

The Farmington Enterprise

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1938

5 Cents a Copy

Busiest Xmas Not Over Yet At Post Office

More mail passed through the Farmington Post Office last week than in any other week in the five years Norman C. Lee has been postmaster.

"This Christmas our volume of letters and packages was unprecedented. Last year we thought we had made an all time record, but this year we handled even more mail," Mr. Lee says.

The ordinary difficulties attendant upon Christmas week were intensified by the absence of Mrs. Ebel Middlewood, and Frazer Hulst. Hulst, who is the carrier for route two, fell ill Monday night. Mrs. Lee says his absence was taken by a substitute moderately familiar with the route, but incapable of delivering the mail as fast as Hulst could, Mr. Lee says.

Because of these circumstances, the trying part of the Christmas season is not yet over for the post office. On Tuesday morning there were more than 3,000 pieces of mail not yet delivered. Most of these were for route two and the carrier had not been able to deliver all of them.

From Dec. 19 to 23 there was an extra man on each of the three routes, and there were three extras in the office. Salaries for these persons were provided by the Christmas budget of the post office. Despite this provision, it was necessary for employees to work overtime, Mr. Lee says. The letters for Christmas was on Saturday afternoon.

There are more than 300 pieces of mail bearing one and one-half cent postage which cannot be delivered. These will be kept at the post office for several weeks and then burned, Mr. Lee says. They have been forwarded here, but a three cent stamp is required. These will be kept at the post office for several weeks and then burned, Mr. Lee says. They have been forwarded here, but a three cent stamp is required.

Looking Backward At 1938 Through Enterprise Files

Looking backward is something most of us indulge in at this time of year. Because a newspaper serves as a reflection of the times, it is invaluable to anyone who wants to see again the panorama of what spread from Jan. 1, 1938 up to now. There is printed below a glimpse of the headlines taken from The Enterprise files. No effort has been made to supply the high spots of the past 12 months.

Northville morals controversy: The church attendance an accurate index to the morals of the community, spreads from Northville to here, Jan. 1.

City Commission decides to act at once to recover overtaxes apparently illegally paid by the taxpayers of the city from 1925 to 31 inclusive, Jan. 10.

City and township tax collectors are ahead of previous year, Jan. 11.

Rev. Fr. John J. Laska, S. J., announces the opening of a Catholic parochial school on Jan. 31 to accommodate students from the first to the eighth grade inclusive, Jan. 15.

Tracy A. Bloomer, youngest son of the late Edgar A. Bloomer, founder of The Enterprise, dies in Traverse City, Jan. 14.

A 500 per cent increase in the number of individuals on the Township Welfare for the past few months, Jan. 20.

O. E. S. enters grand officers of the organization, Jan. 21.

Farmington is privileged to hear of the death of Winter Davis, Jan. 27.

More than 80 couples attend the President's Ball, Jan. 28.

Alvin Berner, becomes high school musical director, Feb. 1.

John Daley, formerly of Farmington becomes City Controller of Detroit and a virtual financial dictator of the city, Feb. 1.

50 Baskets Delivered By Goodfellows

More than \$200 in food and 150 in wearing apparel is what the Goodfellows gave the needy of the city and township for Christmas. All of the deliveries were made by 2 p. m. the day before Christmas.

Township residents received more than \$200 worth of food and also 150 baskets of clothing. They were given 42 baskets averaging \$1.19 and 35 clothing orders totaling \$11.70.

Eight baskets of food and three clothing orders were distributed in the city. The food in each case was selected to suit the needs of the family and varied between families.

No effort was made to purchase clothing. Instead, money orders were issued for each child who was in need of clothing or shoes. These were sent through the mail and are redeemable only at Fred L. Cook and Co. dry goods store. Only children were given clothes.

This year's drive netted more money and gave more food and clothing to the needy than last year. The balance on hand on Dec. 20 was \$419.54. After the \$264.50 in disbursements was made, \$155.04 was left in the fund. Last year \$150 was made and 31 baskets sent out.

One of the main reasons for the success of this year's campaign is the street sale of papers. This was the first year it had been done here. It made the Goodfellows \$214.91. The Township contributed \$100 from its Centennial Fund and other contributions amounted to \$263. There was \$26 left from the Centennial Fund, too.

Some families received clothing but no food, depending upon their individual needs. The food was given largely by trucks owned by the Farmington Dairy and the Warner Dairy. Private cars took some of the baskets. The figures quoted above are from the report of the members of the Exchange Club Wednesday noon by the treasurer of the Goodfellows, Floyd H. Nichols.

