

The Farmington Enterprise
Established 1888 by Edgar R. Bloomer as "A Permanent Journal of Progress"
Published Thursday of each week and entered at the Post Office at Farmington, Michigan, as second-class matter.
Editor and Publisher: Hyman Levinson
C. J. Lehmann
Member Michigan Press Association
Member National Editorial Association
Farmington, Michigan, Thursday, May 30, 1929

Editorials

A Real Job
Farmington's City Commission has set itself a considerable task in endeavoring to hold down the 1929-30 tax rate to its present figure, \$16 per thousand, and at the same time providing sufficient revenue to carry the city for the coming year.
With a valuations loss of no small proportions, it's a real job to cut more than three thousand dollars off a total of only forty-six. If the Commission can do it, they will earn the approval of every taxpayer.
The situation, incidentally, is another illustration of the truth that "you can't reduce taxes." The best any officials can hope to do is to keep them from increasing. When taxes move, they go only one way—and that's up.

If You Missed It
If you did not see one of the performances of "The Family Upstairs" by the Farmington Players last week, you missed as good an amateur theatrical effort as you might ever hope to see. We have this, not merely on our own judgment, but in the opinion of competent theatrical authorities from the Detroit Playhouse, namely Walter Sherwin and Miss Helena Stungo, each of whom saw one performance.
Farmington has shown a measure of appreciation and support of the Players' and recognition of the talent that exists in the organization. It has been our belief since the performance of "Rose-Time," and "Love-In-A-Mist," that Farmington has in its midst an unusual number of young people of exceptional ability on the stage. To have people whose life work centers them, but applaud them most enthusiastically, certainly brings the Players a new prestige. They have not been entirely without "honor in their own country"—this should bring them more.

Citizens of the community might well begin to take a more active interest in the organization, to lend it greater stability and assurance of continuing. It might be an opportune time, too, for the Players to consider means to solidify their group and focus their objectives.
Guilty, By Heck!
Among the wheezes whittled and the quips quibbled by a metropolitan newspaper paragrapher, we find this solemn pronouncement:
"A small town is one where the newspaper prints a short story about the death of one of the leading drayman's work horses."
Guilty, by heck, as charged. A small town, in other words, is a town with a measure of appreciation in its heart, and a jigger of affection in its soul; a place where a lifetime of faithful, unselfish service in behalf of the community is rewarded at least by a half-a-stick of type in the newspaper.
Old Dobbin, plodding down the streets, day after day, hauling Junior's first little bed, and the piano on which Mary began to take lessons, and the "rough boxes" to the cemetery, and the new parlor rug Mrs. Neighbor saved six months to buy, and the new armchair Dad got for Christmas, and the things we eat, drink and wear, and the stores and other places, certainly isn't altogether outside of any legitimate definition of news when he shuffles off the equine coil and gallops out to spend eternity in the pasture an All-Wise Creator must provide for good horses.
If downright usefulness is a measure of worth, Old Dobbin is of more importance than any number of bobbed handbills, machine gun hi-jackers, levee pirates, flagpole sitters, moll-buzzers,

Severe Tests Prove

Cricket Hard to Kill
Dr. Frank E. Lutz, curator of insects at the American Museum of Natural History, and Alfred L. Loomis, a physiologist, put a cricket through a series of physical experiments that would have killed most creatures, but the little fellow survived the tests and seemed to chirp for more, the New York World tells us.

His first experience was in a jar from which the air was rapidly exhausted until the pressure was equal to an altitude of ten miles above sea level. At first the insect was quiet, but in a few minutes it began to clean his hind legs. Then the tube to clean his hind legs. Then the tube to clean his hind legs. Then the tube to clean his hind legs.

"The cricket," says Doctor Lutz, "nearly gave a little twitch as though some one had strangled it a bit."
The insect's next adventure was with compressed air. It was put in to a tank analogous to balloons used in tunnel building. The pressure was quickly raised and then air suddenly reduced, a procedure no human being could have survived. But the valiant cricket paid less attention to these adventures than to the previous ones.

The following day Gryllus, as scientists call the cricket, was treated to a merry-go-round ride in a centrifuge that whirled at 3,200 revolutions a minute for five minutes. When the machine stopped the cricket shook itself and chirped as if it thanks for the dizzy ride.

Dyers Making Use of Tree Once Condemned

Every country or section of a country as it grows casts about for more and more resources that can be converted into marketable finished products. The American Southwest has taken the common hedge apple tree otherwise known as the Osage orange, the bow wood of the big game tree. A row of these trees compose what farmers call a hedge fence.

In the old days its roots were forbidden by boys to whom tobacco was forbidden. Otherwise, the hedge tree, with its manifold fruit of large green balls, was unpopular. Farmers condemned it because, when used as a hedge, it would not hold their cows and hogs. Motorists cursed it because it shut off their view at cross-roads. The hedge tree appeared to be of little use. A few factories bought it to make wagon spokes and felloes.

A new day, however, is dawning for the hedge apple tree. It is being turned into the hoppers of some of the country's large dye factories. This is developing into a real industry in Texas and Oklahoma.
The hedge apple tree is also excellent material for telephone insulators and insulator pins. What is left of the tree is utilized in the making of fertilizer. Long ago the Indians made bows of this wood.

Fountain Gushes Wine

In the town of Marino in the Roman Campagna there is a fountain which occasionally flows with wine. For an hour in the vintage season the fountain gushes out into the street, and the thirsty may freely fill their pitchers.

The custom of free wine is an old one. In the market place near by stands a gigantic basket filled with clusters of grapes, its diameter almost as great as that of a small town gas tank. The basket belongs to the town and whatever of its contents is left is made into wine for the free fountain. In the following year, great crowds gather for the celebration.

Dropping From the Air

All the knowledge and ability of the aviator is called into play when he undertakes to come to earth. He must remember all he has ever learned, and there are about as many "do's" as "don'ts" for him to follow. There are a thousand things likely to happen when a machine is about to reach land, and the aviator must be prepared to meet any one of these emergencies. It is essential that he should know the exact direction of the wind and make his descent squarely into it. It is fatal to stall the engine at this stage of the flight. The gentle art of landing is particularly trying to the beginner.

Earth's End Guesswork

According to a statement by the director of Harvard observatory, millions of meteors strike the earth's atmosphere daily, and the annual increase of the earth's mass resulting from the accumulation of this matter is about 36,500 tons. At this rate he points out that it would take millions of years to accumulate a layer an inch thick. On the other hand, there may be slight losses in the earth's mass as the earth's atmosphere, as it rushes through space, but it is mere speculation to talk of what the end of the earth will be.

Modern Canned Foods

Chemical preservatives are entirely unnecessary in canned foods if they are properly sterilized, and furthermore the addition of injurious preservatives or other substances to any food is prohibited by law. The preservation of canned foods is accomplished entirely through sterilization by heat, and sealing the product in an air-tight container. Artificial colors were formerly used in a few red fruits, but have been discontinued since the canners are now able to retain the natural color of the fruits without their

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank Rev. A. A. Schoen, also our neighbors and friends for the kindness and sympathy shown during the illness and death of our dear Mother, Mrs. Reka Wengert; also Mr. and Mrs. Percy Lowery

special thanks to Mrs. Clara Salow and Miss Eleanor Bruder.
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