The Farmington Enterprise

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Light Vote Is Seen In Township

Two contests, for supervisor and justice of the peace, are sustaining the small amount of interest being displayed in the Farmington Township's annual spring election, Monday, April 3. Opposing the incumbent, Arthur Coe, for supervisor is William Kileen, who runs on the Democratic ticket. Paul Pare is providing the other contest, for his name appears in the Democratic column opposite Harry Shafer for justice of the peace.

Unopposed are Clerk Harry McCracken, Treasurer Loretta Cox, Commissioner of Highways Joseph Graham and three candidates for the four posts open for justices of the peace: Grant Heliker, Louis Hersch and Alvin Vandervoort. All of these candidates are Republicans.

Clerk McCracken believes the vote will be a light one, and that fewer votes will be cast than in the primaries. Around 2,000 are registered, but Mr. McCracken thinks it unlikely that more than a third of this number will vote. The contest between Mr. Pare and Mr. Shafer is regarded as affording the more possibility as far as filling the ballot boxes is concerned, Mr. McCracken said.

Precincts one and two in Farmington Township will be open to voters from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Frank Clark, supervisor of Novi Township for the past five years, heads the unopposed Republican ticket in that township in the election Monday. Clerk Earl Banks who has held office since 1921 and George R. Simmons, treasurer for the past seven years are also on the ticket. Because there were no contests, no primary election was held, but the election Monday is required by law. There are more than 700 registered, Mr. Banks says, but he expects a very small turnout. The polls will be open from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Southfield Township's election will be held to fulfill legal obligations, for there are no opposing candidates. Lynn Everett is running again for supervisor, Fannie Adams for clerk, Albert J. Johnson for treasurer. James Simpson, the only candidate contested in the primary, is running for justice of the peace.

Voters of Livonia Township will also receive only one column of candidates Monday, for the Republican slate, headed by the incumbent supervisor, Jesse Zeigler, is unopposed.

In all the Townships of the State, voters will vote on eight State officers and two proposed amendments to the State constitution. The contest arousing most interest is that for two regents to the University of Michigan. Democratic candidates are Dr. Dean W. Meyers and Charles C. Lockwood, and Republicans are Harry G. Kipke and Joseph Herbert.

For justices of the Supreme Court on the Democratic ticket are Thomas J. Murphy and Clarence D. Dwyer. Republicans for the same two posts are Henry M. Butzel and Howard Wiest.

The Democratic candidate for superintendent of Public Instruction is T. Thomas Thatcher and the Republican is Eugene Elliott. Edna Cornell Wilson is the Democrat running for member of the State Board of Education and the Republican candidate is Mary Farnsworth.

Two members of the State Board of Agriculture are to be selected. The Democrats offer Benjamin H Halstead and Albert L. LaLonde; on the Republican slate are Forest Akers and Melville McPherson.

Sole Wayne County officers to be elected are the two candidates for auditor: Democrat Leo J. Nowicki and John C. Cowan.

The first of the two proposed amendments would make all judicial elections non-partisan. Candidates for the Supreme Court to be chosen at conventions and judges of circuit courts, probate courts and circuit court commissioners, at primary elections.

The second proposed amendment would vest in circuit court commissioners like judicial powers as are exercised by justices of the peace.

A & P Observes Special Bargain Week

This week is a special one at the A & P for it is O'Donnel Week, named after a Detroit officer of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.

There will be many bargains offered at the local A & P store to suit the occasion, but there will be also many instances in fresh fruits and vegetables, staples and household needs of every day low prices, according to Marlin Ferrier, manager.

Recent Traffic Tragedy Revives Interest In Tunnel

Frances Labadie's death and the serious injury of her sister, Suzanne, Feb. 15 as they were crossing Grand River at School street on their way to school has many a parent uneasy, and concerned with the problem of how to provide absolute protection of school children from the swift stream of Grand River traffic.

The search for a solution to this problem has revived interest in a proposal made eight years ago, shortly after four-year-old Elizabeth Fisher was killed at Grand River and Maple. The proposal was to build a tunnel under Grand River at School street. The idea was introduced at the time of the paving of Grand River.

