

Forecast Large Township Vote At The Primary

New Registrations Expected To Swell Total Of Ballots Cast

With three major contests in progress in the Farmington Township primary, an unusually heavy vote is being predicted when the citizens cast their ballots next Monday. A large registration of new voters is reported, and it is regarded as likely that this year's high total may approach 800 ballots. The highest vote cast a year ago was 705.

Candidates are reported active in their work and a continuance of their activity is expected during the two days left before the polls open.

Supervisor Harry N. McCracken and former treasurer Arthur P. Coe will contest for the nomination as supervisor. Both were candidates a year ago, when William S. Kenyon was also in the race. Mr. McCracken received 371 votes, Mr. Coe 239, and Mr. Kenyon 66.

Hot Fight On

A spirited struggle for the nomination for road commissioner is on between Clayton Goers, present incumbent, and Joseph Graham, former commissioner. Mr. Goers managed to oust Mr. Graham from the office a year ago, polling 352 votes to 313 for Mr. Graham, while a third candidate, Edward Meyer, received 40 votes.

Mark A. Bachelor and Charles Habermehl are opposing each other for treasurer, but Willard Campbell, is unopposed for re-nomination as clerk. Ward Eagle is also unopposed for justice of the peace.

Two Road Battles

Two contests are in progress for road overseer. In District 1, Charles Heliker and William Sager seek nomination, while in District 4, J. W. Currie and Raymond E. Winters are opposed. Albert Ferguson and Elmer Empson are unopposed in Districts 2 and 3.

Don Button is unopposed for board of review.

FROST GOES OUT AND CARS GO IN; MANY ARE STUCK

Thaw Makes Streets Impassable In Northeast Section Of City

The frost went out—and the cars went in—wheel, spring and axle. A large percentage of the automobile owners of the town managed to get stuck in the mud at some time or other during the past few days. And even City trucks trying to get all the holes sank into them and had to be towed out.

Trouble began late Saturday when Lakeway drive "went out." One resident was mired late Saturday night, and the wheels of his home, and officials put up a barrier to warn other drivers.

Early Sunday residents in that section used the Ten Mile road, Power avenue, and Shiawassee to get back and forth, but on Sunday afternoon a large hole on Power avenue on the north hill near the Knight property gave trouble. It was reported that about a dozen cars were pulled from this hole, four of them being towed out by the City truck, which was on its way to the corner farther north to put up a barrier.

At the same time a sink-hole on Shiawassee street about 150 feet east of Power avenue caught the machines and held them fast. This street also was closed to traffic.

Gravel, large stones and cinders were used by the City employees in their efforts to make the bad places passable. In most cases the material disappeared shortly after being put in. Their efforts were successful Monday, but the rain late Tuesday again made spots impassable. Power and Shiawassee streets were open to traffic Wednesday, piles of stones affording a hard surface.

Lakeway drive, with three deep and long holes within the first block of Grand River, is still impassable. A large pool of water, nearly 60 feet long, 20 feet wide and in places over a foot deep, stands at the corner of Lakeway and Grand River.

Other streets in town remain

New Clarenceville School Head Chosen

The new superintendent for Clarenceville Schools for the coming year has been selected, according to reports this week. He is Jay Prescott, who has been in charge of the schools in Nashville, Mich., schools the past year. Mr. Prescott succeeds Supt. A. A. Kalder, head of Clarenceville Schools for several years.

District 6 Votes To Build A New 4-Room Building

Omission Of Amount On Notice Leaves Building Still In Doubt

After a long period of discussion, School District No. 6, Farmington Township, voted Tuesday evening to erect a new four-room school building. The vote was nearly two to one in favor of the building.

One difficulty presented itself, however, that prevents the project from being assured. In some manner, the amount of the bond issue to be approved was omitted from the notice of the special meeting, and another election will be necessary to approve the bond issue. If the bond issue should be defeated, it would be impossible to proceed with the building.

The electors voted to erect the new building on the Noble School site, preferring it to the William Grace School location, or a new site on Miller avenue.

Less than half the usual number of votes was cast due to road conditions. Most of the electors were forced to walk over a mile to get to the schoolhouse to vote. The highest number of votes cast was 43.

