

The Farmington Enterprise

VOL. XXXVI. No. 40.

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1922.

5 Cents Single Copy. \$1.50 A YEAR.

HISTORIC BIGELOW FAMILY RE-UNION

Historic Setting in Bloomfield Hills—Heirloom Clay Deposit Due for Development

(By E. P. Bates)

All the delightful features usually attendant upon homecomings, together with a multitude of the unusual, found expression at the annual gathering of the Bigelow family held recently at the old homestead, which place marks both the beginning and perpetuity of the Bigelow family history in Oakland county, dating back something like a century.

To bachelor Thomas and maiden Tryphena, twins of the third generation in continuous possession, was the special privilege and pleasure of acting as host and hostess to nearly a hundred Bigelows, big and little, who joined in the pilgrimage to participate in the annual event which, perchance may be the last of be held at the particular spot that holds more of historic interest than any other to the numerous and remarkable family answering to the name of Bigelow, for the march of time and progress and development are ruthless levelers of historic family trying places in Oakland county.

Besides many friends, many immediate relatives of the Bigelow family in attendance were: Mr. Charles Malcom, Bedford; Mr. R. Gravelin, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Soubray and daughter, Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. Murray Chase, Linden; Mr. and Mrs. Strickland and son, Plymouth; Mr. E. M. Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Frost and two daughters, Howell; Byron L. Bigelow, son, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jones, Mr. James Berrie, and grand-daughter, Pontiac; Mr. and Mrs. N. Gravelin, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Gravelin, Birmingham; Mr. John Paulger, Miss Tryphena Paulger, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Nacker, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nacker and daughter, Redford; Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Bigelow and two children, Franklin; Mrs. Cassidy, Mrs. Townner, Royal Oak; Mrs. Hardy Wyman and son, Malcom, Traverse City.

The Bigelow homestead was permanently established in 1835 at the intersection of Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, Farmington and Southfield townships, where Indians roamed at will among the hills of Oakland county, and deep valleys with lofty uplands in rugged beauty that challenged the mettle of brave hearted pioneers who could face problems unafraid, and go forward.

Able Bigelow, a Vermonter of husky Scotch ancestry, had taken to wife Sarah Clark, a native of Massachusetts, and to gather they sallied forth to hew out a home in the wilderness of Michigan. Their new possession held besides huge forest timber, a rich deposit of clay. With an ox team to tread the mixture to proper consistency, and with hands to shape it, bricks were made and laid, and thus the built better than they knew the house that was destined to shelter generation after generation of their descendants. They reared a considerable family and having served their day and generation, passed-on, he after having rounded his sixtieth milestone, she after having attained the mellow age of seventy-seven years.

New in succession was their son, Thomas Allen Bigelow, who acquired his brother Levi's interest. Born in Ontario, Canada, July 19, 1820, he had been a continuous occupant of the old home and under his management the estate was finally reclaimed from the wilderness state and transformed into a productive farm property in keeping with the period. He was twice married; on June 16, 1844 to Sarah Benjamin of West Mendon, N. Y., to which union two children were born; the mother died March 28, 1847; latterly he was married with Tryphena Malcom of Ontario, on September 1, 1849, who, prior to her death, December 8, 1917, bore him fourteen offsprings, seven of who still survive to enjoy the prosperity and comforts of twentieth century advantages, together

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D. U. R. WILL PUT ON MOTOR BUSES

Detroit United Railway within a year will enter the freight and passenger transportation with fleets of the latest types of interurban motor buses, according to General Manager Burdick of the company. "Motorbus transportation is a step in progress that was inevitable," he said, "and can not be deterred. Interurban transportation by automobiles bears the same relation to electric interurbans that they, in their turn, bore to the steam railway. Dire predictions were made of the effects that electric-drawn cars would have on the steam railroad, and the early demise of the former was predicted. Rather than this, the two are essential to each other, and to each other's progress.

"Regulation of motor buses is essential to their own welfare, and to the public weal, and this company, when it has entered the field, will expect proper regulation by the state. That, however, is a matter for the legislature and the Michigan Public Utilities Commission to decide. If the 'little fellow' can profit on one or two or three automobiles, then the D. U. R., with all its resources, can prosper."

Proper regulation of the motor buses in the use of the state highways is essential. Mr. Burdick declares; and the public is entitled to compensation from the companies on the volume of business handled over the highways. Buses are now operating more or less as "tramps," without much regulation and tax-free, often in direct competition with electric and steam lines. Legislation is greatly needed to protect these lines from the inroads of motor travel.

GILDEMEISTER-OWEN

At 10 o'clock Thursday morning August 17, Miss Virginia Owen, daughter of Mrs. Eugene Gray, was united in marriage to George Gildemeister, assistant cashier of the Peoples State Bank, at the residence of Rev. George Gullen, Detroit, formerly pastor of the M. E. church here. They were accompanied by Miss Bertha Gildemeister and Theron Pauline of this place.

