

# The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-THIRD YEAR No. 46

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## Youths Roasting Corn Near Stack Cause Bad Fire

### Second Alarm Brings City Truck To Scene—Large Barn Saved By Firemen

The desire of two boys, eight and ten years old respectively, to try their hand at roasting corn, is said by authorities to have been the cause Sunday afternoon of a serious fire, in which one man was overcome, two small buildings and a large strawstack burned, and several other structures were threatened. It is believed that the cost of fighting the fire alone will be more than \$50. Farmington volunteers having battled for more than two hours to control the blaze, using both City and Township engines.

The fire occurred at the farm owned by Julius Porath, at Farmington Drive and Tuck road. According to Deputy Sheriff Claude Wilson the boys, Irving and Ernest Klocke, who live at the farm, made their attempt at roasting corn just to the south of a large stack of straw. Suddenly a south wind whipped the flames in the direction of the big straw stack, and the fire was under way.

Harold Cradit, 17, who works at the farm, was busy in a cornfield nearby. He saw the flames and ran to the stack. Two bulls were near the burning stack. Cradit managed to get them away, then collapsed from heat and smoke. Other cattle were taken from a nearby barn.

The Farmington Township engine was taken in answer to the first alarm. By the time it arrived, the burning straw was throwing flames high into the air. Chemical was sprayed on a large barn nearby. A tool shed and about 40 feet of fence burned.

A supply of water was available, and the City pump was summoned, when wind threatened to spread the fire to the barn and another pile of straw. Using the Township truck chemicals, the firemen put out flames which burned so fiercely they were destroying a shed over the water tank. The tank supplied water for the pump for a few minutes, but the electric pump was too slow to keep the engine supplied. The hose was then transferred to a well, but that was quickly pumped dry, although the flames were cut down considerably and the barn wetted down.

The firemen remained at the farm until late afternoon. The two lads are sons of John Klocke, who is a tenant at the farm. A crowd estimated at 150 people was attracted by the blaze.

## ATHLETIC CLUB TO PRY LID OFF GRID SCHEDULE

### Team Was Not Defeated Or Scored Upon During Last Season

Northwestern Athletic club will open its 1931 football season Sunday afternoon August 27, when it meets the strong Detroit Cardinal eleven at the club's field on Middlebelt road between Seven and Eight Mile roads.

N. W. A. C. was neither defeated or scored upon last season and indications are, having no injuries, that the club will be stronger this season. Practically the same lineup that carried the club's colors last year is again in harness and has been practicing for a month. Managers of the club state that the team is in fine condition and with stronger reserve material than they had a year ago, prospects are even brighter than formerly.

Players who saw much service with the team last year and who have reported for the 1931 season include Rosenboom, Gates and Christenson, ends; Lauth and Branch, guards; Nuna and McCreary, tackles; White, center; Wainwright and Rife, half backs; and Perrod, fullback. Hall is also putting in a bid for a backfield berth. Robinson is head coach of the team and plays quarter. Clare Kime is serving as an assistant coach.

## Hundreds Gather From Near And Far For Warner Funeral Service

With unostentatious services, hundreds of friends, from near and far gathered in Farmington last Friday afternoon to bid a last farewell to a native son, Harley D. Warner, who had died so suddenly and unexpectedly two days before. Not since his distinguished father, the late Governor Fred M. Warner, died eight years ago, has Farmington seen so large a funeral, or so many floral tributes. And not even the flowers sent in memory of the father exceeded in number and in beauty those that came in honor of his son.

## 3 Slightly Hurt In Monday Crash

### Mrs. E. A. Fink And Children Escape Serious Injury In Accident

A Farmington woman and two children had a remarkable escape from death or serious injury Monday, when the car in which they were enroute to Missoua skidded and turned over in the Irish Hills. Although the car was smashed beyond repair, the three occupants were unhurt except for minor cuts and bruises.

Mrs. E. A. Fink was driving the car, her son, Edward, and daughter, Arlene, being with her. The party were going to Boonville, Mo., where Edward will attend Kemper Military Academy this year. They left early Monday morning.

The pavement was wet and on the last grade in the Irish Hills, the car suddenly left the road and turned over.

After receiving first aid, the party hurried back to Farmington. Two other Farmington boys, Drayton Holcomb and Roy Macomber, had reserved seats on the train leaving for Boonville Monday evening from Detroit. When they boarded the train, Edward Fink was with them for the journey to Kemper.

The road in the Irish Hills vicinity of which the accident occurred is known as a particularly dangerous spot in wet weather, when the pavement is slippery. The Finks had purchased the machine. A four-passenger Buick was not insured.

