

The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 40.

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Time For Paying Taxes In City Is Extended Month

City Commission Votes Another Month For Payment Without 4% Penalty

Extension of one month in the time for payment of City taxes without penalty was voted by the City Commission Monday evening, the vote deferring the termination of the non-penalty period until the end of August. Taxes may be paid up to and including Monday, August 31, without interest.

The penalty is four per cent. The extension was in accordance with the custom of recent years, it being the habit of the Commission each year to increase the time allowed by the City Charter.

Collection Good
A report by Hinman G. Nichols, City Treasurer, to the Commission Monday evening indicates that tax collections during the past month have been surprisingly good. It was feared that receipt of taxes would suffer severely due to business conditions, but the report of Mr. Nichols indicates that this has not occurred. The Treasurer reported that 32.26 per cent of the 1931 levy was paid in July. This is slightly over \$11,000.

More Second Month

The payment of practically one-third of the taxes compares favorably with former years. Seldom if ever do collections in July reach 50 per cent, inasmuch as taxpayers have become accustomed to granting of a month's extension, and wait until the second month to pay.

Receipt of the tax money places the City in good financial shape for the present at least, it was shown by figures given the Commission, along with the tax receipts total, by Mr. Nichols. Cash on hand is over \$8,000, sufficient for all needs for some time. A bond payment has been made from the taxes collected.

Saturdays Only

Tax collections hereafter will be made on Saturdays only, according to an announcement in this issue by the Treasurer.

100 Chickens Stolen From R. G. Adams Farm

Chicken thieves were busy in this vicinity this week. Two farm coops were broken into, but no traces were left. Deputies are searching for the thieves.

15 chickens were stolen from the farm of George Rousseau Sunday on the south side of Farmington Junction. No clues were left. At the R. G. Adams farm on 9 Mile road, west of Farmington Road, 100 chickens were stolen. Deputy William Tamm said that a truck had been used to transport the chickens. The coop is only 100 feet from the house.

TRAFFIC TIED UP

A machine which ran into the back of a sedan driven by Dr. Robert O'Neill, Grosse Pointe, tied up traffic, which was heavy on Grand River road west of Ten Mile road Sunday. No one was injured.

School Likely To Open 2 Weeks Later

Opening of Farmington Public Schools will probably take place two weeks later than usual this year. The date now being considered by Board of Education members is Monday, September 14.

It is also probable that school will close two weeks earlier next June, the shorter year being contemplated because of financial conditions. The length of school term not having been taken up and decided by the voters at the annual meeting, decision is left to the Board of Education. The Board will meet next week, probably on Wednesday night instead of the usual day, Thursday.

Named Attorney



Earl L. Phillips was this week appointed attorney for the receiver of the Farmington State Savings Bank.

Receiver Calls For Bank Claims

Official Notice Issued To Depositors; E. L. Phillips Is Named Attorney

Official notice to depositors of the Farmington State Savings Bank to file claims is issued this week by Howard C. Knickerbocker, permanent receiver for the bank. Claims must be filed within 90 days from date of notice, which is Thursday, August 6.

Blanks for filing of claims have been prepared and may be obtained at the bank beginning Friday morning. Separate blanks are provided for savings and commercial claims. Blanks will also be mailed to all depositors, together with a notice of the time limit set for receiving claims.

Mr. Knickerbocker was this week appointed permanent receiver also for the Farmers State Savings Bank of Midford, by Circuit Judge Frank L. Covert. Earl L. Phillips, circuit court commissioner, was early in the week named as attorney for Mr. Knickerbocker as receiver of the bank. Mr. Phillips is widely known in this section and has many friends throughout this part of the County.

EAST NOVI SCHOOL HOLDS REUNION AT LAPHAM HOME

Annual Meeting Attended By Former Teachers, Inspector Now 92 Years Old

The eighth annual reunion of the East Novi School was held on Saturday, August 1, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Lapham on the Town Line road.

Three former teachers were present, Mrs. Edna Banks-Bogart of Pontiac, Mrs. Margaret West-Dawson of Ypsilanti, and Mr. Frank Lamb of Grand Rapids. Mr. Lamb taught the school about forty-five years ago and nine of his pupils were present at the reunion.

The oldest patron of the school present was Mrs. John Becker of Pontiac and the oldest guest was Mr. David Gage of Northville. Mr. Gage will be 92 years old soon. At one time he was school inspector of the school. Lulu Becker and Edna Banks-Bogart, both of Pontiac, were re-elected president and secretary. The company accepted the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Lapham to meet with them again next year for the reunion on the first Saturday in August.

The wooden school building which housed four or more generations of pupils in this district was torn down about two years ago. It stood on the north side of Grand River road, one and one-half mile east of Novi near the Washington West farm.

