

The Farmington Enterprise

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Mass Meetings Protesting Food Conditions Held

Poor Commission Charged By Officials With Distributing Spoiled Meat To Indigents

Mass meetings of protest in this area, held by men and women on the public welfare list and an investigation of "unfit food" charges, to be undertaken, by the Board of Supervisors, have featured the Oakland County poor relief situation during the past week. A meeting, following several others of similar nature, is scheduled to take place Thursday evening in Southfield Community Hall, on Ford Republic Road, at which the present system of handling poor relief is to be discussed.

Charges that stale meat and other unfit foods have been distributed to those on the welfare list were made before the Board of Supervisors Tuesday, and an investigation is to be made immediately, with a report, probable within the next ten days or two weeks.

Complaints against the newly appointed County Poor Commission, some of them from Farmington Township, were registered with the Board of Supervisors this week. Spoiled meat and poor distribution of food were the major grievances.

Supervisor Arthur Coe of Farmington Township said that people in his community had ordered salt pork because the meat that had been provided them was spoiled. Supervisor Oliver Gibbs of Avon Township asserted that meat delivered to indigents in Avon Township was spoiled and, in addition, he charged, that the indigents were charged 14 cents a pound for chuck meat, or seven cents more than it was necessary to pay elsewhere, on work orders.

Supervisor Lamb said that several cases had come to his attention where the inelasticity of the dole program was working a hardship on indigents and the County as well. Some of the cases were welfare list, it is claimed, receive an overabundance of some foodstuffs and too little of others. Similar complaints were heard from Avon Township officials who claimed that the poor Commission supplied the needy only with potatoes and other products which they were sometimes given by nearby farmers and that they lacked vegetables and milk necessary to prevent disease.

Protests against the large-scale distribution system have not been confined to indigents or to supervisors. Merchants and farmers throughout the County have been denouncing the system, for various reasons. In a vigorous front page editorial this week, the Rochester Clarion voiced the protest of farmers against the purchase by the poor Commission of huge quantities of condensed milk from Nebraska while dairy farmers of the County have on their hands large surpluses of milk which brings but 25 cents a hundred or 15¢ cents a quart. Merchants, particularly in Royal Oak, and in small towns, have been protesting against the losses of business resulting to them from the truck-distribution system, a considerable part of their trade having been welfare orders.

Incorrect Statement Made In Enterprise

A statement appeared in last week's Enterprise which was misleading and incorrect in the story concerning the return of delinquent tax money to the City and Township. The story said that the quarterly statement as announced in the Enterprise was received by Mark L. Bachelor, Township treasurer. This was a statement for the City and of course was received by L. C. Thayer, City treasurer.

PLAN SAUERKRAUT SUPPER

The young women of the Salem Evangelical church will give a sauerkraut supper Tuesday, January 19, at the church.

New Officers Installed At Edgewood Lodge

Newly elected officers of Edgewood Rebekah lodge, No. 290 were inducted into office at a public installation Wednesday, January 6. Officers installed were Edna Fox, noble grand, Isabelle Menke, vice-grand, Mammie Armistead, outside guardian, Bertha Repp, inside guardian, Edna Blain, musician, Jean Lays, past noble grand, Jessie Roberts, chaplain, Helen Oliver, recording secretary, Millie Allen, financial secretary, Olive Parks, treasurer, R. S. to N. G., Elizabeth Norris, and L. S. to V. G., Alice Maltby and Laura Aldrich.

Jean Lays, past noble grand, received a plaque from Mrs. E. Bos and a Past Noble Grand collar and pin from the members of the lodge.

Meeting Date Is Chosen By Club

Michigan State College Professor Will Address Club Members. And Fruit Growers

Prof. V. C. Gardner, head of the horticulture department at Michigan State College, will address members of Farmington Exchange Club and representative fruit growers of this section at a noon luncheon, Wednesday, January 27, it was decided Wednesday by the Exchange Club. Prof. Gardner has been notified of the date and gave assurance that he will be in Farmington for the luncheon.

Adoption of the luncheon plan with only a limited number of people attending is a modification of the Exchange Club's original idea. Plans were first made to hold a second "good will" banquet modelled on the one staged a few weeks ago, inviting many from the surrounding area and cities. It is thought, however, that who are vitally interested in the fruit industry in this part of the county will be in attendance.

