

Farmington Enterprise

PORTIETH YEAR—No. 5.

FARMINGTON, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1927

5 Cents Single Copy; \$1.50 a Year

STATE INSPECTION OF FIRE HAZARDS FOR FARMINGTON

City Commission Votes To Ask Examination Of All Buildings

A complete inspection of buildings in the City of Farmington from the standpoint of protection against fire, is to be made in the near future. The City Commission at its meeting on Monday night voted to summon an inspector from the State Department of Public Safety, for a general review of conditions throughout the city.

The action of the city commission followed a suggestion of Commissioner Clarence Bicking, Commissioner Clarence Bicking, that there are many buildings in the city which he believes to be veritable fire-traps, and from which escape, in case of fire would be almost impossible.

No Fire Escapes Recommended. Commissioner Bicking referred especially to buildings in or close to the business section, which are, he stated, without outside fire-escapes. He declared that some dwelling-places appear to be fire hazards of the worst kind and that if nothing is done about them, a tragedy is certain some day.

BASKETBALL TEAM IS NOSED OUT BY REDFORD QUINTET

First Practice Game Ends In Defeat For Blue and White

On Tuesday Farmington High School's basketball team went to Redford for the first practice game of the season, and were defeated 23 to 20. Starting at the first whistle, Farmington made a point on a foul throw. A few moments later Redford evened the count. Farmington cut loose an attack that bewildered the Redford men and ran up a substantial lead. The score at the end of the half stood Farmington 18, Redford 10.

In the second half, however, Redford ran the score up to 20, 19, in their favor with about two minutes to play. Then Catherman tossed a long shot and put his team in the lead.

Redford rallied again, however and made two more baskets just before the whistle blew making the final score 23 to 20. Thursday night Farmington plays its third practice game meeting the strong Fordville team on their opponents floor.

This was the outstanding foul-shooter, caging two out of three while Middlewood and Catherman divided the field goal honors each getting three. Otis caged two.

The lineup:
Farmington Redford
Otis Wwock
Catherman (C) Joffie
Middlewood Klander
Starkey Wilson
Rozenboom L.G. lair

HOWARD RUSSELL FORMER FARMINGTON RESIDENT TAKES OVER FORD SALES

Friends of Howard Russell will be interested to hear that he has taken over a Ford automobile agency in Charlotte. Announcement of this effect was made in last week's issue of the Charlotte Republican.

SENIOR WORLD WIDE GUILD HAS MEETING

Miss Alice Nielsen was hostess at last Thursday. Those attending were Misses Mabel Turner, Inez Weston, Mildred Graham, Ruth Whitney, Ruth Peeler, Mildred Brown, Irene Barrand, Nellie McGregory and Mrs. Orville Taggart.

ATTACKS FIRE HAZARDS



COMMISSIONER CLARENCE BICKING

METHODIST CHOIR TO GIVE CANTATA ON DECEMBER 18

H. W. Petrie's "The Christ Child To Be Sung By Local Organization"

On Sunday evening, December 18, the choir of the Methodist Church will give a Christmas Cantata "The Christ Child" by H. W. Petrie. The program is as follows:

Opening chorus by choir. "The Light of Promise." Duet soprano and contralto, "Come, Savior, Come." Tenor and baritone duet and chorus by the choir, "The Hope of the World."

Trio, soprano, tenor and baritone, "A Child Shall Lead." Baritone solo, "Will Men Come?" Chorus by the choir, "Peace on Earth."

Contralto solo, "The World is Thrilled with Joy." Soprano and contralto duet and chorus, "Salvation." Tenor solo, "The Healer of Sorrows."

Quartet, "Christ is our Righteousness." Soprano solo, "The Wonderful Nazarene." Final chorus by the choir, "The Prince of Earth and Heaven."

CITY EXTENDS CONTRACT FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE FOR ONE YEAR

Collection of garbage and ashes in the City of Farmington will continue for a year at least, it was decided by the city commission at its meeting Monday night. The commission voted to extend for twelve months the period of the contract awarded the Sandtun Service Company of the city several months ago.

