

The Farmington Enterprise

FIFTIETH YEAR—NUMBER 10

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Expect City To Act on Covert Taxes

With all the evidences indicating that whatever action is taken will be up to the City of Farmington, action on the \$11,000 Covert Road tax is awaiting the next meeting of the City Commission.

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission, scheduled for next Monday night, has been postponed one week to Monday evening, January 10, due to the observance of the New Year's Day holiday.

It is expected that the week's delay may be productive in bringing forth some more exact information and legal advice as to procedure. Thus far legal counsel has outlined the probable course of action and the City's likelihood of recovery in a general way.

Unit Studying "How"

Certain data concerning the levying of the tax in the years 1928 through 1931 have not been studied and reported in detail as yet. This concerns especially the matter of how the tax happened to be levied upon the City, when the County Road Commission's books show an amount only against the township, and for an amount each year equaling the total levied upon the two units in that year.

Officials have given some consideration to the matter of the City's representing the taxpayers, who, as individuals, have paid the apparently illegal tax, and thus would have the redress coming to them. The suggestion has been made that the City might ask the individual taxpayers each to assign his claim to the municipality, since the municipality is in effect the tax payer as a whole. This would cover the major portion of those who might have claims, the exceptions being those who have bought or sold property.

Whatever recovery was accomplished would benefit the taxpayers. It is pointed out, if it went to the treasury of the city, in practically the same way as if the money was returned to the individuals in view of the fact that it would be reflected in lower taxes in the City.

FACULTY AND ALUMNI TO HAVE CAGE TILT

A basketball game planned to attract community wide interest in the Farmington area, and to raise funds for Farmington Scout Troop 45, is being arranged to be held in the near future.

The game will be between a Farmington High School faculty team which has been organized, and a P. H. S. alumni aggregation. Curtis Hall has agreed to act as coach of the alumni in preparing for the game, and Coach Shoemaker will be in charge of preparing the faculty men.

MARCH 1 DEADLINE FINAL FOR LICENSES

Investigators of the Department of State, and other representatives throughout the state, have reported to Leon D. Case, Secretary of State, that despite publicity to the contrary, many motorists of the state expect an extension of the March 1 deadline for the purchase of 1938 plates or half-year permits.

Case stressed the fact that the 1937 legislature designated March 1 as the final date for plate or permit purchase each year, left no state authority to cover bookkeeping costs and cost of plates involved by the credit system.

SKATING AT RINK WAITS UPON BRIGHT WEATHER

There will be skating on the new rink at the high school athletic field—so insist city officials. But when, depends entirely on the whims of the weather. Assistant Superintendent Harvey Blough says it's all ready. As soon as freezing weather comes to stay, spraying will put the rink in shape quickly.

Many Congratulations Mark 90th Birthday Anniversary



MRS. CHARLES N. ANDREWS

Scores of congratulatory messages pouring into their home afford much pleasure these days to one of Farmington's oldest residents, Mrs. Charles N. Andrews, who on Christmas Day celebrated her 90th birthday anniversary.

Mrs. Andrews spent the day quietly in Detroit with relatives, accompanied by Mr. Andrews and their daughter, Miss Meriah Andrews. Nieces, nephews and grandnieces were among those who helped her celebrate the occasion.

Mrs. Andrews and her husband, who was 95 on November 4, are the oldest married couple living in the Farmington area. Mr. Andrews being the oldest living resident in a community that for many years ago boasted numerous nonagenarians, and many men and women over 80, as well as one woman past 100 years old.

Goodfellows Cover Expenses

Through a quickly arranged and completed solicitation put on Wednesday morning in the business section, Farmington Goodfellows by noon had covered a \$25 deficit which had occurred in carrying out their charitable work up to Christmas.

Through the hasty collection, they managed to cover the cost of activity which was about double that of a year ago. Thirty-four baskets were distributed this year as compared with 16 in 1936.

