

The Farmington Enterprise

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FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1924.

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CLASS OF '24 GRADUATES WITH HONORS

Twenty-one Students Received Diplomas Thursday Evening

The commencement exercises of the graduating class of 1924 took place Thursday evening, June 19th in the M. E. community hall. There were twenty-one seniors to graduate, seven boys and fourteen girls. The class took their places on the stage, which was fittingly decorated for the occasion, to the class march played by Miss Wood.

Rev. J. H. Hollens gave the invocation and it was followed by a solo by Mr. Percy Pauline. The speaker of the evening, Dr. M. S. Pittman of Ypsilanti Normal college, was introduced and gave a strong commencement address.

Supt. A. G. Leonard in well chosen words presented the class for their diplomas to Mr. Floyd Nichols, secretary of the Board of Education, who awarded them to the different members.

The exercises closed with a benediction by Rev. J. H. Hollens. The personnel of the class is as follows:

William Edwards
Allan Reynolds
Lillian Reynolds
Alburn Salow
Helen Newbound
Janet Putnam
Kenneth Wisom
Velma Cook
Lucile Halstead
Cecil Habermehl
Lucy Banks
Mabel Wheeler
Helen Pauline
Bernadine Ver Duyn
Harley Walters
Jeanette Hamblen
Margaret Kreeger
Helen Prindle
Fred Allyn
James Bryan
Thelma Adrich

Class Day Exercises

Wednesday, June 18th, was senior class night at M. E. community hall. The first on the program was Miss Mabel Wheeler who gave the salutatory which was followed by the first scene of the play, a doctor's office where the banquet was planned. Second scene, the banquet itself.

Harley Walters acted as toastmaster and each member of the class responded as their names were announced.

Miss Bernadine Ver Duyn presented the valedictory.

Miss Wallace, commercial teacher, directed the program, all lines of which were composed and written by members of the class.

Billy Wood, the eight year old boy who disappeared Friday from his home in Detroit, was a pupil in the room of Miss Helen Whipple of Farmington, a teacher in the Pettigill school, Detroit.

SUCCESS OF CENTENNIAL

DUE TO CO-OPERATION

The June days of 1924 have seen our Centennial celebration come and go and it is now time to look back on the past. That it was a great success is the verdict of all concerned. A little over a year ago we began to plan for the event. The first thing decided upon was to build a log cabin. In spite of many obstacles we succeeded in getting the building erected and today it stands, the visible evidence of our desire and purpose to honor the memory of the pioneers of Farmington. In March came the pioneer banquet and the costume ball. Both of these events were successful from every standpoint. In the three days celebration of last week there were no failures in the carrying out of each feature of the program. All were well done and gave satisfaction to visitors and citizens. To provide this gratifying result it took the active co-operation and loyal support of our people. Many demands were made for labor, material and assistance in the making of plans and perfecting details. Not once was a request of mine refused. To me the fact that I have taken part in this celebration has been most agreeable and the memory of it will be pleasant as long as I shall live. But its success is not due to my efforts, but to the intelligent, active and effective support given to the work by the citizens at all times and all places. For the splendid results of our labor I wish to thank you all most heartily and sincerely.

N. H. POWER, Chairman.

ALUMNI BANQUET

Nearly 300 former teachers and graduates attended the first annual banquet of the Farmington high school alumni at the McMillen hall Saturday evening. The master of ceremonies, E. H. Hatton of the Detroit Free Press, was introduced by Frank Steele, a member of one of the oldest families of Farmington, now principal of the McMillen school in Detroit. Mr. Hatton prefaced his remarks with a tribute to the faculty of the high school of Farmington which had played an important part in shaping the lives of many of its graduates.

"The School as I Knew It" was the subject taken by Mrs. Lillian Perry, formerly Miss Lillian Daise, teacher in the Farmington schools in 1876, who gave the first talk of the evening. She declared that though in its physical aspect the school had changed, the difference in the method of teaching, the early 70's having been a period of transition in educational methods.

Addresses were made by Edgar Cox of Detroit, and Superintendent A. G. Leonard of the Farmington schools.

A fine banquet served by the Ladies Aid of the M. E. church was greatly enjoyed by the members of the alumni and their friends, as was the music by Perkins orchestra.

ENTERTAINED OLD SCHOOL FRIENDS

Mrs. Harrison Johnson proved a charming hostess when she entertained ten old school friends at her home on Division street, Monday afternoon. The time was spent in reviewing old times and reviewing old acquaintances. Refreshments were served which brought to a close a delightful afternoon.

Out of town guests were Mrs. Bessie Seelye LaRue of Ypsilanti, Mrs. Mabel Kennedy Pray of Toledo, and Mrs. Elizabeth Botsford Lockman of Keego Harbor.