Immediately following the ceremony the young couple left for Chicago and other points on the Great Lakes. Upon their return to Farmington they will make home at the residence, corner of Shawassee and Division streets, now being prepared for them. The bride and groom are both members of old Farmington families and are quite popular in social circles here.

Ellen Perry visited her aunt, Mrs. S. E. Deer, at Novi, Thursday.

NOTES OF THE CHURCHES

THE METHODIST PARISH.

—Farmington—
10:30 "What Makes God Real?"
11:45 Sunday school.
7:30 "The Oldest Riddle in the World."

Sidney D. Eva, Pastor.

—North Farmington—

2:00 Preaching service.
3:00 Sunday School.

—Clarencville—

10:30 Preaching service. Rev. W. W. Dale, preacher.
11:45 Sunday School.
7:30 Evening service.

First Baptist Church

10:30 Rev. H. C. Gleiss, D. D., Superintendent of the Detroit Baptist Union will preach.
12:00 Sunday school. E. P. Bates, superintendent.

6:30 B. Y. P. Union. Topic: "Good Examples." 2 Chron. 2:15-19; 26:3-5. Gordon Turner, leader.

7:30 Sermon by Dr. Gleiss.

Salem Evangelical Church
9:30 Sunday school. This school is conducted entirely in English.
10:30 English service.
Y. P. L. meets on Wednesday evening, August 23d at 8 o'clock. Choir rehearsal every Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION MARKED

All Denominations Unite in Installation Services at Evangelical Church

The combined installation, remodeling and anniversary celebrations at Salem Evangelical church Sunday morning and evening were largely attended by citizens of Farmington and vicinity, and drew quite a number from surrounding villages and cities. Those attending represented every church denomination of this locality. One marked characteristic of the big gatherings was a manifest spirit of church co-operation in this community. According to the statement of one of the leaders in church work here, this evidence of broadening visions and interest was one of the most gratifying things in connection with the affair.

The installation service in the morning by which Rev. J. Bollens was formally inducted into the pastorate was conducted by Rev. Haneburg of Detroit. Rev. Bollens who has been in charge of the church since April was not a stranger in this community as he had filled this pastorate twenty years ago, and it was under his supervision, at that time, that the present church edifice was erected. In June of the present year the building was struck by lightning and considerably damaged. The occasion of the installation was made a day for celebrating the completion of the work of repairing and remodeling which cost the congregation \$1,375, "giving them a still more attractive place for worship."

The evening program consisted of a union service of the several churches of Farmington. Dr. Eva of the Methodist church, Dr. Ford of the Baptist church, and Dr. Beresford of the Universalist church, addressed the gathering, felicitating the members of the Evangelical society upon securing Rev. Bollens for their spiritual leader and upon having so fine a place for worship. Rev. Haneburg of Detroit, made a short address in German for the benefit of the older members of the church.

In connection with the services the new officers of the Ladies Aid society were duly installed. Rev. Bollens acting as installation officer. The officers of the society are:

President—Mrs. Sophie Fendt.
Financial Secretary—Mrs. Emma Kuz.

Treasurer—Mrs. William Maas. Much interest was added to both morning and evening services by the excellent musical program by the new choir organized; since Rev. Bollens assumed charge of the church work in April, and by several fine selections by Charles Schellenburg, violinist, George Schellenburg, cornetist, with Miss Lenora Brudner, piano accompanist.

Among those present from outside points were several from St. Louis, Mo.

MILK INSPECTED—O. K.

By request I inspected the Farmington Dairy and I find that the milk is handled in a sanitary manner, it being properly pasteurized and the bottles sterilized before use. Signed:

Z. R. ASCHEN BRENNER,

Village Health Officer.

E. F. HOLCOMB,

Township Health Officer.

POTATO BLIGHT APPEARS

That late blight is actually menacing the potato crop of Michigan has been evidenced within the last few days by the receipt of specimens of plants infected with the disease at the botany department of M. A. C. The danger from blight due to cold weather in the early part of the season, was pointed out not long ago by Dr. J. G. H. Coons, plant pathologist, who recommended thorough spraying with Bordeaux mixture as a preventive measure. The disease is said to be threatening potato fields in the upper peninsula and in many counties of the lower peninsula.

LIVELY INTEREST FOR SHERIFF AND REGISTER

Time for filing nomination petitions for the September primaries closed Saturday afternoon. As had been expected an almost complete county ticket was filed. The Democrats shortly before the closing date, the only offices for which they did not name candidates being that of circuit judge to fill vacancy and for circuit court commissioners.

The republican ticket is complete with five candidates, for register of deeds, four for road commissioner and three for sheriff.

