

The Farmington Enterprise

Early Tax Payments Increase

That a greater percentage of the 1935 winter tax bills will be paid by Farmington City and Farmington Township taxpayers than was paid on the 1934 tax assessment is the prospect shown by a decided increase in the amount of taxes paid during the first two weeks of collections.

According to George C. Gildemeister, treasurer of City of Farmington, 35 per cent of the total assessment in the city has already been paid, whereas last year at the end of the same period only seven per cent had been paid.

On Tuesday night, \$2,312.37 was collected by Treasurer Gildemeister. The total amount collected during the same time in 1935 was \$1,501.

Approximately \$3,500 is being saved city taxpayers this year, the reduction being made possible by a cut in the 1935 assessed value, a reduction in the tax rate. The city valuation is placed at \$1,298,610, which is approximately \$100,000 less than the 1935 valuation. The tax rate was also reduced from the 1935 rate. The present rate is \$126 for \$10,000 valuation whereas the 1935 tax rate was \$15.47 for the same amount of property.

According to Mrs. Loretta Cox, \$12,212.28 has been paid by Farmington Township taxpayers on their winter tax bills. This amount represents an increase over the portion of the total roll paid last year during the same period.

Farmington Township taxpayers are being saved a total of \$18,000 on their 1935 winter tax bills. Mrs. Cox is receiving payment of the bills at the Farmington State Bank.

Farmington Wears Yuletide Mantle As Holiday Nears

Gaily decorated windows in Farmington stores, vari-colored lights on the community Christmas tree in Town Hall park, and an addition of a new spruce tree in the park are the evidences of the Christmas spirit prevalent in Farmington as the Yuletide approaches.

In Town Hall park a new community tree now stands a few feet west of the present large tree. The 18-foot spruce was donated by the Aldrich Nurseries to City of Farmington and was planted this week.

In Farmington's store windows many attractive displays are being shown. In one of the windows at Hutton's Farmington Hardware is a replica of a fireplace, beside which is standing a new electric sweeper, wrapped in blue cellophane. Other presents are shown about the fireplace.

At Henry Pauline's market is a novel display which is attracting the attention of many passers-by. Snuggled under the Christmas tree is a miniature log cabin. In the interior of the cabin is a red light which gives a very realistic effect in the evening. In front of the small structure is a miniature lake, the edges of which are covered with cotton resembling snow. The lake is made of mirror, giving a close resemblance to a natural body of water.

In Farmington State Bank the holiday decorations take the form of three large poinsettia plants, placed throughout the bank, and large, attractive color pictures of Christmas trees in other parts of the lobby. The striking color of the poinsettia blossoms is matched by the coverings over the pots of the plants.

In the window of Miller's Coffee Shoppe is a miniature of Santa's sleigh with Santa in the seat driving a team of white dogs. A small cabin is also included in the display.

Many toys and novel gifts are shown in the windows of Mac's 5c to 41 store, creating an effect of lavish Christmas spirit. Shoppers passed in front of the windows of Fred L. Cook and company to see the many gift suggestions on display there.

Through the city, the gay lights of Christmas trees shine through the windows. Holly and evergreen wreaths bedeck the doors of many homes. That Christmas, 1937 is in us, is certainly evident in Farmington.

Masons Install New Officers

On Monday evening a number of families and friends of the members of the Farmington Masonic Lodge witnessed the impressive installation of those who will have charge of the local Masons for the coming year. Past Master William C. Wray had charge of the installation ceremony.

Those who will serve as officers of the lodge during the forthcoming year are Robert B. Cook, Worshipful Master; Charles N. Leonard, Senior Warden; Carl Harrison, Junior Warden; Arthur Lamb, Treasurer; James I. Hogie, Secretary; Edward Alexander, Senior Deacon; James Smith, Junior Deacon; Ralph Ashton, Tyler.

The exophone quartet, composed of Mr. Banta, Jim Norton, Howard Legg and Ray Oldham, played several numbers. George Gulien of Detroit was the speaker of the evening.

A lunch and social hour followed the program.

