

The Farmington Enterprise

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By Edgar R. Bloomer
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Editorial

FARMINGTON'S FIRST
"GOODFELLOW FUND"

Even those residents of Farmington whose memory goes back more than half a century would probably have difficulty recalling a finer community achievement than the uniting of Groves-Walker American Legion Post with the Exchange Club in raising a "Goodfellow Fund," and the further co-operation of such groups as the Woman's Home Missionary Society.

The work is highly praiseworthy in itself, and further, it is of no small importance to the community that the two men's organizations, after each had been planning some community celebration, have been able to work in perfect harmony. Not only has it made possible a greater forerunner of other co-operative efforts between the various organizations in the community.

As for the "Goodfellow Fund" itself, it should not be necessary to dwell on the worthiness of the cause. The mere statement of its purpose, "Christmas dinners for the needy families," and "Christmas sacks for the kiddies," should be sufficient. And there undoubtedly will be found more needy families within our midst than most of us realize.

One fact should be borne in mind by all residents of Farmington, and that is that the "Goodfellow Fund" is a work in which everyone must share. The business-men have been canvassed by the committee, and have given liberally. But others must help too. The business-men respond generously to many appeals throughout the year, because, being closely grouped, they are easier to reach. Yet their incomes are probably not above those of the large number of residents of the community. They should not be expected to bear the entire burden.

Your participation in the festivities Saturday night will be made immeasurably more enjoyable if you are able to feel that you have taken part, however small, in making the "Goodfellow Fund" possible.

IMPROVEMENTS—

WHEN THEY'RE WANTED

Although the City Charter contains a provision that all special assessment improvements contemplated for the ensuing twelve months are to be included in a statement by the Mayor the first day of January, no petitions for paving have yet been presented to the City Commission. While it is considered almost certain that there will be a movement next spring for the paving of Oakland avenue, and for Thomas street, thus far there has been little or no activity toward a comprehensive paving program.

Despite the presence of the Charter provision above referred to, it is the belief of some citizens that residents desiring paving next Spring will still be able to petition for and secure paving, on the theory that a special assessment project may be decided upon whenever those who must bear most of the expense indicate a desire for such a project.

Whether or not the Charter

That "Schram and Orr"
Banner

(A parody on "Old Ironsides." With apologies to
Oliver Wendell Holmes.)

Ay, tear that tattered banner down,
Too long has it hung that way,
And many an eye has longed to see
It gone before next day.
Beneath it trod the eager feet
Of those who went to vote,
It was put up in Summer's heat,
Now it needs an overcoat.

Its face, in letters high did show,
The names of "Schram" and "Orr,"
They've been elected both and so
It's needed now no more.

No more its pair of candidates
The canvas doth proclaim,
It was in pieces long ere this,
Now only shreds remain.

Oh, better that the threadbare frame
Should feed some furnace fire,
It helped to spread the two men's fame,
Now it arouses ire.
Go out with hammer and with saw,
Get ev'ry lingering splinter,
It's served its time by every law,
It's been there half the winter!

— Anonymous.

provision in regard to the Mayor's message prevents the taking up later in the year of special assessment work not mentioned in the message, the situation suggests that this is one more charter provision which should be changed. It could be done at the election next Spring without added expense, and ought to be done to leave no question whatever regarding special assessment improvements. In the matter of paving, for instance, it is impossible to predict what a dirt street that is fairly good in December will be like four months later. The surface of many a road has disappeared beneath the deluge of spring rains. And, as in the case of Thomas street (which, even in December, is worse than any street should be), trying to make a good street out of a mud-hole can often be seen in advance to be more costly undertaking in the long run, than paving. The property-owners on each street and the governing body ought to be able at any time to call a halt on expensive filling and re-surfacing, and decide that the time has come to do the paving.

OAKLAND
County
PINIONS

Pontiac has had a phenomenal growth. But so has the rest of the county. The assessed valuation of Royal Oak township is now running a neck and neck race with the county seat town.

Send some former resident, who now lives in the city, the old home town paper as a Christmas present, and show them there's still some news besides crime.

Nothing like good credit. Oakland County carries an overdraft of half a million. And when our bank balance is \$108 they turn down a two dollar check.

Oakland County may not have a stocking to hang up. But if she gets an expensive court house the taxpayers will surely get a sock.