The candidates in the field for the several places on the republican and county tickets are:

Coroner—Republican—Ora C. Farmer, Pontiac; Donald Cameron, Pontiac; A. Earl Gordon, Pontiac. Democrat—Isaac C. Prevette, Pontiac, William L. Cole, Oxford.

Register of Deeds—Republican—Lucile Avery, Pontiac; C. M. Van Buskirk, Pontiac; Frank J. Malcom, Commerce; Stanley Rogers, Pontiac; A. W. Spencer, Rochester. Democrat—Leo D. Miller.

Sheriff—Republican—James S. Butler, Pontiac; Vaughan J. Doremas, Pontiac; Leonard Schnell, Ferndale. Democrat—Frank C. Dunston, Clarkston.

Treasurer—Republican—Floyd H. Losee, Pontiac. Democrat—Thomas H. Fagan, Holly.

County Clerk—Republican—W. H. Cryderman, Pontiac; W. B. Nairn, Pontiac. Democrat—Mary Utter, Birmingham.

Circuit Judge (Vacancy)—Republican—Glenn C. Gillespie, Democrat—None.

Prosecuting Attorney—Republican—A. Floyd Blasles, Pontiac. Democrat—Clarence K. Patterson, Pontiac.

County Surveyor—Republican—F. A. Slater, Pontiac. Democrat—W. J. Fisher, Pontiac.

State Representative (2d District)—Republican—George H. Kimball, Jr., Waterford; William H. Williamson, Scott Lake; A. B. Hubbard, White Lake. Democrat—Frank Thurston, Orion.

State Representative (1st District)—Republican—E. B. Howarth, Royal Oak; David A. Green, Bloomfield Township. Democrat—Charles H. Richmond, Pontiac.

County Road Commissioner—Republican—Arthur Butler, Avon Township; Wilfred E. Osterander, Ferndale; G. Ross Thompson, Highland; W. J. McBride, Oakland Township. Democrat—Will Anderson, Bloomfield Township.

County Drain Commissioner—Republican—Cassius J. Crawford, Pontiac; V. H. Brown, Pontiac. Democrat—Clay Lovewell, South Lyon.

Circuit Court Commissioner—Republican—George B. Hartwick, Royal Oak; Ralph T. Keeling, Pontiac. Democrat—None.

ENDORSEMENTS LIMITATIONS

Painting a vivid verbal picture of the devastation of war, "one sole surviving heritage of a barbaric age," Attorney William W. Blackney, Flint, candidate for the republican congressional nomination from the sixth district, in a recent speech at Lansing, endorsed the limitation of world armaments to a police status as a means to bring about the abolition of war.

"Paramount above the cry of a thousand issues, come the demand for the removal of the terrible specter of war from among the nations of the earth," the speaker declared. "It is a challenge to civilization which cannot go unheeded. That we would not detract in the slightest from the immortal glory attained by those great patriots, through whose magnificent sacrifice we now enjoy life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, still I am convinced that we are rapidly approaching an age when it will no longer be necessary for men to vindicate their patriotism on the field of battle."

"It is a strange commentary on the degree of the civilization of any nation when ninety-three per cent of its taxes in one year are devoted to the manufacture of engines of war and machines of destruction, while one per cent is devoted to educational purposes. Such a distribution of tax money occurred in the United States during the year 1920.

PLANE CRASHES NEAR HERE

Four Person Seriously Injured in Wreck Sunday Afternoon—One May Die

This locality was the scene of an airplane wreck about 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon when Martin Driscoll, aged 32 years, 140 Windemere avenue, Highland Park, was probably fatally injured, and three other Detroiters, who were passengers in the airplane of Guy K. Rudd, 68 east Warren avenue, Detroit, including Rudd himself, were seriously injured.

The party had flown from the Packard aviation field, on the Gratiot road east of Detroit, and had landed in a field about two miles east of Farmington on Grand River road.

When the plane started to make the rise for the return flight it is said that the machine was given a sudden upward tilt to avoid hitting two persons who got directly in its path as it was making the necessary roadway for taking to the air. When up about 250 feet above the earth something happened and the plane crashed to the ground and was reduced to a mass of wreckage.

Motorists and bystanders standing close to the scene rushed to the wreckage, which failed to take fire, and dragged the injured from the debris.

Dr. E. F. Lathrop of Redford and Dr. Morris of Detroit, were on the scene watching the flight, and they gave first aid to the injured while women from nearby motor cars volunteered as nurses, and men as stretcher bearers, carrying the injured to automobiles, which rushed them to Detroit hospitals.

Rudd, revived in the hospital, said he was unable to tell what had gone wrong with the plane, a German Rumpler, five-passenger plane owned by Rudd, Wiltzie and Thomas Lovington, of the Warren avenue address.

