhaps we should fine non-voters \$5. That would be the best and easiest way to get the state out of debt.

"Go Home!"

Recently the mother of a teen-age pupil and Ralph N. Peterson, of the department of guidance of Spokane Public Schools, discussed complaints of teenagers about not having anything to do. They came up with an answer, which is being widely circulated, and follows:

"Always we hear the plaintive cry of the teen-agers:

"What can we do . . . Where can we go?"

"I can make some suggestions. Go home!"

"Hang storm windows, paint the woodwork. Rake the leaves. Mow the lawn. Shovel the walk. Wash the car. Learn to cook. Scrub some floors. Repair the sink. Build a boat. Get a job."

"Help the minister, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army. Visit the sick. Assist the poor. Study your lessons. And when you are through—and not too tired—read a book."

"Your parents do not owe you entertainment."

"Your village does not owe you recreation facilities."

"The world does not owe you a living."

"You owe the world something . . ."

"In plain simple words: Grow up; quit being a crybaby; get out of your dream world; develop a backbone, not a wishbone; and start acting like a man or a woman."

"I'm a parent. I'm tired of nursing, protecting, helping, appealing, begging, excusing, tolerating, denying myself needed comforts for your every whim and fancy, just because your selfish ego instead of common sense dominates your personality, and thinking, and requests."

The basis of all integrity and character is what ever faith we have in our own integrity.—Roy L. Smith

The Farmington Enterprise

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What's New With

OUR NEIGHBORS

SOUTHFIELD—School systems are normally thought of in terms of education and learning and not in high finance. But they have a financial side as seen in the 1953-54 budget of \$2,530,735 passed Monday night by the Southfield public school district's board of education. The budget presents over a \$1 x ten million increase over the first year.

Even though this budget is about \$85,000 below the amount one set in April it still includes a total deficit of nearly \$200,000. The deficit has been building up since the 1950-51 school year and continues on the rise each year. Increased operating expenses and salaries have made it impossible to stay within the budget, school officials indicated.

It appears that in the near future the school board will be forced to ask voters in the district for an increase in operating millage to get the budget balanced and keep it that way. Biggest single item in the new budget is the field of instruction which includes salaries of school officials and teachers, teaching supplies, tuition, textbooks and library for a total of \$1,075,292.

—The Southfield News

DEARBORN—Saying that "it is time for someone to have the courage to stand up and say stop" the Educational Committee of the Dearborn Chamber of Commerce has urged voters to reject a proposition for the sale of 55 acres of land in Crowley Park to the board of education for construction of a southwest high school.

The committee said that a high school in Crowley Park is unnecessary. "The school census now shows a decline from our former phenomenal growth. West Dearborn is now showing a decline in student population and the rapid expansion of the school population in the city as a whole, is at an end," a spokesman for the committee said.

—The Dearborn Press

WIXOM—Everett Pearsall must be the envy of every city treasurer in the country. His collection problems are practically nil. In a report to the Wixom city board last week \$14,982.92 was recorded as collected. Only \$940.56 or 6.31 percent of Wixom's 1953 city taxes are delinquent.

—The Novi News

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—Off the presses last week was a leaflet titled "Know Your Bloomfield Supervisor" which Township Supervisor Arno L. Hulet said will be enclosed with tax bills and mailed to property owners about Dec. 1. Among other things, it will explain to bill-receivers that school districts receive approximately two-thirds of the property tax dollars paid in the township. The leaflet lists township officers, phone numbers and information about everything from taxes, roads, highways and police protection to dog taxes.

The report lists the assessed valuation of township property at about \$54 million with equalized value reaching \$96 million after the 1952-53 equalization factor is applied. Population of Bloomfield township in 1950 was 3,851, the report said. Present estimates are that population has soared to about 20,000.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

LIVONIA—A four and a half page "Code of Conduct" governing the behavior of Livonia public school students has been adopted unanimously by the Board of Education. The regulations prohibit everything from "public displays of affection" to the wearing of blue jeans, pegged pants or other unusual colored or tailored wearing apparel to class or functions in the school building.

It requires all students to remain on public school grounds from the time they arrive until they are dismissed.

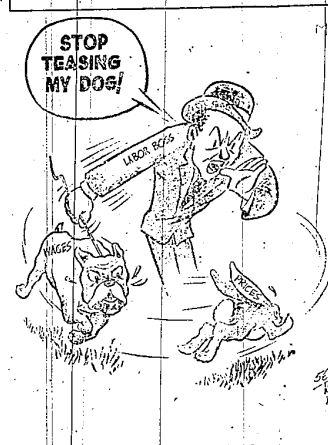
It is to be distributed to a 11,000 public school students and will be included in a high school "Student Handbook."

—The Livonian

PLYMOUTH—A motion to embark upon a five year plan that will include construction of a new high school, several elementary buildings and remodeling of other structures, was approved by the board of education last week. The bold step will bring about the need for a bond issue next spring. By the amount of the bond issue has not yet been determined. It will be well above the record \$3,000,000 issue voted three years ago. Projected enrollment figures through 1964 show an estimated increase in school enrollment of 1,800. This would boost total enrollment from 5,447 to 6,247.

—The Plymouth Mail

THE AMERICAN WAY



Who Is He Kidding?

MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

Inability of State to Raise Funds for Education Critical

SCHOOLS WITHOUT proper income to pay for their needs are expected to pay the bills over a long-range period of time. Pressures on higher education to educate vastly booming enrollments in the next few years are certain to come under the influence of the latest research on the subject.

Dr. John Dale Russell, director of the two-year study for the legislature, made his report recommending that the big universities get no bigger. Without mentioning Michigan State University's 20,000 students or the University of Michigan's 28,000, the meaning was plain.

