

The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR—No. 40

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1935.

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County Tax Rate for City Unchanged

Farmington City will be assessed the same percentage of county tax collections this year as it was assessed last year, while the percentage which Farmington Township will be assessed has been reduced slightly more than a quarter of one per cent as a result of the equalization adopted by the county board of supervisors.

Supervisors from the 36 townships and 10 cities met each year to determine the tax rate. From the members of the Board of Supervisors an equalization committee is chosen to adjust the assessors' figures among the various governmental units.

Differing from former meetings of the Board of Supervisors there was very little discussion among the members this year, although a fight was anticipated.

Bloomfield Falls Again
Bloomfield failed again in its attempt to get its tax assessment reduced for the year. The rate of 3.9761 per cent. The percentage was increased to 3.6010.

Other townships and cities in this vicinity whose county tax portions were increased are Newburg, 1.9357 per cent; East Tawas, 1.1613 per cent; Commerce, with an increase from .8374 to .96173; and Lyon, whose assessment was raised from .4709 to .5492. The tax rate was also increased for Highland, Holly and Pontiac.

Farmington Remains Same
Farmington City's county tax rate remains at .6668, with an assessed valuation of property equalized at \$1,598,788. Its original assessed value having been \$1,385,316.

No change was made in the valuation of Farmington Township as assessed. The equalization count was in the figure stand at \$4,200,609. The percentage of county tax on Farmington Township was lowered, however, from 2.2816 to 2.0009.

Hiramshaw, after a five year fight, succeeded in getting its county tax assessment reduced from 7.4434 to 6.7232. The percentage to be paid by Southfield Township was lowered from 5.5254 to 3.7406 per cent.

Many Changes Made
Farmington Township and Troy were the only two districts in the County whose valuation as assessed was not changed by valuation as equalized. In all the other sections changes were made in the figures in one way or the other.

The total valuation as assessed amounted to \$16,697,250, while the total valuation as equalized was \$21,600,000.00. The latter figure represents a reduction of \$2,000,000.00 from the 1934 valuation of the County.

TWO DRIVERS HAILED TO COURT FOR ACCIDENTS

Pleading not guilty to a charge of driving while drunk, Clarence McDonald, 41, 17181 St. Aubin, Detroit, will be tried Thursday.

McDonald was arrested Saturday night when his automobile crashed into a car being driven by Bernard Hackett, 5615 Vernor highway, Detroit, on Orchard Lake road north of Grand River.

The date of the trial was set by Judge County of the Pontiac Municipal Court.

Fined for Reckless Driving
Failure to heed the stop light at the intersection of Farmington road, while driving west on the Cut off, Friday night, resulted in a \$25 fine for Edward Welch, 667 Delaware avenue, Detroit, for reckless driving.

The driver of his car into the path of an automobile being driven on Farmington road by George Middlewood, Route 2, Farmington. The front of Middlewood's machine was damaged when it struck the vehicle which Welch was driving. The side of Welch's car was wrecked.

Arthur Lamb was a business caller in Pontiac, Monday. Miss Elizabeth Abramson entertained several friends, Saturday evening.

Mrs. Clarence Johnson of Walled Lake is entertaining a luncheon Friday, in honor of the house guest of Mrs. Karl Ritter.

Mysterious "Shooting" of Man "Terrorizes" Fellow Workers

Farmington alone with many other cities has its own share of "mysterious" shootings only in this instance, no serious injury resulted. Consequently, the "assault," intentional or otherwise, is still at large.

While finishing his work Monday afternoon with fellow workers on the removal of a tree from Town Hall Park, Edward Brown, 2325 Orchard road, was hit by a small caliber bullet or by shot from an air rifle.

Not Seriously Hurt
A thick leather hat band, while it may have prevented serious injury, did not afford Mr. Brown the necessary protection to avoid a painful swelling on his forehead.

With the exception of a slight headache caused by the shot, Mr. Brown returned to his home feeling none the worse for his experience.

It is believed children playing

with small caliber rifles and air guns in the vicinity where Mr. Brown was working were responsible for the accident. Workmen claimed they heard shots hitting against the side of a barn earlier in the afternoon. However, not until Mr. Brown was hit did they give the matter any serious attention.

Following the "shooting" of Mr. Brown, several more shots were fired, narrowly missing the workmen.

