

The Farmington Enterprise

Forty-second Year—No. 35

THE FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE, FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1920

5c A Copy, \$1.50 A Year

Motofist Robbed Of \$200, Machine Taken From Him

Copch Found In Farmington Believed To Belong To Hitchhike Bandit's Victim

A car left on Warner street near Grand River avenue in Farmington, beside the residence of Dr. E. F. Holcomb, was being checked by Chief of Police Lee Doyle Thursday as probably that of D. G. Adcock, Detroit, who was held up and robbed of \$200 and his car on Smith's Hill west of Farmington Wednesday evening.

In a pocket of the car Chief Doyle found a letter addressed to "Mr. Adcock," leaving little doubt that the car belonged to him.

Adcock was driving east on Grand River toward Detroit Wednesday evening when a man signalled to him, asking for a ride. Adcock stopped and the man drew a gun. He took \$200 from Adcock and took the car also.

Adcock reported to Deputy Sheriffs William Tamm and Joseph DeVriendt at the Farmington booth.

A New Car

Thursday morning Mrs. Holcomb notified Chief Doyle that a Chevrolet coach had been standing beside the residence since the previous evening. Chief Doyle found it was a practically new car, driven only 622 miles. The rear seat cushion was missing.

On finding the letter, addressed in care of the Dick Chambers Motor Sales of Detroit, Chief Doyle put in a call for Mr. Adcock.

Apparently the bandit took the car from his victim only to insure his getaway. Dr. Holcomb reported seeing a man drive the car up Wednesday evening and leave it there, then turn the corner and walk toward the Farmington business section.

Chief Doyle later learned the car is owned by the Chambers company.

EXAMINATION OF COUPLE IN AUTO DEATH IS HELD

Decision On Manslaughter Charges Against Detroit Man And Woman Delayed

Margaret Avent and Arthur Minehart, both 27 years old, are still under \$1,000 cash bond on charges of manslaughter following examination Tuesday in Farmington court before Justice John J. Schulte. They were held in connection with the death of Cleo Johns, also of Detroit, in a collision on Grand River avenue west of Farmington the night of June 7.

Several Farmington residents testified. The first witness was Johns' companion, Lillian Harris, who could tell little of the accident. Gage Hallist of Farmington, who had been passed by the defendants a few minutes before, and who witnessed the crash from a distance, testified that Minehart's machine was about in the center of the road when it struck the auto auto.

Constable Marl Pettibone told of finding two liquor bottles, one on the pavement beneath where the Minehart car had been, and the other in a field nearby. Judge Aldrich Baxter of Detroit, counsel for the defendants, strenuously objected to admission of this testimony, but Judge Schulte allowed it.

Chief of Police Lee Doyle testified as to his interview with Miss Avent in Redford Receiving Hospital, where, she said, she admitted she had been at the wheel. He testified that while he and Minehart were returning to Farmington from Redford that night, Minehart admitted that he had tried to seize the wheel when he saw the crash coming.

Dr. Seiferlein, house physician

Puzzling Twist Of Law Makes It Necessary To Hold Charter Vote

It was one of the peculiar twists and technicalities of the law that stepped in last week and delayed Farmington's sewer project until the Charter can be amended by vote of the people on Monday, July 21. Strangely enough, the State statute would have permitted the taking of bids Monday night, but a few words in the City Charter provided the stumbling-block.

Even more strange to the layman is the fact that if the State Home Rule Act had been passed after, instead of before the City Charter was adopted four years ago, the Charter provision would have been of no effect and the State law would have prevailed.

But even the lawyers do not agree as to whether the charter provision in question really is the obstacle which the bond company attorneys say it is. Earl L. Phillips, attorney, who drew up the Charter, and city officials who

were on the charter commission in 1926, declare that this section was intended to apply to running expenses only, and that it would be absurd to claim that it was ever the intention to restrict the City to obligating itself for only \$13,000 in one year, including improvements, especially in view of the fact that the State law prescribes two per cent.

