

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS

If There Can Be An Utopia, Why Not Now?

How about indulging in fantasy this week? What follows is a series of random thoughts about Utopia and what it would be like. Utopia would be inhabited by people who were governed by the personal virtues of tolerance and charity. (The usage of the word charity connotes love and not the dole.)

If this were so, the world would be:

- A place where war did not exist.
- A spot in which strife—civil, racial or personal—was unknown.
- In this Utopian society:
- Locks and keys would not be needed.
- Fear would be impossible.
- Justice and wisdom would be respected.
- Politicians would wage campaigns on the level of issues and the electorate would understand and respond.
- There would be no need for gun control laws, for open housing ordinances, or for the attempts of government to legislate basic justice.

Unfortunately, the above description just doesn't fit today's society. It doesn't describe the social mores and structure in Farmington, in Observerland, in the inner city of Detroit, in the state, in the nation, nor in the world.

Why not? Whose problem is it?

editorial

That's an easy question to answer. It's society's problem.

Whose society? Think about that. When you have the answer to that question then try to answer the question of "What can be done?"

There will never be a better time than now to face these questions.

The questions have to be answered at some point in time. Why not now?

—Sue Shaughnessy

Whatayaknow! Inner-City Kids Swim In F'ton

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN Here and there can occasionally be seen a crack in the so-called suburban apartheid.

At least this is so in Farmington.

We know of two instances, both in the township, where housewives are doing more than just talk about the racial isolation in which they live.

BOTH WOMEN have access to water for swimming on hot, sultry days, such as we have just had.

One of the women enjoys a natural pond on her property and very warm days come along during the summer that don't find her pond filled with water, splashing kids from Detroit's inner-city.

This samaritan carts children by the carload out from the hot city all summer long and turns them loose on her property and in her pond.

And she will be embarrassed that we thought it worthy of mention.

SO WOULD the other thoughtful woman we know who lives in one of the township's plush multiples which has a pool.

Twice a week, this lady is hostess to at least five inner-city children in the multiple's pool.

When we passed by her unit the other day, two tiny Negro girls and the resident's smallest child were lined up on the front porch, eating chocolate ice cream cones like they were going out of style.

And nobody gave them a second look.

SOME MAY OBJECT that it is unfair to expose disadvantaged children to the luxuries of life.

We think of what Lenore Romney said in reply to the same criticism about a Detroit project that takes inner-city youngsters through museums and to such places as Cranbrook.

The good lady said, "It is an inspiration to see the beautiful things in life. They enlarge one's vision, and linger in the inner eye as a joy to the spirit."

This works two ways.

We know the Farmington women who treat the inner-city children to an afternoon of fun on a hot day find that a lot of joy accrues to their spirits.

Delegates Lean To HHH

LANSING — Michigan delegates to the Democratic national convention who say they have made up their minds are overwhelmingly in favor of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, according to a recent poll.

A total of 39 state delegates favored Humphrey; three supported Sen. Eugene M. McCarthy; and 33 delegates remained undecided. The remainder of Michigan's 102-member delegation could not be reached by pollsters for comment.

Trial Setting Dates From 1904

VIGNETTE OF A TRIAL: It would be unfair to call the domed court house which has dominated the town square at Mason, Mich., since 1904 old-fashioned. Rather, its oak and mahogany furnishings, its faded murals, and its four-story center stairwell bespeak an atmosphere of turn-of-the-century dignity which contrasts with later-day glass and chrome halls of justice.

It is in this setting, in a courtroom strikingly reminiscent of that described in "Anatomy of a Murder," that Dr. Ronald E. Clark's trial on a charge of manslaughter is taking place.

A jury box built for 12 has, for this trial, been crowded with 14 persons, two of whom will be excused when the case is handed them for deliberation.

Eight are women—one of them quite obviously several months pregnant—and six are men. Their ages appear to run from as low as perhaps 23 to the early 70's. The wide variance in their countenances would make interesting studies in an artist's sketchbook.

THE DEFENDANT, a thin, bespectacled, gray-haired man of average height, is not the dominant individual of the proceedings. This role was assumed quickly by Circuit Judge William John Beer, whose approach can best be described as "meticulous."

Attorneys Philip Rowston for the defense and John Bain and Bruce Lettman for the prosecution have gone about their functions with experienced thoroughness. It is not a trial which has produced flamboyant theatrics or rhetoric.

It is, instead, a trial which has its roots in the realm of science. Counsel for both sides are faced with the need to educate 14 average laymen from a semi-rural sector with medical terminology which still confuses press representatives who have stayed with the case since its inception seven months ago.

These same metropolitan representatives, it is interesting to note, have gathered in force in Mason even though a change of venue transplanted the trial there from Pontiac. However, the seven months brought one vital change.



GOP Has 17 Farmington Battles

Precinct Choices Hold National Key

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY

Farmington Republicans will be out for control of the party on the state level possible in the August primary.

