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Editorial

THE JITNEY LINE

No recent public venture in this community has enjoyed the well-nigh unanimous approval which greets the proposed new jitney service for the territory north and south of Farmington. Residents of those sections are enthusiastic, and most Farmington business-men seem to regard the idea as one which might prove of great value in the way of increasing trade.

The district to the north particularly, has felt keenly the lack of transportation facilities since the removal of the trolley service a few years ago. Those to the south have found it equally difficult to get into Farmington, their natural trading center, and will undoubtedly welcome the new jitney. For Farmington business men, it will be well worth the 8 cents per business day which each is asked contribute toward the subsidy. It would not be surprising at all to find the merchants benefitting by several times more than the two dollars a month which has been pledged by a considerable number.

Fortunately, the backers of the jitney line are going into it with an open mind, ready to make changes which experience indicates to be advisable, and welcoming suggestions. One that is worthy of the most serious consideration has already appeared, in a letter from Mr. L. W. Hermann, printed in another column of this issue. As Mr. Hermann points out, the rush hours are not only the most profitable, but the time when the need for the service is greatest. And the system to which he refers, that of the head of the family bringing home the household food supply in his car, is followed to a very large extent by residents of subdivisions around Farmington.

The Detroit Street Railways have recognized the overwhelming importance of rush-hour service, in making up their schedule for the new Southfield bus line, north of Grand River. Seven trips are made, three in the early morning rush-hour, the same number late in the afternoon, and the other round-trip about noon.

With the prospective users taking sufficient interest in the jitney line to make suggestions as to its operation, and with subdivision developers and Farmington business-men lending their support, the service should soon be off to a good start.

An automobile concern advertises: "Get a new body and have your top repaired." Don't you wish you could?—North Branch Gazette.

FROM A MAN WHO SHOULD KNOW

Legislators and others interested in the proposal that Michigan adopt capital punishment for murder, which will probably be debated soon by the Legislature, may increase their knowledge and broaden their viewpoint on the subject by reading an article in the January issue of "Plain Talk" magazine. It is entitled, "Are Murderers Afraid To Die," and is the result of an interview with Dr. Amos T. Squire, former head physician at Sing Sing, where New York's executions take place.

Dr. Squire gave the signal for 135 executions in his 25 years at Sing Sing. Of the 135 men, Dr. Squire says, only one gave indications that he was afraid to die. From this is drawn the conclusion that capital punishment, as a crime-deterrent, is a failure. Dr. Squire says that life imprisonment is regarded by many, if not most criminals, as much more repugnant than the death penalty. One man, as Dr. Squire points out, the famous Allan Hamby, voluntarily confessed to murders in New York State when the death penalty was in effect, only after he was sentenced to life imprisonment in Oklahoma. He declared that life imprisonment was "too great a penalty—that it would be far worse than death."

The difficulty in Michigan as elsewhere, is not with the penalty—it is with the infrequency of capture and conviction. It is not the death penalty that makes murders few in large European cities—it is the almost absolute certainty of being caught. There are probably more unsolved murders on the police books of each large city in the United States, than in all of the big European cities together.

Dr. Squire's concluding words offer a suggestion both for those who look to the death penalty out of despair because of the present serious crime situation, and for those seeking to prevent passage of a capital punishment bill:

"I believe the only thing that will check crime is the substitution for the death penalty of life sentences to an institution in the far distant part of the State, where the prisoners have no communication with their families and friends, and have no hope of pardon. A fairly certain punishment of this kind would do far more to stir the imaginations of criminals and deter them from crime than the threat of the death chair, which, as I have said, merely warns."

The Enterprise's good friend, City Clerk N. H. Power, dropped in one day recently to remind us that "the Bible says, 'the wicked shall walk in slippery places.' 'Twas not such a friendly remark—the sidewalk between Grand River and the Enterprise office was the slipperiest in town.

"Liquor Makers To Build Additions Costing $1,000,000," says a Detroit paper in one column, and "Senate Votes $24,000,000 for Prohibition," in another. Twenty-four times as easy to make it in Windsor as it is to keep it there.

Random Hits

By Contributor

Menace In Lack Of Interest

"There never has been any scramble for office of delegate from here and undoubtedly the office will be left to the Supervisor."

The above is an excerpt from a news story in one of the weekly papers of Oakland County, calling attention to an approaching political caucus for the nomination of Township officers and choosing delegates to a County convention which in turn will choose delegates to a State convention.

In these few words the writer unwittingly laid bare the secret of the hold which inner organizations of political parties have on the affairs of government, and explains the reason why it is comparatively easy for shrewd politicians to gain absolute control of party machines and thus be in a position to dictate policies, secure the appointment of subservient office-seekers to important political positions and control nominations for high office with the possible exception of those infrequent times when the masses are aroused to their interests by an honest leader.