Every year former patrons, pupils, teachers and friends gather to renew acquaintances and relive the days of yesterday. This year more than eighty were present from Grand Rapids, Pontiac, Detroit, Ypsilanti, Northville, Farmington, Plymouth and the vicinity.

City Asks State To Replace Walks On Grand River

Highway Department Believes It Has "Done Enough"; Mistake In Paving Cited

Whether the State or the City of Farmington will lay new sidewalks along Grand River avenue, and the probable effect of suits resulting from alleged encroachment upon private property in the laying of the new pavement, is being considered by officials who discussed the problem at length Monday night at the meeting of the City Commission. A State Highway Department official was present, and on Thursday several representatives of the Department visited Farmington and looked over the new pavement, particularly in the vicinity of the home of Stephen Traway, who has obtained an injunction against any further work.

City officials ask the State to lay the walks, but the State engineers say they believe their Department has done as much as Farmington has a right to expect. "State Was Liberal"

Henry Oakes, engineer in charge of the State office at Plymouth, told the Commissioners that "our Department has been pretty liberal" in furnishing a new 50-foot pavement and curb, and that towns everywhere put in their own sidewalks. Mayor Lamb replied that the State had come in and taken from 9 to 11 feet of private property, and now asks people to pay taxes to lay new sidewalks in front of their homes. He said he believed it would be cheaper for the State to lay new walks than to have "13 or 14 suits against it." In reply to a question by Mr. Oakes as to whether the building of new sidewalks by the State would appease the property-owners, Mayor Lamb said he believed it would, except for the one property owner who has already started suit.

Mr. Oakes said that he felt he would be safe in saying that if we are on private property, we will certainly have to get it. He stated, however, that it is customary for the State to pave the center 20 feet only, and the local community the remainder, including the curb. Commissioners replied that "we have paid for (Continued on page four)"

DISCUSS USING LOG CABIN FOR POLICE STATION

Moving Booth To City Lot Also Considered; Aim to Save Tax Money

Suggested removal of the Farmington City police headquarters from the present location to the Log Cabin in Town Hall Park is under consideration by City officials, with possibility also that the police booth may be moved to the City lot on Farmington Road just south of the Enterprise building.

Abandonment of the police booth and housing of the present department was discussed Monday night by the City Commission. It was suggested that this move would save the yearly taxes of about \$43 on the lot now occupied, the taxes being paid by the City. It was also said that the change would allow removal of the cells to the police booth, which might be moved to a location adjacent to the City building.

Shifting of the cells from their present location would increase the room on the first floor of the City building, it was stated. Some objection was raised that the log cabin was "not exactly the place" for a police headquarters, and that the area around the cabin would soon be filled with cars, which would be left on the park lawn. It was also said that repairing the cabin would cost at least \$50.

A suggestion then developed that the City utilize its lot on Farmington Road, moving the booth there and continuing it in use. No action was taken on the proposals.

Farmington Boys Fight Forest Fire Near Columbia River In Washington

Two Farmington boys last Friday night, laid around Saturday—we couldn't sleep—and patrolled Saturday night. We didn't sleep from Friday at 6 a. m. to Sunday 11 p. m. Never was so tired in my life. We had to walk up into the mountain and believe me it sure was work. The fire burnt over 1000 acres."

The fire referred to was near Wenatchee, Washington. Virgil and Charles Button, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Don Button, of 34600 12 Mile road, who have been working on a number of the experimental fruit farms in the State of Washington, fought one of the fires Friday, July 29.

A letter received by Mrs. Button last week described the boys' experiences. The letter, in part, follows:

"I want to tell you about the forest fire which broke out last Friday about noon, out about 14 miles up the Columbia River. It was on Friday night to see what it was all about. We found the main camp up the canyon about 5 miles and they put us right to work, at 30 cents per hour, and all you could eat. We worked all

Lad of 6 Falls From Tree, Dies

Felt No Pain For Few Days Though Skull Was Fractured

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Marvin Shepfo, 6 years old, who died Saturday as a result of a fall from a tree at his home near Plymouth a few days earlier. The Shepfo family formerly lived in Farmington, and the funeral was held at the home of the lad's grandmother, Mrs. Ida Srefpo. The boy, apparently suffered no ill-effects from his fall for two days. He fell from a small plum tree to the ground on Tuesday. On Thursday, however, evidence of illness appeared and a doctor was called. The next day the lad sank into a coma and death followed the next morning.

Marvin's sister, Roberta, three years old, was playing with her brother when the accident occurred. A limb of the young tree was found broken. Mrs. Shepfo had repeatedly warned her son not to climb trees. Surviving the boy, besides his sister, is his mother, Mrs. Ruby Shepfo, who now lives at the Olive Frank home on Jay Road, near Plymouth. The boy's father, Bud Shepfo, died three years ago.