Picked Up At Random
By ContributorHabitual Criminals and the
Sob-Sisters

At a time when hysterical shrieks and lamentations of criminal coddlers had reached a grand crescendo the voice of Governor Green was heard, like that of the Nazarene over the troubled waters of Galilee, bidding them be still. Calmly the Governor assured the excited ones that the State of Michigan had no intention of dealing unjustly with those convicted of crime.

Two years ago the legislature enacted what is known as an habitual criminal law and put sharp teeth into it which have been inflicting some severe punishment on a few of our habitual criminals. They, through their attorneys, are now doing some loud squealing. This noise, min-

gled with the wailing of the sob-sisters who were egged on by interested attorneys and a few sensational newspapers until they were in a state bordering on frenzy, was assuming the volume of a roar when the Governor injected a little common sense into the discussion.

There are many sensible citizens on conviction of fourth felony is too drastic punishment, especially in this state where certain misdemeanors and violations of sumptuary regulations are deemed felonies. Yet no justice has been done those so convicted. There is no question of their guilt and there is no question but that the law will be so changed as to make the punishment fit the crime if, after careful consideration, it is deemed that the present law is too drastic.

Every law-abiding citizen feels that the legislature made a move in the right direction when it put the habitual criminal act on the statute books. It would be a miracle if a law of that character were framed that functioned with absolute perfection when put to test in actual practice.

Several of the legislators who voted for the law as it now stands have since stated that they did not understand at the time of its passage that it was intended a fourth conviction of what is usually classed as a misdemeanor would carry a life sentence, nor is it thought that the public at that time so understood it.

All offenses termed under common law as felonies, and such other offenses as are considered sufficiently grave to be punished by three or more years imprisonment, should be punishable, upon a fourth conviction, by life imprisonment. With that change the only persons left with a show of reason for complaint would be the criminals and their allies, the shyters.

With the habitual criminal law put in more satisfactory shape an habitual nuisance law should be enacted making a fourth conviction of a misdemeanor punishable by a longer term of imprisonment than is now possible.

There is no reason for the big fuss that is being made over the few "habituals" who have been given life sentences. If a change is made in the present law their sentences will, no doubt, be commuted to a term of years in consonance with the provisions of the new law.

A Practical Christmas;

Aunt Jennie's Vanity

"EVERYTHING for Aunt Jennie must be useful," insisted her sister-in-law. "You know how terribly old-fashioned and practical she is."

So Aunt Jennie's Christmas had consisted of a woolen sweater, woolen gloves, good stout woolen hose, a sewing basket, slippers lined with lambs' wool, a little woolen shawl, and knitting needles in assorted sizes.

As the presents were being opened on Christmas morning, however, Aunt Jennie uttered a cry of delight and rushed over and embraced her small nephew Charlie. Unknown to the family, Charlie, more practical than his parents, had given his aged aunt a little brass tip stick, a box of rouge, and some powder and a puff.

"You dear, sweet boy! Aunt Jennie was saying, 'You dear, sweet boy! And to think, you thought my color so youthful and beautiful it must be beautiful at my age. Why, I feel twenty-five years younger at such a compliment. And you know, I've never used a cosmetic in my life!'"

At dinner that day, if Aunt Jennie didn't look twenty-five years younger, she looked at least ten, and the youthful flush of her cheek was a sufficient recompense to Charlie for the mild scolding he had received from his practical mother.—Harold L. Cook.

Christmas Wreaths



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SATURDAY, SUNDAY and MONDAY NIGHTS
(New Year's Eve)

December 29-30-31

SOUVENIRS—New Year's Eve

SPECIAL DINNER

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

Crab Meat Cocktail
Celery and Olives
Choice of Soups:
Cream of Tomato, Chicken Noodle or Vegetable
Broiled Baby White Fish

Choice of Roasts:
Roast Young Turkey
Chestnut Dressing and Cranberry Sauce
Roast Young Capon
Chestnut Dressing and Cranberry Sauce
Half Fried Spring Chicken
Country Style Cranberry Sauce

Grilled Porter House Steak with Bacon
French Fried Potatoes
Vegetables
Creamed Whipped Potatoes, Buttered Early June Peas
Candied Florida Yams
Salad
Boston Iceberg Lettuce and Tomatoes
Ice Cream
Coffee Tea Milk
Home Made Hot Biscuit
Choice of Desserts
Home Made Plum Pudding with Wine Sauce
Ice Cream

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