Arthur M. Arthur of Detroit spoke to the Exchange Club Wednesday. His remarks were personal recollections of James Whitcomb Riley whom Mr. McArthur knew for 20 years. Mr. McArthur had with him a picture of Riley surrounded by a group of children whom he was entertaining at a birthday party in 1916, just before the poet's death. It was given to Arthur Lamb.

Joseph Hinmelspach, who has not been associated with the Exchange Club for some time, became an active member again; this week.

DIRECTORS ELECT OFFICERS AT BANK, STOCKHOLDERS MEET

Clarence Wood Elected To Board Of Directors; Board Reduced To Nine Members

Stockholders and director's meetings of the Peoples State Bank were held this week with slight changes resulting in the personnel of officers and directors. The board of directors was reduced from ten to nine members with Clarence Wood being the new member elected. Charles Ely and Dr. E. F. Holcomb, who died during the past year, were members of the board. Ernest V. Blanchard was named chairman of the board, other members being as follows: James L. Hogle, Carl G. Hogle, Allan H. F. Fartindale, Leo F. Gildemeister, Emil Ross, Dr. James A. Miller, John Fitzpatrick and Clarence Wood.

Officers named by the board are James L. Hogle, president, Leo F. Gildemeister, first vice-president, Carl G. Hogle, second vice-president, John Fitzpatrick, cashier, and George C. Gildemeister, assistant cashier.

HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICES

Memorial services for the late Dr. E. F. Holcomb, a past patron of Farmington, O. E. S. and a charter member and Mrs. Kate Pettibone were held by members of Farmington, O. E. S. at the regular meeting, Tuesday night. A large attendance was present.

Million County Loan Re-funding Causes Battle

Says Securing Of Original \$1,000,000 Loan Imposition On Tax Payers

Oakland County's Board of Supervisors had a merry battle Tuesday over re-funding of a \$1,000,000 loan which falls due February 1.

Declaring that the original loan of \$1,000,000 secured by Oakland County December 1, 1930, and renewed Tuesday at an increased interest rate, was the result of "high-pressure salesmanship" and that the securing of the loan was "an imposition upon the tax payers of Oakland County," Mayor Arthur Lamb of Farmington denounced the proposition. He was one of 14 supervisors to oppose the action of the Board in securing renewal of the loan.

Other members of the board, and members of the Board of Auditors, applying of the loan, declared that the County could not help itself, if the state was necessary in order to keep the County's credit good and avoid default. Further, they pointed out, should borrowing conditions improve at any time, the County can borrow elsewhere at a lower rate and repay this loan, thus saving interest. It is only necessary, under the terms of the loan, that the County take up at least \$25,000 at a time.

The Board voted 28-14 to approve the loan which is to be used in refunding bonds of a similar amount that fall due February 1. The loan will bear interest at 6 per cent and is to be repaid in installments that will last through 1936. At a previous meeting of the Board a majority of the members voiced the opinion that inasmuch as the loan that is to be refunded was at a 5 1/2 per cent interest rate, the new loan should be made at the same rate.

Mayor Lamb said he was opposed to the increased rate for the new loan. Besides setting a bad precedent, Mr. Lamb was of the opinion that "if your credit is good at 5 per cent, it ought to be good at 5 1/2 per cent."

Threaten To Tie Up Funds

In commenting on the Board's reversal of its previous stand on the loan Mr. Lamb said that he believed the majority of the Supervisors who changed their vote were influenced by a threat of the securities company to tie up funds if the loan was not taken up. The securities company has pointed out that if all the securities company could have done was to secure a judgment and mandamus the Board to spread the million dollars on the tax rolls next October. Payment of the million dollars would then remain optional with the individual tax payers.

Retirement Planned

The new bond issue will consist of 1,000 bonds at \$1,000 each. The County will take up \$100,000 of the amount February 1 and \$100,000 more on June 1.

The remainder of the obligation will be repaid at the rate of \$200,000 annually. There is a provision however, that the County can take up any part or all of the issue earlier by giving 30 days notice to the New York concern and in amounts of \$25,000 or more.

Lamb Urges Appropriation For Unemployment Group

Upon the suggestion of Supervisor Arthur Lamb the Oakland County Board of Supervisors voted to appropriate \$300 Wednesday for the Oakland County Committee of Unemployment Relief. Supervisor Lamb urged the appropriation, stating that the committee had done much good and had given more than 60 men employment.

