

In Our Opinion . . .

Annexation — A Challenge To Preservationists

The City of Farmington's action last week in petitioning to annex 1828 acres of Farmington Township — the choice industrial area which would eventually take a large portion of the tax load off Township residents — came as no surprise to some residents of the Township, but was a shock to many people who knew it couldn't happen.

Township residents were repeatedly warned of this possibility during the last seven months. Township officials took action last November to protect the boundaries of the Township by petitioning to incorporate it into a home rule city. The pre-incorporation study committee recommended incorporation and supported its conclusions with facts and figures, but voters were not convinced. They chose to vote against incorporation.

Now is the time for the Committee for the Preservation of Farmington Township, Inc. to live up to its word. The Preservation Committee worked long and hard to defeat the incorporation issue. They maintained that the prime reason for incorporation by the Township officials — that of preventing annexation — was "remote" and "weak."

The Preservation Committee has stated that it is . . . not a one-shot organization . . . Its first job is to defeat the proposal for incorporation. But will they be active after the election to study and work on other Township problems . . .

A Township problem certainly exists and now is the time for the committee to show whether it meant to "preserve" all of Farmington Township — or just certain parts. It takes many hours of tedious digging out of facts and figures and presentation of these facts and figures to the residents in a proposed annexation area to prove to them that annexation to the City of Farmington would not be in their best interest.

Will the Preservation Committee un-

dertake this gigantic "grass roots" campaign? We think they are morally obligated to do so. They defeated the incorporation proposal and left the door wide open to the annexation attempt that they said was "remote" possibility. Will they work to "preserve" Farmington Township or will they leave the work for someone else?

Township officials were tireless in their efforts to defeat the last annexation attempt. Make no mistake — it wasn't the people alone who defeated the annexation attempt last fall. It was the long, unappreciated hours spent by Township officials in meeting with the people in the proposed annexation area — and they were not enjoined from discussing the proposal during working hours either.

Township officials were gagged by court action during the time of the incorporation efforts. We couldn't blame them if they washed their hands of the whole business; but we know that they, as elected officials, will do their utmost to defeat the annexation attempt.

Officials of the City of Farmington have done exactly what they said they would do, given the opportunity. However, in view of the attitude of many City and Township citizens during incorporation discussions, we would rather have seen the City of Farmington petition to annex the entire Township area. But the City of Farmington doesn't want all of the Township — only a choice parcel of industrial property.

We deplore the existence of laws that allow municipalities to take away bits and pieces of property from their neighbors; but the laws do exist. We wish, however, that our City hadn't been so quick to take advantage of these laws; but the good of Farmington Township will be the one to have themselves if their industrial area is lost.

For What The Bells Toll

Ring of bells on Independence Day at 2 p.m. is a practice gaining in popularity across the land. It is said to have been started by two Connecticut men named Eric Hatch and Sloane.

Why this intinnabulation of the bells all of a sudden? Let us say that they are ringing for a precious American commodity known as independence.

We don't mean a nebulous, intangible quality of the American dream, but we're extolling in the individual, inalienable right to stand up and be counted which can slip away like the proverbial quicksilver if it isn't guarded with Jeffersonian "eternal vigilance."

Some would say that precisely this is happening as the yield from voters to the temptations of the Easy Society. We prefer to hope that the tough fiber of the founding fathers will continue to show through whenever the need arises.

Some are prone to deplore the apathy of the voter. This we deny on the basis of experience right here in Farmington. True, we are subjected to pressure group tactics. They are exerted from both sides of any issue which requires a decision at the polls. But in the final moment of truth within the little isolation booth, the voter alone weighs the evidence, and in that small interval of

quiet, he is free to realize the best in his nature, and we confidently believe that he does.

Some would even accuse us of shrinking from our duties imposed on us as citizens, few as they are in this best of possible societies. Jury duty, the draft, public service as a career, are all areas where perhaps we falter in the strictest sense. Here, too, we rush to the defense of the far from ugly American. We are not the only one to have a red, white and blue to the core.

Perhaps we could use a small reminder from a great president who is very infrequently quoted these days, James Madison. He wrote in a letter near the close of his life: "The free system of government we have established is so congenial with reason, with common sense, and with universal feeling, that it must produce approbation and a desire of imitation, as avenues may be found for truth to the knowledge of nations. Our Country is the workshop of liberty will be the workshop of liberty to the Civilized World, and do more than any other for the uncivilized."

