

# Editorial Page

## A Pocketbook Question

Your pocketbook is being affected every day by the skyrocketing cost of indemnity and liability insurance, which many officials feel has its roots deeply in individual cupidity.

"Suck the insurance company" has been the war cry of unscrupulous claimant lawyers, sometimes assisted by doctors.

The business of the insurance company is to collect reasonable amounts on policies of protection, and to pay out such damages as are covered by those policies. Insurance money comes from contributions of policyholders to a fund from which they may draw damages if needed. It's little more than a cooperative agreement, and if the company has to pay unrealistic sums on damage claims that money is going to come from all of us.

The jurors who sit for such cases are often to blame. They seem to feel that so long as the "insurance company" is footing the bill, sock 'em. Each juror should see that part of the "damages" is coming from his own pocket.

Bar associations and medical societies sometimes have worked at rooting out unethical practices. They have made some strides. Some medical societies simply station a "committed" in the courtroom to remind the testifying doctor that he should back up his evidence about supposed injuries. Attorneys try to hem in the claimant lawyers who keep the major portion of their practice in this field.

But it gets back to the fact that jurors and policyholders must make this part of their battle. Jurors should assure themselves the claimant is really injured and not "feeling poorly." They can insist the doctors show real evidence of injury, rather than vague generalities. They can note whether the same lawyer has hundreds of these cases on the court calendars each year. Having heard and seen poor evidence in the courtrooms they can report back to the bar associations and medical societies names of the men who present such evidence.

In a heavily populated area with heavy traffic, each of you has a direct part of the costs, and a moral responsibility going with a pocketbook problem.

## The State Picture

Let's summarize very briefly the results of the election. The Democrats have complete control of the State Administrative Board, they have half the House of Representatives, five of the eight Supreme Court Justices, 12 of the 94 State Senators, half the Board of Regents, and four of the six members of the State Board of Agriculture.

On every appointive commission there is a Democratic majority. The party has never dominated state government so fully.

Things are getting to a point where the governor has hardly anyone left to blame for the state's ills.

## Cars Lead the Way

General business in our area seems to be coming back very well this fall, and not only are we all dependent upon the auto business, but our local car dealers have been leading the way by dealing and wheeling.

If you are thinking of a new car soon, give your local dealer first chance. One of the reasons for their excellent service departments is a satisfactory initial sale.

## The Farmington Enterprise

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## What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

**SOUTHFIELD**—Engineering and health officials in connection with water lines, road and sewer projects due for construction in the City of Southfield will be considered by the engineering board of the city on Monday, Nov. 23. Spaulding DeDecker if the plan of Mayor Donald L. Swanson is adopted by the city council.

The mayor recommended this procedure after a number of discussions revealing that council members and petitioning property owners were dissatisfied with the progress of petitioned projects now in the works.

"It now appears that our city employees have all the work they can presently handle without attempting to engineer any new projects," the mayor said.

Eight water projects which had been ordered by the city council to be taken out of the city engineering department's hands, however, may be left for them to handle. The mayor indicated that he planned to veto the council's earlier action.

**NOVI**—The Novi township board decided last week to turn over the township hall facilities to the village and to move to the vacant bank building next to the village.

No date for the move was set. Action was tabled until arrangements with the village are agreed upon. It has been indicated that there will be no problems.

Township officials based their decision to move upon the great decision by the village board since Novi incorporated as a village.

Supervisor Frazer Shuman said the move hinges on the village council's acceptance of all building maintenance costs. Under any agreement, he added, the township will have the right to use township hall rooms for their infrequent meetings.

The action stems from the village council's earlier request for use of the hall as a "second office." The bank building was purchased from the National Bank of Detroit. The older building has been used as temporary quarters by this firm until its new building was completed at 43100 Grand River.

**BIRMINGHAM**—Businessmen may get federal tax refunds plus interest on the \$337,734.92 they paid special assessments for the city's four municipal parking lots.

At least the city of Birmingham is going to try and have the U.S. internal revenue department rule that these special assessments are tax deductible. The ruling must come through and each special assessment must be paid by tax refund before April 15, 1959, to have the statute of limitations stayed.

Deadline is the third anniversary of the date of the tax return following the first special assessment.

