

# FDR addresses Enterprise

• 74 YEARS AGO

The Nov. 6, 1908 edition of the Farmington Enterprise heralded the re-election of Farmington's own Gov. Fred Warner to his third term as governor.

It was a cause for celebration in his home town, the Enterprise announced.

"To be elected Governor of a great and populous state like Michigan three times in succession is certainly a remarkable record and one of which a man might feel proud. Fred M. Warner on Tuesday was elected Governor of Michigan for the third time. In his home town where he is so well and so favorably known the result is received with joy."

The Here and There column which noted the comings and goings of Farmington residents mentioned that "Lenore Graham is suffering from blood poisoning in her foot. Dr. Holcomb is in attendance." On the weather front, the column concluded that "November has started in to emulate October in beautiful weather."

In national news on Page 2 we learn that William Howard Taft won the presidency by a large margin over William Jennings Bryan, who, the headline reads, was "overwhelmed for the third time." Taft won 29 states, in-

cluding Michigan, while Bryan took 17 states. Arizona and New Mexico hadn't joined the union yet.

The Owen House Hotel in downtown Farmington advertised its "special" Sunday dinner for 25 cents.

50 YEARS AGO

The election of President Franklin D. Roosevelt was cause for "once in a lifetime" celebration for Farmington Democrats, according to the Nov. 10 edition of the Farmington Enterprise.

The story told how local Democrats "grasped the opportunity by both ears, and figuratively, swung it around their heads. All sorts of improvised noisemakers were called into service while Republicans at home trying to 'sleep it off' put their fingers in their ears and wailed."

"One of the city's old-time staunch Democrats, a man well past middle age, fastened a piece of tin on the end of a stick and walked up and down Grand River Avenue for an hour beating on the sidewalk."

President-elect Roosevelt sent the editor of the Enterprise a letter in response to a hand-delivered question about his view on a soldier's bonus. Roosevelt responded that:

## Farmington flashback

"I regard the reduction of federal spending as one of the most important issues of this campaign. In my opinion it is the most direct and effective contribution that Government can make to business recovery and the bringing back of prosperity."

The death of prominent attorney, George Verkes, friend of the late Gov. Fred Warner, was noted in the edition.

25 YEARS AGO

Farmington Township officials were haggling over an industrial zone in the Nov. 14, 1957 edition of the Farmington Enterprise. About 800 acres was set aside along Hoggerly Road from 9 1/2 Mile Road to 11 Mile in the plan. South of 10 Mile the district extended east to Halsted, and north of 10 Mile the zone extended about 1/4 of a mile. The total industrial zone district comprised 903 acres, even though the planning commission at the time recommended setting aside 1,300 acres for a sound economic tax base.

Plans for what is now called the I-696 extension were brought up in 1957, and the road is still being debated in 1982. The story stated that "The plan further call for the continuation of the limited access route in the vicinity of present route of 11 Mile Road to connect with the nearly completed Farmington-to-Brighton Expressway in Nov."

Sleeping bags made of 50 percent wool were selling for \$8.95 at the Army-Navy Store at 33419 Grand River in Farmington. Wool coats were selling there for \$9.95, and they threw in a free hand warmer with a complete outfit.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Ball of Lamar Street in Farmington announced the birth of their first child, a daughter, named Megan on Oct. 30, 1957.

With the opening of the Mackinac Bridge, Michigan Midroad columnist Elmer White predicted it would take 40 years to pay off the bridge bonds, giving motorists a free ride in 1997.

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