

The Farmington Enterprise

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Editorials

Fortunate Are We

Even those whose experience is so limited or whose vision is so narrow that they think the only place of consequence in America is New York, and the only street Broadway, have come to realize vaguely that "hick" towns exist now almost entirely on the stage. The "wide open spaces" are still wide and open, but the great phenomenon sometimes called "progress" (but better termed sophistication), which used to distinguish big cities from the small towns has now spread to every corner of the country—and the middle. There are no more "sticks."

And yet there are differences, and the coming of Rev. Edgar DeWitt Jones to Farmington Wednesday, and his address at the Exchange Club cause one to wonder whether we of this community fully appreciate how fortunately we are situated in regard to cultural possibilities. Not only are we able on occasion to bring to our midst some of Detroit's foremost personalities and speakers, but with the investment of an hour's time, we are able to drive downtown to hear them there. And in the matter of ministers alone, Detroit numbers among its clergymen some of the most eminent in America, one of them Dr. Jones.

Few communities of the size of Farmington enjoy such a privilege. Hundreds of thousands in the West and South have never had the opportunity of hearing one man eminent as half a dozen of Detroit's ministers. The radio is bringing them a contact that was impossible before, but much of personality is lost over the air. One quickly forgets the voice heard over many miles of ether—but he who sees and hears even in early youth a truly great man may live to be a hundred—and never forget it.

The great city near which we live attracts eminent men, but it cannot make them exclusively its own, even if it would care to do so. We have the great good fortune of being able to make them also ours to almost any extent we desire.

A Slight Error

Not long ago we referred in these columns to the Being who watches over the fate of newspaper editors, adding also that "some may doubt that they are so guided."

And well may they doubt. For it is only two weeks since we related the story of the Detroit newspaper which made the exceedingly tragic mistake of listing among marriage licenses a woman whose age was given as 63, although she was but a mere 36. Two weeks later in our own columns we find it necessary to correct a rather more serious error of our own—that of reporting as deceased a man who is not dead at all, but perfectly alive and happy in that one place where life is as much happier than anywhere else, on earth—California.

Ours was, however, a pleasant sort of error to make, and undoubtedly Mr. Neundorff will enjoy it and the correction as much

as anyone—possibly more than anyone else. We hope so, and in the meantime we lay claim to the mistake championship of this part of the country. If there can be a greater mistake than reporting a man dead when he is alive—well, we should like to see it.

"Curtain"—For The Old Curtain

Clothes don't make the man, despite the clothing-makers, and a curtain won't make a show. But the Farmington Players will undoubtedly gain new incentive and have a greater feeling of confidence, and the playgoers will derive much satisfaction, in the presence of a new plush curtain in the Town Hall.

True, there must have been a good deal of the adventure for the players in the old curtain. They could never be absolutely certain but that it might at any moment—yes, at the most "crooical" moment—crash to the floor and end the play before it was over. And the spectators undoubtedly quite enjoyed the antics of the old roller curtain that would never roll up just right, and that jerked down in fits and starts when the act was over. It never would roll quite high enough—but perhaps that was just as well, for the overhead scenery contained some things better appreciated in imagination than in full view.

But now it's gone, and in its place a thing that swishes down from the upper right and left hand corners and comes together in a majestic sweep, just as the hero and heroine—but why give away the plot? This is about the curtain. May it serve as well as did the old one—but may the arrival of its successor be not so long delayed.

To Learn About Ourselves

We human beings are willing to pay millions to satisfy our curiosity about ourselves. The appropriation of government money to meet the cost of taking the census of 1930 will be about \$30,000,000. The mere enumeration of the population is a small part of the work. There will be a vast collection of varied information about us and our activities. There will be a manufacturing and distribution census. It will be discovered how many things have been sold. When the results of this amazing census have been published we of the United States should know "where we are at."

One thing the census takers will probably not find out. It is the most important thing, and the thing we want most to know. They will tell us how many we are, how big we are, how much money we make. But they can't tell us what it's all about. They can't tell us why we are here and where we are going.

These census takers will not be able to take the human being apart and set him down in neat rows of figures and statistical tables. They cannot explain to us the mystery of his behavior, the strength of his impulses, the capacity he has for repression or expression, his amazing lack of

rationalism, his vanity, his generosity or his pettiness. They cannot measure his will power, his capacity for resistance, his ideals and his failures. All that, put into a census, would be informing. Knowing all that, or half that, would be worth while.—Exchange.

CHURCHES

Clarenceville M. E. Church
Rev. Robert Richards, Pastor

10:30—Morning worship.
11:30—Sunday School.
7:30—Evening service.

Evangelical Church
Rev. A. A. Schoen, Pastor

Memorial Sunday.
Sunday School, 10-11.
German service, 10 a. m.
English service, 11 a. m.
Subject: "The End of the Trail."

Class, Tuesday night.
Choir, Wednesday night.
Sale and Supper, December 4.
Thanksgiving Day service at this church Thursday at 10 a. m. Dr. Leeson will preach the sermon. A hearty invitation and welcome to all.

Baptist Church
Rev. E. W. Palmer, Pastor

10:30—Morning worship. The Scout Troop from Clarenceville will be the guest of the church at this service. All parents and boys interested in having a troop in Farmington are invited to be present.

11:45—Bible School with classes for all ages.
6:30—Young People's hour.
There will be a special Thanksgiving program.
7:30—Evangelistic service.
The sermon subject, "Why Are You A Christian?"

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clarenceville
(At Switzer Road)
Rev. Paul Graunhor, Pastor

9:30—Sunday School.
10:30—English service.
On Thanksgiving Day a special English service will be held at 10:30 a. m.
Immeasurable are the blessings in body and soul which God has showered upon us. Let us not be like the lepers of whom Jesus said (Luke 17): "Where there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger." Let us be like David who says Ps. 26: "So will I compass thine altar, O Lord, that I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving and tell of all Thy wondrous works."

Our Lady of Sorrows Church
Rev. James A. Callahan, Pastor

Sunday masses at 7 a. m., 8:30 a. m. and 11 a. m. (Summer schedule).
Daily mass at 8:00.

Methodist Church
Dr. H. Addis Leeson, Pastor

The services on Sunday will embody the message of Thanksgiving. Doctor Edgar Dewitt Jones, who addressed the Exchange Club this week calls Thanksgiving "The most widely observed and the most predominantly religious of our national observances." The Pastor's subject will be "Winged Gratitude."

All Farmington families not otherwise affiliated are cordially invited to express their sense of thanksgiving in the services of this church on Sunday next.

The annual Community Thanksgiving Day service will be held in the Evangelical Church on Thursday morning, the 28th. In the regular order of succession, the Methodist pastor preaches the sermon.

A double page writeup of the Methodist Centennial celebration appeared this week in the Michigan Christian Advocate, fully illustrated and most complimentary to the church and the centennial program.

The history of Farmington Methodist which was prepared by Nathan Power and now running in the Enterprise, has been requested as a permanent historical document by Rev. N. N. Clark of Petersburg who is compiling material for a published history of the Detroit Conference.

Puritanism, believing itself quick with the seed of religious liberty, laid, without knowing it, the egg of democracy.—Lowell.

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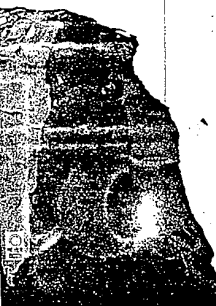
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