The offices at stake are not the usual headline grabbing positions of status and authority. Rather they are the basic foundation to the political party and scarcely understood by the general public.

At stake is the post of precinct delegate in the city's four precincts and the township's 16 voting divisions.

PRECINCT DELEGATES are elected for two years terms during the state's August primary. Officially they serve as delegates to the district convention.

The delegates also serve as the party's contact on each grass roots level.

State delegates to the state name the delegates to the state conventions. The state conventions, in presidential years, elect the delegates to the na-

tional conventions.

The delegates to the national convention choose the party's presidential candidates.

In three of the city's precincts there is a battle for the precinct delegate spot.

The township has 16 in 14 of the township's 16 precincts. In Oakland County's more than 400 precincts contests loom in all but 35 precincts.

BACKGROUND to the contests is the split in the Oakland County GOP and the 19th District organization in particular.

Currently there exists in the 19th District two Republican organizations—each continuing to be the valid group.

One is headed by Jim Cartwright of West Bloomfield and this group has the recognition of the State Central Committee of the Republican Party.

The other is led by West Bloomfield Justice of the Peace

Christian Powell.

If one must attach labels to the groups it would suffice to say that the Cartwright group are Romney supporters, while the Powell group are more conservative.

The Powell group is frequently described as an ally of 14th District Chairman Richard Durant, a long-time Romney foe.

PERSONS filing for the GOP posts in the city are: Precinct 1, Louis C. Doyle of 33936 Schulte and Stephen H. Bruce of 33880 Glenview Dr.; 2, Elizabeth Carter of 23077 Mayview and Patricia A. Hamlin, 22631 Brookdale; 3, Greta L. Tierman, 3150 Lamar Dr. and Patrick T. McCormick, 31949 Lamar; 4, Don J. Stoddard, 2439 Birchwood.

None of those filing in the city actually hold the post of delegate at this time, although Doyle has served as precinct captain and is allied with the Cartwright group. Bruce holds the post of organization chair-

man for the city for the Powell forces and McCormick was a delegate to the Powell-sponsored district convention.

IN THE TOWNSHIP the following have filed: 1, Alice W. Brown, 32080 W. Nine Mile and Yvonne J. Krouch, 20969 Sunnyside; 2, Perry E. Warner, 21301 College and Robert W. Walwood, 2128 Middlebelt; 3, Bruce E. Duke, 2845 Inkster Rd. and Barbara J. Reader, 28984 Wellington; 4, Ralph J. Lennis, 29090 Kendallwood Dr. and Joseph P. Patrell, 27985 Kendallwood Dr.; 5, Charles J. Fisher, 28312 Grand River and Clayton W. Nowlin, 20882 Botsford Dr.

Precinct 6, Donald R. Smith 22914 Tuck Dr. and Raye June Wallen, 30230 N. Rockton; 7, Walter H. Delmetta, 27404 Drake Rd. and Isabel Haynes, 24685 Madison Ct.; 8, Harry H. Kelch, 23205 Glencastle Ct. and Mary A. Musselman, 27910 W. 10 Mile; 9, Rodney T. Graham, 34046 Northwick and Floyd A. Cairns, 32924 W. 13 Mile; 10,

When the trial opened, the defendant obliged television cameramen by agreeing to pose briefly as he entered the court house. It was the first time such willingness had been shown.

AN EVER-PRESENT PERSONALITY, and one who has been admired for her vivaciousness by newsmen since their first encounter on the afternoon of the Grand River stake-out last Nov. 15, is the defendant's wife, Mrs. Violet Clark.

Possessor of a doctor of philosophy degree like her husband, Mrs. Clark sits through court sessions taking voluminous notes while, at the defense table, her husband does the same. That they are two people who understand the jargon of the testimony is obvious.

Outside the court room, the pert Mrs. Clark invariably reflects composure. Her rapport with media representatives is quick and knowledgeable. If there has been one note of humor in all the months of the Clark story, she was its source.

It came in December, when emotion in the case ran high. A letter to this newspaper from Mrs. Clark was opened with considerable wonderment. Its essential message read:

"The Observer has not been delivered recently. I miss it. Will you please see if delivery can be resumed?"

We hope it has.

Peter R. Kollins, 28154 Quail Hollow Rd. and Margaret H. Went, 28075 Hawberry Rd.

In Precinct 11 there is no contest with just Ruth W. Davoport of 28801 Lorikay Dr. filing. Mrs. Davoport is the incumbent precinct delegate and has been allied with the Cartwright group.

Precinct 12, A.G. Leigh LaChapelle, 26385 Greythorne and Ronald E. Lord, 26585 Westmeath; 13, Lois E. Allen, 22064 Tredwell and Conrad F. Hemple, 22216 N. Brandon; 14, Alan H. Case, 25088 Pimlico and Kathryn L. Kamm, 31890 Doherty; 15, Diane L. Reickert, 23530 W. Nine Mile and Grace Richardson, 35960 W. Nine Mile; and 16, Milton E. Lichterman, 32418 Briarcrest Road.

