

The Farmington Enterprise

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Editorials

The Centennial

One need not be a member of Farmington. Methodist Church, nor a resident of Farmington for a great many years, in order to find much that is interesting and enjoyable in the approaching Methodist Centennial. Already enough material has been developed to intrigue the imagination, and to create the desire to know more about the early life, not merely of the Methodist church, but of the Farmington community. A great deal more that is entertaining and instructive may be expected in the history of the Methodist Church that is being compiled by Nathan H. Power.

The program arranged is one that does justice to the event, and the speakers are capable men of high standing in their fields of work. The events are so arranged that everyone can be present at least for a part of the time.

As those of the Church have extended a cordial invitation to all the others of the community, to help them celebrate their one hundredth anniversary, so the rest of the community will find pleasure in taking part in this notable Farmington event.

Another Leader

Once more a Farmington resident has been chosen as a leader in County activities. The election of Mrs. Ada Bond as president of the Oakland County Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, is a recognition of devoted and capable service to the County order. It is, too, a reward for the continuous and loyal work of Mrs. Bond as secretary of the Farmington chapter.

Farmington can assure the County organization that Mrs. Bond will serve it, as its president, with distinction and honor, both to herself and the Eastern Star.

Bad Name—Bad Game

University of Michigan alumni, and other thousands of followers of the University's football team may look with particular sadness upon the report of the Carnegie foundation regarding college athletics, and mainly football. For the report, giving Michigan one of the blackest of the black eyes, was published just about the time that Michigan's football team was getting ready for another decisive beating at the hands of Illinois, which was given by the Carnegie report a rating somewhat less disreputable than that accorded Michigan.

Mr. Yost, of course, denies the declaration that Michigan has an elaborate system for recruiting athletes. But our guess is that a larger number of Michigan people would be interested in a possible explanation by Mr. Kipke of Michigan's three straight conference defeats, than in denials by Mr. Yost that Michigan is angling to get good athletes. In fact, most Michigan followers would probably suggest that Michigan's system is not all the Carnegie foundation cracks it up to be, and that Michigan, possessed of one black eye

from the Carnegie foundation, and three in football, from Purdue, Ohio, and Illinois, ought to do some of the sort of recruiting that seems to have obtained for the "whiter" schools their high-powered football teams. In other words, that Michigan, having now a bad name, has also this year a bad game—and that the latter is much more disturbing than the former.

As to Mr. Yost's futile denial, it was probably to be expected. Like all the other dozens of coaches and athletic directors, he positively disavowed any knowledge of any sort of recruiting of any kind whatever. It is futile, because in the first place, the Carnegie foundation could hardly be accused of falsifying, and further, because the Carnegie foundation, having nothing to gain or lose in its report, quite obviously played no favorites. In the second place, it was futile because most of the fans themselves know better. Stop a dozen football followers going through Farmington on their way to Ann Arbor on a Saturday afternoon (if you can) and ask them if they think football players are recruited. Eleven will answer, if they are frank, that of course recruiting exists, and that being done, it ought to be done well.

The Carnegie foundation's report created a stir, yet not very great surprise. It did, however, lend further authority to the charges that our colleges and universities, big and small, publicly and privately-endowed, east and west and north and south, are busy night and day at the very transiently-rewarded business of corraling high school boys to build up winning football teams. This recruiting, and this whole vicious system, vicious mainly because it parades as one thing while it is actually doing another, will continue as long as our schools of "higher education" continue to rank coaches above teachers in influence and in salaries.

Sucker Trimming

If the recent crash in the stock market added a few more to the small group of American citizens who are not seized with the mania "to get rich quick," and by other means than in the exercise of their natural talents, the bitter lesson is not without its value.

There seems to be no necessity for offering proof that the market has been for a long time and is being shamelessly manipulated. The facts speak for themselves. The economic conditions are sound. Industry is busy, there is no scarcity of money and the people the prosperous. In this favorable atmosphere, stocks of our most stable corporations drop like a plummet although there has been no decline in their earning capacity. The year is marked by its violent fluctuations following an unprecedented period of buying during which a new high level was reached. The net result of these variations promised to restore a normal level, when suddenly and without apparent cause a flood of selling or-

ders swamps the brokers and the bottom drops out of the market. What brought on this stampede of the speculating public? Since nothing has happened to the stocks to warrant the selling frenzy, we must look elsewhere for a reason. Thomas W. Lamont of the house of Morgan who should know through his connections all about stocks says the cause is not "fundamental" but "technical." We agree with him. The fault lies in the technique of Wall street. The market hasn't a chance to follow a natural course. Tons of literature are sent out daily by the street to stimulate action. The sucker list supplies the names and the brokers see to it that none of the easy marks are overlooked. They trade on the human weakness to acquire "sudden wealth" without effort. A broker's messenger boy plays a hunch and risks his small capital to become a millionaire overnight. The story, cleverly embellished, makes excellent bait especially for women. The romance of speculation is spread broadcast over the country. All are heroes and heroines in this romance, men and women who have dared and realized. The drab side does not reach the public in a form to arrest the attention. Only a very small per cent of those who come out of the market with burnt fingers tell about it.

There must be a way to curb the stock gambling fever which has gripped the nation. It is a matter the senate should investigate instead of wasting the public funds on a lobby inquiry which will get nowhere for the simple reason that lobbying won't pay if there are no congressmen with attentive ears. Even if regulation of market operations is found to be impractical, an official expose of methods employed to lure the suckers into the game would be helpful as a warning. Every legitimate business in the country feels the effect of the stock-playing passion.

We present to the world the anomalous spectacle of being rich and poor at the same time—rich in our ability to pour millions into the stock market and poor in our ability to pay the grocer and the butcher. Merchants report collections slow and the movement in real estate was arrested just when it should have been most active. The only ones to profit from this commercial dislocation are the commission brokers and those persons who have so much money that they can hold fast to their stocks while the unfortunate margin traders are being shaken down.—Toledo Times.

The Karolyi Get In

The United States decides that it will not be defiled or menaced if it permits Count and Countess Karolyi to visit this country. This decision is voiced by Henry L. Stimson, secretary of state, and is contrary to the decisions of his immediate predecessor, Mr. Kellogg.

Karolyi was president of Hungary immediately after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian empire at the end of the World War. Both count and countess are permanent exiles because of the enmity of the reactionary Horthy regime. They have been branded as dangerous radicals. As a matter of fact they are charming people and very far removed from the agitator class.

Their exclusion may have been due to a desire to please the Hungarian "regency" or it may have been caused by a mistaken enthusiasm to protect American minds from perilous radicalism. Whatever the motive it was a foolish mistake. Secretary Stimson has sanely and sensibly rectified it.—Cleveland Plain-Dealer.

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