

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## Editorials

### A Permanent Place

If any event has earned a permanent place in Farmington's community life, certainly it is the annual flower shows, the second of which was held Tuesday. Even more enjoyable than last year's was the 1930 event, and there seemed, also, still greater enthusiasm among those who prepared it and those who came to see. The very fact that the drought had made it appear that raising flowers and vegetables would be almost impossible this year, added to, rather than detracted from the interest shown.

Fortunately, the annual exhibit is not an undertaking that requires a great deal of money, although it does entail an amount of work that probably few people realize. If, however, it should be found advisable to try organizing the annual shows on a broad and sound financial basis to insure permanence, it should meet with a hearty response. The undertaking is one in which the entire community, men, women, and even boys and girls, can co-operate wholeheartedly, and all thoroughly enjoy.

### It's Just Around The Corner

Well, it's all over now and all we have to do is sit down and wait for January 1, 1931, when the millennium will begin. For did not the candidates, those who were elected (as well as all those who were not), declare that they would run each of the offices of the County on a basis of economy, efficiency, courtesy, honesty, co-operation, energy, fearlessness, competence, soundness, impartiality, constructiveness, vision, friendliness, fairness, progressiveness, independence, regularity, accomplishment, good judgment, capability, integrity, unselfish service, faithfulness, experience, knowledge, and sincerity?

What more could anyone ask?

### His Wonderful Opportunity

All of the Oakland County candidates who were successful at Tuesday's primary have been receiving congratulations, but of all those who were nominated and thus practically elected, it seems to us that none stands in a position so much to be envied by the other officials as Sheriff Frank Schram. His nomination for his fourth term places in the Sheriff's hands an opportunity such as public officials seldom encounter.

Two years ago, when the Sheriff sought his third term, there was some talk to the effect that if successful, he would not seek reelection. However that may be, nothing has been heard along that line in the recent campaign, but already some of his active supporters have said that they believe his coming term will be, by his own decision, his last. And therein lies Sheriff Schram's magnificent opportunity. Untroubled, as he well may be, by any need whatever for taking into account any political considerations, he is in a position to ignore politics entirely, and direct his every act, every decision, to making his fourth term the finest administration of the sheriff's office that Oakland County has ever enjoyed. He can forget, in conducting his office, that politics have ever existed, and the shadow of "political expediency" which hangs over and controls the acts of so many, if not the majority of office-holders, need not be upon him for a single moment.

The Sheriff has before him within the two years to come, the possibility of bringing even those who are not his supporters to witness a sheriff's administration outstanding for its impartiality, its effectiveness, its efficiency. If he does this he will find—strange as it may seem to some politicians—that the end of his fourth term will bring, not county-wide demands that he relinquish the office, but regret that his term is concluded.

This newspaper opposed Sheriff Schram for re-election, because, among other reasons, it believes that he should have retired at the end of three terms, and because it believes that the Sheriff has allowed political considerations to occupy too large a place in his administration. It has not changed its viewpoint in this regard.

But it is to be hoped that the Sheriff, now that he has achieved renomination, may perceive his exceptional opportunity, and make the most of it, to the greater good of the County and credit to himself. Particularly do we hope that somehow there may be brought about between Sheriff Schram and Farmington a somewhat more cordial relationship. Two years is a comparatively short time, (especially to those who have just been elected for terms of that duration!), but it is a very long time, indeed, for friction and strife to continue. No one should be sorry to see it wane and disappear.

Quite a campaign slogan it was, "A Republican for the United States Senate." It is quite likely that there will be a considerable number of Republicans in the next United States Senate, but none of their names will be Osborn—or at least, not Chase S.

Farmington City officials had an old ground roller tossed over the Shiawassee street bluff, along with the concrete blocks from Grand River. But nobody expected a new five-ton truck to go down and keep it company.

There is a mistaken notion that when the government builds a road or does improvement work, we don't have to pay for it.—Rochester Clarion.

### Myths About 'Mudslinging'

Of all the opinions that are offered about political campaigns in Oakland County, particularly the one ended Tuesday, there is probably none more full of fallacy than the view that what some call "mud-slinging" naturally reacts against the candidate who is supposed to be doing the throwing, on the ground that "people don't like it." For some reason or other, there seems to have grown up in Oakland County an idea that any examination or discussion of an official's administration, no matter how closely his opponent sticks to actual records, cannot be anything else but "mud-slinging."

"Mud-slinging" rather, would seem to us to be confined to personal attacks on the opponent, and this may be done by incumbents in office as well as on the candidate seeking to oust an office-holder. But reviewing a record of administration, pointing out weak spots, is not "mud-slinging" at all. In fact, that is just exactly what we have elections for—in order that records of officials may be examined prior to the balloting and the voters decide intelligently whether to continue a man in office or to put another in his place. Thinking along this line then, it is apparent that it is very greatly to the public interest to have the sort of campaign in which records are frankly discussed, attacked and defended. The more this is done, the more the people come to know about the conduct of their business between elections, and the greater is their interest in public affairs.