Reports show that there are not quite enough subscribers to the service to equal the amount guaranteed the company by the city. The city is making up the small deficit, however, because of the great convenience of the service to residents. It is expected that new users of the service will be obtained shortly, sufficient to wipe out any deficit.

TAXES THIS YEAR ARE LOWER THAN IN 1926 BY ABOUT 1 1/2 PER CENT

City taxes are being paid this week by those taxpayers who were fully prepared in advance and want to get the bills off their minds.

HOLY NAME SOCIETIES TO MEET ON SUNDAY

Men of the Holy Name Society of the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows will receive Holy Communion in a body at the 8:30 a. m. service next Sunday.

SEEK TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM TRAFFIC MENACE

Exchange Club Members Discuss Perils of Grand River Crossing

The menace of traffic to school children and the dangerous corner at Grand River avenue and Division street have spurred the Farmington Exchange Club into action to protect both children and adults of the city from injury. A committee is at work investigating possibilities of making the crossing of Grand River avenue safer for school children and also of eliminating the peril of Farmington's most important intersection.

Action on these conditions followed suggestions of Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner, who brought up the subject in a short discussion during which he declared that on rare good fortune prevented serious injuries to school children crossing the road after school. Dr. Aschenbrenner said that only last week a child had been brought to his office slightly injured by an auto, and that such cases were frequent. It was declared that there is no protection afforded children crossing Grand River avenue.

F. DeVere Fleming called attention to the conditions regarding children whose homes are beyond the point where the sidewalk ends on the south side of Grand River. He stated that these children, even if afforded protection while crossing in front of the school, must cross Grand River again twice more before reaching home, or walk in the fields.

Edgar Pierce brought to the attention of the club the dangerous condition caused by machinery turning the corner of Grand River avenue and Division street at a fast rate, the corner being of such contour that pedestrians have little chance to protect themselves.

President Carl Hogle appointed a committee to investigate the entire situation and confer with the city commission and its Board of Education.

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Norman Orr spoke at the luncheon meeting.

CITY TO REGULATE SIGNS; COMMISSION PASSES ORDINANCE

Measure Governing Erection and Maintenance Approved On First Reading

Farmington has taken a step toward beautifying the city, or rather, toward removing and preventing the erection of unsightly signs which disgrace streets and other property.

An ordinance providing for the regulation of signs throughout the city was submitted and passed on its first reading Monday night. The ordinance, which was drawn by Corporation Counsel John J. Schulte, does not refer any specific size, location, or type of sign, but empowers the city commission to regulate their erection and maintenance.

Schulte advised the commission that if they later adopt, by resolution, regulations governing the signs, and restricting them as it deems wise.

The ordinance provides that anyone erecting or maintaining a sign must secure a permit passed upon by the city commission. By providing that the entire commission is to pass upon signs, the ordinance guards against favoritism.

The ordinance will come up for final reading at the next regular meeting of the city commission on January 2.

IF THERE WAS A "WEEK" LAST WEEK 'TWOULD BE BABY WEEK IN CITY

"Weeks" are beginning to be somewhat overworked, many citizens believe, but if there was one last week in Farmington it would have to be called "Baby Week" at least it started out that way.

FARMINGTON GARAGE MAN FACES GUILTY AFTER AIDING MOTORISTS OUT OF DITCH

Henry Miller, Farmington garage man, had a thrilling and rather unpleasant experience early Thursday morning. It was two o'clock and about zero, when he was called to pull a Buick car out of the ditch on Grand River avenue east of Farmington Junction.

Miller hauled the car out, and the two men who had been riding in it, instead of paying him, displayed a revolver and gave order to "beat it" back to Farmington. No attempt was made to rob him. Mr. Miller reported.

