Editorial Page

Here's What YOU Owe

The national debt is $284 billions of dollars, and the share of Farmington city and township in this debt amounts to $41,170,680. This may be compared with the state equalized valuation of the township and city, which comes to $74,170,680.

In less astronomical terms, it comes to $5,240 per family. A family's effective buying income in the combined city and township amounts to $7,409.

This year's deficit in the federal budget will add another $75 to each family's share of the debt. The annual interest charge, which each family must pay in taxes, is $144 per family.

How far will this deficit spending go? How great will the inflation be that is caused by this deficit spending? These must be among the things in the mind of President Eisenhower when he pledged to continue his fight on reckless spending, particularly by "liberal" Democrats.

Answers to questions raised here are not known. They rest with Congress.

Pricing Ourselves Out

There are rumors the Big Three auto companies are getting their dies made in West Germany and elsewhere, and shipped to this country for quite a lot less than what it costs here. It will take some pretty smart American brains to beat this. A Royal Oak firm has found a way to make very accurate dies under a method which will cost quite a lot less and be a lot faster than the old grinding method, so perhaps there is progress being made here.

But this is only one instance. Here is another. A reel of barbed wire, made in Germany and shipped from Dusseldorf to New York, freighted by rail to Cleveland, hauled from the freight yards to the warehouse by truck, still costs the jobber $40 a ton less than an identical reel of wire sold by U. S. Steel in Cleveland.

Can we continue each year to jack up wages and prices, and still be able to compete with foreign producers?

Why should an European buy American products, automobiles included, when he can buy the same or similar items for less at home?

You know the answer to that. The auto business is picking up fast, and employment figures which will soon be quoted will have a fine sound. Business may appear pretty good, to most people. But it's very likely total employment will be far under that of, say, a year ago.

Our unreal economic life is costing American jobs.

Yule Buying

One Detroit area Christmas tree dealer already has trees out for sale. Sounds untrue, but look at the calendar. It's almost the middle of November, and Christmas not much more than a month away.

Farmington stores are already selling other Christmas merchandise, and if the weather would turn bad shopping would fast pick up in other lines, like clothing. The coming month will go by awfully fast, so get busy now!

Other parts of the body assist the speaker, but the hands speak for themselves.—Quintilian.

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

NOVI— Th nine member planning commission for the new village of Novi will be tackling its first problem, a big one: this week. It is being asked to rule on a zoning change for 200 acres at Ten Mile and Taft roads to pave way for a proposed race track venture.

Lines have already been drawn that indicate the request will not be passed without opposition. Even a commission okay will be contested before the village council by at least one abutting property owner.

The move to bring a track for trotters and runners is not new to Novi. It has been whispered privately, proposed publicly and finally voted on locally. Essentially, the organization working to establish the tract is the same one that was formed some time ago. There have been some changes but B. F. Gregorie remains as the guiding head of the group.

Originally, the track was called for at a site north of Grand River near Meadowbrook. The new site has been called a more favorable location and plans for a track at the old site dropped completely.

—The Novi News

SOUTHFIELD— The Southfield city council ordered that condemnation proceedings be pressed by the building department to remove a structure at 22353 Telegraph near Nine Mile Road, declared by the county health department to be unfit for human habitation.

An investigation was ordered by the council when it was revealed that a man had been sleeping in the sub-standard building.

Council was told that to provide action, it must sanction condemnation of the building and removal of the resident or residents.

—The Southfield News

FRANKLIN— By a one vote margin, Franklin approved entry into the Evergreen sewage district. The proposition needed a two-thirds majority to pass and made the grade by a close 471 "yes" vote against 234 "no" proving once again the importance of a single vote.

The affirmative vote means that Franklin village will be included in the Oakland county DPW's district as a participant, at a cost of $5 to $7 per family annually.

Though Franklin will now share in the capital cost of the district, its sewage disposal will probably continue to be handled by its present septic tank system. When the need for the community to build sewers arises, it will now be eligible to connect them to the Evergreen system.

Of Franklin's 959 registered voters, 783 went to the polls.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

PLYMOUTH— The city's controversial liquor-by-the-glass referendum was defeated by a narrow margin Tuesday along with its proposal to appoint the county supervisor instead of electing him.

It was the liquor referendum that drew the heaviest interest and undoubtedly attracted hundreds to the polls who otherwise may have stayed home.

It was defeated with 1,194 yes votes and 1,273 no votes — a margin of 79.

The campaign during the two months prior to the election was a hot one. The Plymouth Ministerial Association and some of its members led the opposition.

The vote was much closer than six years ago when the referendum was defeated almost 2-1.

—The Plymouth Mail

LIVONIA— From an $8,350,000 "package" of civic improvements offered, Livonia voters decided to accept only $383,000 worth — for a neighborhood fire station and three fire station sites.

Spurned — not by much, but by more than enough to defeat them all — were the big chunks of meat in the program; the Civic Center, money to buy playgrounds, a garage to get DPW equipment out of the weather, "Camp Livonia," and a million dollars for street improvements.

The latter item won a simple majority, but it took 60 percent, so better streets were thumbed down, too.

