

Editorial Page

Higher Postal Rates

In the Congress there is continuing agitation by a few members for more increases in the postal rates, also a number of changes which would not have beneficial effects on the general public or business.

Recently Senator Neuberger (D., Ore.) introduced a bill under which Congress would surrender its postal rate-making authority to the Post Office Department. He proposes Congress would retain only a veto power over mail rates, and would have to act to nullify schedules set by the Postmaster General within 90 days of the issuance. The President also would have the power to overrule the Post-Office.

This proposal has been made before. It is certainly unwise to place such authority with the Postmaster General, Arthur Summerfield has made many good changes in service, probably more than were made for many years before he took over. But like all heads of government departments, he wants more power to do things the way he'd like—and the public is not always fully considered when that is done.

There have been continual increases in postal costs for the public—surely a higher percentage than, for instance, the cost of living—or other government taxes.

So far as newspapers are concerned, a couple of years ago postal costs had a hefty increase. No sooner was that scheduled completed when we started on another, now in effect. Over a three year period postal costs are increasing 60 percent—we've already had the first installment.

Postal rates are pretty certain to be boosted soon by the post office department. Congress has already given up jurisdiction of these. Anyone who objects to higher and higher postal rates might wish to write his congressman and voice opposition to Senator Neuberger's bill.

Pave Mooney Street

The city council is considering two relatively small paving projects for this summer. Members are especially interested because they feel the city should be doing some paving every summer, in view of the large amount needed within the city.

On one of these proposals there has been no petition circulated, so the council will have to decide if it is enough in the public interest to initiate action itself.

When the shopping plaza was built the developers paid for concrete paving on half of Mooney street alongside the area. It was inferred then, and somewhat generally understood, that the remainder of Mooney and through to Shiawassee would soon be paved. There is little doubt this link is needed and would be used extensively.

We hope some equitable method will be figured out with the property owners abutting the street, so that this paving can be completed.

Kill Those Butts.

Seems like the grass fires started early this year, but they're definitely here.

We suspect quite a few of them more so from cigarettes tossed from cars—more so than from owners or renters burning off land. A little reasonable care here might help.

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS



DEARBORN—The Dearborn Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution asking for a seven mill year tax levy for the year 1960 and nine mills in 1961.

While ordering, at close scrutiny of the school program for possible cuts, the Board called for a special election on May 12 for a vote on the tax levy.

The millage is designed to replace 4½ mills (20 percent) of the current operating budget which expires from the tax levied this year and money for increased operating costs and to offset a recent reduction in the city's total assessed valuation.

The addition of the millage is a tax increase of 2½ mills this year, 3½ mills in 1960 and 4½ mills in 1961.

Major economies are going to be needed to even live within this budget, Superintendent Stuart Opender said.

"People who just say 'Yes' to the 4½ mills don't consider the need additional money to hire teachers for the new junior high, additions at several biter schools and to maintain present salary schedules. Even 5½ mills would not keep us even," Opender said.

The Dearborn Press NOV. 1—Dump problems state the village tonight against last week as 250 citizens demanded "immediate action" to correct and "unhealthy" landfill located on a farm near Willowbrook Village.

In a petition to the Council, members of the Willowbrook Association charged that the landfill located on the property of Brook Farm, 10 Mile near Meadowbrook, is being operated in a manner harmful to the residents of the area.

The petition said:—The rubbish dump, which reportedly is not being covered, is causing a dangerous nuisance—The odor from the dumping area is causing an unhealthy atmosphere and is causing the value of adjoining property to fall.

The petition demanded that the village require the landfill owner, Charles Nielsen, to purchase the dump in accordance with the recently enacted village ordinance and in accordance with a regulatory decree handed down last year by a circuit court judge.

The village manager, told the group that he and the police department are already gathering evidence to document charges of violation.

Willowbrook residents have complained that waste piled in the Nielsen landfill area is emptying into a stream running through the subdivision. Novi police have added that the dump is also covered with a foam emitting a "terrible odor."

LIVONIA—About \$97,000 is the price tag that will be necessary to repair Livonia streets and roads and maintain them for the balance of 1959, according to a detail and tight report presented to the mayor by the department of public works director March 15.