Four questions were presented to the voters. The first "Shall the District build a four-room unit type school?" was carried, 28 to 15. The Noble site was favored 21 to 18, while the William Grace site was rejected, 19 to 12. Only one voted for building on a new site to be acquired on Miller avenue, 26 voting against it.

It was explained to the voters that the amount of the bond issue, \$50,000 had not appeared on the notice, and they voted 32 to 4, to strike it from the ballot.

The Board of Education is expected to set the date for an election on the bond issue at its next meeting, March 13.

The District schools are overcrowded, the kindergarten being taught in a farmhouse on Farmington road.

FARMINGTON MEN RE-ELECTED BY PIONEER SOCIETY

Date Of Annual Meeting Changed From Washington's Birthday To Columbus Day

Nathan H. Power and Harry N. McCracken of Farmington were re-elected first and fourth vice-presidents, respectively at the forty-ninth annual meeting of the Oakland County Pioneer Society at Pontiac Saturday. All of the other old officers were also re-elected.

The Society voted to change the date of its annual meeting, which for about 25 years has been held on Washington's birthday. By a vote of 140 to 2, it was decided to hold annual meetings in the future on Columbus Day, October 12. More favorable weather was given as the chief argument in favor of changing the date.

Others attending from Farmington were, Mrs. McCracken, Misses Ida and Zaida Steele, Dr. and Mrs. H. Addis Leeson.

C. Westbury of Cazenovia County, Cal., Cazenovia, N. Y., has been engaged as professional by the Glenaks Golf Club, Orchard Lake and Thirteen Mile roads, it was announced this week.

ed in good condition, considering the rapidity with which the frost went out. Shiawassee street between Farmington and Grand River presented some difficulties, but for only short periods.

Resolution At The P. T. A. Asks Board To Resign

Suggestion Is Made That Trustees Seek Vindication At Special Election

A resolution suggesting the resignations of members of the Farmington Board of Education was introduced at the regular monthly meeting of the Farmington Parent-Teacher Association Thursday afternoon.

Three results were announced. The first, a 5 to 5 tie, the second 7 to 5 in favor of the resolution, and the third 14 to 11 against it. By virtue of the last vote, it was declared lost.

The resolution was introduced by W. Allen Nelson and immediately the discussion resolved itself into a question as to whether or not the P. T. A. was the proper place to bring the matter up.

President E. W. Palmer was absent when the resolution was first read. He was called and the resolution was read again by Mr. Nelson. Mr. Palmer said that he questioned "whether we are within our limits in questioning the action of the Board."

"The P. T. A. is a co-operative association," he said, "and we would be dictating to the Board."

Mr. Palmer then read from the P. T. A. constitution its purpose. He also asked Mr. Nelson "if you are the originator of this resolution and if you are a member of the P. T. A.," Mr. Nelson answered that he was.

Mr. Nelson said that "the matter of proposing to bring the matter up here rests on the importance of this problem being brought into the open by discussion—whether the resolution is passed or not. The resolution has certainly avoided any suggestion of casting any member of the Board. It simply opens the opportunity to them to take action if they please to do so." It gives the patrons of the school an opportunity to rectify a condition of regarding the business affairs of the school that is in effect now and will be in effect for some time to come—in that the Board in the selection of a superintendent has barred the people from any knowledge of what they are doing by resolving their meeting into an executive session.

"The right of any citizen to petition any public body for the notice and to bring to the attention of the principal right of American citizens. Possibly 150 conscientious citizens have seen fit to put their names on a petition which can have no bearing on the situation if the Board choose to ignore it."

"The action of the Board is possibly not known to all who are here. But I was there and I was asked to get out, and did. Between the time we went and the time we got out, not one word was said of resolving the petition. That is the amount of consideration the people of this District get for the highest right any citizen holds. That petition has never been entered in the records of the School Board, even as a communication."

"A Ruse"

"As the situation now stands, a certain arbitrary requirement has been set up as required in the selection of a superintendent. The suggestion that certain accomplishments be considered as weighing somewhat in the balance against this arbitrary requirement has been ignored. Under the circumstances, it surely seems as though it was a deliberate ruse put across as a means of doing something they dared not put over in the open, as against a certain man."