Three safety measures were considered by the City Commission at that time. First, was the tunnel, which was supported enthusiastically by a few. To quote the Enterprise's report of a Commissioners' meeting June 4, 1931: "Commissioner Carl Goers argued strongly for the subway, declaring that the saving of one child's life would be worth many times the cost of the construction. Commissioners opposed to it take the view that the subway would not guarantee saving any lives, and that there are many drawbacks to the plan. They believe there would be considerable difficulty in making children use the tunnel every time they crossed the street.

"A majority of the commissioners appeared to regard protection of the children by means of a man or youth, aided by a signal light, as a better and more economical safety measure." On these grounds the tunnel plan was turned down, but it was discovered later that it would be impossible to put a traffic light on Grand River near the school.

This was the second proposal, that a traffic light be placed at the school crossing. "The city's action in this matter," says the Enterprise of August 20, 1931, "was prompted by the approaching school term which opens September 14, and the hazard that exists to school children crossing Grand River. Passenger cars average around 40 miles per hour in passing through Farmington and the need of one light at School street is thought imperative while another at Maple avenue or Power avenue is thought advisable by members of the Commission in view of the excessive rate of speed maintained." The installation of traffic signals on State highways is governed by the State Highway Department and the Department of Public Safety. Because they would not permit the city to place a signal there, this proposal was short-lived. The third proposal, and the one since accepted, provided for a man to conduct the children across during three periods a day, but without the aid of a signal.

Probably the cost served as the greatest obstacle to the proposed tunnel. If it had been constructed while the pavement was being laid, its cost was estimated at $2,500. Today, it would take at least $3,000, one official said this week.

But today the tunnel is regarded by some as the most nearly perfect means of preventing any more school childen from being killed by automobiles. Unlike the traffic lights, it can be built, and after it is no reckless motorist or mechanical failure within reason could impair its effectiveness, it is pointed out.

No Date Set For Town Hall Vote

No action has been taken yet to provide for a special election in Farmington Township to permit the voters to decide on whether they wish to raise $10,000 to build a town hall. The Township Board is deferring any action until it has obtained the legal counsel of Township attorney Glenn C. Gillespie.

"There will be nothing to be said about the proposed town hall election until the board can arrange a meeting with Mr. Gillespie at which we can discuss the whole matter. On that occasion we will probably set the date for the special election, which will no doubt come sometime in April," Harry McCracken, Township Clerk said.

It was believed to be mandatory for the board to hold an election after it had received at its last meeting, a week ago Tuesday, a petition signed by 16 Township property holders, asking that $10,000 be borrowed by issuing bonds for the purpose of acquiring a site and erecting and furnishing a town hall. They petitioned further that the tax rate be increased not more than one mill, if required, for a period not exceeding five years to finance the bond.

Board members Ernest Blanchard and Harry McCracken said of the petition at the time it was submitted, that it was an obvious effort to get around the State Tax Commission's ruling that municipalities shall not issue bonds in excess of $10,000 if the delinquency on their general taxes is greater than 25 per cent for the last fiscal year. Farmington Township's delinquency is more than 44 per cent.

Because the Township has received a $27,252 grant from the WPA, some believe it should be taken advantage of, despite the restriction of the Debt Commission. In other words, they believe the maximum amount that can possibly be raised, should be, so that the Township will have a suitable place in which to meet, keep its records and its fire apparatus.

Because the Township's share of the proposed town hall as drawn up by architects Lyndon and Smith of Detroit, was set at $18,000 by the board several weeks ago, some believe that $10,000 would not be enough money, whereas others say $18,000 is more than enough.

BANK HOLIDAY

The Farmington State Bank will be closed Monday, April 3, which is election day and a legal holiday.

Fred Senne Injured When Car Hits Pole

Because his left front tire blew out as he was driving west on Grand River near Miller road at 7 p. m. Wednesday, Fred Senne of 33714 MacComb, Farmington, struck an Edison pole injuring himself and demolishing the front end of his car. Senne, an employee of the Edison company, though injured was taken to his home by Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt.

The pole was not broken off, but the impact was strong enough to shake some of the wires from the cross arm, so that linesmen had to repair the wires.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold McClelland and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Westfall and baby Diane were Sunday guests for the home of friends in Pontiac, and with Mr. and Mrs. John McClelland and family of Lake Orion.