The City Charter itself contains a provision that whenever any general law is passed by the Legislature of this State which is controlling upon the City, "then the provision of this Charter shall be construed in the same manner as if they had been amended to read in accordance with the provisions of such general controlling law." The Home Rule Act, however, was passed in 1909, and no law has been passed by the State since 1926 which would affect the Farmington Charter provision.

Gets High Place On County Board

Mayor Lamb Of Farmington Is Elected Vice-Chairman Of Board Of Supervisors

An unusual honor came to Farmington man this week, when Mayor Arthur Lamb was named vice-chairman of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, although he has been on the Board only a little more than a year. His name was also proposed for the chairmanship.

Mayor Lamb's election as vice-chairman came as a result of considerable shifting, in several County offices, one being the resignation of Chairman Robert Y. Moore, of Bloomfield Township, chairman of the Board, to enable Mr. Moore to accept the position of associate County auditor.

Supervisor Mark B. Armstrong of Pontiac presented Mayor Lamb's name for chairman, Bruce Leggett of West Bloomfield township, the vice-chairman, was nominated. Discussion arose as to whether the vice-chairman automatically became chairman, and Mr. Armstrong withdrew his nomination. Mayor Lamb stated that he would not care to accept the chairmanship in view of Supervisor Leggett's having been vice-chairman.

Mr. Leggett was then named chairman by a unanimous vote and Mayor Lamb was unanimously elected vice-chairman.

Mayor Lamb is also a member of the important equalization committee, which sets property valuations in the County.

Other changes in County offices include the appointment of Seymour Adams of Birmingham, hitherto associate auditor, to the position of chairman of the board of auditors, and of Supervisor Stuart D. Patterson of White Lake Township to the third place on the board of auditors. The committee, made up of a committee consisting of Probate Judge Dan McGaffey, Prosecutor Norman C. Orr, and Treasurer Arthur W. Willson, hold good until next fall, when the board of supervisors will fill the positions.

TAKES TOWNSHIP SEAT

Justice of the peace Ernest V. Blanchard took his place on the Farmington Township Board Tuesday evening, succeeding Ward Eagle. Mr. Blanchard was on the Board for two years.

of Redford Receiving Hospital, testified that his records show that he recorded Miss Avent as being under the influence of liquor when she was admitted to the hospital, and that he smelled liquor on her breath.

Judge Schulte continued the case until July 15, the bond remaining at \$1,000 cash for each. Chief Assistant Prosecutor Chas. L. Wilson appeared for the prosecution.

Ride In Borrowed Car Ends Fatally

Two Women Killed, Man Near Death. Is Toll Of Crash Near Novi

A ride in a car which, police say, a Detroit garage owner borrowed to go on a midnight bathing party, resulted fatally Tuesday near Novi when a collision occurred in which the garage owner's wife and another woman were killed, the man himself so badly injured that he may die, and others were also hurt.

Walter L. Crouch, 36, of Detroit, garage employe, was driving the car west on the way to State Lake. It is believed that while travelling at least 60 miles an hour, Crouch attempted to pass a large transport truck, saw that he could not make it, and turned back in. Then, police believe, the right side of the car struck the truck, throwing the car sideways into the path of a machine coming the other way.

In the car were Mrs. Mabel Skinsell, 35, 5370 Seeboldt avenue, and Miss Jessie MacDonald, 26 years old, Joseph Skinsell, Mrs. Skinsell's husband, and Miss Grace Ward, 23, 6544 Colfax avenue, and Crouch, all of Detroit. Mrs. Skinsell and Miss MacDonald were killed, deputies believe, before their car was struck by another headed east, driven by Benjamin Mossman, of Windsor. It is thought that the car striking the rear corner of the truck killed the two women.

Miss Ward suffered two fractures of the right arm and severe cuts. Skinsell has a fracture of the skull and is in Achison Hospital, Northville. Miss Freda Rothenberg, 18, of Windsor, who was riding with Mossman, was also cut. Mossman and Crouch suffered only slight cuts.

Crouch was charged with involuntary manslaughter. Deputies said they found a bottle of whiskey in the car Crouch was driving.

