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Grandpa Drove "Far" To Pay His Income Tax

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Olive Denison, before she was married to Harold V. Fox, lived in the Birmingham area until about 1912. She now resides in Dearborn. This is another of her articles on oldtime Birmingham and its people.)

The year was 1865—a little less than a hundred years ago—when Grandfather Denison drove in his carriage eight miles to Pontiac to pay his income tax which amounted to \$17.10. This was the year, of course, that also saw the close of the Civil War.

Grandfather's income for 1865 was \$322 and the established rate of five percent on incomes less than \$500 per year meant an assessment of \$16.10. But even the carriage in which Grandfather rode to Pontiac was taxed in the amount of \$1 (valuation being over \$50 and not over \$100) making the total assessment \$17.10. Incomes exceeding \$500 were taxed 10 percent.

But Grandfather undoubtedly

dining with his family on gold or silver plate in that pale yellow house on the Hill. Or manning a yacht—no, Grandfather would have launched a yacht on the mill pond.

But Grandmother Lois would have made a charming picture all decked in lace and hoops and things and handing over the willow that shaded the house to the west. But it is without doubt the most gratifying to simply picture Grandfather driving with his family in a taxable carriage along the quiet rustic roads of Troy.

LEGAL NOTICES
STATE OF MICHIGAN—In the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland.
No. 2-4474
IN RE: THE PETITION OF THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM FOR CONDEMNATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ALLEY.

At a session of said Court held in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, this 18th day of August, 1958, the Honorable Judge of said Court, Judge J. F. Moore, presiding, the Petitioner of said Court, the City of Birmingham, having been duly served with notice of said hearing, and the Court having heard the evidence and the arguments of the parties, and the Court being fully advised in the premises, it is hereby ordered that the petition of said City of Birmingham for condemnation of private property for public purposes be granted.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the following be done, to-wit: that the Court do hereby certify a copy of this Order to the City of Birmingham, Michigan, to be filed in the Court House of said City, and that the City of Birmingham, Michigan, do hereby cause a copy of this Order to be served on each of the owners of the property described within the County at least six days prior to the day of hearing. J. RUSSELL HOLLAND, Circuit Judge.

A TRUE COPY:
Florence J. Allen,
County Clerk
By W. H. Reed & Mitchell
24, 25, 26
12-24-58

James L. Howlett, Atty., 1001 Pontiac State Bank Bldg., Pontiac, Michigan, 12-24-58
In re: the petition of said estate for grant of letters to administer the estate of AMANDA F. KOHL, deceased. The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, Michigan, do hereby certify a copy of this Order to the Court House of said County at least six days prior to the day of hearing. J. RUSSELL HOLLAND, Circuit Judge.

NOTICE
To the members of the Birmingham Community Home Association: Notice is hereby given that the regular Annual Meeting of the Birmingham Community Home Association will be held at the Birmingham Community Home in the City of Birmingham, County of Oakland, Michigan, on Monday, September 8, 1958 at 8:30 P. M. Normal, Michigan, President; Norman J. Joyner, Secretary. 21, 25, 26

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