

The Farmington Enterprise

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Editorials

Worth Thinking About

While we are waiting for the widening of Grand River to Farmington, it is interesting to speculate upon the probable effect of this work and whether or not it will have the results predicted, in the way of development of this area. From present indications, there will be plenty of time for leisurely contemplation before the highway reaches Farmington.

Of considerable importance in this connection is the report of the Rapid Transit Commission of Detroit to the Detroit City Council, following a traffic study completed some time ago. What it says about Grand River avenue is considerable food for thought. It reads, in this regard, as follows:

"It is no longer than any other main artery, being five miles longer than Gratiot avenue and six miles longer than Woodward within the city limits. A greater area of the city depends upon its traffic capacity and will begin to feel the pinch when the final limit has been reached.

"Grand River avenue is now 100 feet in width, and is carrying a burden of traffic that justifies its widening to the maximum economic width. In 1921, the two-way traffic on Grand River at Joy road was 1,160 vehicles in 24 hours. In 1928 it was 24,548, or 12 times as much, in only 12 hours.

"At the Boulevard intersection the traffic on Grand River in 1925 in the 12-hour period from 7 a. m. to 7 p. m. was 22,320. In 1928, in the same period, the traffic had increased to 27,414 vehicles, or an increase of nearly 23 per cent in three years. In the rush hour from 5 p. m. to 6 p. m. the avenue has become practically saturated, passing 2,605 vehicles in 1925 and 3,130 in 1928, an increase of 20 per cent, and carrying this density well into the off-peak hours.

"This condition of practical saturation in the inner four miles of this important radial can not help but retard the development of the remaining 10 miles of Grand River avenue that lies within the city limits.

"The people living in the 10 miles beyond Joy road would be greatly benefitted by the widening of the full length of Grand River avenue to the 120-foot standard of the Master Plan. The widening can be cheaply accomplished over, say, a 10-year period, during the building transition now in process by the application of the setback-limits that was added to the Charter in 1925."

The sections which the report describes as crowded to the saturation-point, around Joy road and the Boulevard, are both well in toward downtown, yet this fact does not prevent the situation from having its effect on Farmington. The growth of the entire Grand River area depends, of course, on the expansion of Detroit—largely the moving out of Detroit residents into the suburbs, just as they have done out Woodward avenue.

With Grand River in Detroit packed to the limit with vehicles, however, the family man whose business is in Detroit and who would, if he moved out to the suburb, travel to and from his work each day, may be impelled to pause and consider a long time. If his taking up residence in Farmington means fighting his way through a traffic jam for

miles every morning and afternoon, he might change his mind entirely.

Grand River lacks anything that resembles a parallel highway to relieve its congestion. Ultimately, it seems, rapid transit, below or above the ground, is the only solution. Traffic on the surface will increase faster than widening can be accomplished.

Unfortunately, any rapid transit plan in Detroit will probably have to run a stiff gauntlet of politics, and in this respect other sections of the City seem to be stronger than the Grand River area.

America On Tour

A large part of the population of the United States is "on wheels." Standing on Grand River avenue, one may see in the course of a day license plates from almost every one of the 48 States.

It has long been held that "travel is the greatest education there is." On the other hand, now comes a writer who believes that people will some day be convinced of the folly and nonsense of gadding about the country."

Possibly for those whose mental outlook is set beyond alteration or expansion, it is a waste of time, effort, and sleep. It may give them diversion, but hardly any lasting good.

For those whose minds are open and alert, however, and particularly for children, still at impressionable age, this tremendous vogue of touring ought to prove of the utmost value. It should be a great factor in broadening the mind of the next generation in America in giving them a more cosmopolitan outlook than any other generation in this country has ever had.

Many factors have been contributing to the conquest of provincialism. Schools, universities, railroads, telegraph, telephone, and radio have all been credited with a share. Perhaps the greatest of all will be the inter-State automobile tour, now in progress wherever there exists anything resembling a highway.

Are Editors Unpopular?

It is likely editors are the most unpopular people in the world. If they try to please one group they offend another. If they express honest convictions which they usually do—narrow critics to the contrary notwithstanding—they are by many misjudged and discredited. If perchance, at rare intervals an editor hears of no error that has crept in or feels no assault on his idea of what should or should not be published, he is profoundly relieved—almost happy. He does not need commendation for any meritorious thing he has written or done to make him measurably satisfied with life. And he needs freedom from the sharp stabs of those who are looking for imperfections or grounds for disagreement. There is no closed season, and often he is lambasted without knowing it, but if he doesn't know it, he is not hurt, and he may even imagine, he has escaped by unanimous consent. We would counsel the

young who contemplate journalistic careers to develop thick and tough hides as a preliminary step, and leave behind all desire to run for office or to win in any other form of popularity contest.—Wyoming Press.

CHURCHES

Methodist Church
Dr. H. Addis Leeson, Pastor

The Pastor and members of the congregation very cordially invite you to share with them the privileges of worship on Sunday morning. The subject announced for this service is "The Pious of Spiritual Rewards." The comfort and ministry of our beautiful church belongs to everybody. You will find the Sabbath day greatly enriched by spending this cheerful and inspiring hour with us in worship. Our great chorus-choir uplifts and gratifies us in some fresh and beautiful way every Sunday morning.

Baptist Church
Rev. E. W. Palmer, Pastor

10:30—Morning worship. Sermon theme "Enduring Hardness." 11:45—Bible School. We are glad to report a continued growth in number and interest. 6:30—B. Y. P. U. for young people.

7:30—Open Air Service in the Town Park. The entire community is invited to attend these Sunday night services. We are hoping to have special music from some of the singers from the Methodist Church as well as an anthem from the choir. This week's subject is "To Live."

Evangelical Church
Rev. A. A. Schoen, Pastor

English service, 10:15. "Subject, 'What Have They Seen in Thy House?'" Sunday School, 11:15. Wednesday, July 24: Salem's people will have their annual picnic at Cass-Benton Park. Basket dinner, races, baseball, games will be some of the features of this picnic.

Our Lady of Sorrows Church
Rev. James A. Callahan, Pastor

Sunday masses at 7 a. m., 8:30 a. m., and 11 a. m. (Summer schedule.) Daily mass at 8:00.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clarenceville
(At Switzer Road)
Rev. Paul Graupner, Pastor

Sunday morning at 10:30 St. Paul's Church commemorates the 400th anniversary of Dr. Luther's Catechism. A special program has been prepared in which the whole Sunday School and the young people take part.

A book that was published for the instruction of children in 1529, that was found so useful that immediately it was translated into dozens of languages, that has served as text book for four centuries and today is used not only by thousands of American children, but by young and old receiving instruction in Christian truth in far-off India and China, in fact the world over, such a book surely is unique in the history of pedagogy. That book is Martin Luther's small Catechism, the only text book that has stood the test not only of years, but of centuries. Rightly it has been

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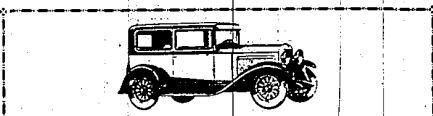
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Rev. Robert Richards, Pastor.

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