The total cost was \$84,312.29 of which 90 percent was paid by special assessment against benefiting businesses.

The ruling is being asked based on a similar favorable ruling which was given by the Washington for Bismarck, North Dakota.

**HOLLY**—An opportunity for any area resident to present charges against the board of education or school administration is being offered through a special meeting scheduled Monday, November 24.

"All charges should be substantiated and submitted in writing to the public hearing," said the notice of the board points out the need for such a hearing "because of verbal accusations in regard to improper functions in regard to school and administration."

Each person submitting accusations will be given an individual private hearing, the board notice indicated.

**PLYMOUTH**—While politics for the Michigan state and county levels simmers down, the so-called "grass roots," political scene is now on the horizon with nominating petitions ready for office seekers.

The majority of jobs on the Plymouth city commission and Plymouth township board will be at stake in the 1959 spring election.

There will be four city commission posts expiring next spring and each have said that they have not yet decided whether they will run again or not. Nominating petitions for the posts are now available. Petitions must be filed by Monday, December 22.

The spring primary election is Monday, February 16, and the general election Monday, April 6. The township clerk are all up for reelection as is the office for one trustee. All incumbents have indicated they will be running again.

## THE AMERICAN WAY



The Government can only give to the people what it first takes away from them.

## Not Much Left to Take

### MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

#### Government by Compromise Rule Will Be Getting Plenty of Practice

REPUBLICANS WILL START the 1959 legislative session stripped of all but a token of the power they held in state government a decade ago. They still control the Senate, 22 to 16, but the House is evenly divided at 55-55 and all the other state offices are held by Democrats.

The lack of a majority by either party means there is a question about which party will supply the presiding officer and which party shall be the majority as chairman of House committees. There are a number of proposed solutions for the problem, but a satisfactory answer has yet to be decided upon.

Both parties shudder at the thought of the 1959 legislative session and the struggle for answers to accumulated fiscal and social problems.

As one observer stated it, the ancient rule of government by compromise will get a lot of practice.

The full impact of the House split is not yet known. It could mean new faces among legislators and a complete change of policy. It will certainly mean a harder Democratic voice in committees and on the floor of the House.

Republican caucuses will not necessarily arrive at the final answer on major issues now, even if party leaders can hold their votes on the same side.

Democrats, who for years have come up with their own decisions knowing they would be defeated on a large number of issues, so they anxiously shoulder some of the burden of the policies of the House.

Legislators await Gov. Williams' message to the Legislature this January with great anticipation. Republicans privately wonder whether his demands will change their tenor now that there is a chance the Legislature will be stalled until they are met, and that more of them will be approved.

In the past, Republicans say the strategy worked this way: Williams would make demands that he and other Democrats knew the state could not afford without imposing burdensome new taxes, or reversing policies that existed for decades.

When Republicans controlling the legislature balked, he would take to the campaign trail charging they were hurting the cause of mental health, public health, and other vital state services.

Legislators, seeing merit in some of Williams' ideas, sometimes would go part of the way. The Democratic charge then would be that it was too little or it came too late, or that even if the legislature did put a program into action, it was a Democratic idea.

**SPECULATION IS RIFE**, say the political writers say, about Williams' future after defeating Republican Candidate Paul D. Bagwell by 143,000 votes Nov. 4 and running fifth on his own ticket.

Some are writing Williams off the Democratic slate in 1960 when delegates gather to pick a national ticket.

Williams defeated the late Albert E. Cobo two years ago by 290,000 votes and Democrats were negotiating gains up to 450,000 by this year.

They reason that had he won an overwhelming vote, national party leaders couldn't ignore the people their apprehension about his labor organization ties.

Now, some observers are predicting the governor will try for U.S. Senator Patrick V. McNamara's seat in 1960. This would complete the cycle started four years ago when McNamara's resignation was the Democratic strategists were

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

November 16, 1933  
**Suburban Drive**  
Collection and distribution of large quantities of clothing among the needy of this community is the first objective of the newly organized community welfare group which met for the first time this week.

Representatives of the community organizations in the community were present.

A committee of three was appointed to carry on the work of collection and distribution of clothing. Those selected were Mrs. Joseph DeVriendt, A. L. Ross and Benjamin Storms.

Residents of the area who have clothing they no longer have use for are urged to donate it. An effort will also be made to have money in the PTA treasury turned over to the group.

