

Editorial Page

Twp. Police Protection

We, like most other people, tend to take the many services our police provide for us for granted.

A common first view of a "cop" is that guy in a police-car back a ways on a side-street or behind a sign waiting to pull out onto the main roadway to nab a speeder. Another common view of the policeman is that he's the guy at the scene of an auto accident who won't let me stop to see what really happened. Issuing tickets for traffic violations and investigating auto accidents is an important part of a policeman's duties but far from the major portion of them as many of us are inclined to believe.

This was brought strongly home to us in the figures released last week for 1949 by Township Police Chief Irving Yakes. A total of 8,356 calls were answered by the township police force during the 12-month period but only 349 of these were to investigate auto accidents (or less than five per cent). Although no figures were given for the number of tickets issued traffic violators by the township force, it has never been noted for being a heavy ticket issuing department.

With an extremely small force—seven regular men until only recently when an eighth man was added—time for nabbing speeders, reckless drivers, etc. is at a minimum.

Routine patrolling of the heavy network of highways, and roads in the approximately 38 square mile area the township force serves is a major task in itself. This plus answering an average of nearly one call every hour of every day in the week keeps men on the force busy. Delivering babies, rushing expectant mothers or heart attack victims to hospitals, quelling domestic troubles, putting down public disturbances and doing check of business places are but a few of the patrolman's duties.

We feel that the township force should be highly commended for the fine job it is doing in protecting township residents. Conservative estimates are that there are at least 24,000 people living in Farmington Township. Working on eight-hour shifts, five or five and one-half days a week, this means that there can be only two patrolmen on duty for any one shift. Fortunately, there are 17 auxiliary policemen who give a big assist during the night hours.

Neighboring communities with much larger forces in comparison to the area and population they serve have no better records than Farmington townships.

Granted, services provided by the township police force could be better and we are certain that no group would like to provide these added services more than the members of the force themselves. But, additional services mean more money and the township doesn't have it.

Again we want to repeat that we feel the township police force is doing a splendid job. Limited personnel and equipment would make doing a much better job impossible.

Citizens for Michigan

How successful the original members of the local area chapter of Citizens for Michigan will be in attracting other intelligent citizens in the community to become active members we are not at all certain.

That such an organization has been formed in this area and that other such similar groups have been or are being formed throughout the state is a good sign.

There is a definite need for organizations such as these to make impartial studies and then recommendations on the bases of the factual information gathered. Not only are they needed at the state level but at local levels as well.

Government at all levels in this fine country of ours was designed to be for the benefit of its people. It cannot be kept that way, however, unless the people care enough to put forth some efforts to keep it so.

This is why we are strong advocates of all citizens groups which have as their "honest" objectives the gaining of a clearer understanding of government and campaigning for improvements for the betterment of their fellow men as a whole.

School citizens advisory committees, and community and neighborhood improvement associations are a truly important part of a democratic form of government.

The Farmington Enterprise

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WEST POINT PARK NEWS

MISS L. A. AULT
Phone GR. 4-4234

Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Reddy entertained a square dance group at their home on Shady-side Ave., Saturday evening, Jan. 2. There were 22 present. While her husband is employed in northern Michigan, Mrs. Reddy from Northville is spending a few weeks at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Roberts, of Mayfield Ave.

The Fred Kanski family of Osmus Ave visited with relatives in Rochester last Sunday afternoon.

THE FUTURE. Nurses Group of Bentley High plan putting in some profitable hours at Ardmore Sanitarium on Farmington Rd.

Mr. and Mrs. William Dixon of Shady-side Ave. have both been quite ill with flu attacks. The Mitchell family who have been occupying the Fleming cottage on Mayfield Ave. have moved to another location.

Walter Dixon of Breton Rd. who has been convalescing from a serious illness, was able to return to his employment Tuesday.

Raymond Ackers from Howell was visiting with Mrs. Ackers' mother, Mrs. Grace Simpson, on Mayfield Ave. last Sunday evening.

R. E. W. STANGE of Mayfield Ave., notified Tuesday of the death of her sister-in-law, John Wallace, in River Rouge. However, Stange is seriously ill and was unable to attend funeral services held Friday. Mrs. Stange is also quite ill.

Mrs. Helen Ault, Mayfield Ave., who has been quite ill with a flu attack, is much improved.

Clarence Roberts, Mayfield Ave. who for several weeks was a patient in Redford Community Hospital, is now home again. Surgery planned was postponed for a month or two.