A destructive winter is responsible for much of the road damage, it was indicated.

The DPW head said, "The winter was much worse, the DPW head said.

Comparing last year's roads report with this year's, the DPW head shows an increase of 37.9 percent of "inadequate gravel roads" over last year.

PLYMOUTH—Plymouth is paying less per pupil to operate its school system than the average of ten other school districts of comparable size in the Detroit Metropolitan area.

The school board report made by the fact-finding sub-committee of the Plymouth School Community Planning Group.

Figures taken from the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of School Studies showed the per pupil cost of operation in the Plymouth district is \$280, while the average cost, per pupil, in the ten other school districts of comparable size (3,000 to 5,000) was \$290 during the 1957-58 school year. This is a difference of \$48.98 per pupil.

Of the ten districts five had costs lower than Plymouth's and five higher. Dearborn had the highest, Melvindale, Rochester and Trenton had per pupil costs below Plymouth's, and Dearborn, Farmington, River Rouge and Van Dyke costs above Plymouth's.

The Plymouth Mail SOUTHFIELD—An ordinance prohibiting the printing or distribution of certain newspapers, publications and prescribing penalties has passed a second reading by the Southfield City Council.

Through the past few years, particularly at election times, Southfield has been plagued with anonymous letters and publications. The Southfield News

Michigan Quizdown

Can you answer these questions about the Wolverine Wonderland State?

1. WHICH ALLEN AND E. W. RUMSEY SELECTED THE SITE FOR AN ARBOR IN 1924. BOTH MEN WIVES HAPPENED TO HAVE THE SAME FIRST NAME. ONE REASON THERE'S ONLY ONE CITY IN MICHIGAN IN THE WORLD CAN YOU GUESS THAT FIRST NAME?
2. MICHIGANS HIGHEST MOUNTAIN PEAKS REACH SKYWARD 1850 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL. CAN YOU NAME THE UPPER PENINSULA MOUNTAINS?
3. MICHIGANS GREAT LAKES SHORELINE EXCEEDS THE COMBINED PACIFIC COASTLINES OF CALIFORNIA, OREGON AND WASHINGTON BY 500 MILES. DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG MICHIGANS SHORELINE IS?
4. THE WORLD'S LONGEST AND FASTEST MAN-MADE TUBES RUN IN MICHIGAN. TOBACCOGANS SPEED UP TO 100 M.P.H. DOWN ITS 3,000-FOOT-LONG CHUTES. DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS LOCATED?

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MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

Don't Kid Yourself, You Pay Plenty for Roads You Drive On

MOTORISTS PAY for their own highways in Michigan.

They pay slightly under a half-cent a mile in gasoline taxes to the state and slightly under a quarter-cent in Federal taxes. This amounts to 3 cent per gallon at state level, 3 cent per gallon at federal. Then add 3 percent state sales tax.

In addition there is the weight tax paid by buying annual license plates.

Motorists paid an estimated \$138,000,000 in state gasoline taxes last year, a husky sum, according to any state tax collector. The Associated Petroleum Industries of Michigan, Inc., said the average car traveled 14 miles on each gallon of gas last year. Average consumption was 731 gallons.

William Palmer, association executive secretary, advised motorists that the state's 3 percent state gasoline taxes can be deducted from their Federal income tax.

"Motorists may be surprised at how much gasoline taxes they paid last year," he said. The traditional average of 10,000 miles a year per car shows a \$25.86 state gasoline tax and \$21.43 in Federal gasoline tax payments. The Federal tax cannot be deducted.

Palmer warned that the averages are merely guides, and that actual mileage and gasoline consumption should be used in computing taxes.

If a motorist drove 5,000 miles in a year, the averages show he paid \$32.14 in total gasoline taxes. This ranges upward to \$28.97 if he drove 10,000 miles. JOINT OPERATION of a television station by education and commercial interests was pioneered March 15 with the programs of WMSB-TV and WJLX-TV.

They share Channel 10 with a unique combination of academic and commercial interests.

Michigan State University (WMSB-TV) broadcasts on the channel during afternoon and some evening hours, with the commercial side of the operation taking the rest of the schedule.

WATERS WILL DECIDE April 6 whether to give the legislature power to keep state and local governments operating in times of war disaster.

