

Apple Tax Law Held Invalid

Farmington apple growers, who have protested against the Baldwin apple tax act, levying a tax of one cent a bushel or two cents a hundredweight on apples, received encouragement this week when Judge Fremont Evans, in the Berrien County Circuit Court handed down an opinion ruling the act unconstitutional.

A similar suit has been started by a group of growers representing Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston and Monroe counties, and has been continued by Oakland County Circuit Judges H. Russell Holland, Frank L. Doty, and George B. Harriek, pending the presentation of a number of Farmington growers were among those contesting the act.

The court's opinion stated that the Legislature "had undoubtedly power to levy a specific or privilege tax upon the privilege of either producing apples, or of putting them into the streams of trade and commerce. They (the Legislature) failed of accomplishment because the title of the act confined the tax to 'production,' while the tax attempted to be levied in the body was confined to 'putting the apples into the streams of trade and commerce.'

In conclusion, Judge Evans held that the commission "should be permanently enjoined from any and all attempts to enforce the act against apple growers, producers, and shippers within the state of Michigan."

The apple commission, it was reported, will ask the State Supreme Court to rule on the constitutionality of the act, which has been the subject of bitter controversy here and among growers throughout the state.

GIFTS EXCHANGED AT KIWANIANS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Plans are not complete for the meeting of the Kiwanis club to be held next Wednesday evening. The program will be prepared by O. E. Dunckel, superintendent of schools, who said there will likely be an outside speaker for the Christmas party Wednesday evening at which gifts were exchanged among members. Many of the gifts were given with an eye to amusement rather than practical use. For instance, Ed Pierce is now presenting to the entire city with matches—was received a carton of the kitchen variety, and Vic Blakelock has offered to let all visitors see, without admission charge, the monkey somebody gave him.

Delos Hamlin, chairman of the Goodfellows committee, reported on the results of the campaign, and the purposes for which the money was spent.

The Kiwanians who sold papers in the Goodfellows campaign were given a chance to see what they looked like as they went through their papers. Moving pictures of the Christmas party, taken by Howard Otis, were shown by Mr. Otis, and caused a good deal of merriment among the members. Otis also showed a feature entitled "Land of the Free," distributed by the Chrysler corporation, and boosting Americanism.

More Children Adopted During Holiday Season

The desire on the part of childless people to have a child during the holiday season is reflected in an increase of applications at this season of the year. According to Oakland County Probate Judge, Arthur E. Moore, these applications are more numerous during the holiday season than at any other time during the year. This is but one of the interesting features of the adoption procedure which is under the jurisdiction of the Probate Judge.

According to Judge Moore the right of adoption was known to the ancient people of Greece and Rome and probably to other ancient peoples. He states that even the biblical story of the early life of Moses might be interpreted as a form of adoption, pending the legal approval of the ruling authorities at the time.

Welfare Emphasized
The statutes and legal procedure in the Probate Court are primarily designed to protect the interest of the child.

Birth Certificates
The birth certificate issued to an adopted child in Michigan does not reveal an illegitimate birth nor that the child is adopted. The certificate does reveal the adoptive name of the child, the name of the parents, date and place of birth, but no reference is made to the natural parents.

Men Adopt More
Judge Moore states that a survey of adoptions completed in Oakland County during the past year reveals fifty-four children were adopted by stepfathers and of this number, eighteen were illegitimate births and thirty-six were legitimate births, whose parents were either divorced or widowed. In contrast to this the records revealed that only one stepmother adopted her husband's child by a previous marriage. Judge Moore states the few adoptions made by men adopting their wives' children are all members of the family can be known by the same surname. In practically all such cases the stepfather and his wife were frequently such children had used the stepfather's name in the home and in the school records to the adoption. Judge Moore states the survey reveals that in many cases the illegitimate children were adopted by their natural parents who married after the birth of the child. In one of these cases the child had previously been adopted out and on the death of the natural parents the child was adopted by its natural parents when thirteen years of age. The survey also reveals that the mother's relatives are more interested in the adoption of the children than are the father's relatives.

Joint School Planned
By O. E. S. Chapter 239

Farmington Chapter No. 239, of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, will hold a joint school of instruction with Entre Nous Chapter No. 228 of South Lyon, on Tuesday evening, January 2. The school will be held in South Lyon and the instructor will be Viola Grison, Grand Marshal of the Grand Chapter of Michigan O. E. S. from Lansing. The school will be preceded by a dinner at 6:30. Members desiring to attend are requested to bring a check for the transportation will call Ella Darling as early as possible.

