

The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR No. 40.

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Denies Attack On Farmington Township Board

Mrs. McCullough, Speaker At Meeting, Submits Statement For Publication

Denial that she attacked the Farmington Township Board and others at the meeting of the Board held July 19, has been made by Mrs. W. H. McCullough. A copy of the speech which Mrs. McCullough claims to have made on that occasion has been furnished to the Enterprise for publication, together with the list of questions addressed to the Township Board.

Immediately following her remarks at the meeting, Mrs. McCullough was asked by the Enterprise representative for a copy of her written speech, that it might be published, but the request was refused.

The statement which has since been submitted to the Enterprise for publication over the signature of Mrs. McCullough follows:

Questions Put to Farmington Township Board 7-19-32

1. "What do the items totalling \$445 of Printing and Advertising paid to the Farmington Enterprise as shown in annual report of 3-31-32 cover?"

2. "For what were items totalling \$465 paid G. H. Ruhling, surveyor?"

3. "For what were items totalling \$1575 paid Winterhalter & Glaser? Would it be possible to eliminate this item entirely?"

4. "We note also nearly \$1100 paid on fire truck and equipment. Is some of this amount part payment on the truck itself?"

5. "Turning to exhibit A of report, you show a net fund deficit of \$19,022.17—does that state the exact amount owing by the township out of uncollected taxes? If not, what does?"

6. "What is your amount of uncollected township taxes as of 3-31-32? \$112,000.00 in round numbers?" "Yes."

7. "Does this include any other items than township taxes?" "Subtracting from \$112,078.85 the bills due of 19,000 leaves \$93,000 approximately levied by the township in excess of actual expenditures or needs—as of 3-31-32."

8. "What is the amount of budget fixed for the year ending 3-31-32? Highway Improvement Fund, . . . and for 3-31-33 . . . Road Repair Fund, . . . Welfare Fund, . . . General Fund."

9. "Is there a maximum limit fixed by law for the amount the township can be assessed?" "Co—Yes."

10. "Is there a minimum tax limit fixed by law for the amount the township can be assessed?"

11. "What are main items composing General Fund Budget for present year?"

12. "As your Gen. Fund expenditures for past year show less than \$13,000 spent with unpaid bills of \$5,746 a total of about \$18,000, why did you levy a \$30,000 budget?"

13. "Would the law permit you to get along without levying any township budget this year?"

14. "This is a government of the people for the people and by the people."

"It is not the duty of the township board to fix the tax budget, but it is the duty of the voters at the annual township meeting."

"They have failed to do this. By their failure to do so—partly prevented by several reasons, they have abdicated that right to the township Board."

"When any taxing body levies taxes far in excess of actual needs that taxing body becomes a dangerous instrument in their hands, and we find many bad results accruing."

"Less than two months ago, I heard a man, prominent a few counties to the North of us and in Oakland County, say that if someone offered him the best farm in Oakland County—that farm free of debt with all taxes paid to date—he would not accept it and promise to keep it and pay the taxes for ten years. Why? Because of the bonded indebtedness and enormous tax levy, he would not expect any farm to produce the necessary amount."

"The assessed valuation of Farmington Township as recently fixed by the Board of Review is in round figures \$6,241,000 while reserves for uncollected taxes for

Capt. Thomas Kerr, Sea Captain Of Sailboat Days, Has 93rd Birthday

Tuesday was a day of special note for a man and woman who are probably the oldest living couple in or around Farmington. Captain Thomas Kerr and his wife, Agnes, who make their home with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Day L. Dickerson, of 33620 Grand River. Capt. Kerr was 93 years old Tuesday. Mrs. Kerr is 89.

There was no special celebration. The captain, one of the few remaining sailors who really sailed, is not given to ceremony. It was just another day to him. Active and energetic as men half or even one-third his age.

Capt. Kerr now mows the lawn at the Dickerson home, and this week was no exception. His wife, however, has been confined to bed for a year or more. When it is said that Capt. Kerr is an old sailor, that's exactly

what it meant. A sailor, not a steamship man. He was what used to be called a "canvas man," that is, he was on the water when canvas was the only means of marine travel. He spent many years before that, finishing up as a captain on Great Lakes boats. He was never on the steamboats, and in fact the coming of the steamboat led him to leave the waters that had been his home, and turn to farming.