The committee was named to cooperate with Gov. Wilber M. Brucker's Unemployment Relief committee.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Montgomery of Detroit were Thursday guests of Dr. and Mrs. James A. Miller.

Early Bank Dividends Are Possible Through Decision of Judge Doty

A million and a half dollars, tied up for months in closed banks in Oakland County, including Farmington State Savings Bank, will probably be released to 40,000 citizens of the County within the next 60 days, as a result of a decision by Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty, to the effect that public funds are not a preferred claim. Unless reversal should be obtained on appeal to the Supreme Court, which is unlikely to be taken, the delayed dividends will be available and will bring welcome relief to thousands of homes throughout the County.

Judge Doty's decision was hailed with joy throughout the County by bank depositors, and welcomed too, by receivers of the closed banks, although the latter were

Supervisors Of This Area Against Appeal

Supervisors of this part of Oakland County are against appealing to the Supreme Court the decision of Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty that the County's public funds in closed banks are not preferred claims, which makes possible early dividends.

Mayor Arthur Lamb, Farmington, said he believes the best interests of the people at large will be served if there is no appeal. "We don't know how it would result anyway," said Mayor Lamb, "and undoubtedly the depositors could use it to best advantage right now, anyway."

Supervisor Arthur Coe, Farmington Township: "I think the wisest course is to let the decision stand. The people need the million dollars or more badly just now. Further, an appeal would cost money, the outcome is doubtful, and the money will do the most good in the hands of the depositors."

Supervisor Charles Hamilton, Novi Township: "Of course many are interested in the County funds, but we must consider the wash woman's mite, too. I would be opposed to appealing."

Supervisor Joseph A. Long, Commerce Township, member of the committee considering an appeal: "Unless something different develops from what I have learned thus far, I would be against appealing. I believe all should share alike."

more reserved in their comments, because of the possibility of appeal. The Board of Supervisors instructed Tuesday its Ways and Means Committee to confer with Prosecutor Clarence L. Smith, Civil Council George Crum and report regarding appeal, but a number of influential supervisors have already expressed themselves as in accord with that part of the Judge's decision which referred to the hardships visited upon many homes by present financial conditions, and the necessity for a humane view of the problem.

From the standpoint of law, Judge Doty pointed out that in the test cases before him, the banks in each instance had less cash on hand at the time of closing than the public moneys on deposit. According to law, the public money on deposit should have been covered by depository bonds, but the county officials had, a few months previous to the bank closings, tried to obtain renewals of expiring bonds without success.

Quotes Tecumseh Case

Judge Doty quoted the United Savings Bank of Tecumseh case, recently decided by the Michigan Supreme Court, to the effect that public money deposited unlawfully as in the instance of depositing without sufficient bonds, becomes a trust fund, and as such, is a preferred claim. But the Judge also pointed out another requirement of the Tecumseh case ruling, which was that not only must the trust fund exist, but it must be possible to trace it "or the spec." (Continued on page eight)

Club Women Of County To Meet In Farmington

Members Of Oakland County Federation Plan All Day Session Friday

Club women from all parts of Oakland County will meet in Farmington Friday, for the mid-year meeting of the Oakland County Federation of Women's Club. The business meeting will convene at 10 o'clock at the Farmington M. E. church and will be followed by a luncheon. Mrs. Norman Barrons is chairman of the luncheon committee.

The afternoon session will be mainly devoted to hearing Rev. Sidney D. Eva of Mt. Clemens who has chosen for his topic, "Through Tennyson Land." Special music has also been planned for the pleasure of the visiting women.

The Oakland Federation is composed of 22 clubs numbering 1220 members. At least one delegate from each of the clubs is expected to be in Farmington for the meeting.

Following are the committees of the Federation for 1932: Applied Education, Mrs. William Sharp, Oxford, chairman; Mrs. Thomas Heldt, Pleasant Ridge, Mrs. R. D. Tyler, Pontiac. Legislative, Mrs. A. P. Peppers, Pleasant Ridge, chairman, Mrs. Dan Smith, Milford, Mrs. W. G. Waldon, Hazel Park.