"If we use it to go to the meeting next Tuesday night, I am willing to almost guarantee that even before the minutes were read, we would be asked to get out. I went through that experience Friday night. All this resolution seeks to do is to find out how the Board arrives at the selection of a superintendent. The Board can take all its deliberations behind closed doors, but on the same basis, it must take all its action in the open."

President Palmer stated that although he didn't want to get into this, he questioned whether it was "within our rights to go over our heads and dictate to the Board."

A woman member then said, (Continued on page four)

OIL!

The magic cry of "OIL!" is heard near Farmington. According to reports, a large vein of oil has been discovered in the area between Orchard Lake and Southfield, Grand River and Twelve Mile roads. Oil company representatives are said to be calling on property owners in the district, asking them to sign oil leases.

According to residents, the rich vein is said to center under Ten Mile road. The oil company representatives are reported to have said the "strike" is genuine.

Re-Appoint McGee As Postmaster

Farmington Post Office Head Starts Another Four-Year Term

Announcement has been made that Thomas H. McGee, postmaster in Farmington for the past 16 years, has been nominated for re-appointment for a four-year term. The new term began February 25.

Confirmation of Mr. McGee's appointment is expected within a short time, from Washington. The nomination is equivalent to appointment, the latter following as a matter of course.

The same staff will continue in the Farmington office.

Mr. McGee is one of Oakland County's long-time postmasters. He was appointed first by the late Woodrow Wilson in 1913, re-appointed in 1917 by Mr. Wilson, President Harding in 1921, and President Coolidge in 1925.

Mr. McGee took over the post office from J. E. Pierce, who served as postmaster over twenty years. Mr. Pierce took the office over from Dr. Woodman in 1889 following election of President Harrison. In 1893, after the sudden election of Grover Cleveland, Edward Grace succeeded Mr. Pierce, but when William McKinley was elected in 1896 Mr. Pierce was re-appointed. He subsequently was postmaster under presidents Roosevelt and Taft, until January 1, 1913.

At that time Mr. McGee was in the pharmacy business, which he continued until 1919, when he sold out to Stanley Smith, and the postoffice was moved.

NEW FACES TO BE SEEN IN PLAYERS' NEXT SHOW, 'KEMPY'

Assignment Of Parts Made For Comedy To Be Given March 13 And 14

Nearly half the cast of "Kempy," which the Farmington Players will next present in the Town Hall, will be new to Farmington residents as participants in plays. They are well known, however, to most people of the community.

Mrs. Josephine McGee, Josephine Roe and Harold McCracken will have parts in "Kempy." The cast of characters is as follows:

"Dad" Bence Lloyd S. Gullen
"Ma" Bence Mrs. Josephine McGee
Jane Wade Josephine M. Roe
Ben Wade Harold McCracken
Kate Bence M. Marie Walling
Ruth Bence Frances Brown
Kemp, James Clarence Schultz
"Dul" Kemp C. Gerald Parker
"Dad" Bence is a retired harness manufacturer. Jane Wade is the eldest daughter, who is married to Ben Wade. Kate is the second daughter, Ruth the youngest. Kemp is a boy of 20.

The scenes take place in "Dad" Bence's home in a small New Jersey town about 60 miles from New York City.

WINS PRIZE FOR NAME

Mrs. Amelia Reiger of Grand River, avenue, Farmington, won the prize of \$10 in groceries offered by E. J. Stokes, A. and P. Store manager last week, for the best name for his dog. The name she submitted was "Ritz."

The judges were Ben Myers, Ben Storms, and Stanley Smith. Several hundred names were submitted.

New School Superintendent To Be Chosen Tuesday Eve

Citizen's Appeal To Board Not To Close Session Fails; Petitions On Table At Meeting; President Defends Board Acts

Selection of a new superintendent of schools for the coming year is to be made by the Board of Education at a special meeting next Tuesday evening, called for that purpose, following failure to make a decision last Friday evening.

The meeting Tuesday evening will be held in the School building at 7:45 p. m. It will begin of course, as a public meeting, but not until after it is over will it be known whether the session will be closed to the public, as the two previous meetings have been.