Children who are allowed to possess any type of rifle should exercise extreme caution when they are using their guns near other people. The danger of shots hitting stones which sometimes cause the bullets to ricochet and strike some other object than the one aimed at is ever present. It is thought Mr. Brown was struck in this manner.

Gala Day Plans Nearly Ready

Through the combined efforts of the committees appointed to make arrangements for the Gala Homecoming, Coleridge, sponsored by Groves-Walker Post of the American Legion, plans are nearing completion to make this affair the best that Farmington has seen since 1930.

Tickets are being sold by Legion members and by merchants which will entitle the bearers to admission as well as to an opportunity to win a Chevrolet coach to be raffled under the direction of George Elendorf, Judge John J. Schulte, Jr. and Joseph Hammel, Jr. In addition to the car, 26 other valuable prizes contributed by Farmington merchants will be given away.

Free Amusements
Free vaudeville acts, athletic events, and games are being planned. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

The Three Day Gala Celebration will begin Saturday, August 31, and will conclude on Monday, September 2. The automobile and other prizes will be awarded the last night.

The alto chosen for the Legion's annual celebration is the grove extending from Grand River, behind the roller booth, to Farmington road. Refreshment booths and other concessions as well as stands for spectators will be erected for the enjoyment and comfort for those who attend.

Several days before the celebration gets under way, hunt bills will be distributed on which the program for each day will be printed.

Changes Made in Laws Affecting Hunting Dogs

Michigan sportsmen with hunting dogs were given a "break" in the game bill passed by the 1935 legislature and now in effect.

The law was amended so as to allow hunters to train their dogs on the open hunting season on the opening of the restrictive hunting seasons on game. It also permits them to train their dogs throughout the winter and up including the 15th of March of the following year.

This means that sportsmen in the upper peninsula of Michigan can begin to train their dogs on rabbits, squirrels, ruffed grouse, prairie chickens and sharpshinned hawk August 2, while sportsmen in the lower peninsula may wait until August 10 to train their dogs on the respective species of game mentioned.

Dogs may be trained only between the hours of sunrise and sunset, and the law forbids any hunter to possess firearms while training a dog.

Under the old law the hunter could not begin until 30 days previous to the open hunting season on the respective species of game and field dog trials could not be held except for a 16-day period set by the Director of Conservation previous to the 15th of March of each year.

Arthur Lamb spent Tuesday with his brother, Dr. Frank Lamb, of Powerville.

Mr. and Mrs. George Adams of Detroit, called at the William D. Irish home, Monday evening.

3 Cars Damaged; Man Fined \$25

To stop for a red light, or not to stop for a red light: That was the question in the minds of the three persons involved in an accident at Farmington road and the Cut-off Monday evening.

Jack Martin, 81 Seward avenue, Detroit, paid \$25 to learn the answer to this question when he was fined by Judge John J. Schulte for reckless driving.

Because of the damage done to their cars collected by Martin's automobile, Detective Sergeant Edward Freeman of the Michigan State Police, and a truck driver, employed by the Irling Company, may also be in dispute as to the answer.

Detective Freeman was driving east on the Cut-off when the red light flashed at Farmington road. He stopped, which is the thing one should do when traffic signals are functioning and in to the answer.

The truck driver stopped his vehicle, weighing several tons, a few feet behind the detective's car. Failed to Stop

Martin, however, failed to stop or do anything else which might prevent him from crashing into the rear of the truck and pushing it into the back of the car.

Freeman was driving. The three cars were badly damaged.

Although Detective Freeman was in a hurry to keep an appointment in Detroit, he was not in too much of a rush to take Martin before Judge Schulte.

LITERARY SOCIETY HOLDS REUNION AT STEELE HOME

Miss Ida Steele of Farmington, re-elected president, and Miss Mary Green of Elizabeth Lake secretary are the 1935 officers were elected by the Young People's Literary Union at its fourth reunion held at the home of Mrs. and Mrs. Frank Steele on Old Homestead farm, Farmington, Saturday.

The Union was organized by the young people of North and West Farmington 46 years ago. Its meetings always attract many young people and are the occasion for renewing friendships among the members. Guests this year numbered 43 persons.

Out of Town Guests
Out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. M. McCracken of Washburn, Indiana, Mrs. Mrs. E. M. Moore of Okemos, Michigan.