Spelling Bee Friday Will Decide School Champ

Champion spellers of the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades of Farmington grade school will meet in mortal orthographic combat Friday to determine which of them will be the school champion. At 2 p. m. the first word will be read off to the contestants in the gymnasium, when the contest will end no man knows.

To the winner will go a medal designating him as the school champion, and qualifying him to enter the district contest to be held April 21 in the same place. The victor of this elimination will advance to the Metropolitan Detroit bee, the winner of which will journey to Washington to vie with the nation's best boy and girl spellers for the national crown.

Representatives of the various grades are: Dick Pauline, eighth; Shirley Rousseaux, seventh; Jean Power, sixth; and Allan Warner, fifth. Each of these students will receive a dictionary with his name engraved on it.

To win their titles, these boys and girls spelled correctly the following words, over which their rivals stumbled. They are in respective order: conscience, siege, exception and molasses.

Besides the grade champions listed above, each of the four grades from the fifth to the eighth, inclusive, will be represented by a team of nine spellers. In each grade, these nine were the last to succumb before the champion was decided upon. Members of the teams have just as real an opportunity as the grade champions to out-spell their fellow demon spellers and take the school title.

In a contest fraught with enough mental hazards to give Daniel Webster the jitters, there is one consolation to be found for this year's spellers: they will not have last year's school champion spelling against them. Maxine Willacker, 1938 school champion, now attends Royal Oak High School where she is in the ninth grade.

Union Service On Good Friday

The hours that Jesus hung on the cross in Calvary almost two thousand years ago will be commemorated on Good Friday next week in Farmington by a two hour union service to be participated in by the congregations and ministers of six churches in this area.

The service, an annual event, will be held this year in Methodist Episcopal Church. The Churches participating are: First Baptist, Salem Evangelical and Reformed, Clarenceville Methodist, Southfield United Presbyterian, Hope Chapel United Brethren and Farmington Methodist Episcopal.

The theme of the ministers taking part will be, "The Seven Words from the Cross." The first and seventh words will be considered by the pastor of the church, Rev. Delmere Stubbs. The second word will be considered by Rev. Carl Schultz, of Salem Evangelical Church. Rev. George Lomas of Hope Chapel will discuss the third word; Rev. Gilbert Miles of First Baptist Church will comment on the fourth word; Rev. Frank Boyd of Southfield Presbyterian Church is to speak on the fifth word; and Rev. William Frisk of Clarenceville Methodist Church will discuss the sixth word.

Besides the combined preaching of the six ministers, the service will include a musical program. The Methodist Choir of Rev. Stubbs's church will sing under the direction of Miss Ernestine Pierce. The old and familiar hymns of the cross will be sung by the congregation, according to Rev. Stubbs.

A special invitation from the six ministers and their congregations is extended to all persons of the community, of whatever denomination, to attend this service. It will be held from 1 to 3 p. m. Good Friday, April 7.

Farmington Man Killed By Train

Herman Schadd, 22 years old, of 27249 Shiawassee, Farmington Township was killed instantly Sunday when his car was struck by a Pere Marquette freight train in Grand Blanc.

A witness said that Schadd's car had swerved into a curb at high speed, then had plunged into the path of the southbound train. The wreckage and the body were carried 2,000 feet on the front of the locomotive before trainmen discovered it, and stopped nearly a half mile from the scene of the accident.

A driver's license gave Schadd's address as 660 E. Hazelhurst avenue, however he recently moved to the Shiawassee street address.

FARMINGTON IN DETROIT PHONE DIRECTORY AGAIN

After an absence of several years Farmington will again be listed in the Detroit Telephone Directory. The inclusion of the subscribers on the Farmington exchange came about because of the new zone project, which puts them in the Detroit district exchange area, according to J. R. MacLachlan, manager of the Plymouth district, which includes Farmington.

Included in the new directory with this community, is Wayne, which is also a part of the new exchange. The inclusion of these two communities means that all those listed on the map, shown elsewhere on this page, are listed in the Detroit directory. Livonia was the last exchange to be taken in previously, being included in July, 1938. Southfield is listed on the map as still pending and for that reason is not included in the directory. Telephones there are listed on the Redford exchange, so they benefit from the zoning project, Mr. MacLachlan says.

