

The Farmington Enterprise

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1936

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Curriculum Obsolete Says Kaufman

"If we cannot find a valid use for some subjects in our modern curriculum then we must withdraw them from time-honored traditions of schooling, because the new school curriculum has something better to offer in their place," writes Charles Kaufman, grade principal in the Farmington school in a letter to The Enterprise this week. The complete letter follows: Editor, The Enterprise:

When we question the value to our children of a subject in our school curricula, we must analyze it in this wise: Is it something which all people use in later life? Are the facts which we are cramming into little heads justified with a real educational reason? Or is this subject just something which has always been in schools' curricula since the days of the same Schools and academies of George Washington's time? Have we left this material in our teaching program because our fathers learned it, we had to learn it, and why shouldn't our children learn it?—leaving the question too open up in the air without an answer. Has this course always been considered good "mental discipline," and therefore necessary?

If we can not find a valid use for some subjects in our modern curriculum, then we must ruthlessly uproot them from time-honored traditions of schooling, because the new school curriculum has something better to offer in their place.

Everyone uses a certain background knowledge of history and geography but this is a great deal of material in our texts that is useless. The case of mathematics is somewhat the same. How often are we called upon to find the area of a circle, or to need a square root in our daily business? We waste a great amount of grammatical knowledge but how many of us make any use of it ability to distinguish between an adjective or an adverbial clause?

Some of this useless information must be cut away to make room for living, growing education. The vital parts of the curriculum will remain, but we must prevent children from undertaking them before they are ready. Trying to teach him subject matter before he has an appetit for it results in ill effects for school education. The repetition of drills in attempts to force learning, and consequently valuable time is lost and the subject is quickly forgotten.

Now when we get rid of "dead" matter we have saved a large part of the school day. What shall be done with the remaining time? Here is the place for the new education.

The new education will consist of (1) water-related parts: First, the child's right and opportunity to develop his own special interests, abilities, and ideas; and second, the development in each child of a deep-rooted social sense and realization of identity with his fellow men with those of his fellow men the world over.

There must be opportunities, therefore, in the new school for creative expression, for exploring all kinds of hobbies, interests and activities. There should be elective opportunities even in the lower grades. There should be opportunities to make decisions. By the time he or she reaches fourteen he should have explored the various phases of thought along rugged, individualism, democracy, fascism, socialism, and autocracy—explore them fearlessly and without prejudice so that when the time comes to assume grown-up responsibilities they will do it in an intelligent manner.

We might do well to forget the grades entirely, as such, and think of a child's school years in terms of development by his life. Along this line we must add to our curriculum training which will be of use to him in his spare hours away from work in later life, for leisure time is increasing with every generation. We must make their lives more full and bright by opening a new world of thought to them, as well as training them in individual and collective sports, the manual arts, and domestic science. Some states now deem physical education so important a part in the child's life that they are making it compulsory by law.

Vocational and business subjects are now demanded in public schools mainly as a result of the depression. These and other non-academic phases of education are being added to the new school to meet a new

Farmington Lawyers Aid In "Trailerville" Dispute

In the Farmington law office of John J. Schulte and Paul Pare, preparations are being made for a court appeal, the result of which may greatly affect the lives of millions of Americans for generations to come.

The two Farmington attorneys represented a group of residents of "Trailerville" at Orchard Lake, in a test case to determine the legal status of the trailer as a dwelling—whether it is a dwelling or a vehicle. It is maintained that the trailers violate the building ordinance of the village of Orchard Lake which requires that all dwellings have 400 square feet of floor space and 500 cubic feet for each occupant.

National interest is centered upon Justice Green's ruling that a trailer is a dwelling. Over 2,000,000 trailer-owners in the United States will focus their attention on the appeal being made by Schulte and Pare in the Circuit Court in Pontiac.

"We are not surprised at the decision of Justice Green," said Paul Pare. "The precedent in most cases where village ordinances have been questioned, has been to uphold the ordinance. It is reasonable, but we maintain that considering the purposes for which the trailers are used, such a restriction is unreasonable."