Minutes of former meetings recalled many pleasant memories. A letter from Francis Drake, Portland, Oregon, added interest to the meeting.

Miss Ida Steele read a poem written for the occasion by Merion Hubbard Wheeler.

Following the election of officers, the club adjourned to dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Nichols on Oakland road in July 1930.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry McCracken entertained at the McCracken family reunion, Sunday, July 25.

Mrs. E. A. Fink spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. Larry Tremper of Detroit.

A band concert will be held every Thursday evening on the Town Hall Park, at 8:00 p. m.

Driverless Truck Runs Into Store

Narrowly missing several grocery stores as it rolled backward down the slight incline on Grand River avenue, a large truck, temporarily without a driver, came to a stop after it had crashed through the store front of the Ota-Grace salaroom at noon Wednesday.

The truck was parked double in front of a grocery store on Grand River near Farmington road while its driver was making a delivery. When he came out of the store his truck was missing.

Accuses Grocery Clerks
After accusing several grocery clerks of having hidden its truck, the driver sought in vain for the clerk who was told it was about a quarter of a mile down the street, apparently waiting to be driven out of the Ota-Grace window.

Forcing his way through the crowd which had gathered at the scene after witnessing the wild journey of the machine, the driver found himself obliged to make an explanation of the damage which the truck had caused to the exterior of the store as well as to its interior.

He learned from spectators that shortly after he went into the grocery store, the truck began to roll back, gathering speed as it descended the incline. Several spectators, realizing the vehicle was without a driver, attempted to stop it before it could do any damage but they were unsuccessful because of the high rate of speed the machine was traveling.

Suddenly the truck swerved, ran over the curb, avoiding a telegraph pole by inches, and came to a low brick building called the Ota-Grace building, and came to a stop after smashing the huge plate glass window and breaking radiator connections.

Claims Brake Was Set
The driver was at a loss to explain the accident because he claimed he set the brake on the truck before he left it to make his deliveries. He cited the possibility that someone had tampered with the brake during his absence.

Employees at Ota-Grace escaped injury by getting out of the way when they saw the truck coming toward the window. A car which was on display in the show room was badly scratched by flying pieces of glass. No damage was done to the truck.

Cyclist is Recovering From Auto Injuries

Archie Diehr, Power avenue, while he is still in Redford Receiving Hospital as a result of injuries sustained when he collided on his bicycle with an automobile driven by Miss Stella Andrews of Farmington a week ago, is reported improved although his condition is still serious.

Little hope was held for Archie when he was brought to the hospital after a fractured skull, a broken shoulder, a fractured collar bone, and lacerations on his back.

Archie was hurt when he turned from Eleven Mile road into the path of the automobile driven by Miss Andrews on Farmington road.

Miss Andrews stated to police that she did not see the boy because of high banks at the intersection which obstructed her vision. No charges were placed against Miss Andrews.

Fire Tower Completed

Michigan's newest fire tower has just been completed. It is of the standard type, 138 feet high from ground to peak of cabin and is located in Isoco county south of Halo and east of West Branch.

Completion of the new tower brings the number of Michigan towers now maintained, to 138. Several towers located in national forest areas have been taken over by the National Forest Service this year.

The Garden Club will meet with Miss Ruth Tuttle at her home on Thirteenth Mile Road, Tuesday, August 6. There will be no special program, but details will be contemplated for the Flower Show to be held next month at the Community Hall.

Mr. Power Eulogizes on "Passing" Of Farmington's Ancient Maple

City employes have been busy for the last few days in our city parks, cutting the grass and trimming the trees and shrubbery. Their efforts have been well worth while for never have the city parks appeared to better advantage than at the present time.

Time makes its mark upon all things and it was found necessary last Tuesday, July 30 to remove one of the beautiful large maples that stood near the Log Cabin on Grand River avenue. It had been slowly dying for a number of years and had finally become dangerous to those using the sidewalk near it. This tree was one of a number that was set out about the year 1871, by a Mr. Kymat who was the owner of the property at that time and who manufactured bed stands and chairs in a shop that was close to his home and stood in the park about where the cement walk is now located.

Mr. Kymat was a sturdy German who had moved in this country from his native land a few years before coming to Michigan. He was a lover of trees and had the finest garden in town which extended to the extreme point of the intersection of Grand River avenue and Oakland Road. He moved to Saginaw with his family many years ago and he is now deceased.

