

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## Editorials

### A New Kind Of Public Service

Opinions are already sharply divided on the coup by which Prosecutor Norman C. Orr was supposedly "elected" as a second probate judge of Oakland County Tuesday, by means of stickers bearing his name.

On the one hand private citizens and also some who are connected with Oakland County politics, have denounced it as a shady political trick, the ruse of a man who could not achieve re-election in the regular way and who attempted to slip into a lucrative job "by a back door."

They declare (particularly those who are not in County politics), that the County does not need another probate judge, and that this is another of those raids on the public treasury solely to benefit individuals, raids that piling up year after year have done a great deal toward putting Oakland County in its present condition of near-bankruptcy.

To this friends of Mr. Orr, and some others, answer that the trick is a clever one, and that Mr. Orr did not "put over a fast one" on the people of the County at all; that Republican leaders, the same ones who had "shelved" Mr. Orr before the primary, have been intent all along upon getting George Hartrick of Royal Oak appointed to the job, and that thus the people of the County or its treasury will not be worse off; finally, they say, "If any young man is smart enough to pull off as clever a stunt as that, he ought to have the job."

The current conception of public office in this County seems to be, not that it is an opportunity of unselfish service, but that it is a sort of pirate-game, with each one watching for his opportunity to make a sortie and grab off what he wants, at the same time beating the other fellow to it if he can.

Especially in the light of the fact that Governor Green deferred appointing a second probate judge, in the interest of economy, and the Supervisors' budget committee omitted making an appropriation for the same reason, it is strange that a young man of Mr. Orr's courtroom ability and sharpness of wit, would not have too much pride to attempt to thrust himself upon the people of Oakland County in one highly responsible public office, within two months after they have indicated clearly that they did not want him to continue for two years more in another.

### The Governor—But 'The Boy' No Longer

On January first Wilber M. Brucker, 36 years old, will become governor of Michigan. But although the name will undoubtedly be applied to him, he will not be in truth "the boy governor." His brief visit in Farmington on Monday made that evident.

About two years ago Mr. Brucker, the young Attorney-General, spoke at Pontiac at a Lincoln Republican Club banquet. The hundreds of men and women from all over the County were struck with his so-apparent youthfulness. Even those who have seen him at Lansing, as recently as a year ago have carried away the same impression.

But the Wilber M. Brucker who spoke in Farmington Monday was no longer a youth, even though consideration be taken of the fatigue of two hard campaigns. The last six months have put six years, perhaps even sixteen, upon him.

Few men gain a governorship without some such sacrifice. But although he may not be Michigan's "boy governor," Wilber M. Brucker has the chance to be Michigan's best in many a year. He could hardly have a better precept to guide him than the words of the very man he defeated, William A. Comstock, whose telegram of congratulation urged him: "Tear loose, be your own man, give us a people's administration and make yourself famous."

If he does that, the number of his years when he enters the governorship, or when he leaves it, will not matter much in Michigan history, but his achievement will.

### Is This What's Wanted?

Movie magnates claim to be "giving the people what they want." Are they? Here are the titles of the movies being shown simultaneously at six of the largest Detroit movie palaces, as advertised in the Sunday newspapers:

- "Her Wedding Night"
"Matrimonial Bed"
"Life Of The Party"
"Those 3 French Girls"
"Dubarry, Woman Of Passion"
"Anybody's Woman"

### The Professors' Pass

We have seen some shifty ball-carriers on the college gridiron, but we've yet to see the halfback who could sidestep a tackler or block interference as neatly as those U. of M. professors sidestepped that post-season game and at the same time blocked off any further criticism by offering the University's proceeds of the Michigan-Chicago game for charity. They not only scored a point, but they saved the University a severe loss of ground in the field of public estimation.

### When Sheik's Shiver

The melancholy days have come and gone, and the season is here when the gay lad wishes that he could trade a little of that top-down, rumble-seat roadster "dog" for the comforts of a wool-upholstered coupe.

## Clipped From Other Newspapers

### The Taxpayer's Dollar

(Ionia County News)

One noticeable feature of the October sessions of Michigan supervisors was a tendency towards economy. So predominant was this sentiment throughout the entire state that in Washtenaw the board of supervisors of the county actually cut the salary of its own members. In other counties the urge to curtail expenditure of the taxpayer's dollar was paramount, the county solons believing that the certain way to reduce taxes was to quit spending.

In taking the long road, the high road, towards economy, the supervisors were expressing a wide spread public opinion that the time has actually arrived when we should quit talking about our excessive tax burdens and begin to get some action towards relief.

There is no denying that for years almost every taxing unit in the state has been on a spending spree regardless of whether or not the money spent was absolutely necessary to community well being. If we erred at any time during this period it was more than likely to be in the direction of liberality, even to the point of extravagance.

Expert observers of the present tax situation believe that the present drive does not mean that economy will be practiced to the extent of cutting out all public improvements, which would furnish work for the unemployed, but that all needless activities should be suspended until the public has caught up with its tax-carrying burdens.