Now let's go out and ring those bells for an independence kept shining and untarnished in the "workshop of liberty."

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
JUNE 23, 1961
School Study
The possibility of greater utilization of our school facilities was brought up by Treasurer Vernon Fisher of the Farmington Board of Education Monday night as something which he deserved much more investigation and study.

Groups Combine
Members of the Township Board last Tuesday to accept the recommendations prepared and submitted by a sub-committee working on the proposed Planning Board and Zoning Commission of the Township Board calling for a seven-member board to be elected.

Road Improvements
Three motions all relative to improving road conditions in the Township were unanimously adopted by the membership of the Farmington Township Civic Association last Thursday.

FHS Sports
The annual athletic report on various sports activities at Farmington High School shows that the FHS varsity teams were victorious in 38 contests and suffered 28 defeats.

10 Years Ago
JUNE 23, 1954
Community House
Proceeds from "Country Store," a special feature of the annual show to be held September 15 under the sponsorship of the Farmington Garden Club will be earmarked as a contribution to the newly organized Farmington Community House.

Junior High
Approval was given Monday night by the Farmington School Board to the Elm Smith architectural firm to proceed with the working drawings of the new Junior High School to be constructed on Twelve Mile Rd. and Power Street.

Prices Up
As a result of the rising cost of distribution, we are compelled to increase the single copy new stand price of the Farmington Enterprise to 10 cents.

Babe Ruth League
In the opening game played Monday night between the Red Sox and the Dodgers, the Red Sox chalked up an impressive 9-2 win. Chuck Thomson who went the route on the mound for the Sox allowed only five hits and struck out three.

15 Years Ago
JUNE 23, 1951
Warner Farm
Plans are now being completed for the conversion of the Warner Farm on South Farmington Rd. into 250 home sites, it was announced Tuesday by Harry S. Wolfe, Farmington agent and Devere Fleming, his associate.

Cows Sweat Little
When the weather really gets hot, a man breaks out in sweat and the perspiration keeps his body heat down. But a cow sweats very little and as the temperature increases, her body heat rises sharply.

Up in the Air
Two 15 year old boys were made sadder and perhaps wiser Sunday night when township policeman Philip Kempainen apprehended them in the act of tossing rocks at passing cars from atop the C. F. Smith store on Eight Mile Rd. east of Grand River.

French Accents
Count N. de Rochefort of Washington D.C. is currently conducting a search for relics, data and information and old French pasts pertaining to the French part of Detroit.

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Public Letterbox

To Wendell Brown et al, Other Members of the Committee for the Preservation of Farmington Township.

Gentlemen:

The items in the two local papers, each announcing the lightning move on the part of the City Management, came as a shock to me. I had made up my mind when the election was over, at which your Committee was handsomely defeated, that I would say, diplomatically well, telling us that the City had jumped the gun, telling us in plain language that our taxes will be the \$40,000 estimated Township tax for the area that the City has decided to take in.

As you know, Mr. Brown, I have been involved in two efforts to bring the City bringing their benign benefits to us in our subdivision and another activity in which the initiated recall of the vote by the Township Board (Mr. Eagles, Supervisor) in relation to a proposal to favor us with a big rate track. I am a political cynic but I do vote every time I have a chance. Now we come down to a case in which I have to sit by and see the victims flayed, I feel being every taxpayer, I am a member of Farmington Township.

I MIGHT ADD that as soon as I saw and read your circular letters to all the Township voters, that the letters you sent to us were pure propaganda built on distorted facts of Township history, on veiled rumors of all kinds; ridicule of the Township Supervisor, Mr. Hall; that you were spending your money to get something that now, you can't even give.

I have rated you, Mr. Brown, as a personal friend for several

years, but when your Committee let the biggest trick with obvious distortion of known facts, I had to convince myself that our friendship was at an end. I do not know who your ghost writer was but he did not know anything about what he was talking about in many of the statements in these letters. The inaccuracies I had intended to besmirch the reputation of our present administration in the Township, I could not help, and have not been able to change this attitude of loss of friendship, because you were personally responsible for the propaganda that was sent out.

HERE IS JUST ONE thought that bothered me about this whole thing, and that is, that you, the President of this group of Township savers, have a job that I would not care to be involved in. That job is to get us busy in attempting to bring defeat of the City effort as you have been in throwing the whole Township to the wolves. You have belittled your own stature as a citizen of this town. Now, I think it is only fair for me to offer one or two methods of solution of this obviously very difficult job of defeating the City's latest effort to fight the Township!