Farmington will appear in the back of the Detroit directory along with other suburban exchanges, like Windsor and Wyandotte. They are listed in alphabetical order. The new directory will be issued Saturday, April 1. Farmington telephone directory will be re-issued on approximately the same date. It differs from the current directory in that it contains information explaining the zoning project and the company's extended service plan. There will also be more numbers listed than are in the current book, but Mr. MacLachlan does not know how numerous they will be. The books will be delivered to subscribers by mail.

Mrs. Isaac Bond and Mrs. Howard Bond attended the annual meeting and luncheon, Wednesday, of the Pontiac Parliamentary Study Club at Ratunda Inn. They were guests of Mrs. Charles L. Wilson of Pontiac.

New Bids On PWA School Monday

Bids will be opened by the school board Monday at 8:30 p. m. for the general construction of the PWA school building to be built on Thomas street. This is the second time bids have been called for, because the first time, March 6, the lowest bid for the complete building was $95,000, the money the board had left to spend on the building, $74,000.

Since the bids were opened, many alternatives have been added to the plans submitted to the bidding contractors. These alternatives provide for the elimination of certain features in the building permitting the contractor to bid a lower price. The purpose behind this, says R. C. Burns, superintendent of schools, is to secure a contractor who will bid lower than $74,000 and can begin work on the building at once.

In addition to the bids leaving out the alternatives, bids which must come to less than $74,000, the contractors will bid on the entire building as originally planned, according to Mr. Burns. The lowest bid for the construction of the building with all the alternatives included, minus the $74,000 on hand, will be the amount to be put on the ballot at the special election to be held by the school district.

This figure which will represent the money needed to build a gymnasium-auditorium, will have to be raised by taxing the school district. An election will be held at least 10 days after Monday night, which is the minimum period allowed the secretary of a school board to notify electors of an election. At this time, the electors of the district will indicate whether or not they wish to have the tax rate increased to provide for the gymnasium-auditorium with a domestic science room, cafeteria, industrial science room and an extra class room.

Unless the voters approve of this increase in the tax rate, it is unlikely that the bids will permit the construction of more than an auditorium-gymnasium. In this event, the view seems to prevail among board members that it would be advisable to build well whatever is undertaken rather than to do halfway a large project.

Because Monday is election day and a legal holiday, it may be necessary to postpone the acceptance of the bids until sometime Tuesday.

Work began on the site of the building Dec. 30. The excavation was made and the footings laid by Jan. 15. Since then the project has been inactive. PWA provisions state that the project should be carried out "with all possible expediency," and for this reason efforts are being made to get the building under construction, instead of waiting the necessary minimum of 10 days for an election.

The grant received from the PWA is for $36,818, school district number five's share, $45,000.

Six Years Older Than Gov. Dickinson's 80

Just because he is 86 years old, John Thayer sees no reason why he should retire from the activities he has enjoyed all of his life. That is why Mr. Thayer's name will be found on the ballot Monday as a candidate for justice of the peace, an office he has held here before. As a result, Farmington compares favorably with Charlotte, the hometown of Governor Luren Dickenson—except that the Governor is merely 79.

Mr. Thayer, a life-long Mason who joined the lodge in 1881 in San Jose, Calif., is at present the treasurer of the local lodge. He was born in this area and after spending several years in California, returned here in 1890 to do surveying and some farming.

At one time Oakland County Drain Commissioner, Mr. Thayer worked in the county drain office in Pontiac until 1931. His departure then was attributed by the veteran Republican to a "Democrat purge."

After being elected to the office of justice of the peace in 1931, Mr. Thayer became ill that spring and was forced to turn over the office to John J. Schulte, the incumbent, whom he had defeated at the election. Mr. Schulte has since been re-elected.

Mrs. Thayer says that her husband is "entirely well" and able to take over the duties of the office he is running for, despite his 86 years.

Mrs. George Dunfee, Mrs. Donald Larson and baby daughter Suzanne, were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Wheeler of Detroit.

