

Editorial Page

Free Parking Lots

Merchants over at Plymouth took a big step forward last week when their Central Parking Lot was taken over from the city and made free for parking by all visitors.

Meanwhile in downtown Farmington no one seems to be thinking any more about our lack of public parking, or even metered parking. True, most of the fill required for the parking lot across Farmington Road east of the library is now in place, and this summer will be graded and surfaced temporarily, then black-topped probably next summer when it has settled sufficiently. The city officials have gone ahead and done this on their own. Anything more must come from the business men.

At Plymouth a committee from the Chamber of Commerce got busy and went out after pledges for more than \$5,000, from merchants whose stores border the large parking lot. This will lease the lot from the city for a year, and make all off-street parking lots in Plymouth free. Meters remain in congested places on streets.

The downtown business district in Plymouth has and faces more competition from outlying shopping centers. It's a pretty safe bet the downtown businesses will hold their own, because they are aware of the economic facts of life.

Renegade Clarkson

Our own fourth district state representative, James Clarkson of Berkley, may be on a bit of a hot seat just now. A Democrat, he was one of a couple who voted against the Democrats' "piggy-back income tax plan."

He explains it was a campaign promise of his in 1956 and 1958 to oppose any form of income tax, and he is simply keeping his word to the people who elected him. Representative Clarkson, an attorney, seriously doubts the constitutionality of this plan, and dislikes the way it hits various classes of people and redistributes wealth and income.

The state Democratic organization keeps officials and legislators pretty much in line, and Mr. Clarkson is undoubtedly soon to get a reprimand. But a lot of people other than Republicans will agree with our representative.

Fancy Interest Rates

Have you noticed ads urging investment of your money with interest rates up to six and seven per cent? Mostly in savings and loan associations.

Might pay to do a little checking first. These are often not savings and loan organizations in California or some other fast-growing area, and the mortgages such that an economic downturn could wipe out the equities of owners pretty fast, leaving a real mess — with your money.

—Sure, these organizations paying such high interest rates claim they are insured. Friend of ours traced down that insurance a certain association claimed. It was insurance from Algiers, or some such foreign country—NOT U.S. government insured.

The legal limit now of 3 per cent interest in our own area may sound tame, but there's little doubt in our minds but what it's a great deal safer. We also wonder how fast your money would be withdrawn from some far away institution if you needed it badly.

The Farmington Enterprise

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

SOUTHFIELD—This is one of the finest days in the history of Southfield, Michigan, as the city council met last Monday.

And, indeed it was. The Council had just authorized the purchase of a new civic site. The parcel lies east of Evergreen between Ten and Eleven Mile roads.

The land is planned for a future luptech civic and recreational center for the City of Southfield.

Owned by James Thompson and his sister, Mary, the land will be purchased for a price of \$450,000 an acre, or a total cost of \$477,000. The Thompsons have reportedly turned their backs on more lucrative offers to make the site available to the city at the slimmed down figure.

The city also has put an option to buy from the Thompsons an additional 6 acres to the south. If Southfield picks up the option, the added option will be \$270,000.

Terms of the purchase call for \$100,000 by July 30 and a \$50,000 payment in 1960, followed by yearly payments of \$25,000. The interest on the unpaid balance is set at 5% per annum.

—The Southfield News

NOVI—The three year, battle over the annexation of 220 acres that includes the Warren Products plant ended last week with the decision going to the City of Novi.

A Michigan's supreme court handed down a decision upholding a lower court ruling to permit the annexation of the area to Novi.

The supreme court's decision presumably brings to an end Warren's fight to stay within the boundaries of the town.

Since the fight began, Novi township has been in Warren's corner, lending limited financial aid.

Court cases began in 1956 when the original annexation of 220 acres of Novi township (including the Warren plant) took place. The firm was a reversal of the actual in Oakland County circuit court when vote fraud was claimed by the election.