LONG RECORD COMPLETED
A record of 22 years of faithful service was completed last week when Julius E. Deal, of Ann Arbor, retired from the University of Michigan Board of Regents. During his twenty-two years which he the fourteenth year terms which he served he had been absent from only 19 of 353 meetings and for 24 years had had a perfect record of attendance. He had been on the Board during the administration of five different University presidents—Angell, Hutchins, Burton, Little, and Ruthven.

Goodfellows Distribute 107 Baskets

Almost \$600 worth of food has gone into 107 baskets packed by the natural parents or child placing agency and the adoptive parents in Probate Court, the County Welfare Agent is requested, as provided by law, to present the Probate Judge with a complete written report based upon a thorough investigation of the adoptive parents and their home. It is also necessary for the County Welfare Agent to obtain information relative to the family background and personal history of the child, and to determine the suitability of the prospective adoptive parents to have the control and custody of a particular child. From this report the Probate Judge determines the order of adoption should be approved or denied. When the Probate Judge approves an order for adoption, a legal relationship is created between the child and the adoptive parents which cannot be altered or annulled except in rare instances even by a court of proper jurisdiction.

Orders for clothing will be given out within a few days, the committee has announced. These have been held up so that investigations are made to determine which families are most in need, and whether there are any "chiselers."

Clothing Orders Larger
These orders will be given out for amounts varying as to size and needs of each family. They will be redeemable only at Fred L. Cook and Co. clothing store. It is expected that the large majority of these will be given out to families in the township.

Brady Elected Exchange Head
Mahlon Bradley is the president of Exchange club as a result of the semi-annual election of officers held at the luncheon meeting Wednesday. He succeeds Bayard Tupper.

SEVEN FINED FOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS
Traffic violations resulted in the arrest of seven persons all of whom appeared before Justice John J. Schutte, Cleve D. Dolberg, 25 of Arzely, Michigan, was fined \$5.00 costs for failing to stop for a through highway, Greenfield at Nine Mile.

UNIVERSITY GETS RARE NEWS PAPER
A rare copy of the newspaper in which was printed the first biography of Abraham Lincoln has been given to the University of Michigan by William L. Clements Library of American History by A. H. Greenly of New York City. The newspaper is the Chester County Times published at West Chester, Pennsylvania. The record is the gift of a valuable collection of Lincolniana gathered over a 20 year period by Mr. Greenly.

LOCALS
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lapham and son Michael of Lapham, Ontario, are spending the week-end with their parents, Mrs. Blanche Smith of West Point Park, and Mr. and Mrs. John Lapham.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.

Dogs Not Dangerous Says Letter To Santa

When young Harold Pope, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Pope, 28214 Greening Ave., wrote his letter to Santa Claus this year he was careful to slip in a few words of advice to St. Nick as to how delivery of his gifts should be made. His letter, which he deposited in the Letters-to-Santa Claus box at Hutton's Farmington Hardware, follows:

"When I went down town I asked you for a trumpet but mother said I was too small so I thought I would ask for a wagon and a bugle. I have been a good boy. I hope it isn't too late to change it and I hope it isn't too much to ask for. The reason I want my bugle is that I may be in the cubs (Cub Scouts). The reason I want the wagon is so I can hitch my dog to it and hold my bugle and play I am a soldier. Do not be afraid of my dogs when you give me the presents because they only grow and bark. You will be cold and hard when you come to my house so there will be something to eat for you.
Your friend,
Harold Pope

F. Homer Newton Aids In Masonic Installation



Edward F. Alexander will head the Farmington Masonic club following his installation as Worshipful Master Thursday evening. Alexander succeeds Carl C. Harrison as Worshipful Master of the club for the past year.

Among the other officers elected were James Smith, Senior Warden; Harold Hurkett, Junior Warden; Arthur G. Lamb, treasurer; James I. Hogle, secretary; William F. Hogarty, Senior Deacon; Robert W. Gallup, Junior Deacon; and Ralph J. Auten, Tyler. A. L. Ross is chaplain of the club, and Amos Otis is Marshal.

Other important guests at the ceremony included Francis M. Lambie, Grand Master, from Midland, and Hugh MacPherson, Grand Master, from Pontiac. There was a lunch, followed by a program which included music by an orchestra from the Ford Motor Company.

