

Home town is the best town in the world and every boost you give, be it ever so small, makes it much better.

# Farmington Enterprise

Every time you spend a dollar with a Home Merchant you gain an inch in the miles of Village Improvement.

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FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1914

\$1.00 A YEAR.

## A Letter Worth Reading

We farmers need awakening to the fact that we have unmistakably reached the period where we must think and plan. I am one of the slow German farmers that had to be shown, and I am now giving my experience that others may profit, for knowledge at the school of experience is more expensive now than ten years ago.

Twenty-nine years ago I began my farm career. I had an old team and \$50. Our furniture was mostly home-made chairs, cupboards and lounge made from dry goods boxes, neatly covered with 10 cent cretonne by my girl wife. We rented eighty acres. Being a boy of good habits I got all needed machinery and groceries of our home merchants on credit until fall crops were sold. The first year was a wet season and I didn't make enough to pay my creditors. I went to each on date of promise and explained condition, paying as much to each as possible, and they all carried the balance over another year. They continued to accommodate me until I was able to buy a forty acre piece of my own.

As soon as I owned these few acres the mail order houses began sending me catalogues, and gradually I began sending my loose change to them, letting my accounts stand in my home town, where I got my accommodation when I needed it.

We then had one of the thriftiest little villages in the state—good line of business in all branches, merchants who were willing to help an honest fellow over a bad year, and a town full of people who came twice a week to trade and visit. Our little country town supported a library, high school, band, ball team, and we had big celebrations every year. A farm near a live town soon doubles in value. I sold my forty acres at a big advance and bought an eighty, gradually adding to it until I had 200 acres

of the best land in Iowa. I then felt no need of asking favors, and found it easy to patronize the mail-order agents that came almost weekly to our door. I regret to say I was the first in the county to make up a neighborhood bill and send it to the mail order house. Though we got bit every once in a while, we got in the habit of sending away for stuff.

Gradually our merchants lessened their stock of goods—for lack of patronage. Finally we began to realize that when we needed a bolt quickly for machinery, or clothing for sickness or death, we had to wait and send away for it, which wasn't very pleasant. One by one the merchants moved to places where they were appreciated, and men of less energy moved in. Gradually our town has gone down, our business houses are "tacky" in appearance, a number are empty, our schools, churches and walks are going down, we have no band, no library, nor ball team. There is no business done in the town, therefore no taxes to keep things up. Hotel is closed for lack of travel. Go down to the depot when the freight pulls in and you see the sequel in the mail order packages.

Nine years ago my farm was worth \$195 an acre; today I'd have a hard time selling it at \$167 an acre. It is "too far from a live town"—so every farmer has said who wants to buy. He wants a place near schools and churches, where his children can have advantages. I have awakened to the fact that in helping to pull the town down, it has cost me \$5,600 in nine years. Like the majority of farmers; I didn't figure far enough ahead.

This sort of business means the doing away of country towns. What will it mean to farmers to have a few large cities at a distance of 500 or 1,000 miles? What are we going to do with our children,

who are demanding even better advantages than we had?

Those cities we help to build return no favors; they take our money but offer no credit in time of need. If we want high schools, etc., we must raise the money and build near our farm homes, or send our boys and girls to the cities at great expense amidst temptations of which the farm has no equal. These mail order agents that come to our homes every week are becoming a nuisance and making it unsafe to leave women and children alone on the farm. With farm cordiality we take these strangers into our homes, often as one of the family, and we are sometimes paid in having them entice our girls to the city.

These are some of the facts that need consideration, and I have decided that the safest proposition all around is for the country people to look out for their own interests, and build up their own country towns and bring value to their farms. Let those who want to patronize the city mail-order house go there to live, getting their living where they give their patronage. The remainder of my life will be given to building up the home town I helped to down. Brother farmers, you can take my advice or get your knowledge the way I got mine.

HANS GARBUS.

The foregoing letter is reproduced from an eastern farm paper, and is typical of what is really being enacted in hundreds of little towns today.

## A Lame Back—Kidney Trouble Causes it

And it will give you even worse if not checked. Mrs. H. T. Strayge, Gainesville, Ga., was laid down on her back with kidney trouble and inflamed bladder. She says: "I took Foley Kidney Pills and now my back is stronger than in years and both kidney and bladder troubles are entirely gone."

T. H. McGee.

## Pleasing Entertainment

A large and appreciative audience greeted Marion V. Widrig at the Town Hall last Saturday night to hear her in her rendition of "Judith of Bethulia."

She is a splendid portray of character, and in her impersonation of Judith, as well as in the several humorous characters presented by her, she certainly displayed talent of an unusually high order, and her audience showed by the hearty and frequent applause at the close of each number that they highly appreciated her efforts to entertain them.

The entertainment was interspersed with instrumental musical numbers rendered by local talent, which added greatly to the evening's enjoyment.

The Farmington chapter of the O. E. S., under whose auspices the entertainment was given, are to be congratulated for giving our people an opportunity to enjoy a rare treat.

## Ladies Union Entertainment

Mrs. A. J. Doyle will appear in the rendition of the story of Herod by Stephen Phillip, Saturday evening, September 19th, at the Town Hall, Farmington. This entertainment is under the auspices of the Ladies' Union. It is hoped there will be a full house.

Mrs. Doyle captivated her audience at the recent meeting of the Walled Lake Home-Coming Association by her splendid rendition of both humorous and pathetic selections.