The Goodfellows expended a total of \$14.15 in making up the baskets, including about \$35 collected Wednesday morning, their total receipts were \$14.10, leaving a balance of \$10.85. The total of \$14.15 collected included \$131.30 received in general contributions and \$12.80 from the Exchange Club, representing the amount members would have paid for lunches at the meeting of December 22, which was omitted.

Little in Barrels

Response to the barrel solicitation in food stores this year was very limited, as was that to the appeal for cash contributions.

Chairman John J. Schulte reported that the Goodfellows found their work was genuinely needed and nearly all cases indicated the lack of the bare necessities of life. He also reported one basket was declined by a family who last year received one, but who this year suggested it be given to some one else because the family had been able to obtain some work.

Judge Schulte stressed the fact that experience had shown in the past week the need for some organization to carry on the work at least through the remainder of the winter.

EXCHANGE AND EPWORTH TEAMS TO DEBATE

A debate between three representatives of the Epworth League of Farmington Methodist Church and three of the Exchange Club is being arranged, to be held on Sunday evening in the latter part of January. The debate was suggested by the League and on Wednesday noon the Exchange Club accepted the challenge.

Subject of the debate is yet to be selected, but it is promised that it will be one of wide public interest, and of the type likely to draw a large attendance. It will be held in the M. E. Community Hall.

Chosen as Exchange Club representatives are Lloyd S. Guilen, Arthur Power and Earl Grosvenor. The League debaters are yet to be selected. Judges will be Judge John J. Schulte, Howard Otis and Glenn Leland.

U. STUDENTS HOME

The following students from Farmington, on Christmas vacation from the University of Michigan, will return to Ann Arbor Monday:

Floyd Bond
William Kennedy
Emory Griffith
George Grinnam
Bruce Johnson
Carl Lehmann
Virgil Owens
Geraldine Zabornick.

DR. ADAMS COMING

Dr. Frank D. Adams of Oak Park, Illinois, will hold services at the Universalist Church, on Thursday evening, January 6, at 8 p. m.

Clyde and Mrs. McDermott spent Christmas with the Goy Seelyes at Walled Lake.

Postoffice Still Feels Overload

The Christmas mailings which during the past ten days caused the greatest rush in the history of Farmington Postoffice, instead of having been concluded Friday night with the arrival of Christmas eve, piled up perhaps the greatest congestion for the period and in this area of the middle and suburbs of this week. The accumulation of mail not only of the late Christmas materials, but also the usual Monday increase because of two days being covered in one day, were likely to set a new high for every member of the office staff.

Still a further difficulty was added by the icy condition of the highways, which caused carriers to put an extra load of work in covering their regular routes.

While exact figures for the period have not been compiled as yet, the record-breaking volume of business within the past two weeks is likely to set a new high for the Farmington office for the final quarter and entire year.

Previously, the volume had already been sufficient to assure retention of the second class rating granted by the Farmington office last year after a lapse of some time.

Postmaster Norman C. Lee is compiling figures which will reflect the largest volume of business both incoming and outgoing, handled by the office during December.

The situation has been most congested on Route 2, which has five times the normal number of boxes on rural routes, and which is probably one of the largest in this part of the State. Two people have worked constantly, and at times three, for long hours sorting and distributing the mail for this route. On Wednesday, Christmas cards were still being sorted for this route.

We realize the annoyance and disappointment it has been to some patrons on this route not to have received their mail earlier, said Postmaster Norman C. Lee.

"But we have done everything humanly possible, including long hours of arduous overtime work without extra pay, in order to try to keep up with the load on Route 2. It has been just impossible, but the route is far too long and has too many boxes. Steps to correct this were taken quite a long time ago and it should be accomplished soon. We ask patrons of Route 2 to bear this condition with their long patience to the postal employees in this respect."

WHAT EVERY DRIVER MUST KNOW, IS READY

"What Every Driver Must Know" is a new booklet prepared by the Michigan State Police in cooperation with the Secretary of State, as a part of their program to effectively administer Michigan's new driver license law.