INCUMBENT DELEGATES in the township races, in addition to Mrs. Davoport, are: Isabel Haynes (Precinct 7) and Grace Richardson (8). Mrs. Haynes is chairman of the State Women's GOP Federation and is allied with the Cartwright group. Mrs. Richardson, on the other hand, has been allied with the Powell forces and was named as alternate in the Powell delegation to the state convention.

Township Clerk Floyd Cairns has been allied with the Cartwright forces, while his opponent in Precinct 9, Rodney T. Graham, was a delegate to the Powell district convention.

In Precinct 3, Bruce Duke, who is a leader of the local John Birch Society, has squared off against a gal who has been extremely active in the Cartwright organization, Barbara J. Reader. Duke served as a delegate to the Powell district convention and as a member of the Powell delegation to the state meet.

Concede 20 Unit Contests Read Readies To Leave Farmington School Job

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN James Read, the administrator who has handled Farmington School District business affairs since 1951 and leaves July 1 for similar duties at Kirtland Community College near Higgins Lake, has said the district grew up in these 17 years.

Read will assume his duties at Kirtland on July 1 although the construction at the school is not complete. Classes will temporarily be held off campus. Kirtland has a potential enrollment of 2,000.

In assuming the post at Kirtland, Jim Read will be returning to the locale where his career had its beginning.

When Jim Read came here from Mantion School District in northern Michigan, where he served from 1936 to 1951 as teacher, principal and superintendent, Farmington had one high school, with a junior high and elementary school at the same site, and Blvd. Middlebelt and Ten Mile Elementary Schools.

The yearly budget was just about \$1,000,000.

Today there are two high schools, Harrison High on the boards, three junior highs, Power Junior High about to be completed and 18 elementary schools.

The yearly budget is just about \$11,000,000.

READ SAYS when he began his teaching career 35 years

ago, he had a budget of \$10 for teaching supplies. He laughs when he says that most of this was spent on ABC books and magazines for the children to use for picture books. They used and re-used the pictures to save money.

In Mantion before he became superintendent, Read taught high school English and special sciences, eighth grade English and history and doubled as band instructor.

HOW DOES A classroom teacher become the expert on school finances that Read has become?

Read makes it sound easy. He says, "When you're superintendent of a small district like Mantion, you learn about everything."

"But at that we weren't so small. We went out about 10 miles in every direction from our building. We covered about 400 square miles," he adds.

Read came to Farmington after being offered the job by the late School Superintendent O.E. Dunkel.

"Mr. Dunkel came to see me in Mantion," he explains. "I had just built a house which cost me \$7,000. Mr. Dunkel asked me how much I had paid for it and said, 'This is a pretty nice house, but you're going to have to pay about \$20,000 for one like it down

in Farmington.' That made me think."

His responsibilities have encompassed 12 areas—he is director of non-teaching personnel, has been a member of four negotiating teams, has handled the budget, purchasing, transportation, cafeterias, insurance programs, elections, maintenance and operation of buildings and grounds, the business office, sale of bonds and investments and supervised construction of new buildings and additions.

LOOKING BACK OVER his tenure in Farmington during which school enrollment increased from 2,200 to 15,300 and the budget ten-fold, Read thinks the quality of education has increased in direct ratio.

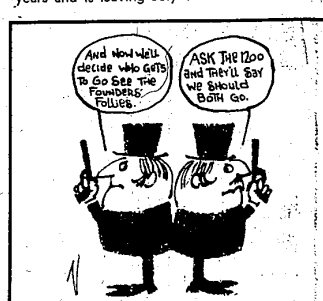
"A greater percentage of our students go on to college today than even went on to high school in the early days," he notes.

"Today we're stressing how the child thinks. We like youngsters to come into school with attitudes—a desire to work, an ability to get along with his fellows, an ability for adaptation," he continues.

He sums up, "With all the growth we have in materials, the child's life and education are enriched. Education is for everybody and that is what makes this country sound and great."



BUSY MAN — James Read, who has handled Farmington School District business affairs for 17 years and is leaving July 1



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**Reader: Wants 3 Year Pact**

EDITOR: I would like to comment about the contract negotiations between the Farmington teachers and the schools.

As a taxpayer concerned for the education of our children below the yearly contract should be eliminated. Why is it that we must go to the extreme of negotiating a school contract each year?

The Farmington Education Association, which represents the teachers, and the Farmington school administration meet yearly to work out differences in the contract. The school administration should insist on three-year contracts only.

Why should school teachers be any different than the rest of American labor?

A three-year contract would eliminate the duplication of yearly contracts and also the teacher's yearly cry of "no contract no work."

TAXPAYER Leonard Weems

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