

The Farmington Enterprise

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Spencer, Lynch Reply To Drain Office Charges

Commissioner And Attorney Declare Attacks Do Not Tell Whole Truth

Replies to attacks upon the administration of the County drain commissioner's office, centering particularly on the Southfield Drain, were made Thursday evening in the Farmington Town Hall by the Commissioner, Arthur Spencer, and Attorney James H. Lynch of Pontiac, who represented the Commissioner in the Supreme Court fight which has halted completion of the drain.

As was the case last week, only a few citizens attended the meeting to hear the discussion. Mr. Spencer read a prepared statement, in which he said that when an application for laying out of a drainage district is filed, the commissioner must cause a survey to be made, under the law. He said that it was determined in the Southfield Drain matter that by building the 13 miles of sewer, instead of the five miles petitioned for, that ultimately \$325,000 could be saved. Petitions were received for the drain, and several meetings held, Mr. Spencer said, and at the hearing of the board of determination, 200 people were present.

Commissioner Spencer said that on filing of the report that the drain was necessary, the law requires that he proceed. He reassured, he said, by the best legal authorities that everything in the matter was legal and in proper form.

'Folowed Precedent'
Mr. Spencer said that County drain commissioners generally in the State had for years been building covered drains, that he was merely following a precedent.

In regard to the charge that the Southfield Drain problem is costing the County \$200 a day, Mr. Spencer said that this is "bunk," and that there is in the Southfield Drain fund sufficient money for all expenditures. Thus far \$205,242 has been spent, he says, and there is no basis for the claim that the project will cost the County a million dollars, from which it will receive no benefit. Mr. Spencer said that he stopped work as soon as litigation was commenced, and that "it will not cost the taxpayers" of (Continued on page five)

OLD FIRE TRUCK SOLD; TOWNSHIP PROBLEM LOOMS

Oak Park Buys City's Smaller Engine For \$250; To Confer With Town Board

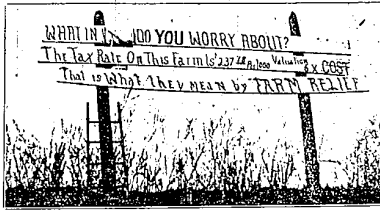
The little old fire truck that was a familiar sight in Farmington until the newer one came two years ago is gone, and with its passing the problem of providing fire protection to the surrounding territory has come up again.

The truck was sold last week to the village of Oak Park, for \$250. At the City Commission meeting Monday evening, Commissioner Carl Coers protested against sale of the truck, declaring that answering Township calls would now leave the City without fire protection, or that the same thing might happen if there were two fires at once in the City.

On motion of Commissioner Amos Otis, Mayor Lamb appointed Commissioner Leo Gildemeister and Chief Bernard Bannfield to confer with the Township Board regarding protection in the Township. It was voted to advise the Township that the City cannot afford to continue its present agreement of \$20 per call for the truck, the Township paying for the men. It was agreed that 60 days' notice should be given, after which the charge would be raised to a flat rate of \$50, as paid by other nearby townships.

Mr. and Mrs. James McCafferty are moving into a house on the Cut-off, near Parker road.

Farmington Man Starts Campaign For Road Law Repeal, Lower Taxes



Enrollment In Schools Larger

Farmington Total Reaches 500 On Wednesday; High School Has 150 Pupils

Schools opened throughout this section Tuesday morning with generally increased enrollments as compared with last year. Further additions are expected by the end of the week, when exact comparisons with last year's figures may be made.

Farmington schools showed a marked increase in number of pupils enrolled, the total registered Wednesday being 500. The first-week enrollment last year was 464.

The high school, with 160 enrolled, showed a gain of eight pupils, the registrations last year in the high school being 152. The lower grades had a corresponding increase with 341 enrolled, as compared with 312 registered during the first week last year.

