

Mayor-Assessor Combination Is Thought Illegal

Petition To Unite Two City Offices Is Referred To Attorney By Commission

Doubt that the proposal to unite the offices of mayor and assessor in the City of Farmington would be legal was expressed at the meeting of the City Commission Monday evening when the matter of petition asking for this purpose was filed.

The obstacle which is believed likely to prevent such a step lies in the fact that the mayor is ex-officio a member of the board of assessor. If the mayor were to resign the city assessor would, when acting on the board of review, be reviewing his own assessments. After discussion which brought up this point, the Commission referred the matter to Corporation Counsel John J. Schulte.

The petition was put in circulation last Friday. It is understood the circulators desired the Commission to place a charter amendment permitting combination of the two offices on the ballot at the election in April.

It was pointed out that if this did take place, and the people approved, it would become effective only after two years, when the terms of the assessor and the mayor elected this April, would expire. The change could not be made this year, it was stated, because it is necessary to fill the two offices on the same day the amendment would be balloted upon.

The report of the City's town hall committee recommending that steps be taken to put the City back in the Township, was received and filed, and the committee discharged.

MRS. VOIGHT DIES OF HEART ATTACK, WAS 77 YEARS OLD

Funeral Services Held Wednesday With Burial at Oakwood; Heart Attack Cause

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon for Mrs. Bertha Ludemann Voight, who died very suddenly Sunday morning at her home on Wilmarth avenue, Farmington. Burial took place at Oakwood Cemetery.

A heart attack was the cause of death.

Six children survive Mrs. Voight, who was 77 years old. Her husband died 11 years ago in Farmington. Mrs. Voight was born in Germany, and first lived in this country at Millersburg, O., moving from there to Farmington in 1904.

Those surviving are five daughters, Mrs. Marie Pauline, of Farmington; Mrs. Bertha Watters, Mrs. Edith Rex and Mrs. Anna Berger, all of Detroit; Mrs. Martha Newcomb of Redford and a son, Ben Voight of Lansing; a brother at Rush, N. Y., and a sister at Cleveland, O.; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Rev. A. A. Schoen officiated at the funeral services.

'Love Triangles' And Wrecked Homes Are Not Confined To Human Beings

Not all the love triangles and wrecked homes occur among human beings. Nor is all the self-sacrificing devotion of parents lavished upon human children.

Birds, too, have their joys and their troubles. Miss Jennie Smith, head of Nature Study courses at Northwestern High School, Detroit, told members of the Farmington Audubon Club at their first regular meeting Monday night. The "Origin and Habits of Birds" were described by Miss Smith.

Among the stories told by Miss Smith was one regarding a male bird who left his mate and little birds and mated with another bird, building the second nest "right next door." He continued, however, to feed the little birds and when baby birds appeared in the second nest, redoubled his efforts to feed them also. So strenuously did he strive to keep the mouths filled that he became

Asked To Return



SUPT. RALPH B. BAKER

Jitney Service Patronage Fair

Increase Shown In Early Part of Week Over Saturday By New Line

Service was begun Saturday morning by the new Farmington jitney line, with a fair number of passengers. Considerable increase was shown on Monday, and still more passengers were carried Tuesday.

While the traffic was not expected to be heavy at first, it is believed that it will show continual improvement. Residents of the territory served are urged to use the service as much as possible in order to insure continuance of the line.

Inquiry is being made as to the desirability of the evening trips on Saturdays, indications being that most workmen will be at home at that time, and inclined to use their own cars.

Patrons have expressed satisfaction with the new service. Schedule time has been maintained despite the cold weather.

John Clark Up Among Leaders In State Meet

John Clark, who lives in Detroit, but whose interests are largely in Farmington, is enjoying the distinction of "second place" among bowlers of Michigan in the State tournament which closes Saturday night at Jackson. But unfortunately, Mr. Clark can't do a single thing to keep himself there, or move up to first place.

In fact, Mr. Clark had to sit idly by last week-end and watch his name tumbled from first to second rank in the standings. Each bowler under the rules, bowls his games and the high scorer at the end wins.

Unless the unforeseen occurs this week end, Mr. Clark, though he may lose second place, is certain to capture one of the prizes awarded leaders in the tournament.

A card party for the benefit of Our Lady of Sorrows Church will be given by Mrs. J. J. Schulte at her home, 547 E. Schulte, Thursday evening, February 28. Everyone is invited to attend.

