

Editorial Page

The Taxes We Pay

A great many people have been told they pay a lot of hidden taxes on everything they buy. They usually don't much care, or don't realize, or wouldn't know how to find out. Here's one example we all can understand.

Taxes represent almost one-fourth the cost the consumer pays for the average low-priced car. This was reported recently by Robert J. Eggert, Ford Motor marketing specialist, at a Chicago meeting.

Automobile Manufacturers Ass'n and related data show, he said, that the consumer spending \$2,500 for a low-priced car is paying \$600 in taxes. The compilation was based on three-year average expenditures for a low-priced car which a typical consumer actually purchased.

The biggest single item, he said, is the "present discriminatory excise tax of ten per cent." This represents \$200 of the \$2,500 purchase price. Property, income and other miscellaneous taxes on the manufacturer add \$150 and taxes in the price of purchased materials and parts add another \$140. At the dealer level, property, income and miscellaneous taxes add \$20 and then the consumer pays \$90 for state sales taxes, license and title fees.

The result, he said, is that taxes on a new car actually exceed total marketing costs by \$100.

The Diner's Guide

When Duncan Hines died recently, it brought forth many stories about his life, the reasons for and success of his books. That's because a great many Americans used his books to advantage when they traveled. We imagine that the organization will continue them for some years.

It's fun just to look through these books, just as it is fun to plan a trip. In his 1959 edition of Adventures in Good Eating is listed 3,400 places by name, location, price, and hours of service.

As footnotes at the bottom of a few pages, some realistic advice is offered to diners, such as:

No matter where the ham comes from, if good, it would require a very poor cook to spoil it in cooking . . . I do not return, to a place where those who serve act as though they are doing me a favor . . . Little things such as clean tops on ketchup bottles and spotless sugar bowls show an attention to detail that carries over into the food preparation which goes on behind the scenes . . . When I run into table silver that has a clammy, greasy feel and looks like pewter, I walk out . . . Avoid, as you would the plague, any restaurant that smells even faintly of stale grease. It's a sure sign of poor cooking.

Your Blood Needed

The Red Cross blood donation crew will be in Farmington next Tuesday, May 19, at the American Legion Hall on Grand River at Lakeway. Hours are 1:45 to 7:45 p.m.

Farmington (or any other community) has never given enough support to this program. It just isn't possible to do too much. But how about you, personally, giving a pint of blood next Tuesday?

The Farmington Enterprise

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

SOUTHFIELD — Township Park Week Day will be observed Saturday, May 16.

An invitation has been extended to all township residents in Franklin and Bloomfield, Farmington to lend a hand in cleaning up the park by Township Supervisor Hugh G. Allerton, Jr.

Work will start at 9 a.m. If weather does not cooperate then the job will be done on the following Saturday. The 40-acre overgrown, undeveloped park off Beverly road west of Southfield road is owned by the township. A sum of \$5,000 was set aside in the 1958-59 budget for its improvement.

Township officials anticipate increased use of the park by various organizations with its improvement.

"We're asking people to bring shovels, axes and a power or chain saw if anyone has one," Allerton said.

The Village Crier

BIRMINGHAM—Their downtown commercial area at a strategic economic crossroads, 35 Birmingham merchants and property owners last week took the first step toward what they believe will eventually make their city Michigan's most exclusive and distinctive shopping center.

They named a nine-member nominating committee whose job will be to pick a chairman to spearhead a revitalization and strengthening of Birmingham's central business core.

All agreed that action was needed immediately. A large increase in office and store vacancies had been anticipated but that the vacancies were running longer than in previous years.

Commissioner Roberts gave a warning to the group: "We talked for quite a few years about getting together on our parking problems. We had to reach the critical stage before we took action. I hope we don't have to reach the critical stage before we do something to prevent our business section's life."

The Birmingham Eccentric

NOVI—Voters in Novi will vote the polls June 16 to decide whether the village should be incorporated as a city. Date for the election was set last Monday night by the village commissioners.

The resolution setting the election date was unanimously approved by the councilmen who may be voting themselves right out of office, however, but set a date. Village Attorney Howard Bond told them they were required by law to set the election date because the required number of residents signed petitions requesting such an election.

The Novi News

DEARBORN—Merchants to the first, 10th and 11th floors began a free-standing parking lot for Dearborn this week by setting up a steering committee to find the best way to pay off \$640,000 still owed on city parking lots.

Although he said plans have not reached the "near future" stage, Richard Chapman, executive vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce, said merchants are very serious about meeting the challenge of shopping centers in other suburban communities.

