

The Farmington Enterprise

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HEADS I WIN, TAILS YOU LOSE

For four nights last week citizens of this vicinity filled a Chautauqua tent beyond its capacity and there was a good attendance at the afternoon entertainments, yet the local committee sponsoring the Chautauqua report that it will be necessary for the pledge signers to go down in their pockets to make up a deficit of upwards of \$100.

With more patrons attending a Chautauqua than there is seating capacity furnished and then a deficit shown naturally leads to a little sober reflection.

The Chautauqua is a good thing. Its entertainments are fine and of high order, although the foremost musical and dramatic talent is conspicuous by absence from its platform.

The Chautauqua is organized for the purpose of paying dividends to its stockholder which is perfectly proper. For if it were not a paying proposition it could not exist. In this respect it differs from no other business concern. The difference exists in that the Chautauqua is not only guaranteed against a loss in putting out its production, but against loss of profit.

Without the co-operation of a local committee the Chautauqua patronage would soon fall off and this form of entertainment would cease. Considering the "moral uplift" value of the Chautauqua, it is quite proper that a community should give it a certain guarantee, but the sum certainly should not be in excess of the amount that could be realized on a full attendance at performances. The trouble in the situation is that the contract is entirely one-sided—not a chance being taken by the parties who draw dividends. The fifty-fifty clause in the contract appears quite plausible and as a generous concession, but considering the fact that the guaranteed sum usually equals the limit of patronage of the community under fair conditions, it is not of much value to the signers. Should unusually favorable conditions prevail and a sum be realized at the door in excess of the guarantee the hopes of the local committee's realizing anything are nipped by a clause which specifies that the Chautauqua concern is to have the first fifty dollars of the single admission money before the fifty-fifty proposition is operative.

A fair contract would call for a reasonable guarantee with a fifty-fifty split after the amount of the pledge had been received from admissions on single tickets and sale of season tickets.

If the Chautauqua cannot survive under fair business methods it eventually must fail, as the number of citizens who enthrone over paying the "moral uplift" bill for an entire community is growing noticeably less.

GOOD ROADS AND THE COST

In a report to the state, County Treasurer Dick A. Woodward of Kalamazoo says: "People in the townships wonder why their taxes are high. One of the reasons is 'Covert roads.'"

That taxes are high owing to the great amount of good roads construction which has been going on during the past few years is quite evident, yet the citizens want the roads and many of them. A means of securing them without increasing taxes in some form or another has not yet been devised.

Under the Covert Act part of the cost of roads is paid by the county at large, part by the township in which the road is located and part is assessed against abutting property.

Whether the Covert Act is or is not a practical or proper one under which to construct roads and distribute the costs, the fact remains that the people will have to stand the expense of road building even though the cost item is eliminated from the local tax roll through some other system. State construction of roads is costing the people a pretty penny and Federal aid money is not picked out of the sky, but represents a part of the earnings of

the people. The gas tax which has provided money for the construction of many miles of fine roads seems to be working out quite satisfactorily, but is nevertheless a tax on the people. The method of construction that has proved most practical and economical and provides the most equitable distribution of cost should be adopted and road building continued with the clear understanding that the people will have to pay whether the cost items go to make up the imposing array of figures that appear in state and federal road accounts or are spread on the individual tax receipt.

MICHIGAN THEATRE MECCA FOR LUXURY LOVERS

The "Roaring Forties" of New York's Broadway and the gleaming glamour of Chicago's "loop" are pining into insignificance as the date draws near for the opening in the middle of August of The Michigan Theatre, newest monarch among the wonder theatres of the world.

The theatre, which cost nearly \$5,000,000 to complete, is on Bagley avenue near Grand Circus Park, and according to architects and builders from all over the world who have had an advance peep into its interiors, it far surpasses any theatre in the world for luxury, convenience and splendor. It has over an acre of seats, totalling nearly 5,000 and its billowing cascades of marble or cozy nooks and retreats throughout its block-long foyers and promenades, will accommodate at least 3,000 more theatre goers who will be admitted to await their turn for vacant seats in the auditorium. Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of precious sculptures and paintings adorn the theatre; a disappearing orchestra stage will present the finest unadorned symphony orchestra in America; a double touch five manual pipe organ with the resources of a 200-piece orchestra; a stage big enough to present a full-size circus if necessary, and a magical scheme of suspended ceilings, liquid illumination, and thick-carpeted floor give new meaning to motion picture theatres that New York and Chicago or any other city in the world has yet to experience. Motion picture dramas and stage productions will be the form of entertainment offered in the new art-theatre.

FRANK SCHRAM SEEKS SECOND TERM AS SHERIFF



FRANK SCHRAM

I have been advised by many of my friends to seek a second term as sheriff of Oakland County and I have decided to enter the September primaries for the Republican nomination to that office. Two years ago when I was elected I won because the people believed that because of my experience, training and good reputation I should be the logical successor to James S. Butler with whom I was acting as Under-sheriff. A further consideration for the splendid vote which I received was the promise I made that if elected I would run the office cleanly, efficiently and economically.

Today the electors do not have to take me on faith alone for a second term, because the record I have made in the office is their best assurance of a continuation of my policy of an honest administration of the Sheriff's office.

I want to take this opportunity of thanking the courts, the citizens and the police organizations throughout the county for the excellent co-operation which I have had from them in transacting the business of my office because I feel that it is to them that I owe a large part of my success in the past two years.

FRANK SCHRAM

Only One Right Way

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FOR REGISTRAR

Bert F. Griffin, Pontiac, Former Orion Man, Enters Field



BERT F. GRIFFIN

Another race for nomination at the Republican primary in Oakland county, September 14, is assured by announcement that Bert F. Griffin of Pontiac will seek the place as register of deeds. Miss Mabel L. Brondige of Pontiac chief deputy in the register of deeds office, previously has announced her candidacy.

Griffin, who has been secretary of the Pontiac Laundry company for the last three years, was at various times clerk, treasurer, highway commissioner and supervisor of Orion township, the place of his birth, before he made his home in Pontiac in 1919.

He received his education in the rural schools of Orion township and at the Pontiac Business college. He spent a number of years farming, was in the mercantile business and has been treasurer of the Monitor Insurance company.

Mr. Griffin is married and the father of two children. He is a member of the Masonic order Eastern Star, White Shrine, the Elks and the first Congregational Church.

"All my time and effort will be devoted to the position if I am elected," Mr. Griffin said. "I have been urged to run for the office by many friends and can assure the citizens of Oakland county that if they select me as register of deeds I shall work conscientiously."

Brings Instant Death

to Bacteria Spores

A ray which literally deals death and promises to be of practical use in combating insect pests has been developed in the laboratories of the General Electric company, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. It killed highly resistant bacteria spores in an exposure of one-tenth of a second, and fruit flies, upon being rayed for an instant, showed almost complete collapse and died in a few hours.

The rays are produced by an electrical discharge as powerful as 250,000 volts inside a glass vacuum tube, at one end of which is a "window" of aluminum, through which rapidly moving electrons pass and have an effective range of 13 inches. The air itself becomes luminous in front of the tube and ester oil was changed into a solid. Similar rays have been produced within tubes before, but never in such quantity in the air, it is said.

The effects of the emanations on higher forms of life were also striking. A small portion of a rabbit's ear was exposed to the rays for about 50 seconds. A scab developed on both sides of the ear and later fell out, leaving a hole which became covered with a growth of snow-white hair.

DANGEROUS

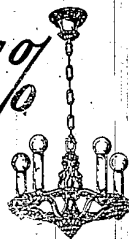


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"The lion is trained not to harm him."
"But the lion may get absconded."

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