Russell's report also hinted that branches of these two educational giants at Flint, Dearborn and in Oakland county should eventually become independent.

Public concern for problems of higher education has not been strong. But it can be assumed that interest will develop rapidly when more and more graduating high school students are told they cannot be accepted for college training.

Two Teachers At Institute on Radioactivity

Two Farmington teachers were among a select group of high school science teachers from 12 southeastern Michigan counties to attend an institute on radioactivity at the University on Monday and Tuesday, November 2 and 3.

Attending from Farmington were Joseph Manza and Donald Howell. The institute, sponsored by the Michigan Office of Civil Defense, the Michigan Department of Public Instruction, Region IV of the Office of Civil Defense Mobilization, the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan College, is the second of a series to be held throughout the state at colleges and universities.

A joint statement by state Civil Defense Director, Ralph M. Sheehan, and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lynn Bartlett, said, "This is just the beginning of a nationwide plan to train one million students in the use of radiological measuring instruments—an ability which could be of critical importance in this nuclear age. During this month, 237 radiological instruments are being shipped to state, and these institutes are an intense training course for the teachers."

Oakland County high schools participating in the program Berkeley, Birmingham, Troy Township, Clarkston, Farmington, Hazel Park, Highland Park, Holly, Lake Orion, Oak Park, West Bloomfield Township, Pontiac, Waterford Township, Royal Oak, and Walled Lake.

Valued at \$450 each, the kits contain such devices as Geiger counters, survey meters, and dosimeters and are "on loan" to each of the high schools for an indefinite period.

Both Sheehan and Bartlett stressed the fact that this initial shipment is just the beginning and that before 1960 all state high schools must meet requirements will have the kits.

Despite increased competition for people's time, newspaper circulation in the U. S. has reached a new all-time high of 58 million newspapers purchased a day. With Canada added, the figure is over 61 million newspapers purchased daily.

Looking Back

Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Halloween Damage
Considerable damage was done in Farmington Monday and Tuesday night by Halloween revelers. Some residents found it necessary to spend a considerable amount of money to repair the damage done.

One block in the city was without water for a night and part of the next day because of the breaking of a hydrant. One of the worst acts of destruction reported was the driving of 16 spikes through the top of an automobile parked in a residential garage. The top of the car was also ripped down the center. A large plate glass window in the front of the smaller building was also broken out with a stick. Lattice-work around the city comfort station was also torn down and a large number of garden spots ruined by Halloween enthusiasts.

Open Forums

The winter calendar of the Economic Discussion Group of Farmington and vicinity is expected to include open forums at intervals throughout the winter. Noted speakers will give talks to be followed by question and answer periods. It is tentatively planned.

TEN YEARS AGO

**November 4, 1918
City Annexation**
A special election will be held December 9 on the question of the annexation of Floral Park to the City of Farmington. It was announced this week.

The Oakland County Board of Supervisors approved the plan for the boundary changes and authorized the special election at its regular meeting last week.

Election

Although both the city and township of Farmington showed large majorities for Republican candidates, an unexpectedly high Democratic vote was cast.

It was the largest percentage vote ever cast in Farmington Township. Approximately 81 percent of the eligible voters went to the polls.

FIVE YEARS AGO

**November 5, 1953
Hospital Funds**
Two training sessions for volunteer solicitors working on the community appeal phase of the St. Mary Hospital Fund have been planned this month. Volunteer leaders will be briefed on the methods and procedures to follow when contacting possible donors.

Square Dancing

Adults in the Farmington area who wish to learn to square dance will soon be afforded the opportunity, according to an announcement made by James E. Reid, director of adult education in Farmington. The initial organizational meeting will be held on November 10. The schedule calls for meetings from 8 to 10 p.m. each Tuesday night thereafter.

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State Police to Get Carbines

Michigan State Police officers are to be equipped with 20 caliber M-1 folding carbines to give them greater effectiveness in combat with criminals in getaway cars.

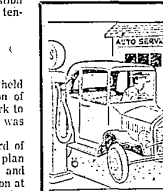
Use of the new weapon was prompted by a gunfight a year ago in which a Michigan and an Indiana trooper were shot to death, a Michigan trooper was critically injured and an Indiana city patrolman hurt.

Bullets from police revolvers used in the 300-mile pursuit from Clinton, Mich., into Indiana were not effective in piercing the car used by the two gunmen. The gunmen later were forced to abandon their car and in a gun battle one was fatally shot and the other captured.

About 500 of the short, lightweight, convertible type rifles have been obtained, sufficient to equip each patrol car and have a reserve. The guns were made available through the Michigan office of Civil Defense from military supplies at a price low enough to enable the purchase.

Passenger cars in the U. S. travel an average of 9,359 miles per year. Passenger car advertisers invested over 13 per cent more in newspaper advertising in 1952 than in the previous year.

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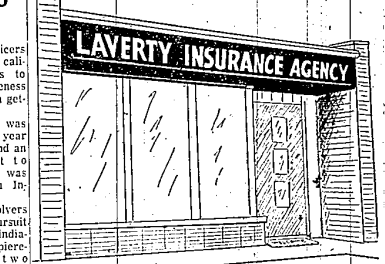
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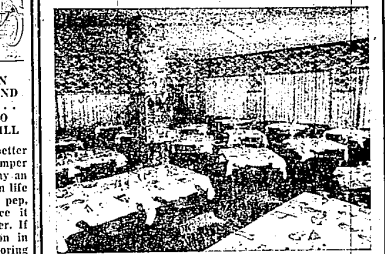
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