

The Farmington Enterprise

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Editorials

A Time For A Deed

What great and good things may come out of the recent visit of Premier J. Ramsay MacDonald to the United States cannot yet be determined. Certainly there resulted, for the time being, at least, a great flowering of good will in this country toward England and perhaps all of Europe. Would this not be, then, a most auspicious time for this country to accomplish one readily apparent act of good will, one thing that might do more than a thousand speeches to obliterate any ill-feeling that may exist? Could there be a better moment at which to press the movement, for naming, as our national anthem, that inspiring song, "America, The Beautiful", in place of our present one, which is based on a war fought over a hundred years ago against England? Now, while the whole English-speaking world has been stirred with hopes of universal peace, would it not be a splendid gesture for the United States to put aside this song of war, as it was a splendid gesture for Ramsay MacDonald to put aside the custom of generations and be the first Prime Minister of England to leave his country—and then in the interest of peace?

In making this change we would forego nothing, but the cause of greater good-will between England and the United States might gain immeasurably. There is no element in the "Star Spangled Banner" that is not present in "America The Beautiful"—except the element of war. There is no expression of patriotic pride in the former that is not expressed even better in the latter song.

A good example is the second stanza, which in the "Star Spangled Banner" directly refers to our enemy in a war fought one hundred and fifteen years ago. "On the shore dimly seen, thro' the mists of the deep, Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes."

Compare now, the second stanza of "America The Beautiful," which sings of no foe's haughty host but this:

"O Beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress,
A thoroughfare for freedom beat,
Across the wilderness,
America, America, God mend
thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law."

Surely the "purple mountain majesties" are, or should be, more expressive of our country than "the rockets' red glare" and we would rather have the people of the world thus look upon us:

Exchanging one song for another is not going to stop any wars. But certainly it is worth something to America to have the rest of the world feel that our patriotism is expressed rather in pride in our own great land than in frustration of an enemy's soldiers.

Michigan, so close a neighbor to England's great dominion, might well take the lead in such a movement. We would like to see a Michigan representative be the man to introduce the necessary bill in Congress, and carry

it through to a success which would bring Michigan everlasting honor.

And in the meantime Farmington might make itself noted among all the towns in the land by taking the lead in this—by asking its school-children to learn the four stanzas of "America The Beautiful" and to sing them whenever the occasion calls for a national hymn.

The 'Home Town Boy'

In a letter to the Enterprise, Sergius P. Grace thanks this newspaper for the recent account of his achievement with an artificial larynx, in restoring the power of speech to an aged Dallas woman. In the letter he says: "Of course, there is a very great satisfaction in having the town paper of one's boyhood days say something nice about you."

It is said that in affairs of state it should always be that the man honors the office, rather than that the office honors the man. It might well be said that in acknowledging and maintaining his interest in Farmington, Sergius P. Grace honors his hometown as few men are able to do. If he finds satisfaction in the "something nice" which the home town paper says about him, so we take equal pleasure in being able to say them, without risking the charge that we are doing a bit of "log-rolling" for the "home-town boy who made good" in a big way.

Anyway, why shouldn't we? Could Sergius P. Grace, looking around for a good town to be born in, have found a better one than Farmington? We'll leave it to him.

One Good 'Trim' Deserves Some More

Anybody who has ever been a judge in any sort of a contest knows that there are greater pleasures. And besides wishing on them the job of being contest judges, the community wishes them no more than necessary troubles.

Yet we may all be pleased by the fact that the "golden jubilee" Edison window contest committee was given by our merchants quite a trying afternoon last Saturday, in their efforts to decide which display was entitled to the award. The division of the prize among two business-places indicates but slightly what a time the committee really did have in arriving at a decision. It is a compliment not only to the merchants but also to the community that the judges' greatest difficulties resulted from the fact that there were so many good exhibits.

So well have the merchants done on this special occasion that one wishes things might be so ordered that not once, but often throughout the year, the store windows of the town would be quite as interesting and unique as they have been for the past week. Store windows, of course, are intended to display and help sell merchandise. But there could hardly be a better investment in the use of window-space than any device for drawing at-

tention as that of the whole community was attracted during the past few days.

Farmington merchants have shown that they possess the ability and ingenuity to create unusually fine effects in window-displays. In fact, people who visited Dearborn, home of the "light's golden jubilee" celebration, during the past week reported that they saw nothing in that city which approached the displays in Farmington. It would be a matter of both enjoyment to the community and profit for the business-men if the capabilities of Farmington merchants could be utilized more often in out-of-the ordinary displays.

Faith—On Facts

In a statement relative to the Michigan Bell Telephone Company's \$72,000,000 expansion program of the last three years, Roy S. Crowe, manager of this district expresses the hope "that it will promote the spirit of optimism in the future of Michigan. Our continuance of so large a program is concrete evidence of our belief and faith in Michigan."

Mr. Crowe is quite justified in this hope—surely such an expansion on the part of the telephone company ought to increase and broaden faith in Michigan's future. For there can be no doubt of the sound basis of the telephone company's plans. Probably there is no better index of present growth and also of probable future development in Michigan than in the plans of this company, which studies the present with tremendous care, and works for the future accordingly.

Rug Sellers

They still fall for them in some communities; we mean the old-time sailor rug seller who represents that he has been able to smuggle in to this country valuable imported rugs that he offers at below cost. The rugs turn out to be cheap imitations, the sailor turns out to be a fake and the customers are victims of another swindle. Despite constant warnings from the progressive newspapers who keep constantly on the alert to discover these fraudulent practices there are always the "wise ones" who fall for the solicitations—Exchange.

AS ANOTHER FLY

This is an age for advertising. People are no longer wandering through the woods trying to find a mouse trap maker.

Do you know of any success that has not been advertised intelligently? You know of plenty of failures that have lacked proper publicity. And what is true of the business proposition is equally true with reference to a personality or a profession.

Without proper propaganda—without intelligent advertising, a great artist would attract about as much attention as another fly in a boarding-house kitchen. —Silent Partner

TO SAVE SMALL FISH

When you catch a fish too small to keep, wet your hands before you take it off the hook. By doing so it has a better chance to live. There is a thin film covering a fish which sticks to your hand if it is dry. With this film broken the fish dies.



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