James Hogle, John Thayer Two Oldest Local Masons

When the Farmington Masons installed their officers last week, there were two men present who have been paying an active part in the lodge for almost 50 years. James Hogle, who is now secretary, joined the local lodge in 1885 and John Thayer has been affiliated with it since 1890.

Sixty-three years ago young James Hogle was the proprietor of Hogle's Drug store. He filled prescriptions and carried a few accessories like adhesive tape and cork plasters. That was in the days before drug stores sold vitamins, electric fans and chocolate milk shakes.

Hogle's drug store occupied the building in which Jane's Lunch is now located. Nine years before this time, in 1876, the town hall had been constructed and at that time the Masons were holding their meetings in the upper part of the hall. Young Hogle, who was 27 years old, became a member of the lodge in 1885.

There were about 100 members of the lodge then, for it had been organized since 1863. It was not long before Mr. Hogle was elected to an office, that of secretary. Since that time he has held all of the offices in the lodge, and has been secretary for a total of more than 30 years.

Four years before Mr. Hogle joined the Masons, John Thayer who lived in San Jose, Calif., joined lodge number 10 in San Jose. The exact date is Dec. 3, 1884. He moved to Farmington in 1890 and became affiliated with the local lodge.



JAMES HOGLE

To Begin PWA School Excavation

Work will begin Friday on the \$31,000 addition to the Farmington school system. The contract for the excavation and foundation of the building was awarded at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday, and the \$45,000 bond issue was purchased at an interest rate of 2 1/2 per cent. There were three other bids for the bonds.

The contract for the excavation and foundation was awarded to Darin Armstrong, Inc., of Detroit, who bid \$2,990. There were four other bids ranging from \$3,181 to \$4,000.

The PWA is paying \$36,518 toward the building, with the provision that work be underway by Jan. 1. The contract for the excavation and foundation of the building provides for its completion within 30 days. The architects, Lyndon and Smith, expect that bids will be asked for the general construction of the building around the end of January. It is expected to take five or six months to construct the building.

The sale of the bonds and the letting out of the contract Wednesday night were approved by two PWA officials from Detroit who attended the meeting. They said that a PWA resident engineer in charge of the building work as work on the building started. The school board will also provide a clerk of the works who will see that a good job is done, and the architects will keep him posted to see that their plans are well executed.

Although there was a 35 per cent variation between the winning bid for the excavation and foundation via George W. McCordie, project engineer from Detroit, declared that this variation was not extraordinary. It is probably explained by the varying costs of the equipment depending upon the equipment accessible to the contractor, according to Mr. Lyndon of Lyndon and Smith.

This project is the 17th started in Oakland County since the 1938 PWA program began in June, Michigan now has underway a \$56,000,000 construction program such as the State has never before known. More than 800 grants were approved. Applications on the current program came to a close on Sept. 30, but the local project is the fruition of several years of effort to provide more room for the crowded school buildings of the fifth district. (There is an article elsewhere in this paper dealing with the PWA in Michigan.)

Three elections were held on the bond issue, and at each of them the voters manifested their enthusiasm for the idea. Besides providing for extra school room, the new building will give the community an auditorium-gymnasium capable of seating more than 600. Such a community hall has long been a need here.

Approval of the PWA grant were at low ebb after Dec. 1. On Dec. 14 word was finally received that the grant had been approved by the Washington Department of Schools R. C. Burns immediately made provisions for the sale of the bonds and the letting out of the contract for excavation. It was originally believed that at least a month would be required to complete these preliminary actions, but it has actually taken but two weeks to do it.

The new building will be located on Thomas street 100 feet from the grade school and in line with it and the high school building. It will contain besides the gymnasium-auditorium a music room, shop, domestic science room, and a locker room with showers in the basement. The present gymnasium in the high school will be partitioned into several classrooms, in that way further relieving the congestion now being suffered.

The architects of the new building, Lyndon and Smith, are well known as school building architects. A school they designed for Northville was awarded first prize in a competition sponsored by the Architectural Forum for the best designed school building built in 1937.

James Moncken's Beer Garden has been sold to Geoffrey C. Gagnon. It is located at the Twelve Mile Road, and Middlebelt Road.

WPA Halts Work Awaiting Funds

Work on the two local WPA projects is at a halt and has been since the end of last week. It will not be resumed until an approval is provided by Congress, for all WPA projects are being stopped, Dec. 31 and not started again until Congress votes them funds.