That widespread attention is being paid to the progress of the appeal is indicated by the fact that approximately 3,000,000 men, women and children are now making their year-round homes in the hundreds of "Trailervilles" scattered throughout the country. The industry, still in its infancy, is already in a boom. The majority of the manufacturing is done in the Detroit area. Statisticians estimate that within the next few years there will be a population of 15,000,000 residing in such manner.

In these trailer villages, located for the most part on the fringe of metropolitan centers, are all the conveniences of a home. Electricity and water is available, and the milkman and coal dealer are regular callers. For the most part, they are supplied with electricity and water, many owners of parking lots charge \$1.50 per week.

Trailer residents find that a 25 cent basket of coal is sufficient to keep the residence warm for a month, and that a five dollar fuel bill is enough to do the cooking and baking for six months.

Trailer owners are now banded together in two national organizations.

Social Security Forms Delivered

Social security forms are being delivered by mail to employers in this area in preparation for registration of workers who are eligible to share in benefits of the federal social security act. Under the provisions of the act workers and employers will contribute equal sums.

Beginning on November 24, the federal government will set up a social security account for each eligible worker. The government will send checks every month to retired workers, both men and women, after they have passed their 65th birthday. Benefits will be based on work done after December 31, 1936, and before the age of 65.

Benefits Explained

There are three kinds of payments. When the worker becomes 65 he may receive three and one-half per cent of the total wages. If these wages total \$2,000 or more, and were earned during five years, either in continuous employment or from time to time during each of any five separate years, the worker will receive instead of a lump sum, an annuity payable each month when he is no longer earning wages and has reached 65. This will continue for life and may total much more than \$10 per month and the half percent of total wages. The minimum benefit is \$13 per month and the maximum \$85.

The third kind of payment is made if the worker dies without receiving either of the above payments, a death payment of three and one-half percent of total wages will be paid to the family or estate. If the worker has received some benefit but less than three and one-half per cent, the difference will be paid.

Several Families Change Residence

A number of Farmington families are now occupying new places of residence, after having moved from their former residences during the past few weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Miller have moved from the apartment above the Rexall Drug Store to the home recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Belknap, who have moved to Rosedale Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Moots of East Liberty, Ohio are living in the new home on Grand River which until recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. E. Ebert and daughter Ruth.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Warthman also of East Liberty, Ohio are making their home with Mr. and Mrs. James Snyder.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Burnett and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walling and Miss Marie Walling, moved from the Owen apartments on Monday to the home on Grand River that Mr. and Mrs. John Walters and family vacated.

WILL BUILD SKATING RINK ON ATHLETIC FIELD

An indoor skating rink of 150 feet square will be made on the infield of the high school athletic grounds. It was decided by a special committee of the City Commission. A hydrant is being installed near the field. It is planned to open the rink on the rink early enough to permit gradual freezing.

need, which no longer considers only college entrance requirements but also the needs of other students as well. Subject matter is applied to the point where it is "born" by living, and this is the best preparation we could give our children for living.

F.H.S. Wins Football Honors

Finishing the season with a record of three victories, three ties, and no lost games, Farmington High School's blue and white eleven now stands as the champion football team in the Southwestern Oakland County League.

Brighton and Walled Lake tied for second place in the league, Keego Harbor won third place, followed by Milford, Clarkston, and South Lyon.

Keego Harbor may be granted a tie for first place in the league. The decision on the matter being referred to the secretary of the state athletic association after the coaches of the various schools belonging to the league were unable to agree.

The difficulty over Keego Harbor's position arose over the inability of Walled Lake to play its games with Keego Harbor and Brighton in October. Both of the latter teams were given the choice of accepting the forfeit or of scheduling another game with Walled Lake.