American Citizenship, Mrs. D. C. Castell, Pontiac, chairman, Mrs. W. A. Neumann, Royal Oak, Mrs. John Narrin, Ortonville. International Relations, Mrs. George Kimball, Jr., Waterford, chairman, Mrs. W. G. Wickford, Ferndale, Mrs. E. J. Lederle, Royal Oak.

Fine Arts, Mrs. K. J. Neidjer, Orion, chairman, Mrs. Howard Wataham, Holly, Mrs. Harrison Johnson, Farmington. Publicity, Mrs. F. R. Gross, Royal Oak, chairman, Mrs. H. M. Watson, Pontiac, Mrs. Wesley Brower, Oxford.

Public Welfare, Mrs. G. W. Stark, Ferndale, chairman, Mrs. E. Osunamer, Leonard, Mrs. Thomas Cade, Rochester, Mrs. Lucy King, Clarkston, Mrs. C. S. Brill, Ferndale, Mrs. H. V. Hancock, Pontiac.

Institutional Relations, Miss Merlah Andrews, Farmington, chairman, Mrs. Bert Owen, Keego Harbor, Mrs. Lyle Baker, Clawson. Rest Room, Mrs. George Cleary, Pontiac, chairman, Miss Marie Kier, Pontiac, Mrs. Fay Leslie, Clarkston.

American Home, Mrs. Hugh Dodge, Holly, chairman, Mrs. E. H. Patton, Pontiac, Mrs. L. C. Beck, Royal Oak. Club Extension, Mrs. Mabel Gardner, Royal Oak, chairman, Mrs. Clarence Vleit, Birmingham, Mrs. Mae Oxford, Rochester. Junior Membership, Mrs. E. A. Wellman, Pontiac, chairman, Mrs. Walter Plumb, Pleasant Ridge, Mrs. B. D. Anderson, Orion, Mrs. Lewis C. Erb, Royal Oak.

DETROIT WOMAN INJURED IN AUTO CRASH NEAR NOVI

Two Cars Meet Head-on On Railroad Viaduct On Grand River

One woman suffered severe scalp lacerations and two automobiles were badly damaged Tuesday afternoon in an automobile accident on the viaduct just west of Novi on Grand River.

Mrs. C. Granger of 4382 Philadelphia avenue, Detroit, was taken to the Sessions Hospital at Northville but her condition was not regarded as serious. She was accompanied by B. B. Granger of Detroit who was driving a Nash coupe.



JUDGE FRANK L. DOTY

State, Property Owner Disagree

Mark Daines Differs With Highway Representatives Over Value Of Apple Trees

A possible obstacle to the Highway Department's plans for constructing the Farmington Cut-off was seen this week when it became known that representatives of the Highway Department and Mark Daines, a property owner on the proposed route, have not come to an agreement regarding the value of property which the State seeks for right-of-way.

The proposed route of the Cut-off, according to the most recent survey, runs diagonally through Mr. Daines' apple orchard. Approximately 90 apple trees stand on the land sought by the State. The usual fee paid by the State for such trees, it is understood, is \$25, which according to Mr. Daines is not equal to the value of the trees, most of which are 25 years old.

The original survey for the Cut-off ran almost directly east and west across the north end of Mr. Daines' orchard and only a few trees would have been lost, the majority of which are plum trees.

It was reported Wednesday that all bids of contractors for the grading contract, which is and would be opened next Tuesday, in all probability the contract will be awarded before the end of next week, grading work to start at the contractor's earliest convenience.

ROBERT EAGLE, 83 OLD RESIDENT OF TOWNSHIP, DIES

Deceased Had Been A Resident Of Farmington Township For 43 Years

Funeral services for Robert George Eagle, aged 83, father of Ward Eagle, were held from the farm home at North Farmington Tuesday. Rev. Edward Dunlavy officiated. Burial was at Commerce.

Mr. Eagle had been in poor health for some time. He had lived in Farmington Township for 43 years. He was born in West Bloomfield Township and was the son of Solomon and Eliza Eagle, who settled in Oakland County in 1834.

Mr. Eagle was married in 1873 to Bessie Crotcher who survives him. He leaves also a son, Ward, and a daughter, Zaida, both of Farmington, and a sister, Mrs. Sarah Rockwell, who lives near Walled Lake on the Pontiac road. Mrs. Rockwell is seriously ill and is not aware of her brother's death.