Phyllis, Cathy and David Read from South Lyon were overnight guests Friday of the Ackers. Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ault, on Brentwood Ave., are in Redford Community Hospital and is scheduled for major surgery.

Mrs. Harold McVicar, Shady-side Ave., has been on the sick list this last several days. Her husband also has been ill.

Linda, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shady-side Ave., is reported on the sick list.

Caroline, baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Richardson, W. 8 Mile Rd., is convalescing from a serious attack of illness.

Members of the Centers family on Westmore and the Roberts family on Mayfield Ave. are reported recent flu victims.

MRS. AUSTIN AULT, Brentwood Ave., is suffering with painful, crippling attack of arthritis.

For observation and tests, Mrs. Herman Schuk of Shady-side Ave. is expected to become a patient in a Pontiac hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Addis from near Pontiac were recent visitors at the McVicar home on Shady-side Ave.

Mrs. Walter Dixon, Breton Rd., was recently visiting at the hospital in Ypsilanti.

During the week, Mrs. V. C. Reddy of Shady-side Ave. came to West with an attack of the fashionable flu.

BECAUSE OF THE large number of persons, old and young, suffering with severe colds and flu, social gatherings and group meetings generally in this community have been interfered with or postponed.

Many residents of this neighborhood were saddened this past week by the death of a long illness, of Robert L. Parrish, of Shady-side Ave. For a number of years he had resided in this area and was a highly respected member of the community. His wife, Elma and a son, Robert, Jr., survive him. He was an elder in the Redford Presbyterian Church and services were held in that church at 2 p.m. Saturday. For burial the body was taken to Nashville, Tennessee, where Mr. Parrish has spent the earlier years of his life.

Goodwill Industries, of Detroit, are anxiously desiring us, able, repairable household items, for their drive to supply gainful employment to handicapped workers, who might otherwise be dependent on charity. A truck from Goodwill Industries is collecting in this area practically every Monday. To arrange for a pickup call Miss Lora Ault, Greenleaf 4-4234.

Bill Conroy Does Too!
Phone GR. 4-3511

Do You Remember . . .



THIS AREA was one of the major apple growing sections in the state back 50 or 60 years ago. Proper care of fruit trees was important to the citizens of Farmington, many of whom relied on their orchards for at least a portion of their annual income. This old gent was an expert tree pruner and an authority on tree diseases, etc., so we were told. We were not able to learn his name. If you know, please notify us. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Henrietta Adams.)

Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

15 Years Ago

JANUARY 11, 1935
Bank Dividend
The annual meeting and election of officers and directors of the Farmington State Bank was held Tuesday. It was revealed that the bank had completed one of its most remarkable years of progress and

At the close of business on Dec. 30, 1934, total assets of the bank were listed at \$3,334,687 while the assets at the close of business Dec. 30, 1934, were \$4,355,735.88.

10 Years Ago

JANUARY 12, 1925
Light Field
The Farmington School Board Monday night heard the first and incomplete report from the committee it appointed last month to investigate the feasibility of constructing a night football game field for Farmington High.

Committee member Curt Hall made a tentative estimate of the cost at between 25 and 30 thousand dollars. This would include the erecting of a crude building for lockers and showers, rooms, and grading the field and erection of bleacher seats.

Members of the Board felt the

\$130 Million in Road Contracts Let in 1959

The Michigan State Highway Department let more than \$120 million in new road and bridge contracts during 1959 and despite a federal contract control system which caused postponement of four scheduled lettings involving about \$40 million in contracts, Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie said recently.

The lettings were canceled in the last quarter of 1959 shortly after the controls were announced along with a reduction in federal interstate aid funds.

Subsequently, Mackie announced his intent to try to keep the state road building program on schedule in 1960 by stepping up issuance of state highway bonds and apply for federal aid on a deferred basis. This deferred or delayed aid could not be collected until after 1961.

In 1959, the Highway Department let \$141 million in contracts—\$21 million more than in 1959.

The contracts let this year were provided for more than 170 miles of interstate and arterial four-lane expressways.

Highway Department officials have estimated that \$225 million in new roads will be put under contract in 1960, which includes more than 350 miles of interstate and arterial expressway construction.

The Highway Department set an all time high for a single bid letting when more than \$20 million in contracts were let last May 6. There were 27 lettings held during 1959 while 39 lettings are scheduled in 1960.

Where QUALITY Is Tops!