The area was again annexed to Novi in a November, 1957, and the action upheld in circuit court when Warren brought suit claiming the law governing such annexations had been misinterpreted. Warren officials declined to accept the lower court decision and appealed to the supreme court for an opinion.

—The Novi News

PLYMOUTH—Two copies of the proposed City of Plymouth Heights charter amendments were forwarded to Governor G. Mennen Williams for his approval, the Plymouth Heights Charter Commission announced.

This climaxed three months of work on the document. Following approval by the governor, the amendments will set a date for a charter election. Residents of the area proposed to be included in the new city will have plenty of time to study the charter before being asked to vote on it, an official spokesman for the charter commission said.

Included within the proposed city of about 13 square miles is all of Plymouth Township east of McClumpha Road.

—The Plymouth Mail

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—Charing Cross estates' request to turn their water system over to Bloomfield Township was approved by the Township Board at its meeting last week.

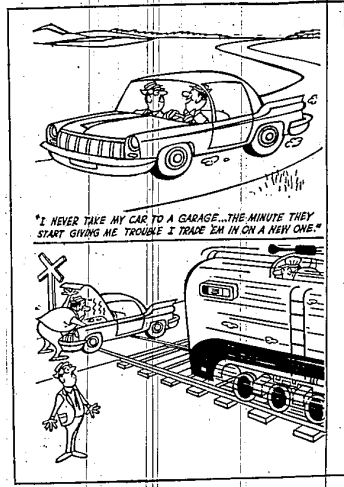
A \$21,000 water main will be installed in the subdivision located in the township's east part. To be paid for by subdivision residents through a bond issue, the water main specifications include installation of 10 fire hydrants which will reduce insurance rates.

At the same time the Board refused to take over the water system of a new 46 home addition to Hammond Lake Estates, since part of the subdivision lies in West Bloomfield Township.

A \$800 direct sewer tap fee being required by Bloomfield Township was protested to by the Charing Cross Estates spokesman, but to no avail.

—The Birmingham Eccentric

The Luckless Legion by Irwin Caplan



95% of the vehicles involved in accidents in 1958 were in apparently good condition.

MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

Famous Michigan Ferry Boat, Vacationland, Now Up for Sale

SHIPPERS AROUND THE WORLD will be asked to take a look at the price of Michigan's ferry fleet, the Vacationland, now up for sale.

The vessel is the last of the five-hundred-ton fleet which linked the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan before the \$100,000 Mackinac Bridge was opened Nov. 1, 1957.

The Vacationland is a fraction of their original cost. The Vacationland is moored alone and lonely at the St. Ignace dock, barred by the law which authorized construction of the bridge from ever making the trip again.

To protect buyers of the bridge bonds, the law states that there can be no boats in competition with the bridge, which is being paid for by tolls.

The Vacationland now is occupied by only one watchman which used to follow the fleet between Mackinac City and St. Ignace.

The trip which formerly took 40 minutes in good weather, is now a 10 minute drive through the sky over the bridge.

The Vacationland, the largest of the fleet, can carry 675 passengers and 140 vehicles.

Philip H. Anderson, deputy director of the purchasing division of the state department of administration, sees new hope for selling the Vacationland in the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

"Now that we have the seaway and can get her out of the Great Lakes Basin, we shouldn't have much trouble selling her," said Anderson.

HISTORY WHICH HELPED

The request came to Michigan from Virginia Gov. Lindsey Almon to take part in the celebration.

To ease the fears of families and relatives of the men going to Virginia in two years, there are assurances that none of the guns will be loaded, with live ammunition at least.

POLITICAL OBSERVERS see Gov. Williams confronted with a dilemma of his own making.

His party friends and theirs apparently believe he will not be a candidate for a seventh term, but will make his stand in the national Democratic picture next year.

They have encouragement in this belief by Williams' frequent visits to other states, his speeches on national and other factors.

Most of his party's strategists feel that the financial plight of Michigan has wrecked his chances for a national nomination next year.

