

Last One Of 4 Nonagenarians Taken By Death

Mrs. Kate Pettibone, Aged 98, Buried At Oakwood; Died Sunday

The last of Farmington's quartet of nonagenarians of a few years ago passed from the community when Mrs. Kate Pettibone, 98, Farmington's oldest resident, and the second oldest woman ever to live in Farmington, was buried Wednesday afternoon at Oakwood cemetery. Funeral services were held at the Farmington Methodist church, Rev. Floyd Charles Johnson officiating.

Three and a half years ago, Farmington was proud of the two women and a man, all past 90 years of age, and all enjoying life. The quartet was broken on July 22, 1927, the man being first to go. He was Constantine Collins, and he was 93 at his death.

A year and a half passed before the group was further reduced in number. On January 3,

Farmington Man First To Head Two Masonic Groups At Same Time



WILLIAM C. WAY

With the arrival of a new year in fraternal life, the Way session of a rare distinction among Masons of this area. Mr. Way is the first to hold at one time the leadership both of Northville Commandery and of Union Chapter, R. A. M. of Northville, each having many Farmington members.

In addition to holding simultaneously, the highest offices in the Northville Masonic organizations, Mr. Way is treasurer of Farmington Lodge No. 151, F. & A. M. He was installed into this office Monday evening with himself acting as installing officer for the other chair-holders of the lodge.

Mr. Way assumed charge of (Continued on page four)

Collection Of Clothes Successful

Round-Up Of Clothing For Community's Poor Is Highly Successful

Highly successful was the round-up of clothing for the needy held last weekend by the Parent-Teachers Association. Practically every home in Farmington was visited and most of them provided at least one or two items that will be a most helpful addition to the apparel of those requiring help. A pile of clothes nearly five feet high and several feet in diameter was at the schoolhouse as a result of the collection.

A large proportion of the clothing was found to be in perfect condition and the remainder will be renovated and repaired to enable the wearers to get the utmost good. Miss Rosetti Barbour, school nurse, will have charge of this work.

Eight boys of the community assisted Principal R. C. Burns and W. Allen Nelson in the collection. They were William Fleming, Walter Hoffman, Merton Lord, Walter Kelly, Stanford Nelson, Howard Ruelo, Russell Pagel, Ralph Smith. One of the lads worked not only throughout the day, but also during the evening in a final round-up of the homes which had been missed earlier.

FARMINGTON MAN UNABLE TO FURNISH BOND, IS IN JAIL

Joseph Sperkowski To Be Sentenced On Drunk Driving Charge In Circuit Court

Joseph Sperkowski of Farmington Township is in the County jail at Pontiac awaiting the convening of the next term of Circuit Court. He was ordered there Monday by Justice John J. Schulte when Sperkowski was unable to furnish bond of \$300 following arraignment on a charge of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor. Sperkowski pleaded guilty to the charge and waived examination.

Sperkowski was convicted on a similar charge in Farmington Justice Court October 16. Judge Schulte placed him on probation to Lee Doyle, chief of police, who made the arrest on the second charge and brought him before Judge Schulte.

Legion Commander Warns Members To File Claims

Warning is issued this week by Fred Schaeper, commander of Groves-Walker post, American Legion, that the time for World War veterans to file applications for the State soldiers' bonus will expire December 31. The time will not be extended, and no veteran who has not applied by the end of the year can obtain his bonus. Several years ago the Farmington post located a number of veterans who had not filed for benefits to which they were entitled, and assisted them in this way. The commander of any post member will be glad to help any ex-soldier in regard to the State bonus.

Hundreds Gather In Last Tribute To Dr. Holcomb

Deceased Had Practiced Medicine In Farmington For 39 Years

Attended by hundreds of friends, many of whom he had served for nearly 40 years as a physician, the body of the late Dr. Elliot Fraser Holcomb was borne to rest in Oakwood cemetery Tuesday afternoon. Dr. Holcomb died at Harper hospital, Detroit, Saturday night, after having undergone three operations. He was 64 years old.

Farmington Methodist church was packed to its doors by those who came to pay their last tribute to a man who had faithfully served his community for 39 years. Floral tributes from friends, fraternal orders and civic organizations were profuse and silently expressed his high esteem in which

Surprise Visit Of Son Relieves Father

The following appeared in the Kemper Military School Bulletin December 19, at Boonville, Missouri, where Drayton F. Holcomb is a student.

Our patron, Dr. E. F. Holcomb of Farmington, Michigan, underwent a very serious operation ten days ago. The operation was followed by a case of hiccoughs that had become alarming when his son, Cadet Drayton Holcomb arrived home on special summons. The father was so surprised and pleased to see his son that the hiccoughs left him completely and he is now in a fair way to an early recovery.

