

# Jeffries

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every community, and made contact for such a meeting in Farmington. They were informed that co-operation would be available providing the assembly would be in the form of a debate, wherein both sides could be represented, rather than just one side of the question. This was agreed to.

Then arrangements were begun for making the event one that would be outstanding in this part of the State—it already was certain to be unique in that it was a debate and not just a rally for one side or the other. And it was free.

The first and greatest task was that of obtaining speakers who would attract more than passing attention. No financial inducement was possible, because no revenue would be obtainable—the speakers would have to come at their own expense.

But the affair of itself possessed such appeal that outstanding men were obtained. At that time Judge Jeffries, was presiding at one of the most discussed murder trials in Detroit's history—that following the murder of Jerry Buckley, militant radio commentator of the early days of broadcasting. Despite his busy occupation with the trial, Judge Jeffries consented to

come—although most Farmington people refused to believe that he would really show up when the time arrived. Why should such a prominent figure in the public eye come out to a little town at his own expense?

## Two on a Side

Supporting Judge Jeffries against capital punishment was Rev. Frank D. Adams, pastor of Detroit and Farmington Universalist churches, and the foremost Universalist minister in America. On the affirmative side were Capt. Edward Denniston, superintendent of the Detroit House of Correction, and Rev. D. S. Carmichael, pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church of Detroit.

"Doubt" was more prevalent than faith in the afternoon as folding chairs were borrowed from every possible source and hauled in to the Town Hall that afternoon. The opinion was expressed that there wouldn't be "more than a corporal's guard," and the even more widespread doubt that Judge Jeffries would be there. So Capt. Denniston was the latter beller that a hurried trip was made to his home on LaSalle Boulevard in Detroit to tell the Judge about it and get reasonable reassurance—which he laughingly gave.

By seven o'clock—more than an hour before the scheduled time of 8:15, people began to appear and occupy the front seats. Half an hour before starting time, people were standing in back and along the sides of the hall. The speakers came along one by one, as eight o'clock approached, but no Judge Jeffries was there. So Capt. Denniston, in ample time before 8:15, there was a flurry at the side entrance to the hall leading to the stage. Judge Jeffries found that he had to fight his way through the crowd—and he loved it.

The other three speakers were aware that the spotlight of public attention was on the fourth figure, but they had come with that knowledge and willing to do battle for their cause. Capt. Denniston readily spoke of his limitations as a public speaker compared to the others who were continually in such circumstances. Rev. Carmichael, who later was to sit and withstand for many minutes at a time the withering fire of Judge Jeffries directed toward anyone "who would preach the gospel and yet advocate the taking of human life in any way for any cause—an ordeal which the minister endured graciously—was persuasive in his quiet way. Rev. Adams, facing the largest audience ever before him

in many years of work in Farmington, delivered a masterful, eloquent address that went deep into the reasons for the severe listener and did full justice to his nation-wide reputation.

## Color and Drama

But the height of color and drama was supplied by the last speaker, Judge Jeffries made but one request—and in view of his fulfilling the engagement that evening despite a heavy cold and the nervous strain of the murder trial, then going on, all concerned including the other speakers—readily consented. It was that he be allowed to speak second for the negative, which would place him last on the program.

## "The Big Moment"

When the applause for Capt. Denniston had faded away, the moment all had been awaiting finally arrived. The man on whom all eyes had been fixed through much of the evening arose to go forth joyously to battle.

It was a scene long to be remembered—as the young-old man strode up and down the platform, the famous Jeffries bushy white eyebrows standing out far from his features, his eyes flashing fire and his eloquence hurling forth what was in his heart. His was not the scholarly, well-organized address of his colleague, Dr. Adams—but what Judge Jeffries may have lacked in any other respect, he made up in fire and dramatic appeal. Now his voice was soft and persuasive with "sweet reasonable" as he turned to urge compassion upon his ministerial opponent—then suddenly his voice was biting with sarcasm and scorn. His swift changes of mood and method—a masterpiece of dramatic action—held the rapt attention of a crowd—a third of whom had been standing at the back of the hall and even on the steps outdoors for two hours.

The time limitations set for the speakers had been observed and adjustments made in original appearances and rebuttals. But while the Judge spoke it was apparent that the minutes would not be numerous enough, and with the tact consent of the other three speakers, understandingly and good-naturedly given, the limitations and time-signals were laid aside. The Judge was in his glory, the crowd was enjoying it, and the other speakers knew it—and were enjoying it too. So nobody wanted to hold Judge Jeffries down or ston him, and no one did, until he had brought his speech to the climax he desired, standing at the center of the stage, arm upraised in forceful gesture, eyes glowing with fervor, and voice raised to the height of eloquent, emotional appeal—with those great white eyebrows now seeming to stand out twice as far and twice as bristling as ever. It was not that he was through—he would gladly have gone on all night fighting for the cause he thought was right.