Supt. Baker Is Asked To Return As School Head

Board Of Education Offers Superintendent Contract For Coming Year

That Superintendent of Schools Ralph B. Baker will return as head of Farmington schools for another year appears certain, the Board of Education having offered Mr. Baker a new contract at its meeting last Thursday evening.

Supt. Baker has the offer under consideration and it is expected that he will officially accept it within a few days. A special meeting of the Board is anticipated some time before the next regular meeting scheduled for March 14.

Hiring of teachers for the coming year was left in the hands of Supt. Baker by the Board, members of which deem the Superintendent as best qualified for this task, because of his knowledge of conditions and personnel.

That the court contest over the affiliation of Pasadena Park to the school district appears to have already influenced State legislation, was reported to the Board. The report was to the effect that a bill has been submitted to the Legislature, to make it legal for school districts to contract to transport by bus children of districts other than their own.

Will Have Budget

Placing the school district finances on a budget basis was discussed briefly by the Board and use of the budget system for the next year virtually agreed upon.

Supt. Baker will attend the convention of the National Education Association at Cleveland next week, from February 24 to 28.

'BANKING BRIDGES DESIRE AND NEED,' SAYS DETROITER

'Business One Of Romance,' Nyman Tells Members Of Exchange Club

"Banking as 'the bridge connecting today's plans and tomorrow's requirements,'" was the theme of a talk by Charles Nyman, of the First National Company of Detroit, at the Farmington Exchange Club meeting Wednesday noon.

That banking is highly romantic rather than a prosaic, dull business, was the assertion of Mr. Nyman. He told of the interest which attaches to watching a young couple save enough money to buy a lot, and then go on saving to accumulate "50 per cent of the value of the land, for a home of their own."

"Banking," he said, "is the desire, and makes it tomorrow's realization," he said. He declared that "the banker's firm 'No' is often a blessing in disguise to would-be-borrowers who fail to see clearly all the aspects of the situation into which the loan might put them."

Mr. Nyman visited the Exchange Club as the guest of John Fitzpatrick, of the Peoples State Bank. He is a director of the Methodist Children's Home of Farmington.

NORTH FARMINGTON MAN WINS IN FISHING CASE

Bert Coe of North Farmington was found not guilty of a charge of violating an Orchard Lake village ordinance, regulating fishing Thursday, when the ordinance was declared invalid. The village clerk had failed to authenticate publication of the ordinance.

The regulation required a \$5 license fee for fishing-shacks and a \$50 bond guaranteeing its removal. Justice and Park, Farmington attorneys, defended Coe.

TUCK ROAD RESIDENT, NOVI WOMAN, PASS AWAY

Death claimed August Burkowski, 32 years old, of Tuck road, Saturday, burial taking place Wednesday at Woodmere Cemetery, Detroit.

Jessie K. Rohr, 37, died Wednesday afternoon at Novi. Services were scheduled for Friday at the late home, followed by burial Saturday at Port Clinton, O.

'Button, Button'—Who Can Find A Mayor?

Button, Button, who's got the candidate for mayor? Mayor Wells D. Butterfield's statement last week started a number of other citizens claiming the distinction achieved by President Coolidge. "Do not care to run."

Typical of the attitude of many to whom it was suggested was the reply of one highly-esteemed citizen, to whom we heard it said, "Why don't you run?—you'd make a grand mayor." Quick as a flash came the reply, "I know 'darn' well I would—but I won't."

3 Civic Matters Urged By Women

Farmington Woman's Club Committee Asks Action At Commission Meeting

Three civic problems were brought before the Farmington City Commission at its meeting Monday evening by a committee representing the Farmington Woman's Club. The committee asked that action be taken regarding the falling away of the embankment along Shiawassee street, the absence of paving between the car tracks on Grand River avenue, and the "smoke nuisance" in the business section.

Mrs. Lloyd Gullen, Miss Meriah Andrews, and Miss Helen Harb placed these matters before the Commission, following reading of resolutions adopted by the Woman's Club.

Miss Andrews informed the Commission that the Shiawassee street condition was dangerous for children, many of whom play near the edge of the bank. She declared that the earth was falling away very rapidly, and that steps should be taken at once to stop this process.

Commissioners informed the committee that the situation had been discussed last summer, but that due to the great expense involved, and possible developments in the Ten-Mile road extension, no action had been taken. It was estimated that at least \$25,000, or nearly two or three times that amount, would be required to build a reinforcing wall the height of the embankment.