Inventory is being taken on the two projects at the present time. It is expected that the city, which is sponsoring the project, prepare a list of materials and labor used on the project. Public Works Commissioner Emory O. Hatton is the man in charge of the project.

The WPA is being halted a truck driver and an air compressor and operator by the city. These are being paid for at an hourly rate. The pipe being used on the project is being paid for by the city and the State highway department. The latter pays 60 per cent.

The school project, which includes the reduction of the grade of the high school and grade school, must also have a itemized report of materials provided. This is being prepared now.

It is difficult to tell when work will be resumed, Mr. Hatton says. The WPA appropriations are supposed to be one of the first matters confronting the new congress, but they may be given a priority which will get around to them, he says.

Blakeslee Elected Exchange Head

Vic Blakeslee is the new president of the Exchange Club as a result of the semi-annual election of officers held at the luncheon meeting Wednesday. He succeeds Curtis H. Hall who was elected at the same time to a position on the board of control.

Mr. Blakeslee was vice-president of the club previous to his election as president. He has never served as president. The new vice-president is Bayard Taylor, Superintendent of Schools R. C. Burns was re-elected secretary and Emory O. Hatton was retained as treasurer.

On the board of control with Mr. Hall is Glen Leland. These officers will be installed at next week's meeting and a sheriff will be selected. He serves as a sergeant-at-arms, keeping order and fining those who do not stay within the Exchange Club's laws.

Other business at the meeting Wednesday was the reading of the report on the Goodfellow drive, which was sponsored by the Club. H. Nichols, treasurer of the drive, read the budget, telling how much had been taken in and how much had been spent for food and clothing. An article dealing with the Goodfellow drive appears elsewhere on this page.

"GHOST TOWNS" ARE ABUNDANT IN MICHIGAN

Surprising stories of industrial change in Michigan's hundred years of existence are reported by Federal Writers' Project workers, now compiling a Michigan encyclopedia.

In one agricultural county, 35 "ghost towns" were reported—towns that flourished with industries varying from woolens and leather to sawmills and chemical food products to silks and chemicals. Most amazing of employment and industrial transitions, however, came from review of the lumbering activities in the northern half of the Lower Michigan peninsula.

The first shipment of cork pine from the Saginaw Valley went to Albany, N. Y., in 1847. Seven years later, 29 sawmills were in operation and nine were under construction in the valley. North of Saginaw there was 125,000,000 board feet of standing forests, and at one time there were 200,000 men employed there on 25,000 men. Annual lumber production in 1890 reached 4,500,000,000 feet.

A new cycle of activity followed when farmers moved to the cut-over lands, it was observed. When the land proved unsuitable for farming, much of it returned to the state through tax delinquencies.

A procedure was set up by the state of Michigan for the two and a half million acres it now supervises.

Ada Mary Button Weds Gordon Blakeslee Here

At a candlelight service in the home of Warner St., originally planned for the late Mrs. Ada Button, grandmother of the bride, Ada Mary Button, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Button, and Gordon Blakeslee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Blakeslee of St. Johns, Mich., were united in marriage at 3 p. m. Friday, Dec. 23, by the Rev. R. O. Thompson.

The ceremony was performed in front of the fireplace in the presence of the immediate families and a few friends.

Placed on either side of the fireplace were silver Christmas trees lighted with blue lights and on the mantle were evergreen boughs and white table runners. The rest of the house was decorated with Christmas greenery.

Miss Button wore for her wedding a white taffeta gown with fitted bodice and large puffed sleeves ending in points at the wrists. Her hair was styled in a wavy, shapely with a narrow band of seed pearls in flower design from neckline to high waistline. The train was cut into the fullness of the skirt. The finger tip length veil was held in place by a pointed crown also decorated with pearls, and she carried an arm bouquet of white lilies, roses and snapdragons.

Barbara Button was her sister's bridesmaid and Charles Blakeslee, brother of the groom, acted as best man.

Mr. and Mrs. Blakeslee are graduates of Michigan State College. Mrs. Blakeslee teaches home economics at Bad Axe high school and Mr. Blakeslee is chief engineer of the School for the Blind in Lansing.

After the holiday vacation spent at Farmington, Lansing, and St. Johns, they will resume their duties.

FARMERS HALL FIFTH BIRTHDAY OF LENDING CO-OP

Half a dozen or more farmers of Livingston, Oakland and Macomb counties have been looking forward to an anniversary which they mark by the turning of a new leaf in farmers' affairs—and it isn't New Year's day, either.

