

## The Farmington Enterprise

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## EDITORIAL

## ATTEND THE ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING

One of the really important gatherings of the year in this and every other community in Michigan is to occur next Monday evening, the date for annual school district meetings. It is the time when citizens of the school district have not only the opportunity but the duty to participate in the government of the community's educational program.

In this instance as in other affairs of government, the rule applies that those who do not avail themselves of the opportunity for a voice in the management of school affairs should hesitate to offer criticism later if the educational institution or institutions are not handled in what they deem to be a wise and efficient manner.

It is quite popular today to write and speak eloquently of the children in the schools as "the citizens of tomorrow," "the hope of the world," to say that "they are the men and women of tomorrow." And these expressions, spoken and written, always meet with a good deal of approbation, and it is everywhere acknowledged wise management of schools is "a sacred trust."

Yet if we really believe all these things, every citizen ought to do his part in making school government really representative of all the people in the community. Surely for a couple of hours, on one evening during the year, is not too much to ask of any citizen in the district—if the "citizens of tomorrow" are to become what the generation of today expects them to be.

## THE TOWN HALL PROBLEM

After many weeks of discussion and consideration, the Town Hall difficulty appears no nearer solution than when the first steps were taken toward a determination of the shares of the property. Nine men representing the three interests have worked hard to find some means of settling the problem, yet its complications seem to frustrate their best efforts.

It will be unfortunate, indeed, if an agreement cannot be reached without resorting to litigation. A court settlement cannot but attract wide attention, for the situation is one that would interest many people outside of Farmington, who had never heard of this community. It would be interesting to others, but not very favorable to Farmington should the Township, the City and the Masonic Lodge find themselves so far from accord on the proposition that adjudication would be necessary.

It is quite possible that some plan not yet suggested might find favor with all three parties in interest. To this end, it would be well for every citizen of the Township and City, and every member of the Masonic Lodge, to be thinking about the problem, to look at it with an open mind and consider a possible basis of settlement. Surely the committees, laboring faithfully, working for two hours or more at a session in a chilly hall (as they did at their last meeting), would wel-

## "Work"

M. Marie Walling

Work, work, work.  
When do we stop to play?  
We haven't much time for other things  
It's work the whole long day.  
From eight o'clock in the morning,  
Till after five at night  
We toil down at the office.  
It doesn't seem just right  
When others have so plenty  
They needn't give a care.  
From whence the money's coming,  
Or when or how they fare,  
But then, we shouldn't worry  
'Cause we're as happy as they.  
And after our work is finished  
At the closing of the day;  
We can rest in peace or quiet  
In lonely solitude.  
Or in a crowd of many.  
Either way to suit our mood,  
And then we may be glad  
We've done something that's worth while.  
Do your work in earnest,  
But do it with a smile  
If we work hard for a thing  
It always goes to prove  
We'll like it so much better.  
Such is the law of love.

come anything that gave promise of a fair settlement, acceptable to all three parties. And certainly, the citizen who might suggest a workable plan would earn the gratitude of the community for pointing the way in one of its most difficult situations.

## WHEN THE "WHITE LIGHT" TURNS THIS WAY

A Detroit real estate man, having just returned from a tour of large American cities, declares that suburban development reaches its highest point in Detroit, among American cities. As he puts it, Detroit is "the white spot" of the country, as far as present suburban development is concerned.

The "white spot" of Detroit suburban development has expanded in many directions within the last decade. It has yet to turn very distinctively and definitely toward Farmington. Yet no one doubts that it is coming—and some believe it will be very soon. When the light from that "white spot" strikes Farmington, what will it reveal? Surely it will find as agreeable and pleasing a prospect, as far as Nature is concerned, as it might in any other direction—probably much finer than the average.

But bright lights are very critical. The "bright light" that home-seeking Detroiters will turn upon Farmington will ask many questions, search out our advantages and shortcomings. It will not miss our virtues, but if we lack the things that wise-home-seekers and home-builders know we should be able to offer, they will pass Farmington by. We cannot expect them to be enthusiastic over the beauties of our surroundings and the advantages of our location, and at the same time overlook the weak spots.

The "white light" should swing this way any time. Will Farmington be ready when its rays are turned in this direction?

## PROMISES MADE AND KEPT

Two years ago citizen Fred W. Green first announced his candidacy for the governorship of Michigan. "There were certain things," he said, "that needed correcting, daylight government and a public service station should be established at Lansing."

The people of this state took Fred Green at his word. They had faith that a man, so signally loved and trusted by his home folks, would keep and promise he might make.

He has been governor of Michigan 17 months. Not all of the things he would like, have been accomplished, but there is time remaining to finish the work for representative government that has been begun.

Since he was inaugurated he has been on the job every minute. No other governor in the history of the state has put in so many hours looking after the people's business. He has determined that for every dollar of the taxpayer's money spent the state should receive a dollar's worth of service in return. That, in itself, takes much time and patience to accomplish.

When he took the oath of office

as governor the state treasury was bankrupt, there were millions in outstanding obligations, chaos reigned in the departments of accounting at Lansing. All that has been changed. The state now maintains a balance in the treasury, no obligations are assumed until it has been determined there will be money on hand when payday comes.

Michigan is now a big business institution, doing business in a businesslike way. You no longer hear about fund juggling, you can be proud of a state that is making such tremendous building strides and paying as it goes along.

You no longer hear of scandals in the division of pardons and paroles. The new criminal code, which had the staunch support of the governor, is putting criminals in prison. Governor Fred W. Green is seeing to it that those same criminals are remaining in prison as society, through the courts, has directed. Since he has been governor not a life has been released, the old method of easy escape from paying the penalty has gone, the criminal classes are facing a dreary prospect under his regime.

There have been passed a new workmen's compensation law, uniform traffic code, new code governing our public school system, the conservation department taken out of politics, a law to provide aid for crippled children, and other measures looking forward to an advanced state.

Acute political writers and observers have tried to write into the political picture of this state, his candidacy for the United States senate, or a place in the president's cabinet. Since he has been governor he has been called upon to make more official appointments than any other governor. Not in a single instance has he let his own political future dictate or influence his decisions in making these appointments. Last August he said, he would be a candidate for a second term. If he is given, and accepts at the hands of the people, a commission for two more years, as governor, he will regard that commission as a trust to be fulfilled. He will serve his two terms and will not seek further emoluments in that office; he will continue to render faithful service until the final hour of his retirement—The Ionia County News.

## MARRIAGES FEWER IN 1927, DIVORCE GAINS, IN STATE AND COUNTY

There were 36,276 marriages performed in Michigan during the year 1927, as compared with 39,788 in 1926, representing a decrease of 3,512 or 8.8 per cent. This decrease, in all probability, is due mainly to the enactment in 1925 of a law requiring application for a marriage license five days in advance of the date on which the license is to be issued. During the year 1927 there were 10,527 divorces granted in the state, as compared with 9,648 in 1926; representing an increase of 879 or 9.1 per cent. There were 85 marriages annulled in 1927, as compared with 101 in 1926.

The estimated population of the state of Michigan on July 1, 1927, was 4,490,000, and on July 1, 1926, 4,396,000. On the basis of these estimates, the number of marriages per 1,000 of the population was 8.1 in 1927, as against 9.1 in 1926; the number of divorces per 1,000 of the population was 2.34 in 1927, as against 2.19 in 1926; and the number of marriages annulled per 1,000 of the population was 0.019 in 1927, as against 0.023 in 1926.

In Oakland County there were 1,107 marriages in 1927, as compared with 1928; and 323 divorces, as compared with 253 the previous year. There were five annulments, two less than in 1926.

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