Dr. Holcomb was held by the Farmington and County citizenry.

Rev. George Evans, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Ann Arbor, and Rev. Floyd Charles Johnson, pastor of Farmington Methodist church, were in charge of the funeral services.

Born in Canada

Elliot Fraser Holcomb was born near St. Catharines, Ontario, in 1867. He received his degree in medicine from the Michigan Medical college at Detroit in 1889 and in the same year was married to Elizabeth Ann Sherman of Southfield.

In 1892 Dr. and Mrs. Holcomb came to Farmington. Two children, F. Holcomb and Elizabeth Ann Holcomb, Dr. Holcomb is survived by his widow, the two children and two brothers, A. T. Holcomb of Novi, and Beverly Holcomb of St. Catharines, Ontario.

Active In Masonry

Dr. Holcomb had been active in Masonic circles for many years. He was a member of Farmington Lodge, F. & A. M., of the Commandery and Union Chapter at Northville, and of the Moslem Temple, Detroit. He was also active in the Oakland County Medical society and was a familiar figure in Pontiac and County medical circles.

Old residents of Farmington recall Dr. Holcomb answering calls too distant to walk, with a horse and buggy. He was a familiar figure throughout the northern part of Wayne County and the southern part of Oakland County and the acquaintances and friendships made during his 39 years of active practice were countless.

Business Places Close
Farmington business was suspended for an hour Tuesday at the time of Dr. Holcomb's funeral, called on for remarks and responded. The new worshipful master thanked the members for the honor bestowed upon him, describing himself as "the happiest man," and pledging his best efforts toward a successful year. A. L. Ross turned over to Mr. Himmel the title of "junior past master."

Methodist Choir Will Sing Christmas Carols

If you wish to have Christmas carols sung Christmas Eve in front of your home, place a lighted candle in your window.

That is the advice that members of the Methodist church choir, who plan to tour Farmington streets Thursday night singing carols, give to Farmington residents. Two or three hours are expected to be devoted by 15 or more members of the choir to singing "old-time" carols. Carols will be sung only in front of homes where a candle burns.

All Neezy Get Holiday Baskets

Fifty Families In Community Receive Food For Christmas Dinners—Collect \$156

Farmington will have done its bit for the needy of the community by nightfall Thursday when 50 baskets, containing all the necessities to make up a Christmas dinner, will have been distributed throughout the area. Mayor Arthur Lamb, assisted by Alfred Smith, Fred Schaeper and James Shearer are doing the distributing.

Committees of the American Legion and Exchange club collected a total of \$156 for the Community Fund. This is less than half the amount collected last year. Eight more baskets were filled this year than in 1930. Thirty-four were distributed in 1929.

The contents of each basket consisted of a peck of potatoes, a peck of apples, two heads of cabbage, two cans of milk, two cans of corn, two cans of peas, two cans of tomatoes, two pounds of sugar, two pounds of butter, two to five loaves of bread, 25 pounds of flour and meat averaging 10 pounds to the family.

Mayor Lamb, on behalf of the American Legion and Exchange Club desires to thank all who contributed to the Community Fund and especially the business men who sponsored the barrels for food collection, from which enough food was derived to fill ten baskets.

5 PEOPLE ESCAPE SERIOUS INJURY IN NIGHT CRASH

Accident Occurred On Curve Where Two Were Killed Three Years Ago

Five Farmington young people escaped serious injury Monday night when a Buick coupe driven by Edward Fink missed a turn on Farmington road just north of the City limits and went into a ditch. The other occupants of the car were Marvete Auten, Elaine Auten, Virginia Hinber and Pierson Roos.

Marvete Auten was the only one to receive injuries. Her head was cut but it was not considered serious. This is the same curve where two persons were killed three years ago last summer when the driver failed to see the curve and his car crashed into a tree.

Filling Station "Hold-Up" "Cleared Up" By Officers

When a hold-up of a gasoline station on Orchard Lake Road north of Ten Mile Road was reported two weeks ago, deputy sheriffs in this vicinity dug into the matter vigorously. They felt that if every effort were not made in regard to an event of that kind only about a mile away from their booth.

From a report made by Deputy Joseph DeVriendt it appears that the "hold-up" might be described by some as a sort of "practical joke," tied up with a marital tangle. Anyway, so Deputies Tammy and DeVriendt report, they have established that no hold-up men came into their territory "and got away with it."