It is Thursday, Dec. 29, the day that completes the first five years of an organization they have worked hard to establish, and in which they have kept up a lively interest ever since, the Pontiac Production Credit association. Albert Luchtman of Washington is president, and Smith Green of Walled Lake is vice president. They and Harry J. Green of Washington were among the first farmers in this section to see possibilities in a plan to form a local farmers' cooperative through which they could finance everyday farm operations in keeping with every day farm conditions.

After some preliminary discussions at small gatherings the association was organized with the idea that it would be available to every farmer eligible to credit throughout its entire territory. Looking back 5 years they note that 3 of the principal uses to which members have put the organization are purchase of dairy cows and herd sires, purchase of farm machinery and supplies, and the financing of repairs and improvements to buildings.

There are several other farmers still actively interested in the association, who helped put it on its feet in the early days. Among them are Martin Montgomery of Richmond, Harry McCracken of Farmington, H. O. Apple of Romeo and E. D. Chapman of Mt. Clemens.

Throughout the past 5 years they have continued to be strong supporters of cooperative action by farmers in obtaining credit as well as in other enterprises.

James G. Frey Selected New State Deputy

A Battle Creek man has been appointed to an important post in the Department of State, effective Jan. 1, 1939, by Harry F. Kelly, Secretary of State.

James G. Frey will take the post of Deputy Secretary of State, succeeding Bernard J. Youngblood, who was appointed to the office two years ago by Leon D. Case, Secretary of State.

Mr. Frey was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, in April 5, 1896. He received his education in the public schools of Dubois, Pennsylvania, and later graduated from the University of Michigan in 1922.

He has edited and published the "Tyler Keystone" (A Masonic Magazine) since 1924. Prior to that date he was engaged in newspaper work on the Dubois Courier, the Ann Arbor Times-News, and the Battle Creek Enquirer-News. He has resided in Michigan for the past 22 years.

He was elected to the legislature from the second district in Calhoun County in 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927. He served in the sessions of 1929, 1931, 1933 and 1935.

He is a veteran and served with the Amnars in the Expeditionary Forces in France and with the Headquarters U.S.A.A.S., with the Italian army and is active in veteran organizations.

WHY CHICAGO IS IMPORTANT, NILES IS NOT

Indian verbosity in council bluffed a U. S. army troop out of the St. Joseph valley in Michigan when it was in Chicago, but the fiercest county's first colonel 19 years later talked the Indians to avoid silence.

This tribute to garrulity is made by a woman doing historical research for the forthcoming Michigan Encyclopedia. It also explains why Chicago for Dearborn became important in a military context rather than Niles, Mich. The soldiers could not withstand the Indians' yammering and moving westward from it.

Their retreat was treated by the St. Joseph valley American rather than Indian, a Virginia attorney, Squire Thompson, moved in, much to the Indians' displeasure. They announced they were going to run him out according to the research worker, but his apparently endless oratory in defending his rights under the treaty proved more effective than the army's show of force.

Thompson's daughter became the first white child born in the valley and Thompson became county sheriff. The Michigan bill was territory. At intervals he was a merchant, farmer, trapper, guide, interpreter, and politician—and was reputed adept at each of these undertakings.

A National Defense

Since the first time they were sold in this country in 1907, Christmas cards have helped to develop a national defense against tuberculosis.

They help support medical research, health education, tuberculosis nursing and X-ray programs, testing and clinics.

The Michigan Tuberculosis Association and affiliated organizations.

SNOW BRINGS LOTS OF SKIDDING, BUT NO INJURIES

Holiday conviviality and streets paved with ice are perfect preliminaries to traffic fatalities, but even though these two conditions have prevailed during the week there have been no serious traffic mishaps.

A motorist has bumped pedestrians with another, or had to have made caution more pronounced when he pulled out of a snow bank, but the adverse conditions seem to have been avoided.

Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt reports that there have been numerous minor accidents since the heavy snowfall Monday. In none of these was any one injured.

Deputy DeVriendt asks the driving public to be extremely cautious on New Year's Eve. The hazardous festive night will be intensified by the slippery pavements which will not only make it more difficult to handle your own car, but difficult to safeguard yourself against the recklessness of others.

The County and State police will have extra men on duty, DeVriendt says, but he hopes no special provisions for New Year's Eve.

CARD OF THANKS

Mr. and Mrs. Burns wish to thank the Farmington Goodfellows for the kindness extended to her shortly before Christmas.

APPOINTMENT MADE

Announcement is made of the appointment of V. R. Blakeslee as manager of the Farmington Branch of the Secretary of State's office. Mr. Blakeslee will take his position the first of January.

Paul A. Pare is the present manager.