The plan is that the businesses and land owners would pay off the bonds by means of special taxes on their property assessed in proportion to the benefit they would get from free parking. The proposal would cover both east and west Dearborn since the bonds were issued for the entire city. It would take ten years to pay off the total amount.

—The Dearborn Press

WAYNE—The Village Council has appropriated \$2,500 toward initial survey work in the proposed downtown development project and set a special meeting with the planning commission to discuss plans.

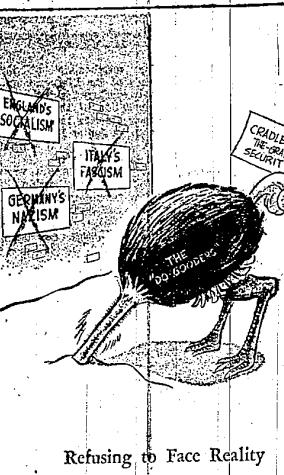
Consequently, it was agreed that a General Neighborhood Plan application should be filed with the federal government while a plan is being developed and studied in the village.

Under this plan, President George H. Smith said, "proposed new concrete pavements on certain streets such as Sims and Second and also the acquisition for street widening and other areas such as Michigan Ave. and in the civic center, would thus qualify for credits."

The Wayne Dispatch

ENRICO'S
SOCIALISM
ITALY'S
FASCISM
GEORGINA'S
NAZISM
THE
DO-GODS
REFUSING TO
FACE REALITY

THE AMERICAN WAY



MICHIGAN MIRROR • by ELMER WHITE

Interest in Politics in State For Off-Year Extremely High

POLITICAL LEADERS ARE

watching the 1959 off-year with odd fascination.

It is an unusual year of jockeying for 1960 position, with the public sentiment ebbing, then

blaring. Republicans and Dem

ocrats alike hope they get

the most out of it.

In the heat of the state's fi

nancial problems, both Gov

Williams and Republicans in

the legislature are vying for

the designation of martyr while

trying to tag the opponent with

the tag of villainy.

Williams made himself un

popular for a time by asking

the Veterans' Trust Fund

temporarily to bolster the

state's finances during a period

of emergency.

Democrats refused to provide

enough votes to pass a sales tax

bill on the April 6 ballot, a move

Republicans believed

was the desire of the voters, if

a tax were needed.

Williams, ordering payless

paydays, blasted the legislative

Democrats on the subject, legis

lators took on martyrdom.

SENTIMENT IS

gathering steam for a constitutional

convention or, if that fails, re

apportionment of the legislature

of the conditions of 1959.

Democrats long have

contended that the legislature now

represents more "area" than

Republicans, answer

that all interests, area as well

as people, should have a voice.

The fight goes on, but

Democrats are watching 1959, for

in what they can expect in

1960.

CITIZENS IN MORE

than 500 communities in Michigan

will pay tribute to the indus

tries, businesses, farms, ser

vices and other activities which

provided their livelihood during

Michigan Week.

The state was publicized as a

model in the midst of Michigan

in the nation's leading per

iodicals so the shore of Michi

gan Week, May 17-23, will be

the highlight of the year.

Its purpose is to publicize

the state as a good place to live

and to do business, both in

the state and in the nation.

The awards will be sent

to every U.S. college and uni

versity with the recommendation

that these students be con

sidered for scholarship assist

ance.

According to J. N. Hook,

NCTC Executive Secretary, the

awards program was initiated

in 1947 in response to Presi

dent Eisenhower's statement

that America needs its Einst

ins.

"There were more than 2,000

nominees for the first awards,"

said Hook, "and we expect

about 5,000 for this second

"round."

The quality of the writing

submitted by last year's win

ners in the competition

was high, Hook said. "It con

sists of positive answer to

statements that American

youth can't write effectively.

These students, and thousands

more, are learning to use the

language with precision, and

confidence.

Founded in 1911, the NCTC

is a professional, not-for-profit

organization of teachers of Eng

lish in all levels. Currently the

council's five professional

publications is

over \$1,000.

May 1 was selected as the

date for the annual observa

tion because that date is signifi

cant to all.

The vitality of our legal

system is essential to main

aining our freedoms, depends

on broad, public understanding

and support," said Gov. Wil

liam H. G. Allerton.

Chief Justice John R. Detm

ers, of the Michigan Supreme

Court, reiterated that "our

country is a civilization of

laws, not of men."

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YOUTH'S GIFT IN trouble be

cause of youths

was the theme of Dr.

Coleridge

Looking Back Thru

The Enterprise Files

25 Years Ago

MAY 10, 1939

Catholic School

A new school building is to

be erected by Our Lady of

Sorrows Church of Farmington,

on the north side of Grand River

Avenue. Cost of the building

is \$10,000. The administration

is to be conducted by the

administration

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