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TWO SECTIONS,

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School Chief Hired From Dearborn

Dr. Roderick J. Smith, now superintendent of Dearborn Township School District No. 8, will become superintendent of Farmington public schools July 1.

The Farmington Board of Education, after a five-month search, Tuesday announced its unanimous decision to hire Dr. Smith as chief administrative officer here.

He succeeds veteran Supt. Gerald V. Harrison, who last fall announced he would retire after 10 years in the post.

Smith, 47, will have a three-year contract. In his career, he has been a classroom teacher, a World War I bomber pilot, a principal, a superintendent and a college president.

SMITH HAS BEEN superintendent in the Dearborn Township district for six years.

Under his administration, schools of Dearborn District No. 8, though considered a low valuation Wayne County district, eliminated a large operating deficit, expanded their curriculum, updated textbooks and enlarged their special education program. The district passed two operating millages while maintaining salary and wage schedules at a competitive level. He is president of the Dearborn Heights Rotary Club.



DR. RODERICK J. SMITH

Prior to joining the Dearborn Township school system, he was president for four years of Spring Arbor College during its transition from a two-year junior college to a four-year liberal arts college.

He led the development of a 10-year expansion program there which led to Spring Arbor's being accredited by the North Central Association.

A PRODUCT of the Flint public schools, Smith attended Spring Arbor College from 1936-38 and completed work on his undergraduate degree (B.S.) at Greenville College in Illinois.

After college, he went to work in Detroit as an accountant with the firm of White, Bower and Brevo. But World War II intervened.

In the war, he was pilot of a B-25 that flew 55 missions over Africa, Sicily and Italy.

He earned the distinguished flying cross, the air medal with eight oak leaf clusters, and a presidential citation with oak leaf cluster. At present, he is a major in the Air Force Reserve.

SMITH HAD BEEN a teacher at Goodrich High School; a teacher, principal and superintendent of the Wolcott school system and administrative assistant at Chatham (N.J.) public schools before taking the Spring Arbor and Dearborn Township posts.

He earned a master of arts degree at Michigan State University (1952-54), where he was also a graduate assistant.

He studied at Columbia University from 1956-57 and earned his doctorate in education at MSU in the years 1957-61. He has also done graduate work at Eastern Michigan University and the University of Detroit.

He is a member of national and state associations of school administrators, national and state education associations and several other professional groups.

BOARD PRESIDENT Richard Peters gave this background on the board's search for a superintendent:

"Criteria were established limiting applicants to superintendents or assistant superintendents from districts of approximately 5,000 student population or larger, among other qualifications. Prior to the deadline of Jan. 15, some 50 qualified candidates had submitted applications. From this list, 12 candidates with outstanding credentials were selected after review of all applications by the board, plus independent analysis by a committee of the three (college) placement directors."

"From this intensive study, Dr. Roderick J. Smith emerged as the unanimous choice of your Board of Education."

Smaller County Board Seen Losing Quality

A smaller, streamlined Oakland County Board of Supervisors apportioned on a "one man, one vote" basis is the goal of many reformers.

But Farmington Township Supervisor Curtis Hall, an eight-year veteran of the board, thinks the caliber of men who are brought into public service will be lowered if the present 85-member board is reduced to, say, 15.

County board apportionment is an issue currently before the State Supreme Court. Then there's the matter of pay. "I don't feel we'll get the caliber of men to serve on the board (if membership is reduced to nine)."

"With apportioned supervisors from the cities, you get men who wouldn't be bothered with running (in an election) in order to make \$300 a year serving on county committees."

"I've heard several supervisors from cities say they wouldn't run, but they're civic-minded enough to serve on an appointment basis."

"Now, you've got men making \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year—real able men, professional men, lawyers."

"But if you're going to have a 15-man Board of Supervisors, you're going to have to pay them a salary and have a veteran of them over there every day," he said.

EVEN IF the county salary were equal to the Legislature's \$12,300—which Hall considers unlikely—men making two to four times that much wouldn't run for the office. Lesser men would run.

"The tenure of employment is uncertain," he says of elective office. "An attorney or board was last trying to live up that job to run for office."