Closed On Sunday

the FINEST OF DINING SERVICE at

Himmelspach

DINING ROOM

33219 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161

KNOW YOUR PROPERTY TAXES

Local Assessed Valuations Can be Protested in March

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles prepared by D. Hale Brakes, President of the Michigan Institute of Local Government.

Most of us kick about our property taxes, particularly as they increase from year to year. Very few of us, however, fully understand the procedure that is followed which leads up to the amount that we are to pay in December or January. The attempt in this series of three articles will be to follow the steps that lead up to the place before the township or city treasurer is given the tax roll and directed to collect the taxes.

We will not, however, cover the budget procedure and allocation by the county allocation board.

REGARDLESS of where the money goes, the tax rate is the same. The township or city treasurer is given the tax roll and directed to collect the taxes.

The first step is taken by the township supervisor or the city assessor. Each is supposed to place a value upon every parcel of real estate that is taxable, and all taxable, tangible personal property within the territory, and to fix that value as of the 31st of December.

Next, the assessor or supervisor must prepare a list of all the taxable property in the township or city, and the value of each, and the total value of all the taxable property in the township or city.

IF A SUPERVISOR or regular assessor assesses one piece of property at what he thinks is 50 per cent of its cash value, then every other farm, other lot, every stock of merchandise, every other bit of personal property in that township should be assessed at 50 per cent of its cash value.

If some of the property is assessed at 50 per cent, some at 25 per cent, and perhaps some other at 75 per cent, and no appeal is taken to the state tax commission, there will be no cure for that injustice later on, because when the supervisor and the board of review get through with their work they will have taken the last step so far as the relative value of the various items in that township or city is concerned.

GETTING the relative value of each parcel or part of the property in the township on the same basis is the really important thing for the supervisor and his board of review to do. The board of review (which we will discuss next week and the week thereafter) are taken properly it will make no difference in the

Local Assessed Valuations Can be Protested in March

amount of taxes each of us will have to pay whether the supervisor assesses us all at 40 per cent, 50 per cent, or some other percentage of our cash value. It will cause irreparable injustice if he has some of us high and others of us low.

In the next article we shall see what county equipment has to do with the problem, and the week thereafter we will deal with the final step, namely, state equalization.

Noted Realtor Will Talk Here

Speaker at the Jan. 14 luncheon meeting for United Northwestern Realty Western Wayne Board of Realtors will be W. Earl Taylor. The group holds luncheon meetings each Thursday at Cregar's, Grand River at Outer Drive.

Realtor Taylor, of Ann Arbor, is a U. of Mich. extension service instructor, teaches real estate sales technique, and his sales technique talk is the first of a monthly series. Also to be shown is a new film titled "The House Hunters".

The average Michigan motorist drove about 10,000 miles during 1959 compared to 9,700 during 1958.

LAVERY INSURANCE AGENCY

FIRE - LIFE - AUTO
80760 Grand River (Near Nine Mile) Phone GR. 4-6933

Report of Condition of MANUFACTURERS NATIONAL BANK

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 31, 1959

RESOURCES

Cash and Due from Banks..... \$178,056,712.48
United States Government Securities..... \$403,590,615.17
Public Housing Authority Bonds and Notes..... 27,692,189.28
State and Municipal Securities..... 44,425,850.61
Other Securities..... 1,324,687.50

Loans and Discounts..... 258,671,295.70
Real Estate Mortgages—F.H.A..... 54,496,485.57
Veteran..... 13,766,078.17
All Other..... 34,593,438.63
Bank Properties and Equipment..... 361,527,298.07
Accrued Income and Other Resources..... 8,063,099.48
Total..... 3,311,702.29
\$849,935,442.40

LIABILITIES

Demand Deposits:
Individuals, Corporations and Banks..... \$441,731,082.74
United States Government..... 36,599,169.94
Other Public Funds..... 29,785,454.87
Savings Deposits..... \$508,106,707.55
Total Deposits..... 272,968,617.07
Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities..... 13,701,510.89
Capital Funds:
Common Stock (\$10.00 Par Value)..... 12,728,500.00
Surplus..... 28,271,500.00
Undivided Profits..... 14,158,606.89
Total..... \$5,158,606.89
\$849,935,442.40

MEMORANDA

Securities pledged to secure public deposits, including deposits of \$3,490,183.17 of the State of Michigan, and for other purposes required by law. Loans as shown above are after deductions of reserves of..... \$90,493,976.08
5,378,763.55

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