

Observer Newspapers

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Serving the rich Northeast Wayne County and South Oakland County Suburban markets with a group of affiliated newspapers in Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Redford, Garden City, Westland and the Township of Plymouth, Farmington and Redford.

Wanted: Proof Not Palaver

In honor of Brotherhood Week The Observer is giving citizens a chance to become a member of a Human Relations Group in their community.

Not that you will do it—but for those who say, "some of my best friends are..." here is your chance to prove it.

Frankly I'm skeptical of the return of new members, but, as we said, in honor of Brotherhood Week we'd give it a go.

I hereby apply for membership to the _____ Assembly for Human Relations.

I understand their purpose is to exemplify myself openly, by word and example, to interracial harmony, justice and brotherhood in opposition to discrimination and segregation.

To promote better understanding between groups through educational programs in human relations; the establishment of lines of communication between groups; the support of relevant legal and legislative action, and the exertion of influence to these ends

within the community.

To be an active influence in helping to create a climate of public opinion respectful of the human dignity of all present and future residents of _____ (community)

My name is _____ Address _____ City _____

Committee Interest _____ Phone _____ Occupation _____

Send your application to The Observer Newspapers and we will see that it is sent to the chairman of your community Assembly for Human Relations. They will contact you as to meeting dates, program, fees (nominal), etc.

Every community has such a group—some are more active than others and some are merely token groups to make it "look good."

If you are concerned about your fellow man and really believe in the philosophy of Brotherhood—here is your chance to prove it. Join the group in your community and find out what is happening.

MYRA CHANDLER

Worst Brings Out Best

In times like this when everything appears as if most everything one hears about is bad, it certainly makes the heart feel better to learn that the world is full of good Samaritans when one needs them.

The point at hand was brought home recently during a trip on an icy freeway just outside of Ann Arbor. We were driving along at a normal rate, suddenly we hit a spot at the intersection of I-94 and M-14 and our car spun high on top of a snow bank along the freeway.

There we sat, the car tipped almost to the point of turning over on its side in the highway which seemed like a mile below—actually it was only six or seven feet.

We managed to slide out the side of the roadway. Cars stopped in all directions and drivers came running to offer assistance.

"I'll have a wrecker come out from Ann Arbor and pull you off," said one.

"Shucks, I have a shovel, let's dig him out and push him back on the road," said another.

Within seconds, drivers were going in all directions to

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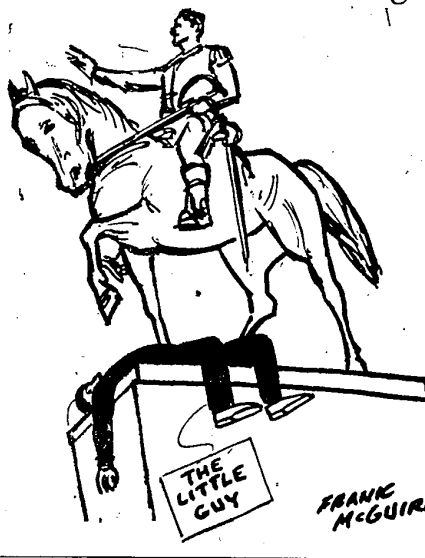
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Not Us! Please, Sir George



Letters To Editor:

Horseowners Object To Being Outlawed

(Open Letter to First Assistant City Attorney, Harry Tatigian, Livonia.)

Editor: In reference to your efforts to keep us off the streets of Livonia, I have a few questions. First of all, have you ever had a horse run you out into the middle of a four-lane road? I haven't, but I have been all but run off the road by boys on bicycles.

Have you ever been insulted by a rider on horseback or have you ever had one challenge you to race to the next light? This isn't uncommon with motor cyclists. Have you ever been scared out of your wits by the clatter of horses hoofs coming up beside you, or wakened up in the middle of the night because of them?

The squeal of tires can be as equally as frightening and it happens much more often. In any case we don't intend to give up easily the pleasure of riding because someone begrudges us the right to ride along a public road long enough to get to a park or riding area.