Deputies William Tamm and Joseph DeVriendt of Farmington said they measured the distance over which Crouch's car had slid over the pavement with all four brakes on. The distance was 58 feet.

John W. Dexter, Detroit, drove the truck that was struck by the machine. Police said that Stanley Rogers, a resident of Detroit, had taken the car to Skinsell's garage Tuesday for repairs. It was used only a short time. The front end of Mossman's car was wrecked.

POOL ROOM SOLD

The pool room on Grand River avenue in Farmington, owned by Robert Minnock has been reported sold again. Ernest Ash is the new proprietor.

Try an Enterprise Liner.

Interest Keen In Charter Election Called To School District Meeting July 14

Suggested Candidates Being Discussed By Electors; Trustees To Be Chosen

With the annual meeting of Farmington School District No. 5 ten days away, considerable interest is manifest throughout the District in the gathering of electors and selection of two trustees to fill expiring terms. Interest which developed last Spring over the choice of a superintendent and principal seems not to have abated, and for some time voters have been discussing possible candidates and preparing generally for a meeting of unusual size and interest.

Two trustees are to be elected, the terms of Arthur Lamb and Frank T. Macomber expiring.

Several candidates have been suggested for the positions. Trustee Lamb is mentioned generally for re-election. Candidates mentioned for Mr. Macomber's place are A. L. Ross, Mrs. E. A. Pink, and Dr. E. P. Holcomb. Sentiment in the District indicates that Mr. Lamb and Mr. Ross are sure to be nominated.

The meeting is to be called at 8 o'clock Monday evening, July 14. Besides the election of trustees, there will be reading of the annual report and transaction of any other business which may come before the district meeting.

Other Districts Meet

Practically all the school districts in this section will hold their annual meetings on Monday evening, July 14, with the exception of West Farmington District, which held its meeting June 9. Under present State law school meetings are held the second Monday in July, but districts may meet the second Monday in June, providing the Board of Education makes the proper arrangement.

SCHOOL NURSE TO BE HERE THROUGH SUMMER MONTHS

Parents Urged To Have Defects Corrected During The Vacation Period

The Farmington school nurse, Miss Rosetta Barbour, will be in the Library at the High School, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 11 o'clock. If the parents of any of the school children wish to consult the nurse in regard to the health or corrections of defects of the children, they are asked to call on these days, or telephone, and she will be glad to call at the home.

The tonsil and dental clinics will be available during the summer. It is advised that the children entering kindergarten this fall have a physical examination by the family physician early in the summer so that any corrections may be made before entering school.

During the past year notices were sent home by the children giving defects, found, and advising an examination by the family physician. The summer is a good time to have all corrections made so that the child will enter school in the fall ready to take up the winter work physically well, the Nurse states.

LAST SERVICE TILL FALL

Rev. Frank D. Adams of Farmington Universalist Church, and Detroit, delivered his last sermon in the Farmington church until September last, Sunday afternoon. He will resume preaching here after the summer period.

ON MOTORCYCLE AGAIN

Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt of Farmington resumed his motorcycle patrol work last Saturday, the first time since the accident in which he was injured several weeks ago.

Charter Election Called To Clear Technicality On Sewer

Amendment Drawn To Overcome Attorneys' Objections; July 21 Set For Vote By People; Hope To Start Work Late In Month

Acting quickly to overcome the technical point raised by attorneys for the bond company which purchased Farmington's sewer bonds, the City Commission met in special session Monday night and arranged for a charter amendment election to be held on Monday, July 21.

The purpose of the amendment is to permit the City to go ahead at once with taking of bids and construction of the additions to the sewer system. With approval of the amendment by a 60 per cent vote of the people, officials believe that it will be possible to receive bids and complete preparations for actual construction the latter part of this month.

The amendment will not give the City Commission unusual powers, but will merely bring the City Charter into conformity with the State law. Under the Home Rule Act of the State, up to two per cent of the assessed valuation may be contracted for in one year. In Farmington's case; this is about \$52,000.