New Detroit District Telephone Exchange

UNDER THIS PLAN, effective April 1, Detroit and nearby suburbs are grouped in a zone arrangement and Detroit is further divided into seven areas, as indicated, with adjustments in many rates for interzone telephone calls that will result in annual savings of approximately a quarter of a million dollars to telephone users. Included in the plan, also, are adjustments downward in many rates between the various areas of Detroit and the points outside the new district exchange but within 45 miles of downtown Detroit.

Farmington In Zone Plan Bringing Lower Phone Rates

Reduced suburban toll rates affecting this area will go into effect Saturday, April 1, making it possible to call Redford, Livonia and Southfield for only five cents. Savings of approximately $250,000 a year to phone users are expected to result from the revised tolls.

The rate adjustments were ordered Jan. 10 by the Michigan Public Utilities Commission and were accepted by the Michigan Bell Telephone company. In the meantime, the mechanics of putting the new rates into effect have been perfected.

For purposes of suburban calls, a new Detroit Exchange District is created, which includes the present Detroit exchange and the suburbs served by the Center Line, Farmington, Birmingham, Livonia, Roseville, Royal Oak, Trenton, Wayne and Wyandotte exchanges.

The savings on calls from Farmington, under the zoning project, are as follows: to area three, you save five cents; area four, ten cents; area five, fifteen cents; area six, ten cents; and area seven five cents. Previous to the new plan, calls to each of these areas from Farmington cost twenty cents.

Unchanged under the new plan are calls to Pontiac, Northville, Plymouth and Royal Oak.

Detroit and each telephone exchange serving these suburbs are designated as zones. The Detroit zone, because of its size, is further divided into seven areas.

Rates for calls from one point in Detroit to another in Detroit are not affected. Rates from Detroit to Farmington, Garden City or any other suburb in the Detroit Exchange District will be altered materially, however, depending on where the call originates, and the location of the person being called. Rates are based on the zone system, and depend on the number of zones between the point of origin and the location of the person being called.

Calls between adjacent zones and within Detroit cost five cents. Because Redford is in Zone five, which is adjacent to Farmington as shown in the map above, calls between these two areas on and after Monday will be five cents instead of the present rate of ten cents.

To determine the cost of a call under the new zoning plan, draw a straight line between the sender's area and that of the receiver of the call and multiply the number of areas crossed by the line by five cents. The area in which the sending phone is located is not counted. Thus if a call is made from Farmington to a Townsend number in Highland Park, three Detroit zones would be crossed, and three times five cents gives the rate. Under the present schedule, this call would cost 20 cents, not 15.

Toll rates will be readjusted on a basis of zones, also. They will be based on the distance from the particular area in the Detroit zone from or to which the call is made. Points included in the toll call readjustments include Algonac, Ann Arbor, Brighton, Clarkston, Flat Rock, Howell, Marine City, Milan, Monroe, Mt. Clemens, Northville, Plymouth, Pontiac, Rochester, Ypsilanti and a number of smaller communities.

Chief savings will be in calls from outlying areas of Detroit to adjoining suburbs, or suburbs a short distance away.

For customers subscribing to what the telephone company calls Extended Area Service, all interzone units are four cents instead of five cents, each. For example, a call between Farmington and Detroit area seven shows a charge of 3 units. Multiplying four cents by three units gives the charge for the call—12 cents. The monthly charge for residence Extended Area Service in the suburban zones also includes the privilege of making an unlimited number of calls to all points to which the charge from a given zone is one unit.

Tax Suit, WPA Still Await Action

Two matters of considerable importance to people of this area were left undecided this week: the state of the City of Farmington's three WPA projects and the tax suit being brought by the City against the Township of Farmington for $41,523.07 in taxes collected for the construction of Covert roads in the Township. The City alleges the sum was unlawfully assessed against its taxpayers and collected from them between 1926 and 1931.

Judge Frank L. Doty, who is hearing the tax suit in Pontiac, is reported to have told John J. Schulte, one of the City's attorneys, that he was working on the case, but because of the numerous points of law involved, it would be several days before a decision would be reached. The last brief was submitted by the City March 13.