Four One-Act Plays Presented At School

Four one-act plays were presented by the Public Speaking class and students of Farmington High School at the coming of the Christmas Saturday evening. The plays were produced under the direction of Walter Weaver.

The Farmington High School Orchestra, directed by Charles Wellington, played several numbers before the plays, and during the intermissions.

The cast for "Eggsack" was Wayne Wilson, Paul Pare Noreen Van Slyke, Bill Chapman, and Arthur Lewis Newton. The cast for "The Ghost of a Freshman" were Doris Murray, Evelyn Miller, Virginia Fisher, Helena Kreadon, and Donna Lowery.

"Detour Ahead," a one-act play of farm life was played by Fay Beale, Dale Marr, Ernest Smith, Ruth Kripko, Leon Robinson, Roger Walker and Jeanne Lutz. The fourth play, a drama of high school football, had the cast of Leon Robinson, Douglas McArthur, Louis Newton, Dale Marr, Roger Walker and Bill Chapman.

Jeanne Lutz added to these interesting plays, two varied monologues during the intermissions. Louis Newton was responsible for some specialties, known as "High Spots" in history.

The students in the orchestra were Ernest Ham, Jerry Williams, Margaret Sullard, Robert Egler, Robert Smith, Mary Power, Edgar Barrons, Jim Davy, and Clyde Greenman. Gordon Hegle accompanied at the piano, and Charles Wellington directed.

M. E. Church To Hold Watch Night Service

The congregation of the Methodist church and friends are invited to attend the Watch Night service at the Methodist church on Thursday evening, December 31.

Assembling at 9:30, there will be a varied program and a social hour that will last until midnight. The social hour, at 9:30, will be in charge of the Epworth League.

Later in the evening, there will be a program of music, readings and recitations, under the direction of Miss Ernestine Pierce and Douglas Parker. Following this will be refreshments.

At the approach of the midnight hour, heralding the New Year, there will be a devotional candle lighting service, and twelve men of the church will represent the

MILDRED DIETRICH MARRIED TO ERVIN MARTIN

Mildred Marie Dietrich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Dietrich of Grand River avenue and Erwin Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morell of West Grand River avenue, were united in marriage by Judge John J. Schulte at the home of the bride's parents at 8:00 o'clock Saturday evening. Thirty relatives and friends witnessed the ceremony.

The bride was attired in blue silk and wore a shoulder bouquet of white chrysanthemums and yellow tea roses. Her sister, Miss Madeline Dietrich of Detroit, was the maid of honor and she chose green for her gown. The bride's other attendant was Mrs. Edward Westphal who was dressed in a rust-colored silk. Mrs. Westphal and the maid of honor carried bouquets of yellow baby chrysanthemums and tea roses.

Standing with the groom was Edward Westphal as best man, William Dietrich, brother of the bride, and Mrs. Dietrich and the groom's mother, Mrs. Dietrich, wore shoulder bouquets of pink roses.

A reception followed the ceremony. Chester Oungala, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Oungala of Detroit, and the 12-year-old cousin of the groom, played his accordion during the reception.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Martin will reside with Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morell at 3410 West Grand River.

Margaret Strehling Marries Creel Wilson

Margaret Strehling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Strehling, of Eleven Mile Road and Creel Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wilson, of Ten Mile Road were united in marriage at the Methodist parsonage at 6:00 o'clock on Saturday evening, December 19.

The young couple were attended by Garner Hudson of Milford and Bessie Palacky of Farmington. They will live at the Wilson home on Ten Mile Road and Powers avenue.

Woman's Club To Hold "School Girl" Party

Members of the Farmington Woman's Club will turn back the clock of time when they attend the holiday party at the home of Mrs. Fred Bagnall on Wednesday afternoon, December 30, at 2:30. A novel program in the nature of an old-fashioned school is being prepared by the executive board. Members are asked to come costume as little school girls of olden days. The holiday party of the club is the annual

Supervisor Coe Answers Statements

The Enterprise is in receipt of a letter from Arthur P. Coe, Supervisor of Farmington Township, who replies to statements made in the letter written by Miss Martha Noble, which appeared in the columns of The Enterprise last week. Mr. Coe's letter is as follows: The Enterprise:

