

# TOWNSHIP TAX PER CENT CUT

(Concluded from Page 1)

An increase in the assessed valuation of Bloomfield Township but a decrease in the percentage to be paid was given by the State Tax commission following a session with the Oakland County board of supervisors. Troy and Southfield Townships received a decrease both in valuation and percentage when the Tax commission finished with the original figures equalized by the board of supervisors.

Our boys are clean and I want them to stay clean. If they meet Mr. Clemens next year they could hardly be blamed if they used the same tactics. This was for publication and both Ralph and Rod realized it. As most everybody knows who reads the Sunday paper, I am a professional writer. Not being a sport specialist, the last thing I need is private and confidential information about high school football games.

# THIS LETTER GOT ACTION

Birmingham, Mich., September 23, 1929. To the honorable Board of Education, Village of Birmingham, Birmingham, Mich. Gentlemen: We, parents of members of the Baldwin High school football squad, having in mind the public announcement by Mr. Clemens school officials that they are willing to waive their contract and cancel the football game scheduled for Oct. 18, and further having in mind the continuance of the friendly relations between the two towns, respectfully suggest that on grounds of public policy and for the best interests of both communities, you cancel this game without prejudice to the good repute of either of the parties.

We respectfully ask that this petition be considered and acted upon either at a special meeting or at your next regular gathering. Sincerely yours, (Signed) RUSSELL GORE, HELEN F. GORE, THOMAS A. NEAL, DORIS H. NEAL, B. R. WINBORN, LOUISE K. WINBORN, CHRISTOPHER BRIEN, E. BESSIE BRIEN, HERMAN SCHWARZE, CLARA SCHWARZE, CLARE SCHWARZE.

Palmer, Mr. Jensen and Mr. Lynch—stuck by the statement which has resurrected this whole issue; that boys who for any reason refuse to participate in Mr. Clemens football game will be punished.

Mr. Vliet suggested that if I polled the five members that I found that the entire board were in favor of punitive action. "On a five-man board three's a majority," I told him. "The board has no right to punish," he heard his Masters' Voice.

Mr. Gore said next to me as I talked. "Gore Loses Letter" During a pause he said, "Gore, let me tell you that letter a moment, will you?" Unhesitatingly I handed it to him. It did not occur to me to worry over the temporary loss of the letter.

When I got home that night I found I had no letter. The next morning I called our football coach on the telephone, the following conversation took place: "Do you remember asking me for a letter last night, Mr. Johnson?" "Yes."

"I must have that letter back. Where is it?" "I refuse to say." "That letter is the one tangible evidence that you did not always think as you pretend to think now. Are you going to return it?" "No."

Before I tell you the joke, I must ask every Birmingham citizen who may at some future time have business with our schools to consider this situation. Suppose that you as a citizen, acting within your rights, appear before school officials with what you consider as a document essential to achieve a public purpose. The document gets into the hands of one of the men we hire to teach our children. You need this document to go on with your case. The man who is supposed to set an example in good character to children refuses to return it. He says he has turned over, to even some higher official charged with the duty of inculcating clean ideals in youth. What are you going to do about it? But I had a jolt for my friend.

"You have disappointed me," I told Mr. Johnson. "What do you mean?" "I mean," I said, "that the letter for which you have sacrificed my respect is a photostat!" "Isn't it the original?" he demanded.

"No, it is only a copy. And, while I am at it, Mr. Johnson, let me tell you that I would think a great deal more of you today if you had spoken one single word last night in behalf of your boys."

"What could I say?" he asked. "I could have said that you were in your own field. Why didn't you get up and say that as long as you were coach no boy was to be stripped of his uniform for obeying his father's orders."

"You could," he said, "that to the board, Mr. Gore." "You could. And if you had said that I was struck by the very right thinking citizen of Birmingham."

# PLAN BROOKS MEMORIAL

Exchanges To Sponsor Tribute To Late Birmingham Aviator

Plans are now under way by Birmingham Exchanges to hold a Memorial Day ceremony for the late Harry Brooks, famous aviator who perished off the coast of Florida, Feb. 25, 1927, through the medium of affixing a proper cancellation emblem, to all letters mailed next February 25. The suggestion was presented to the club Tuesday noon by Robert A. Brooks, of Fenton, formerly of Northville, who is a member of the American Air Mail Society.

Who Changed Johnson? I have never said that the letter represents Mr. Johnson's present opinions. I know well that Mr. Johnson can afford to hold any opinions. But he DID have them. Who changed them for him? It is an attempt to get the names of those signing the order written on the letter, the enclosed school administration, for any time, for any purpose. You'll only be told in the public interest, should NOT be played.

Mr. Vliet on this board meeting shrieked at me when the list is completed, and not before. I am supporting Mr. Schwarze, the first man to remove a son from the team, because I believe that in refusing to let his boy be the pawn of an athletic autocracy he has created a moral issue.

Are we to do nothing to raise the standard of high school football? We are to do nothing to rebuke a team whose example may be causing many another team to do the same thing which we are to do nothing to rebuke.

In all the arguments against cancellation raised by school officials, the only argument to resolve abound expediency—gate receipts, fines, forfeits, contracts in which both boys and parents appear to have no rights that need be respected. Not once have our "Educators" noted the moral issue.

We can help high school football for all time by refusing to let this game be played. For a good cause.

RUSSELL GORE, 1235 Yorkshire Road, Birmingham, Mich.

# MISSIONARY GUILD TO HEAR SPEAKER

Mrs. W. A. Fluher, of Detroit, will be the guest speaker at the first regular meeting of the Woman's Missionary Guild of the Presbyterian Church which will be held Wednesday at the church.

The meeting will open at 10:30 a. m., the morning being spent in sewing. A luncheon will be served at 12:30 and will be followed by Mrs. Fluher's talk. Mrs. J. W. Beckett, of Buckingham road, is chairman of the day.

# TRUCKING ASHES COLLECTED

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# Whose BIRTHDAY comes this week?

MON Just a reminder of the day, of all days of the year, that means most to most of us. Some one in your family, or some one of your acquaintances... has a birthday this week. Don't forget it. And to simplify matters for you... we have a most complete display of the newest ELEGANT Watches for both men and women... and a special Birthday Gift display always open for view... always ready for selections... and immediate delivery.

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# HILLS POLICE ADD THREE MEN

Appointment of three additional men to the Bloomfield Hills police department is announced today by Chief William Putnam. The force now consists of eight men besides the chief, growing from a one man department in two years.

The new men are: Stanley Kervert, 34, 101 Auburn avenue, Pontiac; Fred Powell, 27, of 111 Davis street, Birmingham; and Parks Hufsch, of 536 Vinewood avenue, Birmingham. They will rank as patrolmen.

The increase in the department's personnel follows the announcement that the Cranbrook school grounds, will be patrolled by the Hills police. Formerly the territory was patrolled by a private detective service.

# Rent or Sell as big manufacturers all do

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You are cordially invited to visit this charming home, Suffield House, which will be open Saturday and Sunday afternoons and every evening from seven to nine.

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