FARMINGTON'S LAST CIVIL WAR VET IS CALLED TO REST

American Legion Orders Honors At Funeral Of W. H. H. Smith

"Taps" was sounded Monday afternoon for Farmington's last Civil War veteran, W. H. H. Smith, who died last Friday afternoon at his home on Grand River avenue. Mr. Smith, who had lived in this section all his life, was 86 years old, and was the oldest member of the Farmington Methodist Church.

Funeral services with military honors, were conducted by Groves Walker Post, American Legion 516 of the Legionnaires acting as pallbearers. Duncan W. A. D. treated minister, spoke a eulogy at the grave, Rev. E. F. Dunlay officiating at the services.

W. H. H. Smith was born on the farm north of Farmington now owned by Winter Davis. He was the son of Wheeler Davis, pioneer of this section. He had been a life-long member of the Farmington Methodist Church. He is survived by his widow, who is 87 and in feeble health. The couple were married on their 57th anniversary a few months hence.

First To Go. The deceased was one of the first volunteers in this section when President Lincoln called for men to join the Union Army. He served four years and was shot in the leg, an injury which bothered him at times throughout later life. At the end of the war he was honorably discharged.

W. C. Way, H. Lindstrom, Fred Schuapeter and Paul Reeves acted as pallbearers at the funeral of the veteran. Jack Smith sounded "taps" at the grave. A salute will be fired over the veteran's resting place next Decoration Day out of respect to his memory. Burial took place in Oakwood Cemetery.

CITY CLERK N. H. POWR ACHIEVES FILE TO PAY TAXES. REALIZES HIS AMBITION

City Clerk N. H. Powr achieved an almost life-long ambition this week when he obtained city tax returns. He has been a member of the City of Farmington since 1914. He has been paying taxes in Farmington for 45 years.

Mr. Powr always pays his taxes early, but each time until this year he had found a few sheets of paper. This time he determined to get the coveted number, however, and led the rush (?) to the tax collector.

"SKUNKS GETTING UPPER HAND," MAYOR DECLARES; COMMISSION ACTS QUICK

Following the publication in last week's Enterprise of a poem on "Hunting Skunks," considerable interest appears to have been aroused on the subject. At the City Commission meeting Monday night, Mayor Wells D. Butterfield remarked that "Skunks" seem to be getting the upper hand here lately.

The commission voted to send for one Bert Cole, expert skunk hunter, who has the reputation of never having failed to put the animals to rout.

M. E. SUNDAY SCHOOL TO HAVE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 22

The Methodist Sunday School will hold their annual Christmas party and "Offering" on Friday evening, December 23. One of the features of the evening's program will be Christmas stories told by Mrs. Paul Sewell of Detroit, in front of an old-fashioned fireplace.

GRAND RIVER WIDENING ON 1928 STATE PROGRAM; APPROVAL IS NEAR

FIFTY CENTS FOR ONE COPY OF ENTERPRISE OF APR. 7; YES, IT'S TRUE

Fifty cents for one copy of the Farmington Enterprise! Yes that's right, and it's not a "stunt" either. One of our advertisers needs a copy of the issue of April 7 last. So important is it that 50 cents is offered for a copy. Half a dollar in U. S. coin has been deposited with the Enterprise to be paid for the first copy of April 7, 1927, brought to the Enterprise office. They have copies of that date ever exhausted.

The advertisement of which proof is desired appears on page three. The Enterprise is authorized to pay the 50 cents for that page alone if a complete paper is not obtainable. Bring in your copy!

GIRLS OUTSHINE BOYS IN DEBATING AT FARMINGTON H. S.

School's Representatives Win Every Debate Thus Far; Meet Rochester Friday

Farmington High School's debaters have enjoyed unusual success in their first debates of the present year. They have won every debate entered thus far, and a first debate meeting with Hazel Park, both the Farmington affirmative and negative sides won, though appearing on opposite sides of the same question.