The enrollment figures announced Thursday by Supt. J. A. Dalrymple of the Farmington schools are as follows, by grades, comparison with last year also being shown:

| | Sept. 30 | Sept. 29 |
|---------------|----------|----------|
| Kindergarten | 36 | 23 |
| First Grade | 42 | 29 |
| Second Grade | 23 | 42 |
| Third Grade | 44 | 36 |
| Fourth Grade | 37 | 37 |
| Fifth Grade | 47 | 33 |
| Sixth Grade | 34 | 39 |
| Seventh Grade | 40 | 34 |
| Eighth Grade | 34 | 29 |
| High School | 160 | 152 |

Plan New "Latch-Key" Friendships Of Over Half A Century Ago Are Renewed

A reunion of five West Farmington schoolmates was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Sprague, Thursday, August 28th. Mrs. Charles Walter of St. Johns, W. H. Wiand of Coldwater, and E. S. Dart of Farmington attended.

Mr. Wiand, a veteran of the Civil War stopped over in Farmington on his way to the reunion of Company A., 22 Michigan Infantry, held at Pontiac, Friday. Their school days date back to 1853-4, and up to the Civil War. Mr. Wiand and Mrs. Walter had not met in 69 years.

Mr. Wiand and Mr. Dart had met but once before in 55 years. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague had met Mr. Wiand occasionally on his annual trip to and from the reunion.

The average age of the five was 85 2-5 years. All are enjoying good health.

IF YOU THINK
28 years in one office is enough for any man, vote for a new candidate, fully qualified, NOT a politician, SPARKS for CORONER, Primary September 9.—Adv.

Says Death Car Paint 'Checked With' Smith's

State Police Officer Testifies At Inquest Into Girl's Death

Testimony to the effect that on the morning after the fatal accident in which Mary Essex, Detroit girl, was killed on the Cut-off road August 23, he saw on the death-car gray paint which "checked with" that on the coupe of Henry W. Smith of Farmington, was given at the inquest last Saturday morning by Cleo Koone, State police officer, who arrived at the scene of the accident shortly after it occurred.

Koone also declared that the left front hub cap of the Ford car in which Miss Essex had been riding "fitted into" a place on the Smith car where the right rear fender next to the running-board was bent away. He testified further that a piece of imitation leather on the Smith car was torn away when he examined it a few hours after Miss Essex was killed, and that the tear was a fresh one.

Sharp questioning by Aldrich Baxter, attorney for Smith, and by Prosecuting Attorney Norman Orr failed to shake Koone, who said he had passed Smith's car shortly before arriving at the scene of the accident, being familiar with the wealthy grocer's big coupe.

A parade of witnesses occupied the stand in Judge Schuchman's court, and a galaxy of Detroit lawyers was on hand. The inquest was adjourned for two weeks, until Saturday morning, September 13, on request of Prosecutor Orr, after out-of-town witnesses had been heard.

A dramatic moment occurred when Officer Koone was faced by Henry W. Thompson, Lansing salesman, who took the injurer girls to the hospital. Thompson said that he did not see Koone at the scene of the accident as he was standing on his wheels while he was there. Koone had testified it was on his side.

Dorothy Anderson, driver of the girls' car, Evelyn A. Barter, also a passenger in the car, Theodore Hostad of Sullivan, were other witnesses. Lawyers representing the Essex family, Miss Barter, and Smith, were present.

Crawford Takes Up City Teaching Work

Former principal A. R. Crawford of Farmington Schools took up new duties Tuesday at the Burroughs School in Detroit.

Mr. Crawford had been tendered a position in the Pontiac Schools last week and accepted with the understanding that he would be released if he so desired.

Mr. Crawford and his family are continuing their residence in Farmington for the present.

"First Ball" To Be Dedication Souvenir

The baseball used for the first ball pitched on Farmington's new athletic field Monday morning is to be a permanent memento of the day. After it was thrown by Mayor Arthur Lamb to Supervisor Arthur Coe, their names, the date and the occasion were inscribed upon it.

The ball is to remain in the trophy-case in the high school building.

Flower Show To Be Held Tuesday

Preparations Completed For Second Annual Event; Showers Give Encouragement

Showers with the past few days have brought encouragement to the promoters of the Farmington Flower Show next Tuesday, September 9. Neighboring towns are finding that exhibits go beyond expectations. Wayne and Dearborn both have had splendid exhibits. Exhibitions of flowers and fruit from Farmington and the neighboring countryside will be welcomed on Tuesday. They should be in the hands of the committee in charge as early as noon.