Government by the people becomes a joke and a hollow mockery when the people "lay down" at the start, the only time in a carefully devised scheme for representative government when their work and influence can be individually and collectively effective.

Because there is lack of interest in the preliminary skirmishes of political battles, such as caucuses and primaries, we have little groups of politicians in county, state and national headquarters who dictate every party move; signify, by "thumbs down" to subservient lieutenants when measures are to be killed or adopted, or when some troublesome "heretic" is to be squelched by bribe of office or otherwise.

These party managers are not working blindly or on guess work. Knowing that the rank and file of party members take but scant interest in choosing delegates to county conventions, thereby surrendering their rights to a government by the people, the politicians are able to write the names of seventy-five per cent of the delegates who will constitute conventions two, four or six years hence. Therefore they are not afraid of the outcome.

Public sentiment in matters of political and economic policies is subject to fluctuation with changing conditions, but the sentiment of politicians is fixed by selfish interests.

If the people really want a representative form of government they can have it by "scrambling for the office of delegate."

Delegating the duties to the supervisor does not in itself constitute a menace to representative government. The danger lies in lack of interest.

It is better to follow one good example than it is to set a dozen bad ones.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
In the Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 10th day of January, A. D. 1929.

Present, Hon. Dan A. McGaffey, Judge of Probate.

In the Matter of the Estate of MABEL T. MUECKLER, Deceased.

Albert H. Mueckler, administrator of said estate, having filed in said Court his final account and petition praying for the examination and allowance thereof, determination of the heirs of said deceased, assignment of the residue of said estate, and the discharge of said administrator:

It is Ordered, that the 18th day of February A. D. 1929 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition;

It is Further Ordered, that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Farmington Enterprise a newspaper printed and circulated in said County.

DAN A. McGAFFEY,
Judge of Probate.

A true copy.
Florence Doty,
Deputy Probate Register.
Jan. 17, 24, 31

STATE OF MICHIGAN
In the Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 15th day of January, A. D. 1929.

Present, Hon. Dan A. McGaffey, Judge of Probate.

In the Matter of the Estate of GEORGE W. HOWE, Deceased.

George Frederick Kliptel, executor of said estate having filed in said Court his final account and petition praying for the examination and allowance therbof, determination of the heirs of said deceased, assignment of the residue of said estate, and the discharge of said executor:

It is Ordered, that the 18th day of February A. D. 1929 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition;

It is Further Ordered, that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Farmington Enterprise a newspaper printed and circulated in said County.

DAN A. McGAFFEY,
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A true copy.
Florence Doty,
Deputy Probate Register.
Jan. 17, 24, 31

E. A. Fink, Attorney, 715 Majestic Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

MORTGAGE SALE—Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage executed by JOSEPH F. FERRY and MARJORIE L. FERRY, his wife, of the City of Detroit, Michigan, as mortgagors to Glen Critton, of Detroit, Michigan, as mortgagee, dated the twelfth day of October, A. D. 1928 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland County, Michigan, on the twenty-third day of October, 1928, in Liber 445 of mortgages on page 147 And whereas by reason of said default there is claimed to be due and is due on said mortgage at the date of this notice including principal and interest the sum of Two Thousand Six Hundred Sixteen and 67-100 Dollars ($2,616.67), and no suit or proceedings at law having been instituted to recover the debt now secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now therefore notice is given that by virtue of the power of sale in said mortgage contained and of the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, the undersigned will sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash on WEDNESDAY the THIRTEENTH day of MARCH 1929, at twelve o'clock noon (Eastern Standard Time) at the Easterly entrance to the Oakland County Building in the City of Pontiac, Oakland County, Michigan (that being the place of holding Circuit Court in said County), the premises described in said mortgage or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due on said mortgage together with interest at seven per cent per annum and all legal costs allowed by law and provided for in said mortgage including the attorneys fee allowed by law, said premises being located in the Township of Farmington, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, described as follows, to wit: Lots numbered Ninety-six (96), Ninety-seven (97), Ninety-eight (98), Ninety-nine (99), One Hundred thirty (130), One Hundred Thirty-one (131), One Hundred thirty-two (132), and One Hundred Thirty-three (133) of Oaklane Hills Orchards Subdivision of the West half of the Northwest quarter and the West half of the Southwest quarter of Section 11, Town 1 North, Range 9 East, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 26 of Plats, page 23, said Oakland County Records.

The said mortgage and this sale of said premises thereunder is subject to a prior mortgage in the principal sum of $3300.00 and any accrued interest thereon running to Mertie E Eckert of Detroit, Michigan, and recorded in Liber 357 of Mortgages page 228, said Oakland County Records.

Dated: December 12, 1928.

GLEN CRITTON, Mortgagee.
E. A. Fink,
Attorney for Mortgagee,
715 Majestic Bldg., Detroit, Mich.
Dec. 13—Mar 7.

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