The campaigning was strong. All of the several political factions in the City Hall administration had forgotten their differences and joined to urge the voters to adopt the "package" and start Livonia onward toward becoming a "model city," but the voters didn't seem to be impressed.

As usual, Livonia's older residential areas led the "no" parade. The vote was closer in the newer precincts toward the south of the city with "yes" carrying a small but insufficient majority in most cases.

—The Livonian

THE AMERICAN WAY

Competition — the Spice of Life

MICHIGAN MIRROR • by ELMER WHITE

State Library Services Taxed; Lack of Funds Forces Cutbacks

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, according to an ancient saying, and there are few today who would argue the point. One of the finest sources of knowledge in the state is supplying its citizens with both knowledge and power. It has been functioning steadily and well, making its services available to any and all who inquire.

This is the Michigan State Library, homeless since 1949 when a fire destroyed the state office building where it was located.

Since that fire, nine years ago, library departments have been scattered around Lansing. It is one of the last services to be considered for "new" housing in state government. Working under handicaps that have been largely overcome through sheer determination, the library staff continues to function. Its services are still available, and today it serves more people than ever.

Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, state librarian, said the statewide use of the library has hit an all-time volume during the past year.

In raw figures covering a seven-year period, records show that Michigan residents borrowed 221,000 books during the past year, compared to 118,000 in 1951.

More than 45,000 books were loaned to libraries throughout the state under the "feeder" library network serving outlying rural areas.

Reference services, one of the least-known of the library's functions, handled 113,000 requests for information, compared to 48,000 in 1951.

This is the service that enables citizens to get detailed research on all subjects by dialing the telephone or writing a letter. It is used by high school and college debating teams, many students, teachers, officials, newspapermen and any citizen curious about any fact.

The State Law Library, on the second floor of the Capitol, has also felt a pinch. It is a vital source of legal information for the legislature, state departments, the Supreme Court, and judges and lawyers throughout Michigan.

Lack of funds have forced a cutback in library services because more requests came in than can be handled by the limited number of staff employes. The pinch is also felt in the library's Upper Peninsula branch at Escanaba. There book loans are almost double the 1955 rate, and last year reached 33,600.

"The State library belongs to all residents of Michigan," said Mrs. Fyan.

"More than 75 per cent of our users are out-state residents," she said. The remaining 25 per cent include state employes and Michigan State University faculty and students."

INVESTIGATIONS have an effect on state agencies even if they are not immediate and dramatic.

The Senate committee assigned to eliminate waste in state government has made both friends and enemies during its first five months of operation, and its leaders already are claiming results.

Senator L. Harvey Lodge, Drayton Plains Republican, assessed his committee's work when challenged at a recent hearing.

He said that it saved $116,000 for the state by showing that the State Police could maintain their services without serious effects and still cut the budget by that sum. Lodge added that as the hearings started Gov. Williams reduced his staff of State Police aides by one man.

While there were no resounding orders issued on the use of state cars, Lodge said the system has been tightened up and fewer abuses are pesent because the committee put the subject in the spotlight.

Dollar savings have been made in the mental health system, Lodge said, by publicizing the existence of bakeries and lard-rendering rooms in state hospitals and a solarium for geraniums in another.

Lodge said the responsibility for a $154,000 loss caused by a mistake in processing a highway bond issue has been fixed and that Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie has changed the system.

There are still other savings, he said, which will result from generally tighter operations in the state agencies.

The committee will make its report to the 1959 legislature in January — confident that even if the report does not lead to changes in laws an "atmosphere of economy" will have been created, at least for a time.

G.S. Council Gets 2 New Staff Members

Announcement was made last week of the addition of two new staff members to the Southern Oakland Girl Scout Council by Miss Diane Richardson, executive director.

The additions are Miss Mary Anderson and Mrs. A. M. Clendenin, Jr.

Miss Anderson received a B. A. degree from Marygrove College in Detroit and a Masters degree in social work from Wayne University. She is a resident of Detroit. She will work as District Director for Birmingham and Royal Oak Central districts.

Mrs. Clendenin came to the staff from the Omaha Nebraska Girl Scout Council. She worked as a District Director, Public Relations Committee Advisor and Senior Scout Program Advisor. She is a graduate of the University of Omaha. In Southern Oakland, Mrs. Clendenin will be staff advisor to the Public Relations Committee and District Director for Southfield.

Miss Richardson also announced the following staff assignments:

Mrs. John Thomas Miller, staff advisor to Camping Committee: Day Camp, Established Camp, Facilities and Maintenance and Troop Camp Committee.

2. Miss Jacquie Task - staff advisor, Program Committee District Director, Fern-Ridge Park.

3. Miss Jackie Mirkin - staff advisor, Troop Organization Committee, District Director, Royal Oak North Director, Camp Narrin.

4. Miss Shirley Myers - District Director, Berk-Woods-Park, Farmington-Novi.

5. Miss Jean Wayman - Staff Advisor, Training Committee Supervisor of Field Staff, Staff Advisor, Field Committee.

A Speaker on Land Use Planning

Howard Weist, secretary of the Farmington Township Planning Board, was a speaker last Tuesday at a meeting on community planning held at the new Michigan State University Oakland Branch, near Rochester.