Work suspended last Friday on the WPA "piecemeal project" because it was out of funds, has not yet been resumed, for no further grants have been received, according to Commissioner of Public Works Emory O. Hatton, who is in charge of the WPA in the City of Farmington.

Also awaiting the arrival of more money so that they can be completed are the U. S. 16 sewer project, begun last fall and now about one-half completed, and the redecoration of the grade school and high school project. The latter project was closed down December 23, because of a lack of funds. Mr. Hatton would not say whether each project would be subjected to this extensive wait before being granted money. Thirty-six men taken off the piecemeal project when it was suspended Friday, are expected to be transferred to the Farmington Township WPA road building project Thursday. This project will be increased by 50 men Thursday, it is reported.

City Expects Heavy Vote On Monday

Voters of the City of Farmington are expected to go to the polls in greater numbers than in recent years on Monday, April 3, the date of the biennial city election. Petitions canvassed by the City Commission Saturday night indicate there will be four contests: for treasurer, justice of the peace, commissioner and board of review.

In anticipation of a large vote, City Clerk Harry Moore has ordered 100 more ballots than the customary 600. He believes the contest for justice and treasurer are principally responsible for the increased interest in the election. Less than 350 votes were cast at the last City election from among 700 registrations. This year more than 800 are registered.

Four candidates are up for justice of the peace: Lloyd S. Gullen (the incumbent), Bernard Meyers, Howard L. Richards and John H. Thayer. In the race for treasurer are: George C. Gildemeister (the incumbent), Carl G. Hogle, F. Palmer McCaskill, Harriet K. Power and Benjamin E. Storms.

Candidates for the commission are Fred W. Bagnall, Delos F. Hamlin, Adolph E. Nacker (the incumbents), and Kenneth E. Griffith and Tandy L. Jackson.

There are three candidates for the two posts on the board of review: Harrison Johnson and Clinton W. Wilbur (the incumbents), and Hubert P. Brennan.

Unopposed for his fourth term as mayor is Howard M. Warner who was first elected in 1933. Mr. Moore, who was appointed by the commission in August, 1936 to fill the clerk's office left open by the resignation of Nathan Power, is also unopposed for a second term. James L. Hogle, for six years city assessor, is not opposed for a fourth term; nor are Constables Marie Pettibone and Horace Durham.

There were no hitches in the Saturday night meeting of the commission. Commissioner Emory O. Hatton was acting mayor, and all of the petitions were approved and an election board was selected. Mr. Moore and Mrs. Power, each of whom served on the board for the Nov. 8 election, are candidates in the coming election and had to be replaced on the board. Replacing them are Carl Goers and Ethel Schroeder. Others are: Arthur Lamb, Anna Brown, Josephine McGee, and Clare Grace.

Voting will be done at the City's precinct one voting place: the Town Hall. It will be open from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. Voters will be handed three ballots Monday, one for the City election, one for eight State officers and one for two proposed amendments to the State constitution. (For information on these candidates and the amendments see the story on the Township election.)

PELVIS HEALED, SUZANNE LABADIE AWAITS OPERATION

X-rays taken Tuesday in the Pontiac General Hospital of Suzanne Labadie, six years old, who was injured by an automobile Feb. 15 that killed her sister Frances as they were crossing Grand River at School street, show that her pelvis has healed. She is still suffering from a ruptured diaphragm, her mother, Mrs. Frank Labadie says, which has caused her heart to shift over to the right side of her chest. This condition can be corrected only by an operation, she says.

When the operation will be performed, depends entirely upon Suzanne's condition. She is resting quite comfortably and is of a cheery disposition, her mother says but it is not known how soon she will be able to undergo the operation that will repair her diaphragm and restore her heart to its normal position.

The driver of the car that struck the girls, Russell Bachelor, of Farmington, will appear April 10 in Pontiac Circuit Court for arraignment on a charge of negligent homicide.

Mr. and Mrs. Culver Wood and family of Inkster were guests at the home of Mrs. Wood's parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Eisenlord, Sunday.

Delinquent Tax Notices

Published and enclosed herewith is a Supplement to The Farmington Enterprise, containing a description of all lands in Oakland County, Michigan, upon which the State is foreclosing its tax lien.