Several citizens and all five members of the Board were present when the meeting was called to order last Friday night by Mrs. Emil Roos, president. Petitions asking the appointment of Principal A. R. Crawford lay on the table before the Secretary.

Town Board Makes A Fire Study Tour

Supervisor Harry N. McCracken, Clerk Willard Campbell and Justice Ward Eagle of the Farmington Township Board spent Wednesday on a tour of inspection of fire-protection apparatus and methods in nearby communities. Justice Walter Headerle was unable to go on the trip.

The Board is studying the subject with the view of giving the Township the best possible protection.

Pierson School Keeps Grades 9, 10

Vote Is 72 To Discontinue And 69 To Retain; Two-Thirds Required

Lacking by a substantial margin the necessary two-thirds majority, the movement to discontinue grades nine and ten in Pierson School failed last Friday evening and teaching in those grades will go on.

Slightly more than half the electors voted against keeping the upper grades, 72 being in favor of dropping them, and 69 for continuing the two grades. However, 94 votes would have been needed to carry the proposal for elimination.

Of the registered voters numbering 174, 141 cast ballots. The announcement of the result was met with loud applause. "Now we'll all go home," shouted one pleased voter, but another indicated that the same question might be raised again soon when he called out "Yes, we'll go home until July."

Good feeling prevailed among the electors, who crowded the room in which the election was held.

"Means Prestige"

Mrs. Roos stated that Mr. Gullen had refused to leave the application of Mr. Crawford in which the others after repeated requests to do so. Mr. Crawford's "slenid work" was commended. "However, Mrs. Roos said, "A majority of the Board feel at this critical time that the elementary grades require a trained, experienced supervisor." Mrs. Roos then read the motion passed by the Board, and added that "while a degree is not everything, it does mean something in the school."

Mrs. Roos then said that "if there be those in the community who suspicion one another, and if petty, partisan, dirty politics control the school board, the City will never have a school of which it may be proud."

FUNERAL SERVICE HELD MONDAY FOR WILLIAM CLARK, 62

Remains Of Orchard Lake Resident Succumb To Illness; Burial At North Farmington

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for William Clark, 62, a resident of Orchard Lake road north of Ten-Mile road who died last Friday following an illness of ten days.

Mr. Clark was first taken ill last July, suffering a recurrence in December. Two weeks ago he was removed to University Hospital, Ann Arbor, where an operation was performed.

Mr. Clark, who was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary Clark, three daughters, Elizabeth, Williamina and Mary, and a son, John. Three sisters and a brother also survive.

Rev. Elmer W. Palmer officiated at the service, burial taking place in North Farmington Cemetery. S. J. Heeneey was in charge of arrangements.

Volunteer Firemen To Give Dance Next Week

Farmington volunteer firemen are promising a "hot time" next Wednesday evening, March 5, in the Town Hall, when they give their first annual Ball. Snappy music and pleasing refreshments will be provided those who attend.

The firemen plan to use the profits for the start of a fund for their organization. The public is invited to their dance, tickets for which may be obtained from any of the volunteers. Refreshments will be served by the Ladies' Auxiliary, American Legion.

(Continued on page eight)

Statement, Letters on p. 5

A public statement read by Mrs. E. W. Roos, president of the Board of Education at the Board meeting last Friday night, and also letters from citizens on the school situation, appear on page five of this issue.

members of the Board were present when the meeting was called to order last Friday night by Mrs. Emil Roos, president. Petitions asking the appointment of Principal A. R. Crawford lay on the table before the Secretary.

Roos stated, "For the purpose of eliminating candidates for the position of superintendent. We will hear any remarks, after which the Chair will entertain a motion to go into executive session. "But first, the Chair wishes to read a statement."

Mrs. Roos then read a prepared statement, in which she defended the legality of the meeting of February 13, and declared that in the selection of a superintendent, "the public are interested only in the final result." Mrs. Roos asked the secretary to read a letter from the deputy superintendent of public instruction (printed elsewhere in this issue) relative to open and closed meetings and publication of minutes. When Mrs. Florence Lee, secretary, concluded reading the letter, Mrs. Roos went on with her statement.

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