

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## Editorials

### Attend The Dedication

Indications are that the dedication exercises for Farmington's new athletic field next Monday morning will be an enjoyable event. It will be made more enjoyable and impressive if everyone in the school district who can possibly do so attends, and a cordial invitation is extended to residents of other districts—the whole Farmington community—to participate. The day is a convenient one, and the work that has been done deserves to be commemorated.

### The 'Political Fathers' Are Uneasy

The "political fathers" of the County are uneasy. So it was stated recently by a man who dropped into the Enterprise office, a man who has been following Oakland County political affairs closely for a number of years.

"The 'political fathers' over in Pontiac are very uneasy right now," he said. "They're afraid they can't quite hold things in hand this year like they have been doing. People being out of work and having no money is causing a lot of unrest. It's a bad year for the man in office, and it's a mighty good thing for any candidate this year if he can say of himself that he's not a politician."

"But even that's not the worst of it," he continued. "It's the candidates themselves that are causing the 'fathers' most of their worry. You see, in the last few years they've filled up some of the most important County offices, or allowed them to be filled with just ordinary men—men of no particular ability or training for the jobs. They're good enough fellows, all right, and they've been able to get the votes, but they're just average men as far as ability goes."

"Now the 'fathers,' this year particularly, would have liked to see some of these fellows step out, so they could put forward some more capable men, and maybe ward off the danger of losing their hold on things. But these fellows who have been in office—well, they get two or three times as much as they could in private business, and naturally they don't like to give it up unless they are absolutely forced to. They've insisted on running. The 'fathers' couldn't do much else but support them, and are just working and hoping that they can pull them through."

So the "political fathers," after years and years of "getting away with it," are a trifle uneasy. Well, that's just too bad, but somehow or other, we doubt if there will be many tears shed for them, or if the people will overwhelm them with sympathy. They have made their bed—let them lie in it. And if they toss a bit on their silken pillows now and then, be it remembered that many a taxpayer, many a small home-owner in Oakland County has lain awake night after night wondering if he was going to have to give it all up and lose everything. The patient, silently-suffering people are bent too far down under a staggering load of taxation to be able to reach up and reassuringly pat on the back those who have had a part in placing the burden upon them.

But the "fathers" are bent down too—they have their "ears to the ground." And they hear disturbing sounds, unfamiliar rumblings which seem to warn them not to be too greatly surprised, nor too much disappointed, if strange things happen in the voting booths of Oakland County, in the year nineteen hundred and thirty, on the day of September nine.

### Four Young Fellows On A Frolic

Four young fellows sat in a row in Judge Schulte's courtroom in Farmington. They were there because ten days before they had, according to the police, engaged in the frolicsome pastime of entering a barbecue stand and ordering the proprietor and a young lady assistant to "stick 'em up."

The court-room occasion was examination of the quartette on charges of entering with intent to rob—a rather serious proceeding on a serious charge. Yet one might well have inferred from the attitude displayed that not only the holdup but the examination then being conducted was a continuation of the "frolic." It was so apparent that the prosecuting attorney remarked to the court that "one of the defendants and his attorney seem to regard this as an amusement."

The particular defendant referred to appeared to view it just that way. Grinning and very apparently enjoying the attention he attracted, the fact that he was in the spotlight, he flouted every rule of dignity and behavior in a courtroom, if not outside. His smart young attorney, himself apparently quite an actor (in his own estimation), helped things along by referring to his client as "the handsome young man over there with the red hair." When the arguments were concluded and a recess was taken, two of the young defendants arose, put on their hats in the courtroom and lolled against the railing, smoking cigars.

The Judge could not, of course, make gentlemen out of them. But after all four had been held for trial in the Circuit Court, he could and did deny a plea that the "handsome young man" be given some unusual consideration until his bond could be furnished. He commented on the youth's attitude, while the prosecutor remarked that "a few hours in jail isn't going to hurt anybody."

It certainly won't hurt that "handsome young man." It might straighten him out on a lot of things.

## What Other Newspapers Are Saying

### Many Are They Who Seek Office

(Leslie Republican)

The primary election campaign is now fairly under way with an unusually large number of candidates seeking a place on the Republican State, Legislative and County tickets, a condition that does not apply alone to Ingham County, it being quite general throughout the state.

Lack of remunerative employment in commercial, professional and industrial callings is ascribed as a reason for the unprecedented rush for office, which is probably true, as "I need the money" seems to be the loud cry by office seekers for support at the primaries.

There are numerous candidates for the office of sheriff and register of deeds with two or more aspirants seeking each of the other county jobs. It is up to the voters to choose who will fill them and the wise voter will not give sympathy or sentiment full swing when he enters the election booth. Much in the way of economy in public affairs depends upon the decision made at the poll. Often it is the person who least needs a pay-check that makes the best officer. The reason is obvious.

