

**Look Over Your Fence, Neighbor!**

Why doesn't the Observer confine all of its news coverage in one community strictly to the activities of that particular community? Why does the Observer have news of all communities in its circulation area in each of the four newspapers in its chain that cover Livonia, Plymouth, Redford Township, Farmington and portions of Nankin and Canton Townships.

The answers to these often asked questions provide an excellent insight into the philosophy of Western Wayne County's fastest growing chain of weekly newspapers.

Under the guidance of the late Paul Chandler, the Observer Newspapers adopted a policy of having a separate newspaper in each of its four communities but to spread news of each community in each of the papers in the firm belief that readers no longer are interested in news of only their community.

The mushrooming growth in the suburbs and especially in the Observer Newspapers' circulation area has brought a new group of residents. These people come from Redford Township to Plymouth, Livonia to Farmington, Farmington to Livonia and Redford, Farmington to Redford, Livonia and Plymouth and vice versa.

Realizing this, the Observer Newspapers' thinking is that the newcomers want to know what is happening in their old home area as well as in the new.

The days when Plymouth, Farmington, Livonia or Redford Township could think of themselves as only that area within its limits—as it surrounded by a wall closing out all other communities—is rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

The newcomers in Livonia want to know what's happening in Livonia, just as the folks in Livonia want to know of the activities of their former neighbors and still friends.

The sports field has expanded to the point where fans are much concerned with the events in neighboring communities as in their own. These are just a few of the reasons why the Observer Newspapers aim for overall coverage as much as possible.

The recent suicide of a juvenile in the Livonia Police Station; the triple murder there last summer; the Livonia bank robbery, had just as much interest in the surrounding areas as within the city limits of that thriving community.

The arrest of the state chief of the Nazi party in Farmington attracted attention from all corners and there was a reader anywhere who didn't have more than a casual interest in the pictures of the Big Show as it hit and affected the surrounding areas.

Then, too, there is the matter of advertising. In the Observer Newspapers, readers in the five-community area have a chance to glance at the numerous floor plans and signs before deciding where the bargains are and where to shop.

These are just a few of the reasons why the Observer believes in overall news. Naturally, we have a front page devoted to the community in which that particular newspaper is written and edited but basically, the Observer believes in covering the area in which we aim for and hope we have achieved.

R. T. THOMPSON

**Congregation On The Move**

Originally organized in Farmington, the Birmingham Temple is an affluent and gifted congregation of reform Jews. Its spiritual leader is eloquent, high-minded, and a national celebrity.

But they have become a buffeted and embattled sect.

Its members and its Rabbi, Shervin Wine, feel they are being persecuted.

Their persecutors are not storm troopers, nor cops; but the subtle, irresistible pressures of conformity—demanding that society be composed, to borrow a phrase from a famous folk song of "little boxes all the same."

Three months ago, the Detroit Free Press described Rabbi Wine as an atheist. He immediately complained that this was a misleading simplification of his views.

Nevertheless, a storm of protest burst upon him. It was led by some of his fellow reform rabbis, demanding that he retreat.

There followed—for reasons unclear—his congregation's expulsion from the Birmingham Masonic Temple and then from Levey Junior High School in Southfield.

They are now worshipping at the Birmingham Unitarian Church—and wondering about their future.

In Rabbi Wine's own words: "The events of the past three months have subjected the members of our congregation to the continuous assault of the uninformed and insecure. The reactions of our people have varied from violent defensiveness to passive endurance. Each of us is searching for an effective way to pursue the positive goals of the Temple within the framework of the outside hostility..."

"No other congregation has been subjected to such organized harassment as we have received."

Rabbi Wine is angry at the Southfield Public School System for "having offered their facilities for our use with no trace of reservation, then responding to the first signs of public hysteria by asking our withdrawal."

To Rabbi Wine, the moral issue is clearly "religious freedom." Levey Junior High School is a public edifice. The taxpayers of Southfield who erected this building individually subscribe to a wide variety of contrary religious beliefs. None of which is legally entitled to state endorsement. To allow a municipal authority to rent public facilities on the basis of theological comment is to make city government a religious concern. This role is morally absurd and constitutionally indefensible.