The administration of the Michigan Operator's and Chauffeur's License Law contemplates only that, by sensible investigation by examination, every person in this state may be assured that all operators of motor vehicles have a reasonable skill in the operation of a motor vehicle and an appreciation of the responsibility borne by each to insure his and his fellow's safety.

GUNDRY REPORTS ON OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

In a year-end check of his department's books Auditor General George T. Gundry, today revealed that slightly more than thirty thousand aged residents of Michigan are now receiving old age assistance. This is an increase of over thirty thousand over the number added by the State at the end of the fiscal year last July 1st. At that time the increased appropriation made by last legislature became available and was matched by additional funds by the Federal Government. When the additional funds became available the age limit of those eligible for assistance was lowered from seventy to sixty-five years.

"The bill for Old Age Assistance now amounts to \$1,200,000 fifty per cent, or \$600,000 and the Federal Government the rest," Mr. Gundry said.

The Auditor General further explained that the State Treasury pays monthly for the assistance for burial of aged people, who have no near relatives. This item is paid entirely by the State.

Gundry stated that the average cost per case was \$60.00 and that because of the high mortality rate of those on the assistance lists, new applicants were being added continuously to replace those who had passed on.

Another Master Craftsman Passes in Death of A. L. Bruder

Another of the skilled handcraftsmen fast disappearing from the land is lost to Farmington in the sudden death Tuesday afternoon of Albert L. Bruder, whose funeral will be held Friday at two o'clock at the residence at Farmington and Oakland roads.

Mr. Bruder, a resident and a tailor in Farmington for 41 years, was known far and wide for his skill in the needle and shears, and engaged in pursuits in which they attained prominence, as for instance, E. Roy Hutton, circulation manager of the Detroit Free Press, continued to think it worth while many years for him to come back to Farmington to have their suits made by Mr. Bruder.

Third Mail Route Likely

A third mail route out of the Farmington Postoffice, shown to be imperative by the tremendous volume of mail which has so overloaded the present capacity that Christmas cards were still being sorted five days after Christmas, is likely to be established in the near future. The present Route 2, with its 1,100 boxes, is over 50 miles long, and patrons receive their mail hours later than those on other routes, frequently after dark.

It is probable that when the third route is established, each of the three then will have about 300 boxes. Postmaster Lee has been working on this matter, with the active support of Senator Brown, and announcement of approval is expected from the Post office Department shortly. Years ago there were three routes out of Farmington.

SCHOOL WILL RE-OPEN MONDAY MORNING

Farmington Public Schools will re-open after the holiday vacation on Monday, January 3. By that time it is expected that the new improved bus schedules, and the establishment of one-way traffic on the streets adjacent to the school will have been accomplished.

Already, officials report, adoption of the one-way traffic has become fairly well established among parents bringing their children to school, although no signs have yet been placed at the intersection of Thomas street and Warner avenue, as planned. Notice of the Board of Education's plan in the news columns appears to have been sufficient to cause its adoption by a large proportion of those coming to school in automobiles regularly. The increased safety and the logic of the idea, which means less danger for not only the pupils being transported, but all others, appears to have had an immediate appeal to most fathers and mothers.

BURTON HOLMES TO OPEN WORLD ADVENTURE TALKS

Burton Holmes, veteran travel lecturer, has been chosen to open the winter season of lectures for the World Adventure Series of the Detroit Institute of Arts on January 9, with an illustrated lecture at 3:30 p. m. on "Down to Rio and Over the Andes" and at 8:30 p. m. on "A Motor Tour Through Brightest South America."

Other world celebrities included on the World Adventure Series winter schedule, their dates and subjects are as follows: Erling Stroy Jan. 15, "The Conquest of Mexico"; William L. Fletcher, Jan. 23, "Woods, Waters and Wildlife"; Howard D. McDonald, Jan. 30, "Romantic India"; Alan Villiers, Feb. 5, "By Way of Cape Horn"; Gray, Feb. 13, "My Friends of the Deep Wilderness"; Clarence W. Sorenson, Feb. 20, "Caravan Trails in Arabia"; Eric von Vegesack, Feb. 27, "Romantic Austria and Vienna and the Danube"; Gordon B. Enders, Mar. 6, "The Story of Tibet"; and Wendell Chapman, Mar. 13, "My Wild Animal Friends."