In the Farmington Charter, however, the indebtedness that might be incurred in one year was restricted to one-half of one per cent, or in Farmington's present valuation, only \$13,000. This was probably meant to refer to running expenses rather than permanent improvements, but the bonding company attorneys objected on this point.

Killer Taken Near Here, Judged Insane

James Bakerien, alias Baker, who was arrested some months ago at the farm Newton Roy on Halsted road northwest of Farmington on a murder charge, and later was sentenced to Sing Sing prison for the killing of a night watchman in New York, has been adjudged insane, it was reported this week.

Bakerien has been transferred to a hospital for the criminal insane.

Stokes Assault Case Is Settled

Six Hundred Dollars Paid To End Litigation On Incident In Farmington

After having dragged for sixteen months in Oakland County Circuit Court, the suit of Alfred Lemerand of Farmington against Deputy Sheriff Clayton Stokes, for assault, has been settled by payment of \$600.

The settlement was made this week by Sheriff Frank Schram, who was also made a defendant in the case, along with his bonding company. The suit was for \$5,000 damages.

While the money was paid by Sheriff Schram, it is understood that the real payment will be made by Deputy Sheriff Stokes, through an agreement made between them.

The Massachusetts Bonding and Insurance Co., which bonded Sheriff Schram, was a defendant in the case.

The suit grew out of an incident in the police booth in Farmington on the evening of January 11, 1920. Lemerand alleged that he was in the booth, waiting to report theft of some automobile parts, when Deputy Stokes walked into the booth and struck him, without provocation. He asserted that he lost several front teeth as a result, and that he was knocked from the front to the back room of the booth.

Harold Jorae of Ypsilanti, who was in the booth at the time, and Chief of Police Lee Doyle, then a deputy sheriff, who was also in the building, were summoned as witnesses.

George Sutton of Pontiac represented Lemerand, and Prosecuting Attorney Norman C. Orr acted on behalf of Deputy Stokes.

Plan For New Interest In Fall Flower Show

The Ladies' Aid of the M. E. Church will hold their regular monthly meeting in the Community Hall, July 17th. In connection with this meeting they will entertain the aid societies of the several churches with the object of inspiring a new interest in the Flower Carnival which is being planned to be held again later in the summer.

Anyone who is interested in flowers will be cordially welcome to this meeting as it is open to everyone who desire to come.

Horace Durham and son Forest and Howard Thayer attended the national airplane contest at Grosse Isle Airport, Tuesday.

Set Earliest Date

The charter election date was set for the earliest possible time under the State law, which requires 20 days after the Commission passes the proposed amendment. The resolution calling for the amendment was passed by unanimous vote of the Commissioners present.

Thirty Bidders

When the City is ready for opening of bids, there will be plenty to open. About 30 contractors, and the number increased daily. It would not surprise officials if as many as 35 bids are received on the job. Representatives of several companies were at the Commission meeting Monday night with their bids ready.

WEST POINT PARK TEAM RUNS OVER HIGHLAND PARK

Rivals For Leadership Of Down River League Will Clash Sunday

Baseball fans of this section will see in action Sunday two leaders fighting for the top place in the Down River League. The East Dearborn team comes to West Point Park in an effort to shove the West Point boys down the ladder and elevate themselves to undisputed possession of the top rung.

The two teams have the best records in the league thus far. Both are experienced and boast some heavy hitters, besides good pitching. Carl Goers will undoubtedly go on the hill for West Point Park, with Hamerschmidt behind the bat.

Although the two teams fought a 15-inning duel at their previous meeting West Point Park swamped Highland Park Sunday, 11 to 2. Carl Goers pitched seven innings and then was relieved to give Quinn an opportunity to pitch. Goers allowed but six hits in seven innings.

Roy Clement had a big day at bat, with three hits in four times at bat. Roy Wolfrom, Hobbins, and Hamerschmidt each made two hits. Millross poled out a three-bagger.

GORGEOUS FIREWORKS

Explosion at Park, July 4

7-Mile Road, near Grand River