NEW EXCHANGE OFFICERS

At the Tuesday noon day meeting of the Exchange Club of Farmington the following officers were elected: President, Leo Gledemester; vice-president, Floyd Nichols; treasurer, John Fitzpatrick; secretary, E. O. Hatton. The board of control is composed of C. W. Wilber, Carl Hogle, W. M. Miller, Harrison Johnson, F. L. Cook and E. O. Hatton. The last three were newly elected.

Rev. James McGee of New Haven, Conn., gave a very interesting talk at the luncheon.

Word has been received by local health officers from the state department of health to insist upon 100 per cent vaccination.

NOTES OF THE CHURCHES

Farmington Methodist Church
S. D. Eva, Pastor

10:30 Morning service. Address by George Morrow.
11:45 Sunday School, Emily Butterfield, Supt.

1:30 Combination service. Led by Elder Bissett, Winifred Walling and Rev. George Peck.
Mid-week services Wednesday 7:18-9:00 p. m. Leader, Mrs. S. D. Harger.

Clarenceville Community
M. E. Church

9:30 Morning services.
1:45 Sunday School.
8:00 Evening services.

First Baptist Church
C. W. Townsend, Minister.

10:15 Church School.
10:00 P. M. Service. Sermon, "Tying the Master's Hands."
6:30 B. Y. P. U.

7:30 Worship. Subject, "A Heart Searching Question."

Universalist Church
A. B. Beresford, Minister.

10:30 Worship and sermon. Beresford will preach. Subject, "An Independence Day Discourse—The Spiritual Faith of America, or the Religion of the Declaration of Independence."

This will be the last service before the summer vacation.

12:00 Sunday School and Adult Bible class.

Evangelical Church
Rev. J. Hollens, Pastor

10:15 Services in English and German. Rev. J. H. Hollens will preach the English and Rev. J. Hollens the German sermon.

11:45 Sunday School, conducted by Rev. H. Hollens.

Friday, July 5—Ladies Aid meeting to be held at Mrs. Louise Mans' home.

ALL FEATURES OF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION NOTABLE SUCCESS

Many Former Residents Visit Farmington—Parade, Pageant and Horse Show Attract Large Crowds—Storm Disarranges Latter Part of Program

Decked in gala day attire Farmington celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of its founding on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week. The first day was given over to the welcoming of former residents of this vicinity with a reception and gathering at the town hall. It was an informal affair and there many old acquaintances were renewed, yarns and stories told of former days by those who had in early life called Farmington home. Addresses were made by Harry McCracken and Rev. Sidney D. Eva. The former spoke of the "Farmer of Yesterday and Today," and Rev. Eva spoke of his subject, "The March of the Quakers." In his address, Mr. McCracken said:

"Our families were always farmers, and the memories I have of hearing my father tell about dropping an axe in the ground and then it is to grow stays with me forever. Farming in those days and farming now are two different things, although the farmer of yesterday did not work any harder than the farmer of today. Many obstacles were met and defeated by the pioneers. The present day farmer is doing the same things. This community has always been a farming center and I hope that it will continue to be one."

In speaking of the Quakers Rev. Eva said:

"Great advances of civilization have always been undertaken by men of courage and faith. When we hear the name of Father James Beresford, we connect it with the exploration of Michigan. When we hear of Stanley, we think of the exploration of dark Africa. When we hear of Quakers we think of William Penn. Fox was a Quaker. The men who open up new countries are not men who think of personal benefit, but men who believe in their country and who think that the country has a future."

The Quakers have contributed much to the world. The first church built in Farmington was a Quaker church, and part of that church still stands near the old Quaker cemetery."

The first Quakers in America settled in Pennsylvania, from there they drifted westward and some of them located in Farmington.

"Practically all Farmington people are descendants of Quakers and they should be proud of it. Farmington is a farming town, but it has advanced through the years and the Quaker blood will make it advance more and more as the times go."

The reminiscences of present and former residents of Farmington were interesting, particularly so to the older ones present. Harry Wenzel now living at Coldwater, Mich., who is in his 80th year, said:

"I drove my car here myself and I intend to drive it back to Coldwater. When my parents came to Farmington I was six months old. I went to live in a log cabin. I remember that I seem to be able to remember when father went out with the hand sleigh and brought in a large back log for the fire place. I helped build the school house in Novi when I was six years old. I will always remember how the carpenter used to say, 'Ye-heave,' and the youngsters would lift for all we were worth."

Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery of Pontiac, a daughter of Oakland Quakers who earlier in life lived here, said:

"One of my first memories of Farmington is when I was awakened at night, taken to the window and told of the burning of the school. After the fire people used to say the place was haunted. I'll never forget the time that some boys who had been to see their girls were coming home and claimed that they had been chased by a ghost. I found out later that it was nothing but the schoolmaster in his long linen duster walking home near the fence. Another memory I have is that there was a place called Maple Grove. That was the prettiest place I have ever seen in any woods. All meetings were held under those trees, political and church meetings. The women would lay out food on long tables and then everyone would eat and talk."

Much interest was manifest in the log cabin and its exhibit which was a prominent feature of the celebration. The exhibit was as near as possible of the first white habitation erected here, consisted of one room on the ground floor with a loft reached by a ladder. The interior furnished with relics of former days, presented a cozy appearance. On the walls were hung pictures, highly prized by their owner, which were the wall decorations of their ancestors' homes.

Among the relics shown were pioneer rifles, Indian bows and arrows, a picture of Mt. Vernon, the home of George Washington, 100 years old, a complete spinning wheel brought from New York by Mrs. Cynthia Collins, the first woman settler in Farmington, an old saddle 125 years old, and an oxen yoke made in 1840.

Two old clocks brought from New York in 1826, a bullet mould 120 years old and a yoke which was used to carry buckets of sap out of the woods.

Register for the names of visitors was kept in the cabin and hundreds of names were written in it during the days. Among the number is that of Henry Ford the auto magnate. His coming was unheralded and none knew of his visit until he was left in the cabin when he entered, entered the cabin when but few were present. Made a careful examination of the many articles of interest and then placed his name on the register.

Friday saw an increase in the number of visitors here as on that day was scheduled some of the principal events of the celebration. The home coming assembly at the town hall was largely attended.

Following the invocation by Rev. Beresford, Rev. James McGee of New Haven, Conn., who was born here and received his early education in Farmington school was the speaker. His subject, "The Spirit of the Pioneer" was ably handled and bore distinctive marks of the scholar and orator.

The athletic events which took place on Division street in front of the town hall drew a large crowd which was well entertained. The ball game was won by Farmington between Milford and Farmington was closely followed by the fans. Farmington went down to defeat, buried under a heavy score.

A grand spectacle not on the program and which might have been more fully appreciated at some other time set in at about 7 o'clock in the evening. It was an electrical and wind storm followed by a steady down-pour of rain that made it impossible to put on the pageant scheduled for the evening. This feature of the program on which much time and money had been spent was only delayed by the storm.

A shift in the order of events made it possible to carry out practically the entire program, staging the spectacle on Saturday night. The hillside where it took place was at an early hour crowded with spectators and when the electric lights were turned on between two and three thousand people were looking down on the stage.

The making of the pageant, "The Making of Farmington" was a highly enjoyable concert by the Romeo band.

In two divisions, subdivided into several episodes the pageant was presented. Events from the earliest settlement here to the present were depicted.

The fine success achieved was due to the tireless work of the committee in charge and to the cooperation of all other who co-operated with them. The citizens of Farmington owe a debt of gratitude.

The parade was scheduled for Saturday afternoon and was pulled off without hitch. It was headed by the Romeo band followed by Knights Templar, American Legion, Scouts, floats and autos. So excellent were the decorations and ideas expressed, that the judges found some difficulty in arriving at a decision in the awarding of prizes. Beauty and originality were taken into consideration and prizes were awarded as follows:

Best float—1st prize, 10, to the Clarenceville Woodmen. 2nd prize, \$5, to Fred L. Cook & Co.

Best decorated auto—1st prize, \$10, to Bert Simpson. 2nd prize, \$5, to Clinton Tredway.

Best decorated bicycle—1st prize, \$10, to Bernard Frantz. 2nd prize \$5, to Donald Walters.

With a Reo speedwagon he went tearing through Farmington Tuesday night. Marshal Kreeger took after him and he was stopped near the Lumber Co's office. As he had no money to pay up, as a forfeit for his appearance before the justice he was told to turn about and put his car in the garage. He turned about and then stepped on it and roared out of town on the Farmington road. The marshal followed but did not succeed in bringing him to a halt until Detroit was reached. There he was arrested and placed in the Vine-wood station until morning when he was taken before Justice Le-Pevre, who on his plea of guilty to violating the speed law, sentenced him to five days in jail and to pay a fine of \$25 and costs. The officer covered 33 miles in making the chase.

A pretty home wedding occurred June 18th at 7:00 p. m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Esch when their daughter Emma Louise became the wife of Edward Thomas Way. Rev. J. Hollens pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran church of Farmington, read the marriage service in the presence of fifty relatives.

The bride wore a gown of white silk and was attended by Miss Alma Inglehart of Pontiac, who was attired in blue. Mr. Louis Esch acted as best man.

After an elaborate wedding dinner Mr. and Mrs. Way left for a honeymoon trip to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Way in Canada.