1. You can set up a group to work on the people in that area between now and the election to convince them that you were wrong.

2. I am sorely tempted to start a committee to get you elected as Supervisor of the Township and then bader you to find the \$40,000 that this annexation will lose to the Township in taxes.

3. Cancel your candidacy for Township Supervisor if you feel you are unable to meet this challenge.

Very truly yours,
Edge T. Cope



FRIENDS AND FELLOW Republicans were invited by the Republican Women's Organization of Farmington Hills to meet some of the candidates who will seek election in the August 2 primary. Left to right are Richard Kuhn, candidate for representative to Congress for the 19th district; Mary Rice, candidate for state senator for the 15th district; Jack McDonald, candidate for representative to Congress for the 19th district; Alice Gilbert, candidate for a six-year term as Oakland County circuit judge; and Ray Baker running for re-election to the state legislature from the 6th district.

Candidates Meet Voters In Local Garden Setting

The lovely gardens of Mrs. Arthur Grosop, 2827 Thirteen Mile Road, were the setting for the "Meet Your Candidates" meeting sponsored by the Republican Women's Organization of Farmington Hills on June 20 at 12:30 p.m.

Candidates Mary Rice, seeking election as Michigan state senator from the 15th district; Richard Kuhn, and Jack McDonald, candidates for United States congressman from the 19th district; gave short talks outlining their platform. A question and answer period followed.

Samples Campus

Susan Thorpe, 34690 Thornbrook, Farmington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Thorpe, is among more than 700 young men and women who visited the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison during the past week to register for University studies to be started with the opening of the University's school year in September.

The young people are taking advantage of the University's summer registration-orientation program for new freshmen.



Farmington Jr. High Honor Roll Students

6th GRADE
Helene Angeli, Michael Atchison, Jeffrey Blaine, Lynn Bidwell, Patricia Bilek, Glen Boise, Christine Borgman, Robert Braunstein, Jeffrey Bruch, David Bucher, Donna Duffield, Nancy Cox, Donna DeCoste, Lynn Dever, Gary Dix, Mark Donoghue, Lois Dorando, Dennis Dunson, Sharon Edwards, Pam Geer, Nancy Gillling, Carl Greening, Katherine Hill, Diana Hancock, Brad Harper, Dana Heist, Kenneth Hill, Kathleen Hogberg, Kathy Hund, Alice Johnson, David Johnson, Kristen Johnson, Jeanneth Layne, Pamela Lawrence, Sue Lloyd, Cheryl Lutzen, Kathryn McCracken, John McElroy, and Elizabeth McFarland.

7th GRADE
Carol Lynn Seeburger, John Sennish, Linda Shelly, Janet Steinko, Judith Stormont, Terry Stokes, Deby Swanson, Nancy Taylor, Terri Thomas, Christine Tiernan, Thomas Wagner, Cheryl Walker, Nancy Waters, Rhonda Weston, Dere White, Gary Williams, and Barbara Williams.



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REGISTRATION NOTICE FOR General Primary Election TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1966

To the Qualified Electors of the TOWNSHIP OF FARMINGTON, (All Precincts) COUNTY OF OAKLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that in conformity with the "Michigan Election Law", the undersigned Clerk, will upon any day, except Sunday and a legal holiday, the day of any regular or special election or primary election, receive for registration the name of any legal voter in said Township, City or Village not already registered who may APPLY TO ME PERSONALLY for such registration. Provided, however, that I can receive no names for registration during the time intervening between the Thirtieth day before any regular, special or official primary election and the day of such election.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I WILL BE AT MY OFFICE TUESDAY, JULY 5, 1966 — LAST DAY The Thirtieth Day preceding said Election As provided by Section 498, Act No. 116, Public Acts of 1954. From 8 o'clock a.m. to 5 o'clock p.m. on said day for the PURPOSES OF THE REVIEWING THE REGISTRATION AND REGISTERING such of the qualified electors in said TOWNSHIP, CITY or VILLAGE AS SHALL PROPERLY apply therefor.

The name of no person but an ACTUAL RESIDENT of the precinct at the time of registration, and entitled under the Constitution, if remaining such resident, to vote at the next election, shall be entered in the registration book.

FLOYD CAIRNS
Township Clerk

June 22, 29