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Editor and Publisher



Farmingon, Michigan, Thursday, June 16, 1932



A Trying Year

Schools in this area have concluded their terms, and few neonle realize what a period it has been for practically every one of the school boards to go through. Month in and month out they have had to find constantly new ways and means of keeping the schools open, continually to discover new economies that would not entirely upset the educational program.

Last fall it appeared that something only a little short of the miraculous would be needed to keep many of the schools open after February or March. Yet it has been done, and in the doing the school recreary or march. Let thus been decided the resurrectulness that calls for heartlest commendation. The task has been no less trying because it was a matter of public work—indeed, that made it harder, for the necessity, or at least the desirability of general public support for necessary drastic steps adds a problem not present in adjusting one's private affairs.

Yet the seemingly impossible has been accomplished, the boards have each met their various difficulties and done their jobs admirably. They will be even better-equipped by virtue of this past ex-perience to meet the obstaeles yet to come, for the troubles are not over by any means. Meanwhile, those carrying the responsibilities deserve to know that the people they serve appreciate their work and

Victory Thrown Away

Farmington slipped last Friday morning in Lansing-fell down ramington supper last ritudy mountains. Farmington supper last ritudy not be as a secould be asked for. Here at home we know that something must be done about our transportation situation, know that the condition is intolerable, and yet to the Michigan Public Utilities Commission the protest that was presented unquestionably must have appeared a very feeble one in

Several factors contributed to the dismal showing, any one of them a glaring weakness, and together crippling the case almost beyond redemption. There was lack of organization, preparation, and planning. There was over-confidence, and most serious of all, almost total absence of enthusiastic support.

Those who showed most interest in the matter by attending the hearing, did the best they could. Unforunately, nearly all of them have their own affairs to attend to. They could not find quite sufhave their own attains to attend to. They could not find quite sufficient spare time, in the week since notice of the hearing was received and published, to assure that all the work necessary to thorough preparation for the session was done. The handful who attended had agreed in advance that whether or not anyone else went they would go, and they did. Aside from that, no one knew how many would be in the delegation or who they would be. Through a slip-up, the attorney was not notified that his services were expected until the morning of the hearing, and although he did an admirable job of examining and cross-examining after the hearing got under way and he had found his ground, he was badly handicapped. None of the others had previously attended a hearing of the Commission, and there was not time for the attorney to outline with them in advance the procedure, or to devise a plan of presenting the evidence in the most effective way.

. Coupled with the haste and lack of adequate planning was over confidence. The impression had got abroad that there would be little difficulty, that the Utilities Commission was fully aware of our unsatisfactory situation, fully understood Farmington's point of view, and was, if not ready to grant a permit, at least strongly inclined to let someone else try the transportation business in this vicinity. But trouble showed itself the moment the hearing was called, when it appeared clearly that the present permit-holder was ready to offer, not merely opposition, but a vigorous, well-planned battle. The Commissioners, (and it must be admitted, probably correctly) exhibited a "show-us" attitude, indicating that they conrectivy exhibited a shown a stated, sidered it up to the applicant and his supporters to prove that what was offered not merely something different, but something betten that had community-wide approval and would last.

But it was in the matter of support that Farmington failed mos miserably. Without a public official present to speak for the city gov ernment, without a sizeable showing of interested business-men there in person to support the application, without even any effective means to refute one specious argument of the present permit-holder, the case for "a new deal" in transportation on Grand River could not have been expected to impress the Commissioners greatly. It makes no difference that the people "back home" are "all strong for it." The Commissioners, and rightly again, rely almost entirely upon what appears before them for their decision.

The failure is all the more unfortunate because the appeal for better transportation service unquestionably has the overwhelming support of the people living all the way from Farmington to Red ford. It is not a tragedy to lose when one has not the strength or power to win; it is a tragedy to have that power and not to use it to the best advantage.

It is possible that activities this week can retrieve some, even most of the ground that has been lost providing it is vigorous enough and is effectively brought to the Commission. That much has been lost beyond regaining is unquestionable. It can be contended justi-flably that the notice of a week was hardly sufficient for the applicant and for the community to prepare, whereas the Eastern Michigan system, by virtue of its business, is always ready.

Those who went to the hearing can hardly help but feel that they took themselves for a ride" to Lansing last Friday, and they came back with some severe joltings, on what had been expected to be a fairly smooth path. They are disappointed but not discouraged in the community task they have voluntarily assumed. They are still ready and eager to carry on the fight. But just as it is commonly known that the more passengers a vehicle is carrying the easier it rides, so in this instance, a few more are needed to "jump in" and go along.