To clarify the statement made by Martha Noble in the Farmington Enterprise in the December 17 issue, accusing me of failure to spread certain money ordered by the courts, I wish to make the following statement:

I was elected to the office of supervisor in April 1930 and prior to that date or before my election to this office, the Township Treasurer misappropriated \$42,763.34 of school money by paying other Township bills with this money belonging to the eleven school districts of the township, broken up as follows:

- 1 fr. \$657.11.
- 2 \$1,541.74.
- 2 Walled Lake \$237.23.
- 2 Novi \$114.50.
- 3 fr. \$1,934.47.
- 4 \$668.18.
- 5 fr. \$1,200.17.
- 5 \$10,971.13.
- 5 fr. \$12,884.04.
- 6 \$9,555.27.
- 6 fr. \$3,621.50.

You will find on your tax receipts that in 1931 and 1932 these amounts were designated on the roll as School Deficit Tax and the 1933 spread by Township Debt Tax. This was done to comply with the changes made in the law relative to the 5 mill limitation.

On March 23, 1931, Farmington Township was elected into Court by School District No. 5 fractional in an order to show cause. On this date Farmington Township was ordered by the Court to pay to School District No. 5 fractional, \$7,000 from the General Fund of the Township and to spread the balance of \$35,763.34 in three yearly spreads beginning with the 1931 tax spread. These are the spread that Miss Noble accuses me of not spreading and of using for our own purposes.

It seems strange to me why anyone would cause to be published such untrue and misleading statement, such as would discredit the reputation and honesty of anyone.

And further, I wish to state that my remarks are not for the purpose of harming Miss Noble's reputation in the least, but merely to show the people who read Miss Noble's letter concerning me, that she has written statements that are not true. These spreads have all been made and District No. 6 has received the full share of the tax so far collected, or nearly one-half the money belonging to this district, as so ordered by the Court.

Arthur P. Coe.

Ten weeks without a single accident of any kind on the Farmington Cut-off which formerly had been Michigan's most dangerous stretch of highway, where 40 people had been killed, and scores seriously injured—

That is the outcome of personal attention devoted to the situation by State Highway Commissioner Murray D. (Pat) Van Wagener, who last fall after careful study based on work of his department, applied the solution which has secured "the magic" to transform the former "suicide stretch" into a section of more than average safety.

Commissioner Van Wagener's order designating the Cut-off as a one-way road, followed a series of visits to this area, is credited with having perhaps a dozen lives, numerous injuries and thousands of dollars in damage to automobiles since mid-October.

Similarly, corrective treatment which has been ordered for the perilous intersection at Grand River and Middle Belt, which he also personally inspected, has halted overnight the weekly toll of death and injury at that intersection.

Meanwhile, one who is untold suffering and loss been averted by the Commissioner's order, but it has brought rejoicing to Farmington businessmen, whose trade has been greatly benefited by the bridging of west-bound traffic through the town. At the same time, there has not been serious inconvenience or delay to the west-bound drivers required to remain on Grand River.

It is no secret that the Farmington Cut-off "suicide" labeled by Commissioner Van Wagener has been regarded as one of the worst in the entire State by officials. There have been detailed studies made of the Cut-off, which runs up and down over steep and winding grades that are unexcelled for today's high-speed travel, and are not tolerated these days by the Highway Department in its modern road-building program.

How to correct the situation and the toll of lives without causing great inconvenience to through traffic, and perhaps causing congestion which would transfer the death toll from the Cut-off to Farmington City, provided material for comprehensive surveys.

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A lunch and social hour followed the program.

BURGLAR ALARM PREVENTS THEFT AT LAYN GARAGE

The sound of a burglar alarm prevented a robbery early Monday morning at the garage of James Layn, located at the rear of his home on Grand River avenue.

The burglar alarm sounded at 1:30 a. m. when one of the robbers attempted to unlock one of the doors of the garage. Two alarms on the outside of the garage and the other in the interior of the Layn home, were sounded. Both Mr. and Mrs. Layn were aroused but the two thieves escaped in an automobile before Mr. Layn was able to get to the garage.

Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVrient was notified but no clues were found after investigation was made.

The garage was broken into several years ago when \$700 in equipment was stolen. Since that time there have been several attempts at robbery, none of which were successful.

Mrs. Floyd Johnson Sells Short Stories

Mrs. Floyd Johnson, formerly of Farmington and now living in Corcoran, California, recently had several short stories accepted by some of the country's leading magazines.

She has added to her group of spots and has a very recent acceptance in the Western Writers club.

Rev. Floyd Johnson is now located in Corcoran where he is pastor of the M. E. Church. Word received by friends in Farmington is that Rev. and Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson are very happy in their new home.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. Guy R. Shook announce the engagement of their daughter, Helen May, to Olin C. Wilkinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Troelcke and family of Outer Drive, Detroit, and Mr. and Mrs. George Checketts and son Billy were Wednesday night dinner guests of Miss Jean Wondereg at her apartment.

Oscar Loomis, 'The Dog With 1,000 Tricks,' Is In Hospital

"Once he was gay, but now he's forlorn." Those words so popular last winter are now being heard again at the Kenn Loomis Hardware. But Kenn doesn't sing them. He sings them in a dog hospital in Detroit, suffering from an attack of pomania poisoning. Oscar is indeed forlorn now, as his recovery is by no means assured.

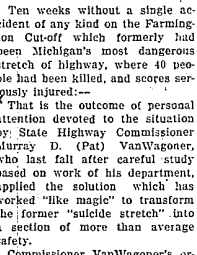
The origin of Oscar's sickness is obscured somewhat by his erratic habits but as far as can be ascertained he was poisoned by some special prepared rations that had been left in a tin can for too long.

But Kenn is not positive that Oscar's trouble came from that dog food. He thinks that it is quite possible that Oscar is suffering from the results of over-eating.

In the popularity of dogs in very high. He is very democratic in taste, as he tastes food at a good many homes in the city. He is supposed to have his breakfast and lunch at the store but often he goes out "handcuffing" instead. He is often seen in the vicinity of Maple avenue, where the Loomises formerly lived. There, Oscar visits the Fred Paulines for a bone two or three times a week. Oscar McNulty, has his next course at the Roy Kellers or past the back door of the Mablon Bradleys. Often he tops off his epicurean fare by a stop at the Roy Plumtons or at the W. J. Durhams.

Oscar visits Bill Pauline in the evening. Regularly as the clock strikes five, Oscar is up and frisking at Bill's heels and urging him to be homebound bound. He has missed only one dinner with Bill since he came to the store. He was five minutes late from his afternoon calls and discovered that Bill had already gone without him. It has never happened since.

No Cut-off Crash in 10 Weeks After Highway Chief's Order



Murray D. (Pat) Van Wagener, State Highway Commissioner

Cagers Prepare For Clarkston

A few days vacation from practice is the Christmas gift of Coach Harold Kammerer to the Farmington basketball squad who are holding light practice sessions this week and who will have none during the first part of the school vacation which begins on Thursday.

The squad will resume its practice late next week in order to be in shape for the opening game against Clarkston on January 8, on the Farmington floor.

The squad will rest with considerable peace of mind after its double victory at Keego Harbor Friday night. The second team won the preliminary game 21 to 19 in an exciting overtime affair and the regulars managed to make an early lead last all through the game, winning 23 to 21.

Going to Keego Harbor with the short end of the odds, the blue and white netters took their hosts by surprise in a game which ended that gained them a lead at the end of the first quarter, 10 to 2. Aiding Farmington was their heads up defense which often foiled the ransy Keego veterans' plays. Hoffmann topped in 20 shots and Davis, Turner, and Lee one each during the opening quarter.

The second quarter started in the same tempo, Turner and Lee each getting quick baskets while holding Keego scoreless, making the score 14 to 2. At this point Keego Harbor's coach sent in a complete new team. Although smaller men, this team played a very fast style of game. They managed to stop the Farmington quiet and brought the score to 14 to 8 at the end of the half.

During the short rest, the Farmington offense clicked again, scoring seven points in the third quarter, at the same time holding their opponents to five, three of which were foul conversions.