The other two parties in the plane besides Driscoll and Rudd were Harold Wiltzie, aged 25 years, of 69 east Warren avenue, Detroit; and Carl Mager, aged 18 years, of Roseville, Mich.

"LET'S GO!"

"Let's Go," the slogan of the coming Gala Day, shows that the Groves-Walker Post No. 346 of Farmington, means action and from the elaborate plans that are rapidly formulating this community is guaranteed plenty of action all September 4th.

All the business men of this place have co-operated with the Legion by offering a fine selection of prizes for the different events. Special notice should be taken of the prizes to be announced for the best decorated automobiles, commercial floats, ponies and bicycles. Also the "funny faces" of this locality are invited to exhibit themselves on the above date.

In order to make the parade a huge success it has been decided to offer several attractive prizes for each of the above events.

From a standpoint of making competition more keen in the "oldest automobile" event of the parade the clause has been added, "containing the oldest couple."

To show that the Farmington base ball team is not backward towards serving all comers in the game of "swat," they are "taking on" Centerline for the morning exhibition and in the afternoon they will attempt to put the finishing touches on North Farmington.

Handbills announcing the full program of the Gala Day activities with the time of each event will be distributed in the near future.

MRS. EVA L. BROWN

Mrs. Eva L. Brown, former resident of Farmington, passed away at Receiving hospital, Detroit, Thursday, August 10th. She had been in poor health several years and shortly before her death, fell and sustained a fractured hip, and owing to her feeble condition she did not survive. The funeral was held from the home of her sister, Mrs. J. L. Hogle, Monday, August 14, interment was at Oak Hill cemetery.

ARRANGES FUNERAL TAKES CHLOROFORM

Mrs. Cynthia Stillson, 60 years old, wife of A. N. Stillson, painter of Northville, was found dead in bed at her home in that village, Saturday from inhaling chloroform. She had carefully planned to end her life authorities said even to laying out her funeral clothes and leaving a note for her son. In her note she said she was tired of living, relatives said. She retired as usual about 10 o'clock and her husband in an adjoining room knew nothing of it until the son came from work early in the morning. They broke in the bedroom door after finding the note and found that she had been dead for several hours. Mrs. Stillson leaves her husband, a son and daughter.

PRIMARY SCHOOL MONEY

The primary school money apportioned to Farmington School District No. 5, with 285 school children, is \$23,340.00. Clarenceville, District No. 5 fractional, receives \$3,425.10. The per capita is \$11.20.

The other districts in the township receive primary money as follows: Dist. No. 1, fractional, \$8,440; Dist. No. 2, \$5,14.80; Dist. No. 2, fractional, \$3,044.20; Dist. No. 3, fractional, \$2,420.70; Dist. No. 4, \$3,310.00; Dist. No. 4 fractional, \$610.20; Dist. No. 6, \$526.50.

HARRY WESTFALL

The unexpected death of Harry Westfall, beloved husband of Bertha Schaupter, caused genuine regret in the community. Mr. Westfall was a child of Farmington, having been born on June 3, 1888, the only child of Sophie and the late Charles Westfall. He lived on the family homestead about one mile and a half from Farmington until his untimely death.

On Palm Sunday 1903, he was confirmed in the Salem Evangelical church with which he was very closely connected, being a council member.

On December 14, 1910 he was married to Miss Bertha Schaupter and this union was blessed with four children, Helen, Alice, Howard and Edna Westfall. Mr. Westfall had been ailing for some time and after seeking for relief at the Evangelical Deaconess hospital, Detroit. After a thorough examination which resulted in locating spine trouble and a tumor on the brain, very little hope was given of restoring his former health.

Suddenly his life ebbed away and August 6th, at 7:20 Harry Westfall called to pass the bridge which men call death.

The funeral was held Saturday August 12th from the Salem Evangelical church; interment taking place at Oakwood cemetery.

Mr. Westfall passed away at the age of 34 years, two months and six days.

The bereft family has the sympathy of the entire community.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Gipson were in Marion, Ind., last week, called there by the illness of his mother.

SCHOOL OPENS SEPT. 5

The public schools will open Tuesday, Sept. 5, but it not expected that the large addition to the grade building will be completed and ready for occupancy before October 1st.

The new building, erected in the rear of the grade building, is with the exception of being a little longer, a duplicate of the present building, being provided with six school rooms.

With the opening of the schools there will be established a complete commercial school with full courses in shorthand, book-keeping and typewriting. The department will be under the supervision of Miss Mildred Wallace who will give her entire time to the work.

Seventy-two were present at the annual reunion of the Conroy family which was held at the home of Miss Mary Kennedy, August 13th. Those from out of town were from Fremont and Toledo, Ohio, Monroe, Detroit, Pontiac, Novi and Wayne, Mich.