Whatever others may think of the Rabbi's religious views, his congregation has held together under the pressure.

He obviously satisfies their spiritual needs. This, in the final analysis, is all that should matter.

Every wise Frenchman named Alexis De Toqueville visited our shores 200 years ago. He came away much impressed by our democracy. But he pointed out that it had, contained within it a built-in danger of tyranny.

Not the danger of a small group tyrannizing the majority. But rather of the majority forcing its will upon those who would differ with it.

The trouble with the Birmingham viewpoint on the wisdom of DeToqueville's observation.

ALLEN ROSENFIELD

**Redford Roads Need Action**

The time is ripe for residents on the rustic roads in Redford Township to rise up and demand that the Township Board get after the Wayne County Road Commission to do something about the streets that are nothing but a continuation of chuck holes after the recent thaw.

This comes on top of almost two weeks of nothing but icy covered streets that made driving and walking precarious to say the least.

Those who profess a love for the "rustic" look may have their big moment in the late spring, summer and early fall but conditions of the past three weeks have been anything but perfect.

Driving along Ross Drive, which should be one of the Township's show spots since it borders the beautiful Western Golf and Country Club, in the last two days would make one wonder if anything had ever been done to the roads.

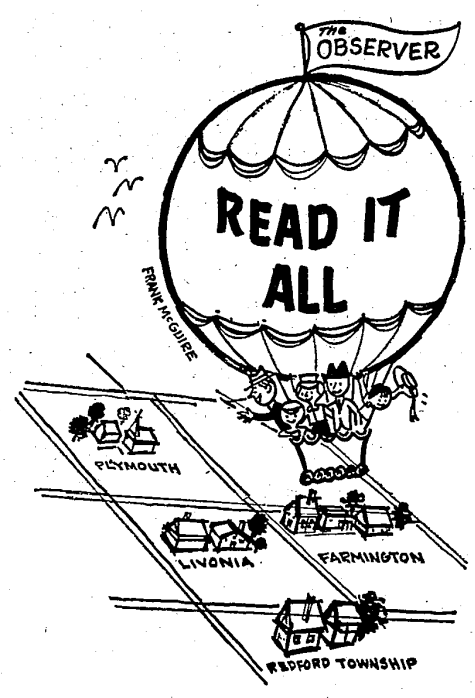
Granted that it may be good exercise since drivers and passengers alike are well shaken by the time they traverse the route from Sarasota to Beech on Ross Drive, none will admit that it is pleasant.

Matter of fact after one had had a speedometer cable stake loose, power brakes jammed and tires ruttured by the rough road, then he began to wonder if the Township Board and the Road Commission are in cahoots to see just how little they can do before complaints flood the town hall.

What a pity that residents live in homes in the \$25,000 to \$30,000 class and travel over roads that even those residing in the poverty stricken areas of Appalachia would be ashamed of.

Again, we reiterate, it's about time the Trustees and the Road Commission did something to remedy a sick, sad situation.

R. T. THOMPSON



**Observing the Scene...**

By MYRA CHANDLER

There are numerous serious items to contemplate on the news scene this week. In fact the cartoon idea of the newsboy who is dispensing tranquilizers along with newspapers has more merit than mischief.

I doubt that last week's ugly confrontation in Alabama will be repeated many more times. Not that violence in the South is something new—it's existed for years and years. But certainly it's ugly and shocking to see it "live" on the 11 o'clock news like "you're on candid camera, boys." They exposed their vitriolic hatred to millions, whose consciences can't help but be disturbed.

When the headlines get this bad and one's own foundation is shaky, a change of the scene is in order. If your time is limited, join the jet stream and you can go anywhere. (No, you can't get "jet-leg" on just one trip.) It carried me to Miami and back.

You return refreshed, and able to take the news without a tranquilizer "chaser."

It was good to relax and observe what the leisure set is doing that's new and interesting.

If you're much older than I (or the same) perhaps you can remember the first time you heard Frank Sinatra—his was the most exciting voice of the forties. There is a new voice coming along I'd like to predict will go to the top. His name is John Gary. His "Yellow Bird" recording will make you cry.