Under the plan, any government wiped out by an enemy attack could be immediately replaced by legislative act to function until orderly processes are restored.

The resolution does not cover the old prospect of a bomb landing on the capital during a legislative session and wiping out the legislature.

MOMENTUM IS GATHERING behind a proposal to reduce the number of state employees, now about 30,000, by refusing to fill vacancies as they occur.

The bill would leave vacant 10 percent of the vacancies the first year, 25 percent the second year, until the present payroll is cut 20 percent.

There are expected to be changes in the proposal to protect smaller agencies in which vacancies would hamper operations.

POTATOS IS GETTING its annual mid-term workout in Michigan.

Republicans are jubilant at the thought that the state's financial crisis will torpedo Governor William's has for his party's 1960 presidential nomination.

Democrats, certain that Williams will leave the state scene after 10 years at the helm, are

Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

25 Years Ago

MARCH 22, 1934

End of CWA
That the days of CWA, with liberal payrolls and a broad program, are past has been known for some time but only Wednesday did it become known how drastic the change would be and how greatly the Federal government's program of assistance is to be curtailed.

Farmington's CWA program will be terminated Saturday night. The school improvement and sewer projects are being rushed. It is expected that a bridge on the school grounds will be completed before Saturday night.

Great disappointment for numerous men and their families is conceded, but the County Relief Administration, says there appears to be help for it. The new plan requires that henceforth all materials for projects must also be provided by the local governments.

All CWA projects will be suspended as of March 21. A work division will be organized within the State and County relief organizations in its place.

10 Years Ago

MARCH 24, 1949

Grass Fire
A total of 21 runs were made by the Farmington Fire Department over a three-day period last weekend as an epidemic of fires swept through the city and township.

The big hazard was that several times, when all the fire-fighting equipment was out continually on the go during the three-day period with the new township fire-fighting truck and the old fire truck both seeing plenty of action.

The record number of grass fires were attributed to the dry, warm weather over the weekend.

The big hazard hazard was that several times, when all the fire-fighting equipment was out continually on the go during the three-day period with the new township fire-fighting truck and the old fire truck both seeing plenty of action.

A warning was issued this week. Any person wishing to burn dead grass on their property.

GRAHAM FOR FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL

—Paid Political Advertisement



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This festive occasion was followed on the next Wednesday by a good-bye to Mrs. (Scholar) left for Grand Rapids after spending the past seven months with the Smith family.

Chris, Gretchen, and Michele were happy with the news however, that "Aunt" would spend Easter, with them before visiting Pittsburgh to see the Gardner family and traveling out to the Lewand home in Kansas City, Missouri, to the Frank Ransons, visiting another daughter.

Barb and Derald Katterman had their son Lee with them for his birthday. This seventh birthday celebration was held last Thursday evening.

The new \$2.50 and \$5.00 books of U. S. Savings Stamps are handy and dandy for all gift occasions. Ask at your post office. 2¢ each costs money. Every dollar you put into U. S. Savings Bonds helps build America's power for peace.

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The Michigan Education Association (MEA) is a professional organization that is at the service of every Michigan educator. Nearly 85 per cent of all Michigan teachers are members.

"Discourage litigation. The nominal winner is often a real loser—in fees, expenses, and waste of time. As a peacemaker the lawyer has a superior opportunity of being a good man." — Abraham Lincoln (1850).

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5 Years Ago
MARCH 25, 1953
School Election
A moderate to heavy vote is being predicted in the special Farmington Township School District election on the proposed \$2½ million bond issue next Monday.

Two actual proposals will be voted upon the special election. One will ask permission to borrow the \$1½ million for the construction of approximately 40 new elementary classrooms, a classroom and gymnasium addition to the high school, the purchase of sites for elementary buildings and equipment for the buildings. The second proposal will ask permission to increase the tax limit which may be assessed each year. Passage of the first issue without approval on the second would automatically stamp disapproval on both.

Have you seen the new \$2.50 and \$5.00 gift books of U. S. Savings Stamps? Postoffice sell them; thirty gifts buy for birthdays, brides, babies, or children. For \$18.75 in these stamps you can buy a \$25 U. S. Bond.

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