Dr. Willis A. Moore of Detroit has consented to attend if possible and contribute some of his songs to the entertainment. The Pierson orchestra has also been secured. Get tickets of any member of the Ladies' Union or at the door. Entertainment will begin at 8 o'clock sharp. Admission 20c.

## Experience Social

Next Friday evening, September 18th, is the time set for the Experience social to be held at the Town Hall, an announcement of which was published several weeks ago.

For the benefit of all those who may not be informed as to just what an Experience social is, or might be, we will say that while we have not full knowledge, we are told that it is something woven around the experience of the trials and tribulations encountered in pursuing and retaining that elusive scrap of paper or round parcel of silver—the dollar.

To be exact, each lady interested in the church and its work has been asked to bring a contribution of a dollar, and further to tell exactly how she earned or secured it.

The social will doubtless be an interesting one, and will be followed by the serving of supper by the Aid Society ladies, at 20c per plate.

## Keeping up the Reputation

The Farmington Enterprise says that Harrison Johnson is carrying one of the mail routes there. Some task for Harrison, what?—South Lyon Herald. Still these Johnsons are some pumpkins when it comes to carrying things. There's one in Washington carrying around a whole ball team and another over the water some place lugging around a world's championship fighting belt.—Northville Record.

Farmington Guild held their regular monthly meeting at the Town Hall last Monday evening. Despite the rather slim attendance, probably due to the opening of school, as well as the absence of several members, a very pleasant time was had by all in attendance.

## "AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION"

is worth a ton of worry. A little savings account on the side, will prove mighty comforting in times of trouble.

"The Best Book of the Year" is one of our Savings Bank Books.

## Farmington Exchange Bank

(A STATE BANK)

Fred M. Warner, Pres. Sam'l D. Holcomb, Vice Pres.  
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If you have not yet opened an account with us, decide now.

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When the housewife commences to think of meal time and its preparation she invariably thinks of

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who always carries the best of Meats, Lard, etc. Try it once and you will too

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Rates, \$1.50 and \$2.00

EUGENE S. GRACE, PROPRIETOR

TELEPHONE SAMPLE ROOM, LIVERY CONNECTED  
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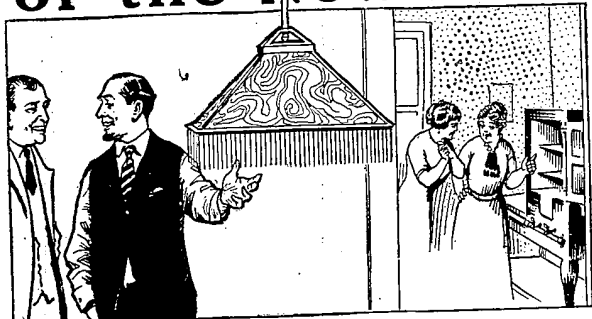
## New FORD Prices

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1st, 1914

Touring Car \$490  
Runabout - \$440

The Park Garage  
Farmington, Mich.

## For the New Home



## A Modern Gas Lighting and Cooking System

A modern gas lighting and cooking system in country homes, new or old, contributes more than any other one thing to the joy, happiness, comfort and safety of the entire family.

The Pilot Lighting Plant brings this service to country homes everywhere.

The beautiful, bright, clean light of acetylene fills the evening hours with comfort and cheer.

Decorative, modern, city-like gas fixtures, in copper or brass, ornament the entire home.

Acetylene lights eliminate forever the Daily Grind of filling, cleaning and carrying oil lamps about the house.

Cooking with Acetylene gives mother the comfort of a cool oven in summer. It cuts the kitchen work in half—the disagreeable work of fanning over a broiling hot stove—and cleans up the dirt and ashes afterward.

Permanent iron pipes remove the hazard of many individual gas lamps—easily tipped over or upset—

tantaneous ignitors remove the hazard of matches—

father, big bright burn lights, securely fastened to iron and enclosed in strong, durable globes, make his work quicker and pleasanter. They do away entirely with lanterns and matches in the barns and outbuildings.

These advantages and conveniences are today available in a house, old or new, in the country, by the simple installation of a Pilot Lighting Plant.

Acetylene—Made a New Way

Pilot is a simple, compact, perfectly constructed device. Its record for efficiency, safety and satisfactory unapproached by any other lighting device in use today. One or more in nearly every country. And wherever the Pilot is known and

used it is acknowledged to be the one perfect lighting plant for country homes.

Insurance authorities permit its installation in insured property without increase in insurance rates.

The United States Government uses the Pilot for lighting many of its Indian Schools and other public buildings.

With a Pilot Lighting Plant, house and barns piled with figures hang, and the cooking appliance in place, you are ready to enjoy the comfort and convenience that the city home has enjoyed for upwards of 80 years.

This entire installation work can be done in a couple of days without disturbance or inconvenience.

And when it is completed you have a permanent improvement to your property.

A Permanent Improvement

So the installation of a Pilot Lighting Plant is not an expense but an investment, paying daily dividends in added comfort, happiness and safety to your entire family.

If you live in the City—if you could take your house just as it stands today and transport it bodily to any large town—you'd immediately make provision for the greatest of City conveniences—good light and gas cooking. This is a convenience everybody wants. This would be the first thought.

Today these conveniences are brought right out to the farm home, within the reach of everyone who installs the Pilot Lighting Plant which supplies a better light than City home enjoys and at lower cost.

This service has been rendered to more than 50,000 country homes. Thousands more are taking advantage of it every year.

Write or phone and I'll give you more interesting facts than can be shown in one advertisement. Do it today. This address

R. B. WRIGHT

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