## DETROITER PAYS FINE IN JUSTICE COURT THURSDAY

### Defendant Lost Control Of Car Last Week And Injured Boy

Dave Malkin, 45 1132 Lynn st., Detroit, who was arraigned in Justice John J. Schulte's court last week on a charge of reckless driving following a crash in which the automobile which he was driving struck and injured Robert Williams, 21, changed his plea to guilty. Thursday afternoon he was fined \$10 or 30 days in jail.

Malkin was unable to appear, having undergone an operation earlier this week. Leniency was given Malkin when it was learned that he was about to be evicted for non-payment of rent and that he was the father of four children. Arrangements were made for him to pay the fine.

## Memorial Meeting To Honor Late H. D. Warner

A memorial meeting in honor of the late Harley Warner is to be held soon by Farmington Exchange club of which he was first vice-president. The club Wednesday noon asked one of the members, Thomas McGee, to request his brother, Rev. James McGee of Flint to come to Farmington and speak at the memorial service.

The date of the memorial meeting will be announced as soon as arrangements are completed.

Try an Enterprise Linter.

## Board Considers Insuring School Bus; Get Ruling

### Board Discusses Proposition From Standpoint Of A Moral Obligation

Whether insurance for injuries or deaths in the Farmington school bus will be taken out by the Board of Education depends upon the Board's decision as to possible "moral obligation" to carry such insurance. A ruling that the school district is not liable for negligence in the operation of the school bus has been received by the Board from Attorney-General Paul W. Voorheis.

The Board discussed the problem at its September meeting last Thursday evening. The Attorney-General's opinion came in response to a letter from Mrs. Florence Lee, secretary of the Board, requesting a ruling. "School districts are governmental agencies and they are not liable for the negligence of their servants or agents," the opinion states. The letter goes on to state that "the duty of providing a means of education, at the public expense is a purely public duty, in the discharge of which the local body is exempt from liability."

The district probably would be liable, the Attorney-General stated, in case the district contracts with another district or an individual to transport pupils to school, "at least as to buses carrying such non-resident students." As to "the ordinary public liability policies written for owners of motor vehicles," the Attorney-General states, these are policies by which the company agrees to indemnify the car-owner from liability, and the company is not liable until a claim has been established against the owner, which could not be done in the case of the school district.

An opinion in similar vein was given the Board by A. G. Leonard, deputy county school commissioner.

The lowest bid for insurance, up to \$5,000 was \$63. with a \$5,000 to \$50,000 policy offered for \$79. "Moral Obligation" An insurance representative suggested, and the Board discussed the proposition that the Board has a moral if not a legal duty to protect the children of the district and their parents by insurance. It was suggested that if a child was seriously or fatally injured, parents in poor financial circumstances might have

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## EASTERN STARS PLANNING NOVEL PARTY NEXT WEEK

Member of Farmington Chapter O. E. S. and friends are sincerely invited to a coffee cake and Keno party at the home of Mrs. Edward Bauer 22635 Brookdale ave. on Friday, September 25 at 1:30.

Pennies for admission with prizes and fun galore.

## Strictly Family Affair Jumps Fence--Many Become Involved

It was strictly a family affair, involved with an eviction notice by Al J. Laing. Mr. Laing some months ago was married to Mrs. Westfall's sister-in-law, then Mrs. Edna Cox, a widow. Mrs. Cox and the late Harry Westfall having been brother and sister. The house occupied by Mrs. Bertha Westfall was generally understood, until recently at least, to have been owned by her mother-in-law, Mrs. Sophie Westfall, but the recent events indicate that Mr. Laing is the present owner.

The trouble began after Laing served the eviction notice. A gate in the rear of the house occupied by Mrs. Westfall lets out upon Thomas street, perhaps 20 feet east of the building in which Mr. Laing has his plumbing shop; Mr. Laing claiming that anyone coming through the gate passed upon his property, blocked the

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## Schools Will Open Monday Morning

### Farmington Public Schools Will Open Next Monday for the Year, Unless some Indications of Danger from Infantile Paralysis Develop This Week, Officials State. There are no cases in Farmington or vicinity, the nearest being at Milford, according to Dr. James A. Miller, city health officer.

School officials last week decided to set the opening date at September 21, unless cases developed. Dr. Miller told the Enterprise that he sees no danger in permitting the schools to open on that date.

## Deadline Nears For New Licenses

### Twenty-Five Percent Of Farmington Drivers Have Applied For Renewals

Approximately 90 automobile operators have filed application for a renewal of their drivers licenses in Farmington, according to Lee E. Doyle, chief of police. There are approximately 350 automobile operators in the city, Doyle estimates, but the number that secured their licenses after January 1, 1925 is unknown so no estimate of those who are approaching the danger line of October 31 can be calculated.