### How To Make The Brain Last

(Detroit Free Press)

Talking about the endeavors of modern medical science to increase life expectancy Dr. Charles H. Mayo of the Mayo clinic, told the clinical congress of the American College of Surgeons that undoubtedly human beings will be able to live longer in the next half century. "But the problem of the medical profession is to build up the brain so that it advances in development with the body," he added.

"Should we advance human age if the brain becomes useless at the end of the normal life span?" inquired Dr. Mayo. "In institutions and homes we see scores of old people in their second childhood, possessed of a strong body, but with a brain that is almost through functioning. There is little use in a long life if for ten or twenty years one is senile and helpless mentally."

Dr. Mayo has raised a point that unquestionably a good many members of the laity as well as members of the medical profession have long been asking themselves. "A strong mind in a weak body often is a tragedy but a weak mind in a strong body is infinitely pitiful. And as the years go by in America defective, unbalanced or deteriorated brains supported by robust physiques seem to be more and more in evidence."

Possibly the survival of people as animals beyond the day of intellectual withering is due in some instances to the fact that many individuals whose bodies and brains were made to be useful for only a few years, are being kept alive today into later middle age and even into old age where once they would have aged normally at the close of the physical reproductive period, because they are merely reproductive agencies without any other mission in the world or any other capacity.

But we think there is a reason to believe that to a considerable extent, premature breakdown of intellectual power in these days is the result of the inordinate strain that modern life, and in particular modern noise and confusion, put on delicate brain organisms which under better conditions might be preserved intact as long as body and soul could be kept together.

In youth the constant shocks of city racket and city hazard seem to have little effect on the human organism (although tests in New York show that really they have decidedly profound effects). But as the years pass the capacity for nervous and mental recovery diminishes, bad reactions become more and more obvious; and un-

questionably are responsible for many more intellectual tragedies than hard work ever caused. It might be highly instructive to find out how many valuable minds in good bodies are spoiled before their time by the deprivations of excessive speed, senseless racket, and still more senseless confusion and hysteria. The almost phenomenal physical and mental longevity of astronomers as a class seems highly suggestive in that connection.

If today there were half as much general solicitude about the condition of the human brain as there is about the health and condition of the remainder of the human anatomy, this might be quite a different world. When a little more is known about the effect of the secretory glands on man's organism there will be a more nearly equal division of attention, because it will become more and more apparent that really scientific work for the prolongation of healthy physical life cannot be done without at the same time doing corresponding work for the prolongation of healthy mental life. Whatever the labors of the rejuvenation specialists may or may not have proven, they have demonstrated that.

### City And Country Lad

(Sibley, Iowa, Tribune)

School in the country has something that the city pupil knows nothing about. There are the roads—and we like those narrow country lanes with weeds growing along the side—sometimes these roads are dusty, sometimes they are muddy, but always they make "barefooting" a luxury. Let the city lad pound the unchanging sidewalks and view the monotony of house fronts—the country boy has such a variety of changing things that if he has anything of the poet or artist latent within him it will be brought out by those walks through the country lanes. He sees nature dying in the fall time—blanketed with snow during the winter, and coming to new life with buds and sprouts in the springtime. The smell of plowed sods, the odor of dying weeds, the fragrance of the springtime—ever changing those sensations—ever changing the moods that go with them. There is the music of the country—songs of birds—the honk of geese as they travel southward in the fall and north in early spring—also, the distant and space they suggest leisurely wend their way through the skies; what are books to that? Books are what men, other men, say about all of those things, and who cares about what others say about what you witness yourself? Least of all a care-free schoolboy.

### Ready For Work

(Grand Rapids, Minn. Herald-Review)

Business is largely as business men make it. We do not intend to indulge in any of this foolish talk about times being purely temperamental, if we think times are good they are good and if we imagine them bad, they are bad. There is too much in facts and figures to make us believe that good business is a matter of a sprightly step and a slap on the back and that poor business is but a matter of a long face.

However business is good for many institutions which practice sound business. Those business houses which speculated and expanded put too much into factories and too little cash reserves, those who saw continued inflation rather than the inevitable contraction, these complain of the times ahead.

Industries which looked ahead and built for the future upon a basis of efficiency and wisdom are able to weather times of difficulty and distraction. Many business men who withstand adversity cannot withstand prosperity. A business structure that will last through bad times is framed and formed in good times. That American business should suffer as it has during the past few months is not a recommendation to it.

However the end of depression will be sighted in a few months and industry, people, capital and every work. American is always successful when it works.

Nothing crooked stands before the lathe.—Hindoo proverb.

The Gutenberg Bible, the last item of the Vohlsch collection, the purchase of which was authorized by the last session of Congress, has been received at the National Library. Only two other copies of the Gutenberg Bible, printed on the vellum, are known to exist, one being in the national library in London and the other in the national library in Paris. Home life would be more of a bed of roses than it is if all hands threw bouquets.

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