The Farmington supervisor also thinks the 85-man County Board—more than twice as large as the State Senate and four-fifths as large as the House of Representatives—is "at all cumbersome."

"The work of the Board of Supervisors is done primarily in committee. They've seven on to nine members. When a committee report comes out, it's usually unanimous, or six out of seven approving. You (the rest of the board) can go along with that recommendation," he said.



SOLOISTS ARE REHEARSING for their forthcoming parts in the oratorio, The Holy City, to be presented at Farmington High School on Friday, April 14. From left, they are: Ray Buchanan, baritone; Patricia Szymanski, soprano; Marilyn Trullitt, contralto and Bruce R. Carvell, tenor.

Guidance Group Cites Need For Recreation Pro

Consensus of a meeting Tuesday of Youth Guidance Committee members with civic and school officials is that Farmington needs a full-time professional director.

Jack Cotton, physical education director for Farmington schools, pointed out that current fund raising activities of the committee may lead to functions that overlap present organizations such as the YMCA, Farmington Area Recreation Commission and the Little League.

A director could correlate overlapping activities to avoid duplication. Primary purpose of the meeting was to cover just such points as Cotton's, to outline objectives of the drive and set a goal.

Determination was made on the first two. Referenced to the third ranged anywhere from \$8,000 to \$80,000.

As defined by Chairman James Alstrom, main purpose of the present drive for funds is to establish sub-teen activity centers in selected schools in Farmington city and township.

The committee has been operating, under wraps, a pilot program in this area since last June. Directed by Sean Whalen, physical education teacher at Gill Elementary, secrecy still surrounds the pilot, but committee members feel its success rates expansion to other schools, and additional age levels.

As itemized by Alstrom, additional drive objectives include: Parent seminars and group therapy on a small group basis.

Parent-youth activities, such as Dads Clubs. Expansion of delinquency prediction techniques.

The Powell group argues that the Cartwright forces can't drop their "class-action" suit on their own motion. Cartwright argues that it isn't a "class-action" but a suit against three major officers.

In the Powell group of officers are three Farmington residents: Mrs. Catherine Gaul, secretary; Stephen Bruce and Walter DeMatia, members of the district committee.

In the Cartwright group are two Farmington men: Norman Skeiriz and Arthur Hogarth, both district committee members.

These classes are particularly geared to those who want to steer a course midway between strictly academic and those which are vocational in nature.

In some cases, the new courses will replace study periods which might not be utilized to the greatest advantage.

In other instances, the student is simply chosen in preference to elective subjects which might not interest him nearly so much.

It is thought by the faculty that an introduction to typing before the high school level may be of great value to the student, allowing for more efficiency and confidence in

Six schools are rated as needing such programs right now, because of their delinquency records.

Establishment of a teen center, according to Alstrom, could cost \$18,000 to \$20,000 a year for staff and maintenance, with an initial outlay of \$1,000 for equipment.

Some thought is being given to supervision for the three ice rinks and erection of warming houses, as well as further provision for parent counseling.

Mayor Wilbur J. Broderick agreed with Cotton that the Committee may be venturing into areas beyond its scope.

Alstrom assured him, "We'll only run it until it gets off the ground and then we'll insist the proper group or person handle it. We only want to set up a workable program, get the funds or the necessary millage and then turn it over."

Referring to Millage, Cotton said, "That was bombed out four or five years ago. Everybody said we don't need recreation in Farmington."

"I have two real concerns," he went on. "We're creating another agency to take care of somebody's kids when it should be their parents doing it. We're spending more and more money caring for the children of kids. The kids in the middle 60 per cent are the ones who are suffering."

Township Supervisor Curtis Hall said about the millage request, "There is a lot of interest in some areas, but the interest diminishes in direct proportion to the amount of money you ask for."

Before adjournment, Donald Dames outlined plans for a giant rally to end the drive with top name entertainers and guests and a drive program calling for honorary chairmen and block captains.

Republican Feud Drags On Into Circuit Court

You could win an Easter ham if you take a close look at the last page of this week's Enterprise.

Republican merchants will give hams to lucky persons who visit their stores. There's nothing to buy. Here's what to do:

1. Clip the bunny coupon entry blank from the ad and write your name and address on it.

2. Take the right entry blank to the right store and drop it in a box there before March 21. Each merchant will have his own drawing. There will be 11 winners.