In addition to the above lectures, all but one of which are illustrated and all of which are included in the season ticket, the "World Adventure Series will sponsor special appearances of Dr. Victor G. Heiser on Jan. 16, Mrs. Gertrude Johnson on March 5, Tony Saig on March 27, and others.

Winners in Contest Are Announced

Farmington winners in the Hatton's Farmington Hardware Co. "Billy and Ruth" contest, who now become eligible for the national competition, are Norma Pollock, 11 years old, 2357 S. State St., M. Road, and Lewis Howard, Jr., 8, 27360 Halsted Road. Norma won a doll house and Lewis a toy fort.

In the national contest, highly desirable awards are given.

SEDS STOLEN

Search is being made for two sleds stolen Sunday evening from the yard in the rear of the home of Mrs. William Schweizer, 21600 Tulane, near Grand River.

Bank Pays Dividend On Stock

Further indication that the faith in the community and its financial future, was well-founded in the establishment of The Farmington State Bank, is afforded in the declaration of a cash dividend to stockholders, which will be paid within the next ten days. The dividend, by which holders of common stock in the bank will receive 50 cents per share, represents five per cent on each \$10 share.

The dividend was voted by directors of the bank at a meeting held on December 20. It will be paid January 10, to stockholders of record on December 31.

The payment of the dividend is regarded with special satisfaction by officials of the bank, marking as it does a further evidence of the soundness both of the basis on which the bank has been established and the conduct of its affairs during the few years since it was organized.

While it might have been possible earlier to pay a dividend out of earnings, the directors have preferred to defer dividends until every possible requirement of the bank for the present and some time in the future was provided for. This has now been accomplished.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of stockholders of the bank will be held Tuesday, January 11, at three o'clock in the afternoon, in the community room of the bank. The annual report will be made at that time.

The bank will be closed all day Saturday and will not be open Friday evening of this week, as it was last Friday. The hours this Friday will be the regular ones, from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.

HOWARD OTIS NEW HEAD OF EXCHANGE CLUB

Howard Otis is new president of Farmington Exchange Club, having taken office Wednesday immediately following his election to succeed Arthur Power. Curtis Hall is the new vice-president.

George K. Checketts continues as secretary and Emory Hutton as treasurer. New members of the board of control are Vic Blakelock, Roy Plumton and Glenn H. Leland, together with the retiring president, continuing on the board are Judge John J. Schulte and Emory Hutton. Election of all was by unanimous vote.

During Mr. Power's term a number of new members were added to the club, and attendance was at a high figure.

INTERNATIONAL ROAD WOULD CROSS U. S. 16

It is expected that the club may carry out tentative plans suggested some time ago for a sports night, when winners of Farmington High letters in football will be honored at a dinner, which is originally scheduled for January 10, but postponed due to inability to obtain the desired speakers for that night.

INTERNATIONAL ROAD WOULD CROSS U. S. 16

Another step toward the development of the Michigan diagonal highway between Chicago and Montreal has been taken by State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagener.

The commissioner asked the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads for the approval of a new Federal Aid route, extending between Pontiac and US-12 in Washtenaw County. Starting just east of Lima of US-12, the new route would go northeast by-passing Dexter and South Lyon, crossing US-16 between Novi and New Hudson, following a relocation of M-215, and finally connecting with Woodward Avenue in Pontiac by following Orchard Lake Avenue.

The commissioner said that his request covers a long-term construction program. He pointed out that the only possible improvement along this route proposed for early construction is the widening of Orchard Lake Avenue to the St. Clair River at Fort Huron.

DEPUTY DEVIENT BACK

Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVrient was around again for the first time Thursday morning, after a week's illness of flu. It was the first time Deputy DeVrient had missed duty in a long while.