## The Curtain Falls

And thus it ended, and men and women and a surprising number of young people too, aroused to keen interest in a public issue by the presence of Judge Jeffries as they could have been by no other means—filled out of the hall and went to homes in Farmington, Detroit, Northville, Redford, Walled Lake, and other communities. Homeward, too, went four men: the gentle minister who insisted that "there is Biblical justification for the death penalty"; the min-

ister who was willing to forego argument on the Biblical injunction that "thou shalt not kill," contending that the State, in favor of cold facts and logic that "showed more murders in the States having the death penalty than those which did not"; the prison superintendent who was the daily care of criminals, and who urged no sympathy for gangster murderers, however much might be said for other; and almost the last of all the more than 400 people to leave the hall that night, tired but still full of fire, the laughing and jovial Judge who had made the occasion what it was—the Star of the Show.

## FINES ASSESSED AGAINST TRAFFIC VIOLATORS

Charged with going through a red light at the intersection of Eight Mile Road and Grand River Avenue, Jules F. Sova, 46, of Detroit, was fined \$5.00 in the court of Justice John J. Schulte.

Mrs. Dorothy Allen, 23, of 20325 Parker Avenue, Farmington, paid a fine of \$3.75 for failure to stop at the corner of Eight Mile and Grand River.

Traveling the wrong way on the Grand River cut-off was the charge against Eddie J. Van Core, 48, of Lansing. Van Core claimed he saw the sign after he had made the turn and was searching for a place to turn off when he was stopped by police. He was given a suspended sentence.

Edward J. Sharke, 23, Birmingham, was fined \$4.00 by Judge Schulte for, driving without an operator's license, and with defective lights and windshield. He was stopped by police on Telegraph Road at 12 Mile Road.

## LIVONIA GARDEN CLUB TO HOLD FLOWER SHOW

The Livonia Garden Club has announced that it will hold its first annual flower show Saturday from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m. Scene of the show will be the Livonia Town Hall, Five Mile and Farmington Roads.

The exhibit will be a colorful one, according to Mrs. R. Fredericks, president of the club. It will include: vase and basket arrangements of flowers, luncheon table settings, wild flowers, flowering berry shrubs and autumn foliage, floral bouquets, wall pockets, oddities from vegetables or flowers, fruit displays, house plants, three-stem annuals and perennials, one-stem roses, gladioli, dahlias and canna's.

## MASONIC CLUB TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING MONDAY

Farmington Masonic Lodge No. 151 will hold a Past Masters Night meeting Monday evening, September 18, at the Masonic Hall, Rev. George Gulien, of Detroit, has been chosen as the speaker. A supper will be served at 6:30, and the club will join in work of the Third Degree afterwards.

Officers who will take part in the program are: Robert Cook, Worshipful Master; Charles Diamond, Senior Warden; John Thayer, Junior Warden; James L. Hogle, secretary; Arthur Lamb, treasurer; A. L. Ross, Senior Deacon; Erskine Evans, Junior Deacon; R. J. Auten, Chaplain; Isaac Bond, Tyler; John Altman and Forrest Dickerson, Stewards.

The meeting will honor past masters of the organization. Past masters who will work in Third Degree teams are: Ernest East, Harry Wolfe, John Altman, Forrest Dickerson, R. J. Auten, Edward Dickle, Robert Cook, and A. L. Ross.

## FUNERAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY FOR MRS. T. STOLZ

Funeral services will be held Saturday for Mrs. Theresa Stolz (nee Trombley), a member of one of the oldest families in Detroit. Mrs. Stolz died Wednesday at her home at 2111 Waldron Avenue, Farmington.

Mrs. Stolz was born August 2, 1863, on the old family homestead, located where the Detroit City Airport now stands. The land was originally cleared and settled in 1780 by the Trombley family, who came from France in 1657 to settle in Three Rivers, Quebec, where they lived until moving to Detroit.

Mrs. Stolz is survived by her husband, Ferdinand, a son Arnold, of Farmington, two brothers, Joseph and Bartholomew Trombley, and two sisters, Mrs. Josephine Ladroot and Mrs. Olive Greiner. Three brothers, Benjamin, Theodore, and Jeremiah, and one sister, Susan, preceded her in death.

Services will be held at 9:30 a. m. from the residence and at 10 a. m. from Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Farmington. Burial will be in Assumption Grotto cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Seebaldt returned Wednesday from a two weeks visit with relatives in Wisconsin and northern Michigan.

## Sorensen Bull Sold To South Lyon Farmer

A registered Guernsey bull has recently been sold by Charles E. Sorensen to Cornell M. Elkow of South Lyon. This animal is Cesar Martin's Lad 27514, according to The American Guernsey Cattle Club, Peterborough, N. H.

## PEDESTRIANS MUST OBEY SAME LAWS AS MOTORIST

(Editor's Note: This is the third of a series of ten articles, prepared by the Michigan State Police, high-spotting Michigan's new traffic law which becomes effective Sept. 29.)

### Pedestrians

Michigan's new traffic regulations impose a definite responsibility on the pedestrian in its traffic safety provisions. The law governs his movement the same as it governs movement of vehicular traffic. Pedestrians may cross a street or highway on the green light. If the yellow or amber light is showing they should not attempt to cross because there is insufficient

time. They should not enter the intersection on the red light. However, if they do, they must not interfere with traffic.

If "walk" signals are in use, pedestrians should cross intersections on the "walk" signal. If a "wait" signal is in place, no pedestrian shall start across the street while such signal is showing.

It is especially important, the Michigan State Police point out, that pedestrians observe traffic signals so as not to interfere with vehicular traffic and to thus better insure their own safety.

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