Services were at the M. A. Toomey residence, 38705 Oakland avenue with Rev. Floyd Charles Johnson officiating. Burial was at Oakwood Cemetery.

LEGION GALA DAY TO RETAIN MOST ANNUAL EVENTS

Big Celebration September 7 At Town Hall Park To Include Games

Plans for the tenth annual Gala Day celebration are being made by Groves-Walker Post No. 346 American Legion of Farmington. Most of the customary features will be retained this year at the event, which will be held on Labor Day, September 7, in the Town Hall Park.

Baseball games, sport events, including many kinds of races, concessions, and band music will be featured. No car will be given away this year, due to business conditions.

The City Commission at its meeting Monday evening consented to allow the Post the use of the Town Hall Park, and made the customary appropriation for the Farmington High School band, which will provide the music.

FARMINGTON COUPLE WED

Mrs. Mary Aldrich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Aldrich, became the bride of Harold Seesley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Seesley, Wednesday at the Baptist parsonage at Farmington. They were attended by Miss Winifred Seesley and Mr. Thurman Newbound of Pontiac. Following the ceremony at the home of the bride, the couple left for a trip through northern Michigan.

New Road Brings Traffic Problem; Speed Is Menace

City Officials Wrestle With Difficulty; Discuss Signal Installation

Opening of wider Grand River through Farmington has brought with it an anticipated traffic problem, with vehicles of all kinds traveling at greatly-increased speed along the new highway. Passenger-car speed appears to average around 40 miles an hour.

With the opening of school scheduled for next month, city officials are seriously considering the hazards that face school children. An added factor of importance is the absence of sidewalks along the south side of Grand River, and the probability that replacing of the walks will be delayed for some time due to injunctions, because of alleged encroachment on private property in laying of the pavement.

Plan A Signal

A traffic signal will be installed at School street and City officials would like to see another at Power avenue, but it is considered doubtful whether the State will allow this. There appears no question but that peril to children at School street will cause permission to be given at once for placing of a light there.

Mayor Arthur Lamb stated to the Commission Monday evening that he would interview State officials this week, toward the end that Power avenue crossing may be protected.

Nabs 4 Speeders

Constable Earl Pettibone caught four drivers traveling at high speed through Farmington within a short time Sunday night. He told the Enterprise that he "didn't bother with those going under 40", and that "seven or eight officers could have been used." He said he chased one driver from Novi past Farmington Junction, the motorist maintaining a speed of 65 miles an hour, even inside the City. Constable Pettibone was forced to clear traffic with a police whistle to catch the man.

Speeders Escape

The Commissioners asked Chief Doyle about the matter of speeding on Grand River. Chief Doyle told them that he has tried to catch a number of speeders, but that the other cars were too fast for him to catch with his machine.

WEST POINT MEETS SKRZYCKI 4TH TIME ON SUNDAY

Parkers Out to Even Count As Bakers Have Won Two Games

West Point Park baseball team meets Skrzycki Bakers at Navin Field in Detroit, Sunday, in one of the features of the Detroit Firemen's Day celebration. It will be the fourth time that the two teams have come together this season. West Point will be out to even the count in the games played thus far, as Skrzycki has won two of them. Carl Goers is slated to pitch Sunday.

In the first game, early in the season, the Parkers were defeated 4 to 3. At Northwestern Field several weeks ago, Carl Goers pitched a brilliant victory for the team, placing the two Triple A members in a deadlock for second place. The score was 5 to 4. Sunday, the Bakers with the aid of the powerful hitting and pitching of Moore, shut out West Point, 6 to 0. Moore allowed only four hits and struck out three. Hartner pitched for West Point.

Mrs. A. Wixom To Receive Friends On 88th Birthday

Mrs. Adeline Wixom will celebrate her 88th birthday Wednesday, August 12, in North Farmington at the home of her son, Perry, where she will receive friends from 2 to 6 o'clock. Mrs. Wixom is making her home with her son. She is in good health.

"American Citizen" Must Sign Letter

The Enterprise is in receipt of a letter from a reader, referring to an incident when the "Star Spangled Banner" was played. The letter is signed with an assumed name, but the name of the writer does not appear.

The Enterprise feels it necessary to repeat once more the invariable rule that all communications intended for publication MUST BE SIGNED with the real name of the writer. An assumed name may also be given and the real name will be withheld upon request, but no letter will be published without the true name of the author being affixed.

If "An American Citizen" will call at the Enterprise office and acknowledge the letter, signing his name, the letter will be published in next week's issue.