A conference of party leaders in Denver, Colo., indicated that he must succeed in overpowering the Republican-controlled legislature this year or fall for the present in the national picture.

Indications of dissent in his own party this year point out to trouble for the record setting Democratic governor.

MOST OF WILLIAMS' program was scrapped by the legislature when the deadline

Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

25 Years Ago

JUNE 21, 1934
Lots of Water
"Use all the water you want to," is the message of Farmington City officials to residents of the city who are interested in watering their lawns and keeping them green throughout the summer.

The extreme drought has resulted in the water being used for sprinkling. There is no likelihood of any shortage in water, regardless of the extent of the drought period, city officials say. The city's wells are regarded as exceptional and capable of furnishing practically an unlimited supply of water. Consequently, there is no need for curtailment by any resident.

In many communities in the area hours have been limited for sprinkling and in some sprinkling has been restricted completely because of officials' fear that a serious shortage for drinking and washing might develop.

Some trouble was experienced here with the automatic pumping equipment, but the problem was soon overcome by shifting to manual operation for a short period of time.

Homestead Site

Farmington Township citizens, particularly those to the north, have manifested interest in reports that an acreage near Orchard Lake and 13 Mile Road may be started within three weeks as a subsistence homestead, unit under sponsorship of the Federal Government.

There is a considerable amount of skepticism, however, and many feel that it is nothing more than a false rumor.

10 Years Ago

JUNE 10, 1942
Dog Quarantine

Rigid quarantine was placed on all dogs in this area last week by the animal commission for Oakland County. The county dog commissioner has instructed deputy dog wardens James Ethier to pick up all dogs found running loose in both the city and township. Owners of dogs picked up will be prosecuted. If the owners is not located immediately the dog will be destroyed.

The rigid quarantine has been necessitated by an outbreak of rabies in this area. To date, in the Farmington area alone there have been 50 dogs bled reported. There are five dogs known to have rabies and ten others suspected of harboring the disease.

2nd Zoning Group

Residents in the southern part of Farmington Township have begun work on the organization of a permanent civic association which will have as its first job that of campaign for the zoning ordinance.

The new organization, working in cooperation with the North Farmington Civic Association, has organized under the name of the Southeast Farmington Township Civic Association.

Walled Lake Is Elks Picnic Site

On July 5th, the Farmington Elks Lodge will hold their 4th annual picnic at the Walled Lake Amusement Park.

An extra attraction at Walled Lake that day is the selection of a young lady to represent Michigan in the Miss Universe Contest. The young lady selected will compete against winners from other areas in the country at a later date. The contestants for this honor will be judged in bathing suits in the afternoon and in evening gowns during the evening of July 5th.

After games and races for the youngsters and a softball game will come the fireworks, and the trip to Hawaii and to Miami will be awarded.

Proceeds from the picnic will be used for the various projects that are currently underway by the local Elks.

Gets Degree at Hillsdale College

At the recent commencement exercises held on the campus of Hillsdale College, Richard A. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard L. Smith of 30342 12 Mile Road, was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Smith is affiliated with Kappa Sigma Kappa social fraternity. He is a graduate of Farmington High School.

The first junior high schools to operate separately with the early high school grades were the McKinley and Washington schools of Berkeley, California. They were authorized in December 1909, and opened as "introductory high schools" in January 1910.

HOW MUCH better a woman feels after a good cry depends on what she got out of it.

No, we won't be open Sunday (Father's Day) as all of us will be home observing our own Father's Day celebrations.

Nevertheless, we can truthfully say that Himmelspach's is Popular with Pop! He probably eats here regularly—the dining room or lunch room. He likes the air conditioning, the tasty summer menus. During the week, bring the entire family!



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Hi Folks:

With vacation time here and most everybody outside and vacationing, inside activities and local newsmen of interest are mighty scarce. As a result I've elected to cease printing the column until fall. Should you have any news items, however, please feel free to call me and I will see that it is forwarded to the Enterprise. Will see you in print next fall, and have a nice summer.

—Darlene Wilson

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