To make the spot safer for children and motorists, the Commission instructed the Superintendent of Public Works to grant to erect warning signs and see that the guard-rail is firmly set, at Shiawassee and Warner streets.

In regard to the paving between car tracks, the Commissioners advised the committee that such paving is customary done by the street car company operating the cars, but that Farmington has been so well pleased to have D. S. R. service that it seemed inadvisable to ask the Detroit department to pave between the tracks, at least until the passenger traffic is heavier and the income from fares is larger.

No action was taken on the complaint regarding smoke in the downtown section. Mayor Butler declared he believed that chimneys of proper height would do most toward eliminating such trouble.

The Mayor thanked the women for their interest in city affairs and their suggestions for betterment.

'Ideal Farmington' Is Depicted In A Paper Read Before Womens Club

A paper describing what the writer regarded as an "ideal Farmington" was read at a recent meeting of the Farmington Women's Club. The paper, which is anonymous, is reprinted herewith:

"I drove through the breadth of city. Said I, 'My home town's adorable neat. It's a clean, it's modern, attractive. A picture, indeed, is each street.' "No flaw can I find in this city. It's thriving, beloved by each one. I'm glad I've come back to my home town."

Young Man Found Dead Of Monoxide Fumes In Auto

Fred Banks Thornton, 27, Of Base Line Road, Dies Of Exhaust Gas On Ridge Road Near Northville; Funeral Saturday

Carbon monoxide gas from the motor of his automobile caused the death Wednesday afternoon of Fred Banks Thornton, 27, son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Thornton of Base Line road, east of Farmington road. Thornton's body, drooped over the wheel of his car, was discovered on Ridge road between Seven and Eight-Mile roads, a mile east of Northville. Efforts to revive him were futile.

A disconnected exhaust-heater tubing discharged the fumes into the driving compartment of Thornton's coupe. The engine was still running when the body was found.

First to discover the tragedy was Miss Frances Crum, of Eight Mile road, near Ridge road, who was walking past. Frightened, she ran home, and the Northville police were called. Chief W. H. Saford, accompanied by Dr. L. W. Snow, hastened to the scene, and endeavored to render first aid. Not until after the ambulance returned to the hospital did Dr. Snow abandon hope and pronounce the young man dead.

Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, the parents, were prostrated by the tragedy, which deeply shocked friends and neighbors of the widely-known family, who had admired him as "a model young man."

The road on which the car was found is seldom used, and was covered with deep snow, which must have necessitated slow travel by Thornton's car. The machine was facing south.

The young man had been the guest of his uncle, Charles Thornton of Northville, at lunch. He had been engaged in selling fire extinguishers in recent weeks, and members of his family believe he was on his way to see prospective customers on the Seven-Mile road. His parents awaited in vain for him to return for dinner, and instead came a telephone call notifying them of his death.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 o'clock, with interment in the Northville Mausoleum. Rev. George Gullen will officiate.

The deceased was born near Northville, and had lived in this section all his life. His parents are survived by two sisters, Mrs. Ward Fish of Pittsford, Mich., and Mrs. William Dowsett of Southfield Community, and a brother, Harold Thornton.

ANNUAL SHOOTING CONTEST PLANNED FOR VIGILANTES

Cup To Be Awarded Winner, Members Are Told At Dinner; Banks Are Hosts

Plans for annual marksmanship contests among members of the Farmington Vigilantes were outlined last Friday evening at a dinner given in their honor by Farmington banks. A cup will be offered as a prize.

In discussing the plan, Edgar S. Pierce said that it was expected that the Tibbits range could be secured. The winner of the first year's contest would be ineligible for the next year's competition, but would meet the winner of the second year's event. James L. Hoyle spoke in approval of the plan and commended the Vigilantes. Howard Warner called attention to the fact that since the organization of the Vigilantes Oakland County in which the bandits have escaped.

Following the dinner at Engel's Barbecue, the party attended boxing matches at the Olympia in Detroit.

BAPTIST FATHERS-SONS BANQUET ATTRACTS 130

One hundred and thirty fathers and sons attended the fourth annual Father-and-Son banquet of the Farmington Baptist Church last Thursday evening.

Rev. Kehrl was the speaker of the evening and Allen Kilham toastmaster. Curtis Hal of the school faculty gave the "toast to dads," and S. H. Palmer, father of the pastor, responded. The school orchestra rendered music, and Mr. Eaton several solos.

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