As for the present permit-holder's offer of a short trial of a schedule suited to the needs of riders and at a lower fare, it is of no consequence. It is merely a temporary makeshift, a compromise wrung out by the protests. The offer was extended and the trial will be made, not with belief that "it can be done," but with the attitude, 'we'll show you it cannot be done," Accordingly, it will fail, especially when tried with the 29-passenger "freight-cart heing hauled from downtown Detroit. Then we shall have the problem to fight all over again. It had better be settled right now.

Enjoy Today

When folks asemble just for fun And have a little play, Forget conventionality, It makes a perfect day.

For life is short, time on the wing And we will soon be old. Today we live, Tomorrow die And only Now is gold.

These things we had but yesterday Alas, today they're gone, For fortune is a fickle maid And ever travels on.

Today she's here, Tomorrow gone.
O'er many has she trod.
He who enjoys today the most,
The chosen one of God.

HARRY J. MERRITT

Royal Oak, Michigan.

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

Sunday masses at 8:30 a.

nd 11 a. m. Daily mass at 8:00.

West Point Park Presbyterian Church Rev. John Adams, Pastor 22333 Grand River, Redford

10:30 Sunday School. 11:30 Morning worship.

Baptist Church E. W. Palmer, Pastor

10:10 Prayer meeting, open to

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Clarenceville Middle Belt and Baseline Roads Rev. Paul, Grauppen, Pastor

10:30 Divine Service.
9:30 Sunday School.
The first and third Sundays of
the month the services are conducted in the German language.
All others are English.
No services June 19th and 26th.
Rev. Graupner will attend a convention in Milwaukee.

Methodist Church Rev. F. C. Johnson, Minister

Rev. J. B. Wallace, pastor of the Kearsey. Park M. E. Church, Flint, will be the guest preacher next Sunday morning and evening F. M. S. will meet for a picnic. Wednesday evening the weekly prager service will be held as

Evangelical Church

• • • • •

Sunday School, 10:15.

Evening service, 7:30 p. m.

Rev. Oscar C. Laubengayer, will

reach, using as hits sermon schoot, "Jesus Only."

Tost of Carelessness

The Post Office department expends about \$2,00,000 annually on the postal directory sarvice, whose business II is to search city directories and other authorities in order to correct and complete improperly addressed mail.

WEST POINT PARK Mrs. William Zwahlen

Miss Esther Middlewood of Caro is home this week, but will leave next Tuesday for Camp at Interlocken, where she will spend the summer as one of the instructors, Miss Middlewood will motor through going by way of Chicago. Mr. anl Mrs. Frank Stanton and family of Lincoin Park were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Coolman.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Ault were guests Saturday evening of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gullen in Farmington.

ington. Mr. and Mrs. John Mercer daughter Elizabeth and Mrs. J. W. halt were guests Sunday after-noon of Mrs. Margaret Davs.

Mrs. L. B. Gilbert gave a birth

10:30 Morning service, sermon theme, "The Two Natures." Mrs. L. B. Gibbert gave a birthday and service sermon subject for this week will be "Reconciliation."

Wednesday night we will consider the teachings of Russellism or International Bible Students Government of the service or an experiment of the service of the service of the service of the following: Delores Jean and Striey Ault, Lora Ann Ault, idale Column. Donald Voorheis, Armore Wednesday night we will consider the teachings of Russellism or International Bible Students, and Mrs. Robbie First and Charles Gilbert, with games and Charles Gilbe

Ault.

Mr. anl Mrs. George La Londe
of Detroit were guests Sunday of
Mr. and Mrs. William Sherman.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carpenter
and family of Detroit were guests
Thursday evening of "Mr. and
Mrs. Charles Gilbert.
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Graham,
two children and friends of Detroit were Sunday guests of Mr.
and Mrs. Clinton Ault.
Mr. and Mrs. Allett Owens,
Kenneth and Billy attended the
Children's Day exercises last Sun-

Children's Day exercises last Sun-day at George Gullen's church in

day at George Gullen's church in Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Voorhis son Donald and Mrs. E. Rowe were guests Sunday evening of the latter's sister Mrs. Mabel, Hinkle.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hoffman and family of Detroit were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ault.

day guests of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ault.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde McDermott were guests Sunday evening of Mr. and Mrs. James Eastman.

Glenn Vance is the guest of his grand parents Mr. and Mrs. Tom Vance of Delta, Ohio.

The Ladies Community club are giving a strawberry festival Friday evening, June 17th at the Community Hall, which will be followed by dancing.

Next Sunday will be the children's Day at the West Point Park Presbyterian church. Services will start at eleven o'clock. The church services and Sunday School will be held together.

Miss Dorothy Gerge of Detroit was the guest Sunday of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gerge.

Marco Polo the First?
Marco Polo is reputed to have introduced jade into Europe by bringing the Rist the pieces with him back from his travels.

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