On the row of beautiful large maples trees that are still standing on Grand River avenue, opposite the Log Cabin Park, attend his loss the most beautiful of all of nature's creations. A maple tree.

Penalty For Late Taxes In Effect

Unpaid taxes are subject to a two per cent penalty which will be increased to four per cent September 1, according to an announcement by George Gilde-meister, city treasurer.

Since last week's figure of 16.9 per cent, representative of more than 90 per cent of this year's taxes which had been collected up until that time, the amount has soared to 64.5 per cent of the total assessments. This percentage for the delinquency stated, is an increase of more than 20 per cent over tax collections made during the corresponding period last year.

A two per cent reduction in last year's taxes for early payment had been made. The incentive to taxpayers, resulted in a collection of only 35.2 per cent of the total amount, showing that people were in no financial position to pay taxes as promptly as they are this year.

Improved Conditions
This year's figures give definite indication of improved conditions, especially among the low income class. Mr. Gilde-meister commented.

Further indication of better conditions among taxpayers is found in the payments of quarterly water bills, 55 per cent of which have already been collected.

Taxes are being collected this year strictly in accordance with the payments of quarterly water bills. A departure was made from the method owing to the city's urgent need of funds.

While it is true that there is a shortage of the city treasury, money never runs as low as it has in the city's having to borrow money to meet its expenses.

FARMINGTON GIRL MARRIED IN NORTHVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Horace R. Nelson are on a motor trip in the east after being married on Wednesday morning in Our Lady of Victory Church, Northville, by the Rev. Father Joseph G. Schuler.

The bride, formerly Margaret L. Turner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Turner of Farmington, was attractively gowned in trailing white satin, made with a deep vee of lace ending in a high neck line.

She wore a brilliant veil beneath a tulle cap finished with a coronet of pleated tulle. A gold cross and chain, a gift of the groom, was the only jewelry which the bride wore. She carried a shower bouquet of gardenias, centered with lilies of the valley and baby's breath. The bride was given away by her father.

Elizabeth Turner, sister of the bride, acted as maid of honor. She wore a peach gown of organza and carried an arm bouquet of white roses tied with peach colored streamers.

Mrs. Dorothea Leonhardt of Birmingham, wearing a yellow organza, and Mrs. Jessie Wain of Plymouth, who wore blue organza, acted as brides maids. Each carried a bouquet of roses tied with long streamers in colors matching their gowns.

Mr. Nelson, the groom, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Nelson of Northville.

Everett Furness and Harry Lapham of Farmington, together with Gerald Leonhardt of Birmingham and John Wain of Plymouth acted as ushers, while Earl Edwards of Detroit acted as best man.

Following the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served to 50 guests at the home of the bride's parents. In the evening a reception was given which was attended by many people from Farmington as well as from Monroe, Pontiac, Birmingham, Detroit, Plymouth, Northville and Trenton.

When they return from their wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson will live in Northville.

Farmington Man Heir To Fortune

Dr. Emma K. Bowen, retired physician, of 33815 Fourteen Mile road, Farmington Township, and Miss Adelle L. Klein, a teacher in a Detroit high school, will share in a \$500,000 estate as a result of a decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in New York.

For the past three years the case has been in the courts because of a claim entered for the entire property by the widow of Fred Klein, Jr. whose husband died in 1921.

Fred, Jr. and his father Fred J. Klein, Sr., who died in 1918, were partners in the American Clip Company of New York. The suit involved a half-ownership in this company.

It was 25 years ago or more that Fred Klein, Sr., left this vicinity. He had inherited the farm on which members of the family still live, from his grandfather, who is still remembered as working steadily on the township. Fred Klein, Sr., apparently cared little for the farm, and with a brain full of ideas, went to New York to seek his fortune, an aim in which he eventually gained conspicuous success. In his business he was aided by his son, Fred Jr., whose death was followed by the long court battle just terminated.

Mr. and Mrs. Klein and his sister, so far as Klein had, probably continued to occupy the farm on Fourteen Mile Road where they have lived modestly and almost in seclusion for a number of years.

