

The Farmington Enterprise

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Editorials

The Shouting's All Over

"It's all over but the shouting," the old saying goes when one team is half a dozen runs ahead in the ninth, but in respect to Grand River, it's just the reverse. Now the shouting's all over, and concrete is on the way.

The only remaining difference of opinion seems to be as to where the Cut-off will go, west of Farmington road. With one man saying he knows it will be put through as originally planned and another declaring he's satisfied that the road will be diverted northward through the Lathrup property, there's still plenty to argue about if one is inclined to spend the summer afternoons at that pastime.

Farmington however, is satisfied, and with construction to start soon, Farmington awaits only the sort of sound that was promised, in the child's song, by the "little man who bought him a big bass drum"—"Boom, Boom, Boom!"

"The Most Unkindest" One Of All

"This was the most unkindest cut of all," said Mark Antony of Brutus' stabbing of Caesar, and the same might be said of the State Tax Commission's valuation of Oakland County for 1929. Only this is a monumental boost, instead of a cut.

Whether because people have become accustomed to increases in taxes every year, or due to general disinterest in governmental affairs, the action of the State Commission appears to have received little attention. Perhaps the fact that the Lansing dispatches quoted percentages of the State tax, instead of actual valuation figures, accounts for it to some extent. Last year, the dispatches read, Oakland County paid 4.6 per cent of the State tax. This year it is recommended, Oakland is to pay 5.77 per cent. These are small figures but the difference between them makes an increase of 25 per cent. And when a comparison is made of the amounts, \$377,700,000 last year, and \$495,000,000 this year, the raise in valuation looms very large.

It is impossible, of course, to say just what induced the State Commission to give Oakland County the largest increase in the State. One man, who ought to know, declares that the stirring-up within the County, attendant upon the large increase in Pontiac's proportion of the County valuation, may have had a great deal to do with it. If this be true, then the achievement of the rest of the County in raising Pontiac's valuation may prove to be indeed a Pyrrhic victory.

How Big Is A Truck?

How big is a truck? How long is a trailer? How much will each of them carry? Now these questions may seem as pointless and impossible of answer as the time-honored query, "How old is Ann?" Yet one is led to believe that there is neither answer to these ques-

tion. The comment is worthwhile. It reads as follows:

"Man, of course, is a paradox in the manner of many of his activities. Gaze upon his achievements, look back upon his progress, and ponder where he seeks to climb over the topography of a bewildered earth; you will note that he has gone far in subduing his brutal impulses toward less intelligent animals—he has builded up within his social consciousness an impulse to protect less fortunate creatures.

Only with regard to his own kind does he continue, en masse, to give outward expression to his latent brutality; this is seen in his attitude toward himself, toward his fellow-man, and in a great collection of people of one nationality against a great people of another nationality. Sad, yet true, the average person to-day concerns himself little beyond the immediate environs of his own cave, castle, house or hatched dwelling.

Dundee went down, blood trickling from his nose that Fields hit when he lacked the aim with a shot for the jaw. Punched back of the ear, Dundee did a dance like a whirling dervish and went limp against the ropes. Coming off of them again with a recoil of the slack, Dundee swung his right hand low and solid against Fields' groin. In a pulsating mass on the floor, intense agony written on his pallid face, Fields collapsed and rolled over three times as though endeavoring to get near his corner.

"That, Ladies and Gentlemen of this Twentieth Century, is the superlative manner in which Michigan's Greatest Newspaper, The Detroit Free Press, describes the Dundee-Fields escapade last Thursday night in Detroit.

"Doesn't it sound something like the old Roman's cry of 'A man for the tiger and a man for the lion this morning, O good Quirites'?

"Man, generally conceded the friend of all the animal kingdom, avenging, at times in a national conflict, the relentless lash upon Uncle Tom's back, in his quieter moments seeks the vastness and adventure of the arena where, thanks to his benevolent heart, he would only brutalize and slaughter himself.

"Well, looks like more rain to-day."

Is There A Grand River Over There?

All the accidents don't occur on Grand River, or even in Michigan or the United States. A dispatch from the other side of the Atlantic reads:

London, Aug. 6.—Twenty-five persons were killed and 75 injured in accidents on English highways in the heavy traffic of Monday's bank holiday.

We wonder if, over there, there is a Farmington outside of London, and if it carries as many vehicles over a 20-foot highway as are seen between Farmington and Eight-Mile road on a Sunday evening.

If so, we would dedicate to them all the arguments and eloquence and experience in persuasion that were used to get Grand River widened, for Farmington needs these things no more. And we would surely wish them luck.

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Trees are playing a leading role in man's fight to keep the shifting sand dunes of the Lake Michigan shore from spreading disaster over farm lands, roads, and drainage ditches of the State's western border.

That many of the dunes are travelling "landward," often at the rate of several feet a year, is an established fact. Effective ways of checking the wandering tendencies of the errant dunes have become a real problem, and the usefulness of artificial tree plantings in this work is being determined this summer through a survey by forestry officials of Michigan State College.

Liners in the Enterprise bring quick results.

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