Joining the world-of-the-sun-set, I was intrigued with a new gimmick out of France that is like a regular juke box EXCEPT—along with your musical selection you also get a delightful film strip in living color. Each musical recording, of course, brings on a different movie. Since it is made in France there are a couple of bikini-clad women in the act. I have to admit they are prettier on the scene than I anticipated. This was the first time the suit did go with the girl, neither too soon, or too late. In my mind they must be a lot of better.

There was an especially beautiful water scene—boats and skiers cavorting in color. If anyone is interested in transcribing this to their local dine-out spot, the name of the dealership is available.

Along the same musical line, my host family took me one evening to the home of a friend who deals in electronics. Now I've heard of stereo, super stereo, Hi Fi, etc. but this is something else again.

From behind a planter box there come spotlights in vivid true shades of blue, yellow, orange and red. The record selection is made and slipped on the stem and as the music plays different color spots make designs and intricacies on the walls and ceiling.

Guests, of course, are sitting around on cushions on the floor around a wall to wall low coffee table in semi-darkness.

The effect is beautiful, restful and a little unreal. Believe me—it's not a bad way to tranquilize.

**THE READER SPEAKS UP: Reality, Books, Children**

Editor:

Upon reading the editorial "On the Right to Criticize" in the Feb. 24 Observer, written by Morris Ryskind, I wonder: What does Mr. Ryskind really find so objectionable about Baldwin's "Another Country"? Is it the frank honesty and realism that bothers him? Maybe he would have Mr. Baldwin "clean up" some of the risqué parts. Or may feel that the characters and subjects of "Another Country" are unworthy of being written, about. Is it so immoral to be truthful?

"Another Country" seems to me a more modern book than some of the popular movies that we allow our children and teenagers to see. I do not see anything resembling red life in the famous James Bond movies being shown in the area. Maybe, we do want to escape from life and the unrealty of Hollywood is more appealing than seeing life as it is for a great many people.

In my opinion, "Another Country" would never corrupt a healthy mind because the tragedy of it is all too clear. It is, and the other hand, difficult for young people to separate fact from fantasy, and movies which make immorality and irresponsibility look like fun (with no harm done) can give a distorted picture of the adult world.

James Baldwin shows great sensitivity and depths of understanding for the unfortunate tragic lives that he portrays so vividly in "Another Country." Maybe we should excuse his "breastling" films as an expression of strong compassion and concern for his fellowman.

Sure, you have the "right to criticize" Mr. Ryskind but it's not, through censorship, prevented others from their right to read and criticize.

Sincerely,  
 LOIS KEHRL

disgusting things a child could absorb will cut any ill effects on his mind.

After seeing our generation tonight giving its heart out to those in need, I cannot envision that we were left to shift for ourselves when it came to learning about life. I know it was due to parental love and guidance that led our generation to become what it is today and I for one am very proud to belong to a city that has these types of citizens in it.

I cannot begin to thank you enough for the courage you are displaying in carrying on the Paul Chandler's policies.

CHARLES BOUSQUET

warning is applicable to the Council of the UN, if the American people are not to flinch under the trials ahead, they must find a more sure object of faith than the UN.

The bankruptcy of the UN has been in the making for a long time, but the war in the Congo brought it to a head. Neither France nor Russia would contribute to this "police action" and USA temporarily delayed the insolvency of the UN by buying the lion's share of a \$200 million bond issue.

Now, in addition to its financial plight, the UN is facing a more serious problem. According to Article 19 of the Charter, any member in arrears on its dues loses its voting privilege in the general assembly—so UN access to avoid this—this solving problem? Let's get UN out of US and US out of UN and trust God.

VIRGINIA CRAWFORD,  
 Council for Watchdog.

**Marvelous Job**

Editor:

I feel that Bob Shaw and employees of the Livonia DPW are to be commended for the marvelous job they did in cleaning the city's streets and highways following last Thursday's snowstorm. When I finally ventured out Friday afternoon I was amazed at the job they had done. They are also to be commended for cleaning, without a jurisdictional dispute, roads that are the responsibility of the County Road Commission.