Farmington's teams are unusual in that, with the exception of the dual debate, the teams have consisted entirely of girls. Three girls. Three girls comprised Farmington's team entered in the first Michigan High Schools Debating League meeting. Lois Young, Effie Seates and Mildred Brown were the members of the team which went to Howell recently and defeated that high school's debaters on the "direct primary" question.

Meet Rochester Next. The Farmington debaters will meet their next real test Friday night, December 9, in the second State League debate scheduled for them. Rochester High School's team will come to Farmington on that evening, the debate to be held in the school auditorium. (The same three girls are likely to represent Farmington, although Gladys Wood may gain a place on the team before the date set.

In the debate with Hazel Park the negatve team won the decision. At present Farmington High School girls seem to have outshone their masculine contemporaries to such an extent that the school appears likely to be represented entirely by girls throughout the state schools' debating schedule.

SUGAR BOWL FARMINGTON CONFECTIONERY IS CLOSED

The "Sugar Bowl," located at Grand River and Division street was closed on Wednesday morning of this week, by men said to have been creditors of James Hines, who operated the confectionery and lunch room. It is not known whether Mr. Hines will re-open the place.

The confectionery appeared to have priced a substantial business, but lack of capital is said to have caused the suspension of business.

Citizens of Farmington got a real thrill during the zero weather Thursday. The fire alarm was only "fooling." They were testing

Highway Is Listed Among First By State Highway Engineer; Consideration Monday

Gas Tax Validity Affords Funds. The widening of Grand River avenue to Farmington neared the goal of final approval by the State Administrative Board this week, when the State Highway program for 1928, as suggested by the highway engineer, was made public. The program includes among the first on the list "the widening of Grand River from Redford to Farmington," and this project is among those which are to be presented to the State Administrative Board next Monday.

Announcement of the program followed by a few days the decision of the Supreme Court that the three-cent gas tax is legal. The decision was followed by immediate activity by the state highway department, as it makes possible the allotment of funds, less of which prevented the widening program on Grand River from being carried out.

Although many highways are included in the program, Grand River is among the first group to be considered Monday. The remaining improvements recommended by the highway engineer's office will be considered by the board later in the winter.

The announcement regarding Grand River bears out the statements of Governor Fred Green to this newspaper some time ago, to the effect that widening Grand River to Farmington is among the most important highway projects in the minds of state officials. Entirely of the three-cent gas tax makes it probable that the double highway, 40-foot wide, will be finished before the end of next summer.

Other highways suggested for improvement of interest and importance in this section, are Telegraph road, from Grand River north to Pontiac and the Dixie Highway, and the Brighton-Aix Arbor trunk line.

Approval of the Grand River widening program by the Administrative Board Monday is viewed as certain, inasmuch as the roads included in the first group are almost unanimously conceded by state officials to be of paramount importance. Inclusion in the highway engineer's list is also, it is pointed out, usually sufficient to insure final approval.

CITY COMMISSION FAVORS PROPOSED ATHLETIC FIELD

Governing Body To Obtain Advice From Attorney General On Project. Approval by the city of the plan for a new athletic field and stadium in Waterworks Park appears likely following expressions of opinion on the subject by members of the Farmington City Commission at the meeting Monday night.

Addressed again on the proposition by Supt. of Schools Archie G. Leonard, the commissioner indicated their favorable attitude toward the suggested leasing of city-owned land to the School District for 99 years, in order that the Board of Education may proceed with plans for the athletic field.

The commission, after expressing opinions on the proposal, voted to refer the matter to the State Attorney-General, with the object of learning the proper method of proceeding to acquire the land. City Clerk N. H. Powr was empowered to write the Attorney-General for an opinion or the legal aspects of the subject.

Supt. Leonard revealed that it is the tentative plan of the Board of Education to appropriate about \$1,000 a year to the athletic field project until it is completed.

BEG YOUR PARDON!

Due to an error, the name of the Farmington State Savings Bank was omitted from the list of donors to the American Red Cross, Farmington Chapter, published in last week's Enterprise. The above mentioned bank made the largest single contribution giving \$25. We're sorry.