"I think there must be other matters that need your attention more than your crusade against us. Also Mr. Tatigian, I have some four-legged friends who could probably make you ashamed of your actions against them."

A Livonia Horseowner
Ed. Note: Your letter should be addressed to the City Attorney and his assistant are the agents that carry out orders given them by the Council.

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Missed Theme?

Open Letter To Dear Neighbor Swanson:

You are to be congratulated for an uncommon trait among those who consider themselves "liberal." You have been fair enough to expose yourself to an argument which you have been conditioned to believe is in opposition to your own. First comes exposure, then comes understanding.

I must agree completely with your criticism of the atrocity pictures in "Anarchy U.S.A." Although this type of thing has been a tradition means of breaking through the apathy of the general public during times of fear, I believe this is neither necessary nor effective in producing a rational interest in further study.

On the other hand, I believe you have misunderstood several important points made during the eve-

ning. This is not unusual for a person being exposed to this complex subject for the first time. For instance, you attributed the "Penguin" remark to Dr. Grans, missing the fact that he was quoting Dr. Castro's remark about shooting Nuns. You probably missed this point because of the repeated shouts of "Who said so?" from the younger members of the audience.

Also, Pete Seeger is not suspicious because he wrote "We Shall Overcome," but because he was identified as a Communist in sworn testimony before the House Committee (1961 Report). I believe it would be more accurate to assume that he translated this Cuban revolutionary song because he was a Communist and not, as you suggest, that he was a Communist dupe because he wrote the song.

It was unfortunate, but understandable, that you missed the central theme of the program: RACIAL PREJUDICE, HATRED AND MISUNDERSTANDING ARE THE NECESSARY INGREDIENTS FOR COMMUNIST SUBVERSION. By showing the methods of agitation and the results of Communist terror, the Birch Society is providing one of the strongest incentives to promote understanding between the races: self-preservation. The Liberal tells us we should attempt to understand people who are of a different race. The Birch tells us why. These racial and economic tensions provide the leverage that permits a small minority of Marxists to move great masses of people into the streets and away from the courts. As mob rule replaces law by law, the Communist minority acquires the necessary machine for subversion.

The recent refusal by local Negro leaders to support the Powell Strike on Feb. 13th is fresh evidence that they understand the dangers of such tactics. Let's hope we can bring the same understanding to the white liberal in time to prevent the chaos being planned for this summer.

At the very least we should all be able to agree on the legal, moral and proper approaches to solving the problems of bigotry and prejudice. It is only when the so-called liberal insists on using such tactics as force, coercion or civil disobedience on a mass scale that he comes in conflict with the conservative principles.

Richard J. Hecker
Livonia

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OBSERVING the Scene...

By MYRA CHANDLER

The Governor proposes—and the Legislature "dis-

pose. Those of us who carry the torch for more money for educators and education hope the legislators dispose of the Governor's fiscal package and begin afresh.

Almost, when we weren't looking, there has been a shift in tax responsibility from industry and business, to me and thee. And it hurts. It hurts those of us who are living on a fixed income—and it hurts the little guy just starting out whose back is breaking under the 31 per cent increase in cost of living in the last 12 years.

This shift is not just with Governor's new tax proposal. It all started under our new State constitution which provides all real and personal property must be assessed at 50 per cent of its true cash or market value. Then the State Tax Commission (three men appointed by the Governor) ruled in favor of industry and reduced their personal tax on stock, furniture, machinery by almost 50%. The deficit was spread over the entire assessment roll—which hit the home owner the hardest.

You remember when this happened because it made the tax bills late and as a result citizens were not able to take credit for their tax payments in last year's income tax.

The decision came when large industries protested their tax rate which held up the final tax figure until the State Tax Commission handed down their ruling in favor of the industries.

Incidentally, this did not bring any more revenue into the coffers of the school district or the city—it was a deficit that had to be made up.

Now another deficit has to be made up—the State budget. In order to meet the demands (\$1.153) our Governor has proposed a 2 1/2 per cent levy. Doesn't sound too bad. He asked for a 3-cent per pack increase in the cigarette tax. Oh well, folks who smoke should pay, it's a nasty habit.