Keego Harbor scheduled another game and lost 28 to 0. Brighton accepted the forfeit. It is maintained by Keego Harbor that both teams either should have played Walled Lake or accepted the forfeit. At a meeting of the coaches it was proposed that Keego Harbor be given the forfeit instead of the loss but the vote was evenly divided and the matter was then referred to the state secretary. Should he decide in favor of Keego Harbor, that team and Farmington will share the title of league winner.

Play in the league this year was very close with four teams, Farmington, Brighton, Walled Lake, and Keego Harbor very evenly matched. Farmington's record in the league, is not too impressive but the three ties were with the other leading teams.

Two of these games, with Walled Lake, and Brighton were scoreless. But the third was a 7 to 7 tie with Keego Harbor. This was the only score made against the regular team this year, the only other seven points against the Farmington record being made by South Lyon against the second team.

LAST RITES HELD FOR STEPHEN KEITH

Last rites were held Thursday at the Methodist Church, Farmington, for Stephen Keith of Sherwood avenue who died at University Hospital, Ann Arbor, of blood poisoning on Monday. He was a patient at the hospital a few months ago and he had been thought the cause that he had recovered from the disease that recurred a few weeks ago, necessitating his return to the hospital.

Coach Kammerer Pleased

"Considering that the team was very inexperienced and received several bad breaks early in the season, I am very well satisfied with their work," says Coach Kammerer. "Tony Himmelspach counted on before the season as the main threat in the backfield, was hurt in the opening quarter of the second game, after being out of the first game, and was out for the season."

"Earl Killeen and Don Goid, guards, and Mike Byrnes, right tackle, groomed to fill those positions in the opening game, were removed early in the season because of injuries," states Coach Kammerer. "Don never did get back with the squad and the other two were unable to reach top form," he says.

Many Attend North Farmington Dinner

Several from Farmington and vicinity attended the annual chicken dinner meeting, given by the North Farmington Auxiliary at the West Bloomfield Town Hall on Tuesday.

The Past Worthly Matrons club attended as a group. These present were Mrs. L. F. Schroeder, Mrs. T. H. McGee, Mrs. George Gilde-meister, Mrs. Harrison Johnson, Mrs. Helen Walters, Mrs. Arthur Coe, Mrs. Harry Moore, Mrs. James Hogle, Mrs. Elizabeth Holcomb, Mrs. Ben Storms, Mrs. B. C. Banfield, Mrs. Isaac Bond, Mrs. Clyde Seelye, Mrs. Mae West, Mrs. Mary Belle Bond, Mrs. Frank A. Allen and Mrs. John Clark of Detroit.

Others enjoying this annual occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Heeney; Dr. Halsted and mother, Mrs. Charles Halsted; Mrs. Frank Harry Moore; James Hogle; Mrs. Arthur Greene; Mrs. Phebe Ross; Mrs. John Green and mother, Mrs. Florence Becker; Mrs. Fred Warner, Mrs. William Irish, Mrs. Bruce Lamb, Mrs. Joseph Crandall, Mrs. Ellis Randall, Mrs. Bruce Dickie, Mrs. Frank Dickie of Keego Harbor and Mrs. Alice Phelps of Pontiac.

WATER TANK CLEANED

The 250,000-gallon tank supplying water to City of Farmington has undergone its annual cleaning and painting. The tank was drained and washed by city employes this week. The interior of the tank was painted last year.

Backed up against the goal line (the Brighton team was stubborn

Two Farmington Hunters Successful In Deer Quest

Several Farmington hunters are meeting with success on their deer hunting expeditions in the northern part of the state, two deer having been shot by parties from this area during the week.

Walter Coon is one of the lucky ones to kill a deer, his second one in two seasons of hunting.

Guy Durham is another hunter to return with a large-tipped buck. The deer weighed 212 pounds and possessed long, beautifully matched 16-point antlers. The antlers have a width spread of 17 inches.