The topic under discussion was the psychological effects noticed in land use planning.

The island of Corregidor is one mile wide, four miles long.

Looking Back
Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
November 9, 1933
Charity Activities

For the second time in recent years an effort is underway to centralize and co-ordinate all charitable activities in Farmington and vacinity. Throughness in the distribution of assistance and the avoidance of duplication are chief aims of the movement.

A plan suggested by Emory Hatton was approved by the City Commission calling for the setting up of a community-wide organization for charitable work. The city clerk was authorized to summon representatives of various organizations and churches in the community to form a committee to be in charge.

Under this plan, charitable efforts would be cleared through the committee thus avoiding any overlapping.

Winery Casks

After weeks of preliminary work, residents of this section will soon be able to see actual outlines of what the interior of the new winery at Farmington Junction will look like. Pouring of concrete for the glass-lined cases is now ready to start with floors and foundations having been completed.

Work is expected to move rapidly enough so that they will be able to start with the pressing of grapes by December 1.

TEN YEARS AGO
November 11, 1948
Special Education

Superintendent O. E. Dunckel has announced that a survey of physically handicapped children in the district has just been completed as the first step in the development of a special education program.

The plan is to establish and individual home education program for those children in the district who are unable to attend regular school classes.

Efforts are being made to tie in the Farmington program with the needs of other districts. Dunckel stated that there are not enough physically handicapped children in the Farmington district to carry on the program alone.

Edison Offices

Farmington city officials and civic leaders were guests at a dinner and open house Thursday afternoon officially opening the new offices of the Detroit Edison Company in Farmington.

FIVE YEARS AGO
November 12, 1953
New Subdivision

The Farmington School Board received an additional blow to its already ailing school housing situation when a representative of the developing Franklin Knolls subdivision stated that approximately 700 school age children in the Northwestern Highway-Middlebelt section would need school facilities by September of 1954. It was reported that 300 new homes would be built by the Franklin Construction. The first family will be moving into the district in one month, it was indicated.

Water to School

Negotiations are now underway between the Clarenceville School District and the City of Livonia for the possible extension of water service to the new Westbrook School on Osmus Street.

Car Trouble Months Ahead

More than half of Michigan's total annual car breakdowns occur between November and the end of March, the Automobile Club of Michigan states.

They predict that 1,824,000 Michigan drivers will have car trouble during this time. Of this total 75 percent of the complaints will be traced to battery, electrical or cooling system failure, a spokesman said.

This fall or early winter checks are advised:

1. Battery—Check for proper liquid level and strength, see that all cells are in good condition and that all connections are clean and tight.

2. Cooling systems—Check for sufficient anti-freeze, see that all hoses are in good condition and connections are tight and that the fan belt is properly adjusted.

3. Ignition system—Have a competent service man check distributor, points, coil, condenser, spark plugs and ignition wires.

"It is also a good idea to periodically use additives in your gasoline tank to prevent gas line freeze-up due to condensation of moisture," he said.

NEA Legislation Goal Outlined

Federal legislation designed to build more schoolhouses and to pay teachers improved salaries will be the goal of the National Education Association in this coming session of Congress, the NEA Board of Directors said.

In effect, this places the NEA squarely behind enactment of a refined version of the $4.5 billion Murray-Metcalf bill. This proposal was sidetracked in the 85th Congress by passage of the National Defense Education Act—a law including student loans, fellowships, and general strengthening of guidance, science, mathematics, and foreign language programs in the grade and secondary schools.

The Murray-Metcalf support measure would provide for a federal payment of $25 for each school-age child the first year, or an appropriation of $1.1 billion. This payment would rise $25 a year to $100 a child in four years.

Senator James E. Murray and Representative Lee Metcalf, Montana Democrats, introduced the bill in the last Congress.

Dr. McCaskill said that "a wide gap exists between our ideal of educational opportunity for all American youth and the ability of our schools to approach that ideal." He cited recent U.S. Office of Education statistics which show a continuing shortage of 140,000 classrooms in America, and a large number of teachers with substandard certification who are and will be employed to instruct the next generation of Americans.

King for College Homecoming

Robert I. Snell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac L. Snell, 19935 Negaunee, Detroit, was chosen King of Homecoming activities from among 8 finalists at Northern Michigan College, Marquette. He reigned at the Northern-Wayne football game on Oct. 31 which Northern won 39-0.

Robert, a senior, is a Clarenceville graduate. He is majoring in math and physics. He is active in student activities being president of the Math Club, a member of Industrial Arts Club, sergeant-at-arms of Spooner Hall and a member of Kappa Delta Pi, national honor society in education.

Have you ever tried broiling steaks or frying them with small quantities of sweet basil? The Detroit Consumer Marketing Information agent says that this herb also makes an excellent flavor accompaniment when you are preparing venison. Sweet basil also makes a pleasing addition to tomato sauces and to spaghetti.

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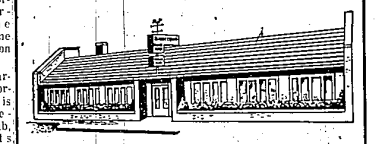

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