As to whether or not a frank public discussion of an opponent's record reacts unfavorably, there is nothing whatever by which one may prove it definitely one way or the other. For instance, in the campaign ended Tuesday, there was pretty frank discussion of and a strongly concentrated attack on the record of J. Lee Voorhees as coroner. Yet Mr. Voorhees came out on top. Still stronger, possibly, was the attack on Arthur W. Spencer as drain commissioner, and he won out. Further, two years ago it was said that last-minute propaganda published against Sheriff Frank Schram really reacted against his opponent, William A. Wheeler. Yet this year, the campaign for sheriff was conspicuous through its absence of anything like open attack, and still what has been called a "clean campaign" did not avail to win Mr. Wheeler the sheriff's nomination.

On the other hand, the campaign for prosecutor two years ago, while a spirited one, was nothing like that of this year, which fairly bristled. Two years ago, after the quieter campaign, Clarence Smith was defeated by Norman C. Orr. This year, after a battle in which the attack on Mr. Orr bordered on, if it did not actually include "personalities," Mr. Smith was victorious.

The conclusion that results is that there is not in the public mind a natural aversion toward an open campaign, as compared to a quiet one. But from the standpoint of public welfare, the more thorough is the examination of an official's record, the better. The efficient, capable official will welcome it, because it cannot but reflect credit upon him. The other kind doesn't deserve consideration anyway, and it is desirable that his inefficiency and incapacity be revealed as soon as possible.

The "open" type of campaign thus serves a worthy purpose, whereas otherwise the pre-election activity degenerates into nothing more than a "handshaking proposition," with the candidate who is the best "mixer" and spends the most time going out and "getting acquainted," having the advantage, regardless of efficiency, capability, or experience.

### What Other Newspapers Are Saying

#### The Wrong Viewpoint

(Ionia County News)  
The United States needs some good United States senators. Most of the United States senators should really be called state senators. They do not seem to care very much about the interests of the nation as a whole. They are concerned chiefly in what their states or sections wish.

The senators from industrial east are all wrapped up in industry. They feel that they must serve the interests of the manufacturing sections without reference to the needs of the nation.

#### Back To School

(Durand Express)  
The fat ones and the lean ones, the first grader, the eighth grader, and the high school senior, the fast learners and those who do not learn so fast—soon the entire varied group of school children will be gathering for the first class of the new school year. With them will be borne the hopes of fathers and mothers, solicitous for the welfare of their youngsters, and most anxious that they make good showings in their class work.

Nevertheless it can be predicted that a certain number of children will not do well in school, much as their parents give them special attention. Some will just barely slip by with a passing grade; others, failing, will be required to repeat the class another year.

At one time these lagging students were disregarded with the thought that they were born slow-minded, and that nothing could be done about it. More lately expert classroom studies have shown that many cases of poor scholarship are due solely to the presence in the child of handicapping physical defects. For example, a study made in Cass Technical High School, Detroit, has demonstrated the fact that 70 percent of the academic failures there were due to correctible defects.

In the light of this knowledge, it is

what they were doing, when it happened, how it happened, who saw it, what they saw, what resulted, where they were taken, how long they remained, what is being done about it, what disposition was made of the bodies, and so on through the entire story, the multiplied numbers of questions were answered so as to have a full and reliable account of the accident that resulted in the death of two persons.

Let our readers, if they have a copy of Tuesday's Reporter, turn to the article indicated and with a pencil check off for themselves the number of facts necessary to be learned before the article could have been written, and we believe it will be the means of enlisting our readers in a sympathetic consideration of the task that is before the editorial staff of The Reporter in getting out a reliable newspaper twice a week for its many readers.

They are free w/ their horse that has none.—Scott proverb.

He who works has much; he who saves, still more.—Slavic proverb.

It is not the horse but the oats that draw the cart.—Russian proverb.

Send in your news items.

### Before They Leave-

for school each morning, see that each of your kiddies has a glass of pure, fresh Milk from

FARMINGTON DAIRY



Warm, sunny days are still with us, but cold and blustery ones are just around the corner. Order your Winter's coal supply now. Service is at its best, prices that may not be as low later on. Phone 20 and give your order.

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Carl G. Hogle, Mgr. Phone 20  
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What

You

Don't Want

A

Want Ad

Will

Bring You Cash

For It

The Farmington  
Enterprise

### Getting The News

(Iron River Reporter)

Newspapers are frequently blamed for their inaccuracies, errors and mistakes and occasionally it is justified, but perhaps it has never occurred to many of the readers what is involved in the writing of a news story and getting it correct.

To satisfy ourselves and, of course, to provide ourselves with a ready excuse in the future when we should make a glaring mistake, the editor took the five inch news article entitled "No Inquest for Crash Victims," which was on the front page of The Reporter on Tuesday and counted the number of facts that absolutely had to be learned before that story could be written. There were just eighty-four.

There were forty-two lines in the article, which made an average of two facts to each line. To get this information we had to get in touch with five different persons, two of which were outside of Iron River.

The names, initials of the prin-