Among those who are in the north hunting are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Durham, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cox, and Mrs. Howard Nelson of Clarkston, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Newman of Brighton. The party is hunting at Houghton Lake and Alpena.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Feather of Redford, formerly of Farmington, are in the upper peninsula. Mr. and Mrs. John Graham of North Farmington are other hunting enthusiasts who are in northern Michigan.

Fire Destroys Peterson Home

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Peterson on Grand River east of Middle Belt Road early Thursday evening during the absence of the owners who are spending the winter in Florida.

The house next door, owned by Mrs. Peterson's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott, was saved although the heat from the flames broke a window and scorched the east side of the home was scorched.

Both Township and City fire engines were utilized. The four-room Peterson home had recently been redecorated. The fire was discovered by neighbors at 7:00 p. m. It is not known whether or not the loss was covered by insurance.

STEPHEN TREDWAY SUCCUMBS TO HEART ATTACK

Funeral services were held at the home on Grand River in Farmington on Monday afternoon for Stephen Tredway, 63, who succumbed to a heart attack Saturday morning while working about his home. He had been falling in health for several years.

Mr. Tredway was born in April 1873 in Chicago, Illinois. He, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Tredway, settled on the farm on Gill Road known as the Tredway farm. At that time he was 18 years old. His wife, Mrs. Margaret Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Smith of Farmington.

200 ATTEND SCHOOL DURING EDUCATION WEEK

More than 200 parents and patrons attended the Education Week features at the Farmington school, visiting all of the grades during the week. Visitors took part in a discussion of subjects related to the work of the school. Tea was served each afternoon.

Ray Fendt, who was formerly working in a sales capacity with a Detroit concern, is employed as salesman at the Blakeslee Motor Sales in Farmington.

MASONIC LODGE TO HOLD ROLL CALL

A roll call of all members of the Masonic Lodge of Farmington, No. 161, will be held Monday evening, November 23, at 7:30 p. m. The roll call being held by all of the lodges in Michigan.

Secretary James L. Hogle has arranged that members who may not attend in person may be recorded by mail.

MASONIC LODGE TO HOLD ROLL CALL

The Cross-Walker Post of the American Legion, in co-operation with WPA officials presented eight legions of the Farmington area with American flags on Americanization Day Friday. The arrangements were in charge of Erwin Plettenberg and Al Smith.

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Water Main Approved as WPA Project

Work is expected to begin soon on a \$1,654 WPA project in Farmington, approval for which was granted this week by the President and WPA officials. The work to be undertaken will be the construction of a water main connecting the two ends at Power and Brookdale avenues on Nine Mile Road. The main will join these two dead-ends, making a circulating system, according to Commissioner Emory Hutton.

City of Farmington's share in the project will be the purchase of materials. According to the engineer's estimates, 575 feet of four-inch cast iron pipe will be laid on Nine Mile Road. It is expected that this cost to the city will amount to seventy-five cents for each foot of water main. Valves and hydrants will also be installed.

All of the labor for the project will be furnished by the WPA. Construction was completed last winter on the stretch on Nine Mile Road between Maple and Power avenues, leaving the connecting link between Power and Brookdale unfinished. The money allotted for the project was spent.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL JOINS DEBATE SOCIETY

Farmington High School has become a member of the Michigan High School Forensic Association and will compete in the various state speech contests sponsored by the Association this season.

Walter B. Weaver, of the high school faculty will coach the contestants.

Over 300 high schools throughout the state have enrolled to date, and additional enrollments are coming in daily to the Association's office in Ann Arbor. It is hoped that a record enrollment will be reached this year.

Band Members Given Awards

Eighty-three band members, alumni and guests attended the award dinner given the Farmington band Tuesday evening at the Salem Evangelical Church. The dinner was presided over by the mothers of band members. Donations were made by Farmington business men and merchants.

Awards were made to the following members of the band: First year awards; James Barrons, Edna Corne, Ernest Ham, Howard Legg, Bud Norton, James Norton, Betty Plettenberg, Mary Power, Betty Smith, Dan Starkey.

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