Winners will be notified by the store some time after March 22, and a list of winners will be published.

The Republican forces of Christian Powell, ousted as 19th District - Oakland delegates at last month's GOP State Convention, are hanging onto their headquarters and funds and seeking Circuit Court support.

The winners, headed by John Cartwright, want to drop the matter.

The matter was to have been argued Friday before Judge Blair Moody Jr. of Wayne County.

HERE IS the sequence of events in the Grand Old Party's intramural fracas:

The full Republican State Convention Feb. 25 granted credentials to the Cartwright group, political moderates in the Gov. Romney fold. Cartwright's slate of officers was thus recognized and Powell's somewhat more conservative group was ousted.

Charging that three of Powell's officers failed to turn over party records and funds, Cartwright on Feb. 27 filed suit in Wayne Circuit Court to get the records and funds.

Two days later, Cartwright asked that the suit be dismissed, saying: "We have found that we can, with many hours of volunteer work, duplicate the records, and we have decided that the money (about \$500) is not worth the damage to party unity which will result from carrying out this suit."

Cartwright also said that the lease on district headquarters, above Powell's law office in Pontiac, had been cancelled.

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Wrong 'Peppy' Returned

It looked for a time as though Peppy had come home, but his way with a lollipop proved him to be a different dog entirely.

Peppy is the Siberian husky who normally makes his home with the Milford Armstrongs of 37420 Grand River.

For several weeks after their dog mysteriously disappeared the Armstrongs advertised for him in the Enterprise, offering a reward of \$100 for his return.

AT LAST a call came from Ann Arbor and a dog answering Peppy's description was returned to them.

They were certain enough of his identity to pay out the reward, but later began to feel that perhaps they had paid for a wrong number.

The matter was settled when they offered the animal a lollipop. Their Peppy would have taken it eagerly in his paws, but this fellow ignored it.

THE ARMSTRONGS then set about finding the proper owner of their houseguest. When they got owner and husky together, there was no

doubt about it; the reunion was enthusiastic and successful.

Another happy note is that the Armstrongs will get back their reward.

The Armstrongs are still dogless, and the neighborhood kids still check in frequently to ask if Peppy is home yet.

And they're still offering a \$100 reward.



PEPPY, THE MISSING HUSKY

around the block

A LITTLE RED HEN down in Louisville, Ky. goes merrily on laying her green eggs though everyone says it can't happen. Veteran poultry experts say that chicken eggs must be white or brown, but we're convinced that little Biddy Murphy must have Irish blood a-courin' through her veins and is utilizing the only way she knows to honor old St. Pat.

A FASCINATING ARTICLE on herpetology (many snakes are green, too) disclosed the fact that most of what people believe about snakes is false. They are neither cold nor slimy. They do not like music and they hate milk.

THE JUXTAPOSITION OF SNAKES and milk in the same sentence reminded us of a youthful summer when big brother kept a pocket snake. That's not herpetological nomenclature. It's just where he kept it. We were visiting friends in Canada who owned a dairy at the time, and one day the snake got loose among the pasteurizing equipment. We delighted to hold up the milk bottle to Biddy's face when she uncapped her milk bottle the next morning.

FARMINGTONIANS ARE ASKED to put a Starr on their calendars for March 15 at 1:30 p.m. President and founder of Starr Commonwealth for Boys, Floyd Starr, will be at Botaford Inn to meet and greet any members of the community who might want to join in the formation of a local auxiliary of his boy-rehabilitation center.

IN CASE ANYONE GOT a slight case of mal de tren trying to follow the sense of last week's column, here is the missing piece of the jigaw puzzle. (The final item was gibberish (or more so) because the following was omitted:

MRS. SUBURBANITE HAD A BIRTHDAY and was duly escorted to one of her favorite eateries for dinner. No mention was made of the celebration, but the party must have passed exceedingly well, for the waitress brought one of those telltale sparkling cakes to the table. One "gentleman" in the party remarked that naturally they would assume it had to be a special occasion when the men were taking their own wives out to dinner.

by shirley berger