### State Income Tax

(Harvard Ill. Herald)

Farmers over the country are beginning to make demands for a state income tax. Farm papers are presenting their views and it is probable that the next sessions of state legislature will see a number of income tax bills introduced. It is the contention of those who would relieve property tax burdens that the industrialization of America has changed economic conditions until the ownership of land or real property is no longer a fair indication of the ability to pay, upon which all taxation is theoretically based. The land owner, particularly the farmer whose sole income comes from the land, has to pay an increasing burden of taxes.

The automobile has made expensive road programs necessary, an enlightened citizenship is demanding more and better schools, modern health work, and better protection of life and property. But at the same time, the burden of this increase is falling largely on the land owner, while many escape it entirely. The population has become more mobile than ever before; people can and do move in great numbers from place to place and from farm to city. These improved services are generalized and are used by all. At the same time the taxes remain local and the property owner bears the burden, it is claimed. Taxes on gasoline, amusements and luxuries are steps in the direction of equalizing the tax burden, since they come from the individual in proportion to his use.

### Old Age

(Trenton Times)

Renewed interest has been aroused in the subject of longevity by the arrival in America of the ancient Turk, Zoro Agha, who claims to be 156 years old.

Doctors who have examined this aged man say that he is certainly of great age, and that his general condition is such that he ought to live another 15 or 20 years. To be sure, there is no way of proving how old he is. He claims to have fought in the Turkish army in 14 wars, to have married and lost twelve wives in succession, and to have a grandson who is now past 90. That may all be true, but when a man gets to the point where he looks extremely old, it is often easy for him to claim to be much older than he really is. None of the very old people—those claiming to be well over 100—was born in any place where birth records are kept. Old people are often forgetful and not a little vain, and in general it is prudent to discount the claim of anyone to be more than 100.

There seems to be no doubt whatever of the great age of John Voorhees, Grand Sachem of Tammy Hall in New York, however. He was born 101 years ago in July, in New York City, and his christening is a matter of record in the church of the parish in which he still lives.

To draw any conclusion from

the manner of living of these two old men, as to how one can prolong one's own life, would be foolish. Zoro Agha, being a Mohammedan, is a teetotaler; he has never drunk anything stronger than coffee and he has never been a smoker. Mr. Voorhees, on the other hand, has always smoked and taken a drink whenever he felt like it. Both men were hard physical workers during their youth and young manhood, but that may have nothing to do with their longevity at all.

The soundest conclusion of medical authorities is that old age is something we inherit, like the tendency to baldheadedness. If one's parents and grandparents, or most of them, lived to old age, it is probable that the individual will enjoy long life, if he takes care of himself. The greatest handicap to longevity in these days is worry. Everything else being equal, the man who gives his emotions more or less free rein and does not worry about things he cannot help will live longer than the ones who do the world's worrying for it.

After all, it is a matter of small importance to most people whether they live beyond the traditional three score and ten year or not. After seventy few care how soon they leave the earthly scene. The important thing is to get as much out of the first seventy years as possible.

### Encouraging Words

(Redford Record)

In a period when most narrow visioned folk have about become convinced that factories soon will shut down nine days a week, that real estate won't be worth a dollar a city block and that we should all hang out a motto reading "What's the use?" it is relief that we have a few words from one of the world's workers, Henry Ford, who says:

This nation never will go forward on a gambling basis. If you can get that into the heads of capitalists and speculators you will be a great doctor. But I doubt it can be done. The only hope for this country is that gradually by the common people will learn that there is no economic Santa Claus and stick to their honest jobs.

I suggest to the people and newspaper writers and clergy to take the view that this nation has been saved from a great calamity of false prosperity. It is now the duty of citizens to see that this period of return toward a sane basis of living is used to the utmost. It is just as foolish to follow the cry of "depression" as it was to follow the cry of "prosperity."

Some people called us pessimists when we did not praise the prosperity of the last three years. Now they call us stronghearted because we do not join in the mock griefs of the publicists over what they call hard times. I personally am very hopeful, because I think the country has ceased to be sick and is now well, and will soon be strong and active again.

Those words are something like the rain after weeks of drought. We hope they fall in fertile minds.

### Taking Something Abroad

(Dearborn Press)

This summer thousands of Americans are traveling in Europe or getting ready to go there. They are thinking much of routes, clothes and good times to come. Few are thinking about the age old history of European countries. Comparatively few are thinking about the thrill and fascination of historical spots. There are castles and cathedrals, ancient battlefields and roads of destiny. Most people go abroad unprepared to bring away much. They go not realizing that they can bring back only what they take in the mind.

It seems there are certain things your best friends won't tell you, but they will give you a dirty look.—Des Moines Register.

The trouble about being seen in "shorts" these days is that you may be mistaken for a Wall Street victim.—Hartford Courant

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