

The Farmington Enterprise  
J. A. Price, Editor

Published Friday of each Week and entered at the postoffice at Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, as second class mail matter.

\$1.00 per year, in advance

Devoted to the upbuilding of Farmington and Oakland County

Save your rat heads—they're worth a jolly.

Following Farmington's discontinuance of the evening's curfew, Pontiac has taken it up.

Pretty soft for the weather man—merely post "Rain Today" and nothing to do till tomorrow.

Judging from our exchanges, the Oakland County crop of bootleggers is going to be the "biggest ever."

Where boat passengers used to look for whales, etc., on an ocean voyage, the chief excitement nowadays is in getting a glimpse of a submarine.

A stewardess on a certain big boat committed suicide the first of the week, by jumping into the ocean when a submarine was sighted. That must be a new doctrine of "Safety First".

"Marry a busy man", advises Helen Rowland, moving picture actress. It can't be done, Helen, as all the really busy men are already married—and that's just what keeps them busy.

Those strikebreakers who were to be imported from Chicago during the recent street car disturbance in Detroit, are liable to come in handy in the windy city, as a complete tie-up in street car service is predicted for next Saturday.

The Oxford Leader evidently doesn't believe that Italy's entrance into the war is worthy of more than passing notice, it being passed up with a single front page line, "Italy has entered the war". After all it is getting to be a rather common event.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Walters of Detroit were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Voorheis Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Conroy and children of River Rouge were guests of relatives in Farmington on Decoration Day.

Misses Blanche Botsford and Stella Sadler of Detroit visited with friends in Farmington the first of the week.

Mrs. Charles Thumm, who was operated on at Harper Hospital in Detroit last Thursday, is reported as getting along nicely.

Rev. and Mrs. E. R. Stevenson and Miss Mary Gardner were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Cook on Monday evening.

Dr. and Mrs. E. F. Holcomb entertained the former's brother and wife, Dr. and Mrs. A. T. Holcomb of Novi, at their cottage at Walled Lake Monday.

**Death of Sheldon Noble**

The news of the death of Sheldon Noble, aged 52, formerly of this place, but who of late years had made his home with his family at Midland, was received here Wednesday, May 26th he having passed away on that date.

Funeral services were held from his home in Midland the following Friday, after which the remains were brought to Farmington. A short service was held from the home of his mother, Mrs. Chauncey Noble of this Township, Saturday, and the remains conducted to a final resting place in East Farmington cemetery.

In addition to the wife, four daughters, a brother, and sister, mother, and many other relatives, are left to mourn his loss.

The bereaved wife was also a former Farmington girl, being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Grace.

The sympathy of the community is extended to the bereaved relatives.

**TAINED POLITICS**

By Peter Radford.

This country is suffering more from tainted politics than from any other malady at the present time. There is scarcely a campaign speech made, a platform demand written or a measure enacted into law that does not carry the taint of personal gain of some politician or political faction thereof.

There is more "blue sky" in campaign promises of many politicians running for office than was ever contained in the prospectuses of the boldest promoters of chimerical business schemes. There are more secret combinations formed by politicians in the form of unions than were ever formed under any and all other aliases. There are more political rebates hidden in the phrase "Be it enacted" than were ever concealed under any and all other disguises.

The inordinate thirst for political power and unrestrained passion for mastery has caused more distress in this nation than the great war and it is being regulated by law. No business combination ever pursued their competitors as relentlessly or visited more heartless cruelty upon their customers than a political party that seeks to make junk of an industry, or cripple a business for party success, through tariff measures, political supervision and oftentimes destructive legislation. Many political platforms are as alluring to the voter as the story of the rainbow with its pot of gold and their consumption about as far-fetched. Self-gain is the first law in politics. There are many men in office today who, if they could not shake plums off the tree of American liberty or cut a melon taken from Uncle Sam's commissary, would have less desire to serve the public.

The country is surfeited with patriots, who will bare their breast to bullets in defense of their country, but there are few men in public life who will bare their breast to voters or run the gauntlet of party disfavor in defense of agriculture or industry. No representative of the people, who will permit personal prejudices to dethrone justice, party access to disfranchise reason or the rancor of a political campaign to influence judgment can render capable service.

The preservation of our prosperity depends upon wisdom, courage and honesty in government, and the American voter should seek these attributes as implicitly as the Wise Men they will often be found to rest over the stable; the plow or the staff of the Shepherd. The surest cure for tainted politics and machine rule is fresh air and sunshine and the important elements are most abundant upon the farm, and when farmers, bankers and merchants are elected to membership in legislative bodies, much of the trouble in government will disappear.

**WATERED SECURITIES**

By Peter Radford.

Much has been said and more written about the evils of watered stock in big business concerns and the farmers of this nation believe that every dollar written into the files of any business organization, should be able to say "I know that my Redeemer liveth," but farming is the biggest business on earth, and there is more water in financial transaction than that of any other industry. There is as much water in a farmer's note drawing eight or ten per cent interest when other lines of industry secure money for four or five per cent per annum, as there is in a business paying a reasonable compensation upon the face value of securities representing an investment of only fifty cents on the dollar. The only difference is, the water is in the interest rate in one instance and in the securities in the other.

The promoter of times takes chances and his success is contingent upon the development of the property involved but the user, as a rule, takes no chances and his success cripples the property involved. There are many industries that cry louder but none that suffer more severely from financial immorality in both law and custom than that of agriculture. The farmers of America today are paying \$200,000,000 per annum in usury on real estate and chattel loans, and this interest capitalized at five per cent, represents \$4,000,000,000 of fictitious values which the farmer is paying interest on. This sum of money is almost equal to the annual value of crops produced in the United States.

The earning power of the farmer's note based upon his interest rate very nearly divides like the earth's surface—three-fourths water and one-fourth land. The largest body of water that floats upon the financial hemisphere now rests upon the farms and its waves are dashing and its billows are rolling against seven million homes threatening ruin and disaster to the property of the nation. Will our public servants who understand how to drain the liquid of industrial properties turn their faces and let the water off the farms?

It is an admitted economic fact that there can be no permanent prosperity without a permanent agriculture.

Agriculture is recognized as the greatest of all industries and a pre-eminent, progressive and enlightened agricultural population is the surest safeguard of civilization.



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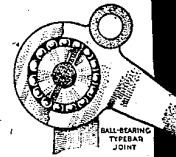
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