The judges selected are Culver Wood, Nick Bos, and James Van Volkenburg. Awards of ribbons for first, second, and third prizes will be made in all exhibits. The show is open to the public with no charge for admission.

Five churches of Farmington are sponsoring the show and a joint committee from all the churches, Evangelical, Baptist, Universalist, Catholic and Methodist will serve supper in the evening in the Methodist dining room. Musical numbers from a large joint choir led by Arthur Applin will sing in the evening.

Everybody is urged to visit the Flower Show on next Tuesday afternoon or evening.

Virginia Adams Is Popularity Winner

Farmington and vicinity enjoyed the American Legion's ninth annual Gala Day on Labor Day, the crowds being particularly large in the evening.

Virginia Adams won the popularity contest with 5790 votes and was awarded the diamond ring, while Mary Ellen Fink received a wrist watch for second place, with 4610 votes. Roberts Russell was third with 3510 votes. Mrs. E. Atkins of Route 2 won the Ford car.

Three new attractions, a merry-go-round, a ferris wheel, and a device made by Al Chaney, which gave a boy a "ducking" when customers managed to throw a ball through a small hole, were major attractions.

As The Flag Went Up



Raising of the flag Monday morning over Farmington's new athletic field. W. D. Butterfield is on the platform, on the opposite side of the flag, unfurling it, while President A. L. Ross holds the ropes. The American Legion color-guard is at the right, the Boy Scouts at the left, while at the extreme right stood officials and speakers.

County Bankers Fail To Prevent 9-Mile Bond Sale

Paving Job In This Section Attracts County-Wide Attention; Bids Opened

The Nine-Mile paving job, together with that of Sunset boulevard in Southfield Township, jumped into the County limelight during the past week when the Oakland County Bankers' Federation met with the County Road Commission in the hope of halting the sale of bonds on the two jobs.

The bankers were told that they were too late, and bids were opened Tuesday for the two bond issues, totalling over \$300,000, as well as for three other jobs.

Meanwhile a possible lawsuit looms as the result of a statement by a large property-owner in the southern end of the County that he intends to start legal action if an attempt is made to sell the bonds. No action was taken by the Road Commission Tuesday toward accepting any of the bids received. The bonds on the Nine-Mile road total \$355,000.

The interest rate asked on the bonds was high being 6 per cent, in comparison with 5 to 5 1/2 per cent ordinarily bid.

Various members of the bankers' association told the Road Commission in turn that it is necessary to hold expenditures down to the most essential work only. They declared that the tax situation is serious. C. B. Edwards, Royal Oak banker, asserted that Farmington Township taxes are 30.28 per cent delinquent thus far this year, and that 67 per cent of the property affected by the Nine-Mile road construction is now delinquent in tax payments. Mr. Edwards spoke in favor of confining road work to repairs only.

C. J. Merz, Pontiac banker, said that the credit of the County will be imperilled unless expenditures are reduced.

Commissioner Isaac Bond of Farmington, offered the suggestion, at the conclusion of the meeting, that additional highways be constructed only after a careful survey had been made by the Road Commission, and it was definitely ascertained that the affected property-owners along the right-of-way wanted and are financially able to pay their share of the cost.

President James L. Hogie, Cashier John Fitzpatrick, and Director Charles Ely of the Peoples State Bank of Farmington attended the meeting.

RECEPTION FOR TEACHERS TO BE HELD NEXT WEEK

Parent-Teacher Association Planning Annual Welcome To Faculty Sept. 11

The annual reception for teachers of Farmington Public schools is being planned by the Parent-Teacher Association, and will be held next Thursday evening, September 11, in the High School building. The reception will start at 8:00 o'clock.

During the first hour of the reception, teachers will be in their rooms and will be visited by the parents. The teachers will be introduced to parents by a grade-mother. The band will give a concert in the school gymnasium.

During the second hour there will be a short program in the high school assembly room, as follows:

Duet, June Johnson and Roberta Russell.
Welcome to teachers, from the City, Mayor Arthur Lamb.
Welcome to teachers from the Board of Education, President A. L. Ross.

Welcome to teachers from the churches, Rev. A. A. Schoon.
Welcome to teachers from the P. T. A., Mrs. Lee Hill, president.
Social hour in the gymnasium, with games, under direction of Mr. Shadley and Miss Hyde.