It is half a century since he left the Lakes and he farmed successfully for many years. He is now some 16 years ago to make his home in Farmington.

A quiet man, little giving to talking, is Capt. Kerr, but those who know him best say that he had down the drain pipe from the roof. His right arm, from the elbow down, was lame but he recovered shortly.

All of the doors of the furnace were blown open by the force of the blast caused by the chimney collapsing.

The house is one of the newest and finest in the neighborhood, being owned by Mr. and Mrs. W. Miller, former publishers of the Enterprise.

At about the same time that the Grimme's residence was hit, the house of Allen Martindale, located on the Hill Road, was also struck.

Mrs. Martindale, who was all alone in the house, heard the crash and discovered that the curtains in the hall on the first floor were afire. She put the fire out herself and was not forced to call the fire department.

SCHRADER CLUB HAS MEETING IN THE TOWN HALL

Score of Democratic Candidates Appeal For Support Of Voters

The "Schrader for Sheriff" club held a rally Wednesday night at the Town Hall attended by about 60 people.

Voters, besides being urged to support the individual candidates, were asked to decline the twenty-year reign of the Republican Party which the candidates declared.

"It is responsible for the present conditions in Oakland County," Harry Hoffman, of Detroit, the main speaker of the evening, urged the election of Schrader because of his past record.

Other speakers were: Maynard Quigg, F. P. Peltier, candidate for County Clerk; Chas. P. Webster, of Pontiac, candidate for Congress; Orph Holmes, of Ferndale, candidate for Circuit Court Commissioner; Mrs. Florence McInerney, of Pontiac, Register of Deeds; Clyde Fenner, of Detroit, Congress; Clara Burke, of Clarkston, County Clerk; Charles Holman, of Ferndale, Circuit Court Commissioner; Francis D. Morris, of Ferndale, Prosecuting Attorney; Stephen Clinton, of Clarkston, Congress; M. J. Murphy, of Northville, Congress.

Albert C. Widmer, of Royal Oak, was the chairman of the meeting.

Softball Tournament Planned For Gala Day

The championship of Farmington softball teams will be decided on Gala Day, an all day outing sponsored by the Groves-Walker Post of the American Legion, to be held Labor Day.

Carl Goers and Howard Warner, baseball committeemen, are planning a three game series in the morning with four Farmington teams participating. It is hoped that the play-offs will attract and interest many.

The first game of the day will start at 9 o'clock in the morning. The schedule and names of the teams will be announced in the future. It is expected that the games will be held at the athletic field west of the school building.

Farmington Stores To Help With "Kiddies" Day

Farmington merchants are distributing free tickets for "Kiddies' Day," sponsored by the Walled Lake Amusement Park, which is to be held Tuesday, August 16.

The day has been planned to give the children a good time. The tickets which the merchants are distributing will allow them free rides on the thrillers. Various forms of field sports will also be held for the entertainment of the children.

Lightning Strikes Two Farmington Houses Tuesday

Grimme And Martindale Homes Are Not Seriously Damaged By Bolts

Lightning struck twice in Farmington Tuesday night. In both cases, the fires that were started were put out at once and little damage resulted.

At 10:30 o'clock the chimney on Mrs. G. E. Grimme's house, at 23009 Maple Avenue was struck by the lightning. A small blaze started on the roof but was extinguished by the rain. Gilbert Grimme, son of Mrs. Grimme, who was in the basement of the house at the time, was partially stunned by the high current that traveled down the drain pipe from the roof. His right arm, from the elbow down, was lame but he recovered shortly.

All of the doors of the furnace were blown open by the force of the blast caused by the chimney collapsing.

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WALLED LAKE M. E. CHOR WINS STATEWIDE HONOR

Singing Organization Captures First Place In "A" Division At Lansing

The Walled Lake M. E. Choir of 28 voices again demonstrated its unusually high capability by finishing in first place in the "A" division of the annual choir singing contest at the East Lansing, last Friday.

During the past 4 years the choir has been a consistent prize winner having won besides this year's first prize of \$60.00, three second prizes of \$60.00 each, and one third prize of \$30.00.