This money was originally raised by the PTA for school welfare work. The PTA has since been disbanded.

**On State Board**  
Official recognition and an unusual honor have come to William W. Slocum of Farmington.

He was appointed as one of six men in Michigan who will act as a committee to co-operate with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Deposit Loan on the assets of closed banks.

**TEN YEARS AGO**  
November 19, 1948  
**Trailer Camps**  
Action was initiated by the Farmington Township board of directors to erect a number of trailer camps to be erected in the township.

The motion followed a committee report of a delegation of residents living in the Orchard Lake Road-13 Mile Road area. They appeared to protest the erection of a trailer camp in that vicinity.

It was pointed out at the meeting the township has little control over a trailer camp once a license has been granted by the State Health Department. The only jurisdiction is to see that the state law is complied with after the camp is opened, township officials said.

The residents appearing before the board stated that they would petition to retain the camp from being erected.

Under the proposed ordinance only new trailer camps would be affected. The ordinance can be retroactive.

**Police Radio**  
By a vote of 4-2 the City Commission voted Wednesday night to turn down a motion to install a police radio in the city. The question has been under study for some time. It was indicated that the matter would be brought up again after a more time has elapsed for study.

**FIVE YEARS AGO**  
November 19, 1953  
**Industrial Site**  
A suggested layout of the proposed industrial property located in the southwest corner of the city has been filed with the council for its consideration by the city planning commission.

In addition to the layout, the commission has forwarded a list of possible deed restrictions on the city owned portion of the property.

The proposed industrial area is bounded by the Grand River Cut-Off on the north, Farmington Road on the east, Nine Mile Road to the south and Gill Road to the west.

**Church Site**  
The Trinity Episcopal Church has acquired title to an eight acre wooded parcel of land in the township as a future church site, James B. Guinan, vice a, disclosed this week. It is located between 11 and 12 Mile Road, and west of Orchard Lake Road.

**Select ROTC**  
Leonard Wojyna of Farmington is one of 46 cadets enrolled at Central Michigan College selected to march with CMC crack ROTC Drill Team, which parades at numerous State parades throughout the year.

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## Get \$1 Million Wildlife Aid

Michigan will receive \$1,029,575.76 in federal aid to wildlife programs during the present fiscal year.

The recent announcement from the Department of the Interior lists Michigan to receive \$209,575.76 as its share of nearly \$5,000,000 being distributed to states and territories under the federal Dingell-Johnson program. D-J funds are collected from taxes placed on fishing tackle.

State participating in the program can use the money for various programs of benefit to the fisherman. The Michigan program using D-J money is the popular public fishing site acquisition project. More than 600 fishing sites throughout the state have Michigan orders access by thousands of miles of stream and several hundred lakes.

Also, Michigan and Texas will each receive \$282,600 a piece under the Pittman-Robertson program for aid to wildlife. These two states topped all others in the nation in the amount of federal aid apportioned to them.

Under the D-J program, Michigan was third nationally in total amount receivable, behind California and Minnesota.

A convey of 35 mall recently "ditched" in the middle of Hulah Lake in Oklahoma as they ran out of fuel in an over-water flight, according to information given the National Wildlife Federation by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. A team of five fishermen rescued 19 of the birds.

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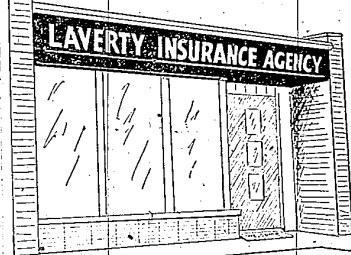
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Here's a sewing tip from Michigan State University extension clothing specialists. Pockets on adult garments should be placed near the wrist when the arm is slightly bent. A slightly higher position is better for children.



**FIRE - LIFE - AUTO**  
30760 Grand River Phone GR. 4-6933  
(Near Nine Mile)

**Let us be Thankful**

NEXT THURSDAY is Thanksgiving Day and all of us, like you, will be at home with our families giving thanks for our many benefits.

You have given us many things again this year for which we are very thankful. More and more people find our dining room, with its excellent food, the best place to dine away from home.

We'll be closed Thursday, but ready to serve you again first thing Friday morning.



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