According to reports, there were many complaints by thoughtless citizens regarding the fact that their autos were immobilized by snow pushed aside by city snowplows. I find it difficult to sympathize with them. However, I think a need is pointed up—that is that we need an ordinance prohibiting parking of cars and trucks on city streets beyond a certain hour of the day, say 4 a.m., the most important benefit out of keeping unsightly vehicles in driveways and garages.

I have noticed that candidates who are not residents of Livonia but who are running for office in districts of which Livonia is a part have consistently ignored ordinances regarding the placement of political signs on public rights-of-way. This was obvious in both elections of last year and the Senatorial primary of two weeks ago. I feel that it is the responsibility of the Mayor through the various means at his disposal to inform these candidates of our ordinance and to see that the ordinance is enforced.

ROBERT D. BENNETT

**Covenant with Death**

Editor:

After reading the League of Women Voters opinion on the UN, we feel obligated to give a different opinion. When the U.S. placed its faith in the UN, it entered into a covenant with death and Hell.

Isaiah 28:18 in the Holy Bible: "Your covenant with death shall be dismantled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand."

The foreign policy of Isaiah was very simple, so simple that God in the midst of hostile nations. King Abaz preferred to make an alliance with Egypt (sound familiar?) The leaders in Jerusalem thought that because of necromantic practices connected with Egyptian mysticisms they were secure against Death and Hell, but Isaiah assured them that these were lies (sound familiar?) and that their "covenant with death" would be "dismantled."

In the midst of this discourse young minds can be left to wonder and that all the foul, arid and faith in God. Isaiah's

**Storm's Goodwill**

Something wonderful happened tonight that I think most of us will remember for a long time to come.

True, the snowstorm did cause us inconvenience, but out of it came the hidden reserve of goodwill and fellowship that has been hidden up 'til now in the hearts and minds of all of us. Out of the common misery, I have experienced bravery, love and sacrifice and just plain love—feeling for someone other than oneself and I, for one, have come away feeling a new and wonderful respect for my fellow Livonians.

What struck me forcefully was that it was there are men in the world who would have us believe that up-bringing of young minds can be left to chance and that all the foul, arid and faith in God. Isaiah's

**Yesterday's Headlines**

25 Years Ago  
 The Livonian of March 13, 1940, reported the buying of two new fire kits. The kits contained hand grenades which, when thrown into a fire, spread a gas which extinguishes it. If the kits prove successful the Township may buy more of them.

20 Years Ago  
 With the beginning of spring weather in Livonia the March, 1945, Livonian printed the request of the Township to reduce the already growing number of grass fires.

15 Years Ago  
 The Livonian of March 10, 1950, printed the results of the poll that had been conducted by newspaper in regards to what is the type of government the township wanted, a strong mayor or

a city manager. 742 votes were cast—427 for a strong mayor; 315 for a city manager.

The people of Livonia protested the building of a drag strip in the area between Farmington and Merriman Rd. south of Schoolcraft as reported in the March 10, 1955, Livonian Reason given for the protest were noise, fumes, dust and congestion on Schoolcraft.

5 Years Ago  
 "Local Housewife Stabbed In Daylight" was the front page headline of the Observer for March 10, 1960. The woman, Mrs. Marie Taylor, was going outside for the mail and on poll that had been conducted by newspaper in regards to what is the type of government the township wanted, a strong mayor or

KERRY GUENTHER

by Les Wilson

**ADVICE TO GRANDPARENTS**

Back in the days when I was a favorite grandchild, I can remember my mother saying, "Oh, dear, here's another letter from grandmother wanting pictures of the children. We'll simply have to get some film for the camera and take some."

Today the smart grandmother comes visiting with her own KODAK INSTAMATIC Camera, and no wonder. With her INSTAMATIC Camera she can take the kinds of snapshots the really wants with no fuss or bother. For the INSTAMATIC Camera makes it easy to take the pictures you want most.

If there are grandparents in your family, why not present them with a camera on their next visit? Present it loaded with color film and set to go. Then invite them to use it all they want, to get a satisfying batch of snapshots to keep their memories fresh until their next visit.

Any of the new KODAK INSTAMATIC outfits would be ideal gifts for grandparents. Come in and see for yourself.

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