The victory was especially significant inasmuch as the choir finishing second this year came out ahead of the Walled Lake choir last year.

Charles Hutton, director of the local organization, well deserves the victory of this year. It represents five years of constant striving and hard work with the co-operation of the members. Such a record could not have been accomplished without regular attendance and constant work of both the leader and the members of the choir.

Mrs. Paul McKibben is also to be commended on her faithfulness and excellent work as the choir accompanist.

Prizes awarded in the contest as follows: Class "A" Walled Lake, first and Bristol, second.

On Sunday morning, August 14, the choir will be heard in an all musical program, assisted by instrumentalists and vocal soloists. This will be a gala program in celebration of the honor both to the choir and to the church.

Honored By Legion

MYRON J. CARRIER



MYRON J. CARRIER

Carrier Chosen For High Office

Unanimously Elected By Legionaires Of New Seventeenth District

For the first time in a dozen years of service and leadership in affairs of the American Legion, Myron ("Mike") Carrier of Farmington heard himself boomed, hissed and shouted down by a hundred or more of his fellow-Legionaires at the monthly meeting of the Seventeenth District organization in Pontiac.

The hotings and cat-calls came in a spontaneous outburst when the Farmington man tried to refuse election to the office of alternate committeeman for the new Seventeenth District, the second highest honor in the organization.

Mr. Carrier had just a few moments before made the nomination, stating speech by Joseph F. MacGregor of Birmingham for committeeman, the highest office. MacGregor was elected without another candidate being named.

When nominations for the next office in line were called for, Carrier was nominated, he arose and started to decline the nomination and object to it. It was then that the howls started. He flung out his hands, palms downward, in an appeal to the Legionaires to listen to him. The harder he tried to get them to heed his words the louder they shouted, and they kept it up until finally he yielded and resumed his seat.

Quickly each of the remaining Posts "based" when called upon for nominations and the Farmington man was unanimously chosen for the office.

Carrier has twice led practically the same groups of Legionaires, having been committeeman of the Sixth District, of which this area was a part until last August. He has also served as County Commander of the American Legion of his home Post, Groves-Walker No. 246 of Farmington in 1929-30, the same year in which he led the Sixth District.

Carrier also holds the highest office in another veterans organization, that of Chef de Guerre of the 40-and-8, Oakland County Voiture No. 811, the fun-making organization of ex-service men. His term of office will continue until after the State Convention of the Legion at Kalamazoo August 21-23.

NEW BENCHES IN PARK FOR MOVIE PATRONS PLANNED

City Commissioner Suggests Comfort Be Provided With Free Shows

Persons attending the free moving pictures at the Farmington Town Hall on Saturday nights, may soon have benches to sit on during the show.

It was decided at the City Commission meeting, Monday night following a suggestion by Leo Gildemeister, to construct several benches for the use of the adults present at the pictures. It is believed that the benches would be useful at all sorts of town functions and meetings.

If the construction of the seats proves satisfactory and the cost entailed not too great, the Commission will probably have enough benches made to accommodate all those present at the free shows.

Expect To Save \$2,800 Yearly By Pumping Change

City Already Saving \$100 Monthly; Turbine Pump Would Cut Cost Further

A saving of approximately \$2,800 annually in the cost of pumping water for the City of Farmington is anticipated by City officials with the completion in the near future of the second step toward greater efficiency in providing the water supply. Already a saving of \$100 a month has been achieved, and it is expected that installation of equipment now under consideration will make possible a further saving of about \$130 each month.

Purchase of a turbine pump, which is viewed as a more modern means of drawing water from wells than the air pressure-pump method now in use by the City, was discussed by the Commission Monday evening. Commissioner Hatton, who has made an extensive study of water-pumping methods and systems during the past six months, reported receipt of ten bids from various companies.

Would Cost \$1,200

The bids filed according to specifications provided by Commissioner Hatton, ranged from \$790 to nearly twice that amount with little variation in the equipment. It is estimated that the cost of installation would be about \$400 additional.

Action accepting any of the bids was deferred. There are a number of factors such as service facilities and availability of parts to be considered in the purchase.