I can just hear my critics, "You non-smoking turn-coat Republican! How can you criticize the Governor when he is so splendid—so forthright—so moral?"

I agree he is splendid, forthright, moral—and ambitious. And despite the fact it is important to watch the hand as well as the rabbit when dealing with Sir George, I feel he is the best the GOP has on the scene.

The fact remains he is taking it out on the little guy and trying to make it look like he is not.

True, there is a five per cent on corporations and eight per cent on banks.

It is deceptive. Business and industry would pay approximately \$170 million in income taxes. BUT they would receive a reduction of \$150 million in intangible tax, and \$55 million in personal property taxes under the proposed 10 per cent reduction in real estate property taxes for all taxpayers.

In the case of banks and financial institutions—they would pay approximately \$18 million in State income taxes and receive reductions of approximately \$13 million in the intangible tax and also property taxes.

In the final look-see the new money comes from the individual and no matter how sharp the pencil, how personable the package or the delivery boy—it is the Governor's no service. Better they not be "yes" men; get in there and improve the package; support the plan and implement it.

With all of its bugs, my non-mathematical brain cannot comprehend why the graduated income tax is not the most healthy way.

When you are making it—you are paying it. When you retire to a fixed income—so does your income tax retire.

The reason why Democrats are for it and Republicans are against it escapes me. It sounds to me like the democratic way to run a country.

Don't Fall Into Suburban Trap

Editor: This letter is for the benefit of those in the inner city who would like to relocate in the suburbs. My advice is don't. Improve your area and enjoy the benefits of city living but don't fall into the trap of suburban living, unless you can locate outside of "thriving communities."

When we first moved to Garden City our taxes were less than \$50 a year. Today it is costing me over \$2,000 a year in taxes to work and live in what is still a small town designed for pleasant family living. Well, it is pleasant alright except for the taxes.

If the old homestead is beginning to fall apart it is because I have no money left for necessary repairs after paying my taxes. The streets are still unpaved and there are no sidewalks which we don't mind and the only improvements are rounding our houses are those that cost hundreds of dollars for clearing the empty land by cutting down trees, filling in ditches, grading and landscaping.

Now the tax assessor raised the assessed valuation to a high arbitrary figure based on the assumption that the property is worth more on the open market. Maybe it is but I won't know this for sure until it is sold and right now while I am living in the old homestead, it is only a tax burden and liability to keep up.

At a time when I'm about ready to retire and my income is lower, my taxes are higher—so high, in fact, that I no longer can afford to live in a house occupied by us for over 23 years.

Unless taxes are reduced, the old homesteads will

slowly start falling apart for lack of repairs and we here in the suburbs will create another slum for your inheritance. Solve the problem where you are by keeping taxes down so that home owners could afford to repair their houses and improve them.

This is my advice but if you still want to live in the suburbs, my house is for sale. I can afford to live in it after 25 years of taxes.

Stanley Glamb,
30175 Ford Rd.,
Garden City

Complaints on G.C. S's Editor: The streets in Garden City are a mess. Sure the officials will blame it on the weather. How come other communities around don't have the same problem. Garden City received more money by the reassessment of land this year. I am not against taxes or reassessment, but I suggest to the city fathers that we deserve the services that we pay for.

I see the County is doing its job on the County streets in Garden City, where is the D.P.W. of G.C.?

Another taxpayer in Garden City went to the last regular Council meeting to complain but there was no mention because only two out of five members showed up. This is the first time I ever heard of a regular G.C. Council meeting not being held.

I suggest the City fathers sit down and get together and stop worrying about who is on whose side, etc. They are only hurting us taxpayers. We need our roads fixed up real bad and we are paying good taxes for them. Why can't we get them fixed?

Sincerely,
Margaret Payne
Garden City

Hillside

41661 Plymouth Road,
Plymouth, Mich.

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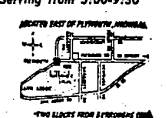
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