COMMISSIONER INVESTIGATES BEST'S PLEA

Parole Commissioner Joseph C. Armstrong and A. Ross Pascoe, parole supervisor, are hearing witnesses and reviewing the evidence in the case of Anton Best who is serving a life sentence for the murder of Virginia Schneider in Pontiac fifteen years ago.

Since taking office in January of this year, prosecutor David C. Jones has been trying to secure a pardon for Best. Commissioner Armstrong promised that whatever he decides as a result of his investigation will be "fair straw" in the widely publicized case of Best.

A one man Grand Jury investigation was conducted by Judge John J. Schulte, Farmington, from December 1934, to the latter part of the present year. The investigation resulted from a woman's statement to the effect that her husband had confessed to her that he had killed Miss Schneider. Following his confession the woman left the room and reported the case to the police.

Had Police Record
An investigation of the man's record showed that he had had a previous police record. The description furnished police by his ex-wife tallied with that of a man known to have been seen with Miss Schneider before she was murdered.

The man could not be found. Judge Schulte's investigation was conducted secretly with only the police and himself knowing the proceedings during the course of the examination. No names were revealed.

Best, a former World War Marine, contends that he was a victim of circumstantial evidence and that third degree methods had been employed during the course of the examination. No names were revealed.

He stated to Armstrong that he had been promised a parole if he would confess the murder.

His detectors used on Best which were being examined substantiated the statements he made.

In a further attempt to prove his innocence, Best stated that blood found during the course of the trial of the murder was contaminated.

Commissioner Armstrong said that it will be at least a month before he reaches a decision in the Best case. Additional witnesses will be heard in the meantime.

"Flushing Bar" Protects Wild Life From Mower

A flushing bar scored 100 per cent when used in mowing operations on a 35-acre field of alfalfa owned by the City of Lansing. At least 40 rabbits and several rabbits were flushed ahead of the mower and not one was killed or injured.

The flushing bar is of the type devised by Dr. P. F. Enshall of the Game Division, Department of Conservation, and specially adapted for use on a tractor. The bar was an iron pole, instead of the cane pole used on team drawn mowers.

4-H Clubs To Participate
Boys and girls belonging to Michigan 4-H clubs have rendered a great service to the State and livestock to be entered in the hope of winning some of the \$30,000 prizes offered these junior agriculturists according to A. C. Kottunen, state 4-H club leader.

The contest of "4-H exhibits" will choose the "healthiest boy and girl in Michigan."

Another attractive feature, from the woman's viewpoint, is the "kitchen contest" which is open to the main building, which is devoted to domestic science, canning, household decoration, etc. One kitchen will be furnished in the style of 1835. The second will be a modern 1935 kitchen.

OPTIMISTIC VIEW EXPRESSED FOR STATE FAIR

Plenty of bustle and activity is visible at the State Fair grounds here these days as workers ready the premises and buildings for the 86th annual Michigan State Fair, August 30 to September 8.

"We have sound reasons for predicting that this will be the finest Fair since the first in Michigan's history," declares George A. Prescott, Jr., secretary of the State Fair Board.

"A Fair, like any other enterprise, should show annual progress, and it certainly will if general economic conditions are favorable.

"These two basic barometers of Michigan's economic status, automobile output and farm crop income are both justified in the present reading, our optimism.

"The automotive industry is from 30 to 35 per cent more active this year than last. It is the leader in the nation's industrial upturn.

"Michigan's 1934 crop income is 41 per cent higher than in the 1933-34 season. This means that our farmers are \$40,000,000 richer this year than last.

"We expect to have unusually fine automobile and other industrial exhibits at the Fair this year, and we are offering every possible inducement to farmers to exhibit their championship-culture livestock and other farm products.

"Awards totaling \$6,000 are offered to winners in the various exhibits and contests.

"Livestock and agricultural exhibits can only be entered by residents of Michigan. This restriction encourages the smaller exhibitors to make a bid for prizes. Often they are discouraged from competing when they know they will be opposed by big exhibitors from other States who frequently go on tour with their championship stock and products."

A great variety of "human interest" contests and entertainment features have been arranged by the board of managers for this year's Fair.

4-H Clubs To Participate
Boys and girls belonging to Michigan 4-H clubs have rendered a great service to the State and livestock to be entered in the hope of winning some of the \$30,000 prizes offered these junior agriculturists according to A. C. Kottunen, state 4-H club leader.

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