Change Hours

The cost of pumping of water, one of the largest individual items in the City's budget, has been cut substantially in recent months, resulting in a change of pumping hours. Formerly all pumping was done in the early morning, with both 60 and 40-horsepower motors operating at the same time, causing a heavy demand on current. An average month's cost was \$230, plus about four hours per day of the attendant's time, valued at \$62.50, which made a total of \$292.50 for the cost of pumping the City's water for a month.

Co-operation of the Detroit Edison Co. and City officials resulted in the change which has made possible the saving thus far. Commissioner Hatton found that the two motors could be worked alternately instead of both at once, and the Edison officials suggested that if the City could pump at night instead of during the day the company would charge only one-third of the daytime demand rate.

Combination of this great reduction in the demand rate plus the alternating of the motors in operation immediately cut down the power bill from \$230 a month to a little over \$140. The expense of the attendant rose somewhat, due to more hours of attention required, but with allowance of \$100 monthly for the attendant's time, the cost is now a little over \$240, or \$100 a month less than formerly.

Operates Automatically

The new turbine pump which the City expects to install, operates automatically with a 30-horsepower motor, requiring much less current. It is estimated that the turbine will pump the water for \$110 a month, this being the total expense as compared with \$240 at present and \$340 until a few months ago.

Fine Wells

Investigation of the water system has revealed that the high reputation of Farmington wells is not a mistake. Removing the cover from one of the wells which had been "capped," Harvey Blough and Mr. Hatton found it to be the finest well of them all.

An apparently inexhaustible supply of water appears to be below. Hours of pumping lowers the water in the wells only a matter of inches instead of the usual several feet, a circumstance which the pump company representatives declared Monday night "can't be true."

The August meeting of the Garden Club will be at the home of Mrs. E. O. Hatton, Thursday August 12th. Those interested in the annual Flower show are invited to attend.

Garbage Pick-Up Change Likely

Increased Monthly Deficit Leads City Commission To Seek New Method

A change in the present system of handling garbage in the City of Farmington is likely to take place soon as the monthly deficit in the collection, which has grown until it reached \$28 for the month of June, has caused the City Commission to seek some way to reduce the expenditure.

A guarantee of \$50 per month has been given to E. N. Geney of Plymouth, for collecting the garbage. He now has only 13 customers, who pay one dollar per month for the service. The City makes up the deficit.

The collection has been on a substantial basis in former times and it was not necessary for the City to provide much money for the deficit.

It was the general opinion of the Commission that there had not been a sufficiently active solicitation for new customers.

The matter was tabled for 30 days on a motion by Leo Gildemeister. During that time it is hoped a solution will be found.

CHARLES JACOBS, RESIDENT OF WEST POINT PARK, DIES

Funeral Services For 84-Year Old Pioneer To Be Held Friday

Charles Jacobs, one of the oldest residents of West Point Park, died Wednesday morning at the home of his grandson, Lucian B. Gilbert, Jr., from hardening of the arteries.

Mr. Jacobs was a pioneer settler of this section of the country. Born in Hornell, New York, in the year 1847, he moved to Dexter when only 15 years old, making an entire journey by ox team. He went from Dexter to Howell and Plainfield and was married to Miss Hannah Ball of Ploverville, in 1876. He lived in Livingston County for 37 years and in 1914, following the death of his wife, he moved to Detroit.

For the last five years, Mr. Jacobs has been a resident of West Point Park. He is survived by three children, Mrs. Lucian B. Gilbert, of West Point Park, Frank M. Jacobs of Grand Rapids and Miss Florence I. Jacobs of Gatun, Panama. Also six grand-children and four great-grand-children.

Funeral services are to be held Friday, August 5, from Heene's undertaking home with Reverend John Adams of Redford, officiating.

Plan To Reduce Street Lights In Farmington

An effort to reduce expenditures in the City of Farmington was made Monday night when the City Commission decided to request the Detroit Edison Company to reduce the illumination of streets in the City.

The lighting committee will ask that every other overhead light on Grand River Avenue, from School Street, east to the City limits, be cut out and that the wattage in the boulevard lights be reduced from 1,000 to 600.

It is estimated that this reduction will save the City \$1,000 annually.

The committee will also ask that every other overhead light on Grand River Avenue, from School Street, east to the City limits, be cut out and that the wattage in the boulevard lights be reduced from 1,000 to 600.

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