RED CROSS RAISES \$16,751 IN OAKLAND COUNTY

Membership in the Oakland County Chapter of the American Red Cross was reported this week to total 12,825 persons with the amount contributed \$16,751.00 as a result of one of the most extensive membership appeals ever made in Red Cross Peace-Time history, according to Mrs. Howard H. Robinson, County Co-ordinator for the Chapter. She expressed gratitude at the response of the public during the enrollment period. The Farmington chapter, under the direction of Mrs. Hattie DeVriendt, chairman, raised \$102.60 in its city-wide drive.

This year the Red Cross was faced with the need for the greatest expansion of its membership since the days of the World War. Mrs. Robinson said, Peace-Time services of safety, health, disaster preparedness and volunteer work in this year have become more inclusive than ever before. The continuance and growth of these services necessarily depends upon membership, for the strength of the Red Cross is its membership. The citizens of Oakland County demonstrated their intention that their Red Cross shall continue and grow in its work. Their willingness was shown not only in membership response but in the service rendered by Roll Call volunteers and in the manner in which these workers were received.

"In behalf of the local chapter I take this means of expressing profound appreciation and thanks to all citizens of Oakland County who have given their time and funds during the annual Roll Call," said Mrs. Robinson.

Reports from Chapters in various parts of the United States show an increased enrollment over that of last year.

City Begins Collection Of Taxes

With their purses scarcely recovered from the sledge of Christmas buying, Farmington residents will soon begin to "dig down" again. This time it's that "sure thing"—taxes. The City tax statements for 1939 will be mailed this week and next.

The tax rate this year will be somewhat higher than last year. This year taxpayers will be assessed \$26.21 per thousand dollars. This rise is due mainly to the extra burden imposed by the building of the new school gymnasium-auditorium, City Treasurer George C. Gildemeister said.

Payable immediately. Headquarters for the collection of taxes will be the office of Mrs. Avis Jamieson at 23816 Farmington Road, and the taxes will be payable immediately upon receipt of the statements. Mrs. Jamieson will continue to collect the tax money at her office until March 1 when the tax books will be turned over to the County Treasurer's office in Pontiac. After that date tax payers will have to go to Pontiac to make their payments.

Valuation Rises
Total valuation of city property for 1939 is set at \$1,439,526.00. In 1938 the valuation was set at \$1,370,839.60.

READ TELLS OF EXPERIENCE IN MANCHUKOU

(Presented herewith is the third in a series of articles written by the author. Mrs. Jamieson has belonged to my grandfather. Most of the people present at dinner had, at least, been born on a farm and it seemed natural that the conversation should include the New Deal, gave up the younger generation as "lost," criticized the stupidity of our legislators, dwelt on the shortest road to the poor house, and bewailed the "good old days" when corn was higher and stoves were lower, and as I looked around at the table filled with enough good things to feed the people for a week, I remembered the Christmas of a year ago which I had spent in Shanghai, China.

It was not thinking, however, of what I had eaten on that day of 1938; but my thoughts lingered around a gentle, blue eyed old man with grained hands and a heavy leathery coat which he named was the wings and sun and cares of sixty years of Russian farm life. He was visiting his daughter at her home in Shanghai when he had journeyed from his little farm near the city of Harbin, Manchukou.

My knowledge of Russian was insufficient to carry on a conversation but, with the help of another person, I managed to secure much of his story before the dinner and afternoon was over.

Afanasy Ivanovitch Baranoff had been born a "krestnian" (farmer) in the vicinity of Nizhnek, a small town of Eastern Russia.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Ample notice of change of address should be given when moving. Notice should be given before changing if possible.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. Pleuch of Woodrow Wilson avenue, Detroit, announce the engagement of their daughter, Virginia June, to Howard A. Buehl, son of Mr. W. Allen Nelson, of Farmington.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner in the old farmhouse, near South Lyon, which had belonged to my grandfather. Most of the people present at dinner had, at least, been born on a farm and it seemed natural that the conversation should include the New Deal, gave up the younger generation as "lost," criticized the stupidity of our legislators, dwelt on the shortest road to the poor house, and bewailed the "good old days" when corn was higher and stoves were lower, and as I looked around at the table filled with enough good things to feed the people for a week, I remembered the Christmas of a year ago which I had spent in Shanghai, China.

LOCALS

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lapham and son Michael of Lapham, Ontario, are spending the week-end with their parents, Mrs. Blanche Smith of West Point Park, and Mr. and Mrs. John Lapham.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Jensen entertained as their Christmas guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers of Blanche, Mrs. Carl Mikseel of Dearborn, Arthur and William Pulkerson and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hass of Detroit.