

The Farmington Enterprise

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Editorials

The First Consideration

The Farmington Board of Education meets Friday evening to select a superintendent of schools for the coming year. The outcome of the meeting will be watched with interest by every resident in the community, particularly because of the circulation of petitions on behalf of Principal A. R. Crawford.

The good citizen, and the conscientious public official, will always in these public questions wherein nearly every home in the community is involved, view the problem first and foremost from one angle—What is best for the school district as a whole? All other considerations will be subordinated to this.

By a recent vote, the Farmington Board has indicated an inclination to adopt as a fixed rule, that the superintendent must possess, by the time school opens, the degree of master of arts. This would, of course, eliminate Mr. Crawford, who has the bachelor of arts degree, but not the master's.

Those who favor appointment of Mr. Crawford express the opinion that a master's degree is of less importance to the community and the proper training of its children, than proven character, confidence of parents and students, and a highly satisfactory record of work.

The question is, of course, for the Board to decide. The people can only indicate their desire and sentiment. But it would seem that when it is so earnestly contended that qualities of character in a man whom the community knows, outweighs the possession of a master's degree by an unknown applicant—and when that contention is backed by a well-nigh unanimous public opinion, certainly it is the duty of each and every member of the Board to weigh the factors with utmost care before making a decision against that public opinion.

Laid End To End

Perhaps this is not just the most psychological moment or time of year to tell this story, what with so many speakers in our vicinity at the father-and-son and other banquets. But a friend has urged us to print a story told by the toastmaster at just such a banquet—because he says it's the best story he has heard in many a moon—and we just about agree with him. It was at the West Point Park banquet last Friday night.

One of these fellows who is "daffy" on figures, the toastmaster related, had gone to a great deal of trouble to gather statistics on after-dinner speakers. He collected a great mass of information about them, and was able to arrive at a good many conclusions.

One evening he was asked to reveal the results of his studies, and he did so. The average after-dinner speaker, he said, is five feet, ten and three-eighths inches in height, and weighs about one hundred and seventy-three pounds. A certain percentage of speakers have light hair, a cer-

tain percentage have dark hair. So many, he said, have blue eyes, and so many have brown eyes. Thus he went on, and at last he said, "And if all the after-dinner speakers who appear on programs in one evening in the United States were laid end-to-end on the Lincoln Highway, it would be a darn good thing for everybody."

We pass this story on to any after-dinner speaker who may want to use it without charge, but with the assurance that it's sure to get hearty applause wherever used.

Whose Trial Is This?

We don't know whether or not Mr. Adolph Van Coppenolle of the Detroit police force is one of those multi-numeric individuals known as publicity-seekers. Somehow or other, we doubt that he started all the hubbub in Detroit's police department just to see his name and picture in the paper and get himself talked about by everybody in the big city.

But if he should happen to be one of this type, he surely has more just cause to complain than any other publicity seeker who ever lived. With the parade of inspectors, a superintendent, a commissioner and numerous others, everyone has just about forgotten that Mr. Van Coppenolle ever existed, and that he deserves the credit (?) for starting the whole business.

Mr. Van Coppenolle might well have been pardoned if he had on one of the trial days stepped right out to the middle of the floor in the police trial room, called a halt to the proceedings and asked—"Say, whose trial is this anyway?"

The Limit At Last?

What next? Or isn't there any "next?" Has the farthest limit of silliness, senselessness and utter imbecility been reached by our daily press and news services?

Certainly it seems so. If they can go any farther than they did last week, our imagination fails to suggest where or in what direction. What greater achievement could any reporter attain than last week's prize story—the one that informed a breathlessly waiting world from New Orleans, where ex-President Coolidge was stopping at a hotel, that Mr. Coolidge, for his nightly repose, prefers the old-fashioned nightgown to the more modern gentleman's nocturnal attire—pajamas?

Not So Bad

It is frequently said that because the stock market went to pieces that this condition should not affect trade in outlying communities.

Perhaps it should not, but it does. Quite a few people in small towns were speculating. The number was greater than we might ordinarily believe. And the folks from the small towns got just as bad a trimming when stocks went down as did those

from the larger cities. But the effect upon business has been in another direction. The fall in stocks was dramatic and striking. It sent a chill through everybody, irrespective of their market activities. Necessity compelled many people to again measure the value of a dollar. That was contagious.

It will do the nation as a whole no harm to spend to spend carefully for a while. It will help everyone to save. There is nothing at all wrong in having people live within their means, contract spending and expand saving.—Grand Rapids (Minn.) Herald-Review.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor: I was thrilled to read in the Enterprise that the Masons were about to buy the Town Hall.

By the laws of the State of Michigan, a Masonic Lodge can't sue, or be sued, and the lodges are prohibited by the Masonic Order from engaging in commercial or gainful occupation, like farming; chain-stores, insurance, etc.

I know of no instance where it has been shown that the Town Board, has authority to transfer titles to real estate.

Now what kind of "thin-ice" is the City government bringing down from the north for the general public to skate on. I am not a follower, or admirer of Sen. Moses but some of my ancestors lived in that granite State, and I can understand the internal combustion that must have preceded the course of that explosive epic "Wild Laughing Jackass." This is my mild protest against exchange, the inheritance of the Fathers "for the shadow of the Smell of Esau mess of potage." Father your document says not, only. I marvel at my moderation. —Frank L. Lee, Farmington, Feb. 14, 1930.

SHE FINALLY WINS

We should like to call your attention to something that you may have noticed.

Sometimes the bride and the groom have their pictures taken. The bride is all dressed up and sitting down. The groom towers high. He still remembers that promise to obey that the blissful bride has just given. He is it. A golden wedding comes. Then the husband and the wife go back to the photographers. Another picture is taken. But the husband with his thinning locks is the one who is sitting down. The wife is standing up. She is the winner.

It is just the triumph of the feminine.—Grand Rapids (Minn.) Herald-Review.

TUBERCULOSIS IN CHILDREN

Little children, according to the Michigan Tuberculosis Association, may have tuberculosis and the indications not be very marked. There may be cough but not necessarily. The child may even be up to normal weight, though more likely below weight.

The signs most easily noticed by the mother are that the youngster does not act natural. He is likely to be pale, his appetite is poor, he gets tired easily, is not rested after a night's sleep and in general lacks "pep."

These symptoms may come from other causes than tuberculosis, but when they persist several weeks or months and no satisfactory reason can be assigned, one may well suspect tuberculosis. Children with such symptoms should be taken to the doctor for the tuberculin skin test. This test is practically painless and furnishes a reliable basis for further examination. If the test is "positive" the doctor will take an X-ray picture of the chest.

In such ways many tuberculosis has been discovered at an early stage that it is readily arrested.

—Michigan Tuberculosis Assn.

A 335-mile trip over some of the most abrupt mountain grades of the rugged west recently offered abundant proof of the superior high-gear hill-climbing ability of the new Oakland V-type Eight! On account of the favorable field they afford for bacterial growth, milk-broth and dishes largely composed of milk should be kept at a temperature not above 55.

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