Seek To Block \$300,000 Refund Of Drain Taxes

New Legal Battle Begun By Bondholders; Suit In Federal Court

The Southfield Storm Sewer Drain muddle is again in court, with \$300,000 at stake. Whether this money shall go to the County, to Southfield Township, and to taxpayers of the township, or to bondholders, is the newest legal issue. Southfield Township alone has \$56,000 to gain or lose, money which it has paid in taxes at-large on the drain, and which would have been returned to it except for the newly-filed litigation. In the complaint, the bondholders ask that a receiver be appointed to take charge of the \$300,000, in place of County officials.

Earl L. Phillips, attorney for Southfield Township, and George Cram, civil counsel for Oakland County, will go into the United States District Court at Detroit next Monday morning to answer the plea of Ohio bondholders that the County treasurer be restrained from paying back to the sources from which it was raised in taxes.

The plaintiffs in the latest action seek to overturn a decision of Circuit Judge Guy Miller of Detroit who sat in Oakland and rendered a decision to the effect that the entire proceedings in drain project were void, under a previous Supreme Court decision which had set the proceedings void as to the Clintons, Smiths and other property-owners of the drain district who had not consented to the project. Judge Miller ordered that the entire \$300,000 collected in taxes be returned to the taxpayers on the ground that the bondholders bought the bonds "with knowledge of their infirmities."

Ohio Bank Plaintiff

In the present case, the Hicksville National Bank of Hicksville, O., and other bondholders enter the federal court on the basis of their being non-residents of the State. They ask that the federal court rule on the matter, and that pending this decision, the County officials be restrained from repaying the \$300,000 back to the sources of taxation, and that a receiver be appointed for the \$300,000 to safeguard the bondholders' interests.

The receivership asked by the plaintiff would go to still greater lengths, however. The Southfield Drain was nearly a three-million dollar project. Bonds were issued on it, totalling \$2,753,000, and sold. In addition, \$300,000 was collected in taxes and \$147,000 has already accrued in interest on the money obtained from sale of the bonds. This makes a total of about \$3,200,000, however, \$550,000 has been spent, \$152,000 on construction, \$420,000 for interest, \$200,000 on principal, and \$78,000 for incidentals. There remains \$2,350,000. The plaintiffs ask that receivership be declared (Continued on page eight)

WOMAN'S CLUB WILL HEAR ILLUSTRATED LECTURE JANUARY 6

Dr. Harvey A. Waite Of State Narcotic Association Will Speak

The Farmington Woman's Club will hold its next meeting January 6, at the Community Hall of the Methodist church. Dr. Harvey A. Waite of the Narcotic Association of Michigan has been secured as the speaker and has chosen for his subject, "Manufacture and Sale of Narcotics." His lecture will be illustrated.

The club members participated in a Christmas party Wednesday, December 16, at the home of Mrs. J. A. Dalrymple. A playlet was presented entitled "Letter of Introduction" and Miss Katherine Sprague gave a reading concerning Sir Lohinhivar. Members answered roll-call with a poem pertaining to Christmas.

Mrs. Pettibone Third Oldest In Longevity

Only two Farmington residents have ever attained a greater age than Mrs. Pettibone. Mrs. Chauncey Noble who died in 1928, is the only person to reach 100 years in Farmington's history. Lealand Green, who died about 25 years ago, was well advanced in his ninety-ninth year at the time of his death.

1929. Mrs. Buelah Noble, who had celebrated her hundredth birthday the previous March, passed away.

Two remained, both alert and lively and looking forward to each day with as much enthusiasm as young folks in their teens. But it was only for a little over six months before death again took the third of the group. On August 17, 1929, Mrs. Abigail McGee passed on, at the age of 92. Mrs. Pettibone, second oldest of the four, was the last to go.

Mrs. Pettibone died at her home on West Grand River avenue Sunday night following an illness of nine days with pneumonia. Her death came eight days following her ninety-eighth birthday anniversary.

Mrs. Pettibone was born in Chatham County, New York, December 12, 1833. She came to Michigan with her parents in 1839 and settled on a farm near Franklin in Oakland County. January 1, 1853 she was married to John B. Pettibone and together they moved to Farmington township. She had lived in the community for 79 years.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Pettibone, two of whom survive. Mrs. Lena Cruise and Charles Pettibone of Farmington are the surviving children. Clarence and Levi preceded her in death.

Mrs. Pettibone is also survived by a large number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mrs. Pettibone is the ninth of old Farmington residents who have died in 1931. All of them (Continued on page eight)

Publish Enterprise Earlier Next Week

The Farmington Enterprise will be published on Wednesday next week instead of on Thursday as usual due to New Year's Day coming on Friday. It is imperative that all copy be in the office one day earlier than usual.

Correspondence and personal items should be in by 5 p. m. Monday but will be accepted until 11 a. m. Tuesday. All want ads must be in the office by Tuesday night. Advertising copy should be in one day earlier than usual as well as church notices.