F. H. S. Race Stackens

Then, with a seemingly safe lead of 21 to 13, the blue and white let down, playing rather careless basketball during the last period. With only three minutes of the game left they still held a six point lead. Don Lee, concentrating on gaining possession of the ball, let his man, Cooper, get away for two quick baskets and almost a third just a few seconds before the game ended. Don himself had supplied the winning markers and the only ones scored by Farmington during the last period, a nice shot from the side of the floor.

D. Fournier of Keego Harbor finished the game with 11 points and Farmington's scoring was well divided.

New Line-Up Successful

The new line-up was a decided improvement and shows possibilities of becoming a very strong combination before long," says Coach Kammerer.

The second team played excellent basketball to win. It was more or less a personal victory for Carl Hunt who went on a scoring spree when he placed the line-up at the start of the second half. He scored nine points and played a very good floor game.

Keego tied up the score at 18-11 just before the regular time was up. In the overtime, Carl Hunt scored four of their Bob Snyder got his only basket of the game and put the victory away for Farmington as Keego was unable to score during the three minute overtime.

Goodfellows Distribute Yule Gifts



Miss Geraldine McCully Marries David Spicer

Distribution of Christmas baskets for the underprivileged of the Farmington area will be made on Thursday afternoon by the committee of Goodfellows who lead this year's campaign, one of the most successful held in recent years.

Children in needy families will be foremost in the minds of the Goodfellows when the good cheer presents are given away. Included in the gifts are many shoes, coats and other articles of clothing. Goodfellows are placing the greater part of their money in the purchase of clothes this year as it is felt that the need for food is not as great as the need of clothing for schoolchildren.

Two hundred envelopes were distributed this year in the effort to secure funds. A large number of these were returned, with an enclosed donation to the Goodfellow box in the lobby of the Farmington State Bank.

Four barrels were also placed in the A & S store, Krogers, Haulins Market and Pauline's Market for the collection of donations of food for the Christmas baskets.

A portion of the money collected by the Goodfellows will be saved until later to be used for the purchase of clothing or supplies for needy families as it is expected that not all of the money will be needed for the Christmas gifts alone.

The committee directing this year's Goodfellow drive is composed of Judge John J. Schulte, Howard Nichols, Roy Plunton, Howard Otis, and Dr. Lee Halsted.

MISS GERALDINE MCCULLY MARRIES DAVID SPICER

In front of a fireplace arranged as an improvised altar, Miss Geraldine McCully, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McCully, and David Spicer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spicer of Grand River avenue, were united in marriage at the Spicer home, on Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock. Rev. Delmere Stubbs performed the marriage ceremony. The immediate relatives and a few friends witnessed the service.

The bride was dressed in a white satin gown, with a long white sash completing the ensemble. Each was made on long, swaying lines, ending in a train. Her bridal bouquet was of Easter lilies. She was attended by Miss Emily Maas, who wore rust-colored moire and carried a bouquet of bronze chrysanthemums.

The groom was attended by his brother, Robert Spicer. A reception followed the wedding service.

Mr. and Mrs. Spicer will live on St. Grand River. Near the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spicer.

High School Concert Attracts Many

Among the out-of-town guests at the concert given by the Music Department of the Farmington High School, were Ralph Banta directing, at the Methodist church on Saturday evening; Dale Harris, head of the instrumental music department at Pontiac Senior High; Alvin Beuner and George Boyd who are connected with the music department at Pontiac Junior High school; Leslie Lee, head of the music department at Northville, and several music students from Cooley High School, Detroit, accompanied by Mrs. Eaton, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Corbett of Detroit and several music students from the Walled Lake High School.

In addition, 350 Farmington residents, including many parents, also gathered to listen to the band of 50 members, the High School chorale of 10 members, the band of 10 members, and the girls' first work in public that evening; the six, who presented an unusual type of play; the five students in the German Band; and the solo numbers. The numbers given by each of these groupings were received with enthusiasm.

Correspondents Note

Correspondents are asked to have their news items in to The Enterprise by Tuesday evening of next week as early publication will be made because of New Year's Day.