Licenses issued between January 1, 1925 and January 1, 1928 must be renewed before May 1, 1932.

All licenses issued after January 1, 1928 have 18 months to renew after the State law was enacted. This law went into effect May 1, 1931, giving persons whose licenses were issued during this period until September 1, 1932.

All applications for renewal must first receive the endorsement of a police officer. In Farmington this endorsement may be obtained from Chief Doyle, persons living outside of Farmington, but in Farmington Township may receive endorsement by applying to Deputy William Tamm at Farmington Junction.

## LEGION AUXILIARY CHOOSES OFFICERS FOR COMING YEAR

### To Install Officers Wednesday, September 30 At Special Meeting

The American Legion Auxiliary of Farmington held its annual election of officers at the new home Monday, September 14.

Officers elected for the new year are:

Mrs. Bertha Schroeder, president, Mrs. Isabelle Lucke, first vice-president; Mrs. Dorothy Smith, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. Margaret Hill, secretary; Mrs. Lillian Fisher, treasurer; Mrs. Minnie Hogle, chaplain; Mrs. Elizabeth Schaupter, sergeant-at-arms; Mrs. Hattie De Vriendt, historian.

Installation of officers will be held at a special meeting on Wednesday, September 30 at which time the annual banquet will be held for all members at 6:30 p. m. at the new Legion home.

## Miss Miriam Walters Marries C. H. Schmidt

The First Methodist Church of Astoria, Long Island was the scene of a pretty fall wedding, September 9 when Miss Miriam E. Walters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Park A. Walters of Yonkers, New York, became the bride of George H. Schmidt, Jr., of Woodside, Long Island. Miss Lydia L. Walters, sister of the bride was maid of honor and James J. Morris was best man.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt will live at Eaton Hall, Long Island City, where Mr. Schmidt is connected with the Long Island Savings Bank.

## State Is Paying Center Strip Of Grand River Ave.

### Interesting Story Told In Relation To Reversal Of Previous Plan

Paving of the center of Grand River road between Farmington Junction and the meeting-place of Grand River and the Cut-off, east of Farmington, was begun this week. A steam shovel and a concrete-mixer, with a considerable force of men, are at work on the job.

The hitherto unpaved portion, is 20 foot wide, between 20 foot strips of concrete on either side. After months of uncertainty, it was decided during the summer that this stretch of road would not be filled in to make a solid 60-foot slab of cement east of the Junction. Considerable work was done in making the dirt center concave, to give advantage in drainage of water from the pavement.

### Reverse Decision

The sudden and unheralded decision to lay concrete in the center strip is a reversal of the previous plan, and an interesting story is being told in explanation of the change. It is reported that a high state official was traveling from Lansing to Detroit in a motor car recently, and while on the stretch between the Junction and the Cut-off, was forced by another driver from the pavement, and had to take to the dirt center-strip. The dirt has been rather soft, and turning quickly upon it, except at low speed, is somewhat hazardous.

It is said that this official returned to Lansing much wrought-up about the danger of the road, and that action toward filling-in with concrete followed very quickly.

Laying of cement started Wednesday morning and probably will be finished within the next week or ten days.

## CIVIL SUIT TRIED IN FARMINGTON BY FERNDALE JUDGE

### James And Rosa King Win Civil Suit In Farmington Court

James King and Rosa King, his wife, colored, were awarded \$100.64 damages, \$10 costs and \$5 attorney fee in a civil suit Thursday afternoon. The defendant, Embridge Green of Milford, filed a cross bill asking for a total of \$250 in damages which was not allowed by Judge Earl Nash of Ferndale, who sat in place of Justice John J. Schulte of Farmington. The Kings originally asked for \$21.75.

King, who is a chauffeur for Dr. E. F. Holcomb, filed suit against Green for a year's rent and damage to his property. Mrs. King later joined him as co-plaintiff.

Green countered with a cross bill asking nearly identical damages for muck that he alleged King took from the property, taking horses away to cut hay and \$200 for trespass.

King was represented by Attorney Paul A. Pare of Farmington and Green by John Morris, a colored attorney of Detroit.

## THREE DETROITERS JAILED ON CHARGE OF APPLE STEALING

### Sentenced For Purloining Fruit From Property Of Albert Sulkowski Monday

Three Detroiters drew sentences of 15 days each in the county jail Monday when arraigned before Justice John J. Schulte on complaint of Albert Sulkowski for stealing apples from his property valued at \$30.

The three men sentenced were Anthony Morat 1739 Vermont Ave., Detroit, Elizer Jarry, 3045 Savoy Ave., Detroit and Phillip Nayarete, 304 Savoy Ave., Detroit.

The violators were given the choice of 15 days or \$15 but were unable to pay.

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