DEATH OF FORMER RESIDENT
Died in Charlotte, Mich., June 21, 1924, S. N. Barber. Deceased was a former citizen of Farmington where he had resided many years. His home while here was on Grove street. He was a carpenter by trade, also a mover of buildings.

He left Farmington in 1877 to go to Charlotte and live with his son Homer. He was born in New York state January 7, 1831, and lived to the advanced age of 93 years, 5 months and 14 days.

GROVES-WALKER POST MEETS THURSDAY EVENINGS
Groves-Walker Post American Legion will hereafter meet every Thursday night at their hall in the Farmington state bank building. The boys are now making arrangements for their third annual gala day on Labor Day.

PREPARING THE TAX ROLLS
The equalization committee of the board of supervisors are at work and expect to have a report this week. Each supervisor is given an opportunity to appear before the committee and explain his assessment roll.

Members of this year's equalization committee are: Supervisors Isaac Bond, F. C. Ely, Frank J. Malcolm, A. W. Spencer, George Scott, Andrew Seeley, and Phillip Coventry.

Regular meeting of O. E. S. this Friday, evening.

THREE OLD TIME CHUMS
Three old time chums were they who sat on the Charles Ely porch during the Centennial parade and watched the passing show. The trio was composed of Holly Gerber, William Botsford and Carl Hatton, whose youthful pranks added zest to life in Farmington in years gone by.

of the Farmington Riding club held in connection with the Centennial program was a big success. With upward of 60 horses entered in the several events, among them many of the finest riding horses were procured. A show was put on that was a credit to the club and a fine feature of the celebration.

The outfit put into the parade by Harry Lewis was a distinctive feature that focused attention of the spectators and caused much merriment. A dip back into the years somewhat was made for an idea and it was a fitting one. An old fashioned, high, two seated buggy, generally used in the '80's and '90's, was the vehicle.

Mr. Lewis at the reins, while Mrs. C. W. Wilber and Mrs. John Harger occupied the rear seat. The three were "coming to town" dressed in the styles that prevailed in the '80 and '90 years.

It was outstanding hit of the many that marked the parade.

Another attractive feature of the parade was furnished by the Farmington Riding club in placing many of their fine saddle horses, with mounts, in the line.

A COSTLY CUTE TRICK!

John W. Klein of 5234 Roosevelt avenue, Detroit, is in jail today at Pontiac a wiser man than he was Tuesday night.

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SOUTHERN END OF UNDERGROUND R.R.

Marvin Power—Former Resident of Farmington—Writes 'from Chico, Calif., About It

I have just received a copy of your paper of May 30th. I found no marked item, but read with interest, "The Underground Railroad."

I was ten or twelve years of age during the latter years of that railroad and although I did not hear the name, I saw some of its operations. I knew of two cases when my father, Gideon Power, was called out in the night, and I learned that someone made a night trip of Detroit with dark-colored passengers.

There were strangers in town supposed to be looking for run-aways, of course they never inquired. They were too wise for that.

How much of an organization that railroad was, I never knew, but the abolition element was so strong there, that it would be safe for a run-away to apply to most any man he might meet. If he would not help, he would probably direct him to a man that would.

I have seen some of the southern end of this road, a description of which might interest those not familiar with it. It is Farmington for Dixie May 18, 1872. I spent the most of the next five months in Tennessee. Saw and heard much of life in the South as it was then and as it was before "The Freeing of the Negro."

That was the only term used by either the whites or the negroes. Even at that time it was conceded by many that the whites were better off than before the same phrase was freed, but that the ex-slaves were worse off. Some who had lost heavily were still bitter.

I heard Horace Maynard, Andy Johnson and Frank Chatham speak from the same platform at Murfreesboro. They were running for representatives of the state at large. Johnson and Maynard appealed to the dummies for their votes on the ground that they were members of the same party and gave them their liberty. Chatham did not condescend to notice them. He boasted that he was a "Rebel" general and though we were beaten, "I am as much a rebel as I ever was." He read his speech in a monotone. Johnson was elected and died in office.

I left the South for the northern part of Missouri in November. Took a walk out of St. Louis and being impressed with the appearance of the country, decided to spend the winter there. In my walk I came upon an empty school house. The teacher had his arm broken in a fight with a big boy.

I applied for the school board with a family across the road. After much persistence I was told I could stay there but I would have to wait on myself as they had no "Niggers" to wait on anyone. They would buy me and do my washing for \$20 per month. I stayed there three years and it was there I learned more of the southern end of the said railroad. Mr. Hyatt lost three slaves, advertising an offer of \$500 for each of their return. A man appeared several months afterward, showed a copy of the reward and asked if it still stood. Being told that it did, that he could get them. A few days later he appeared with the three slaves, took his reward and departed. Sometimes after the men told that this same man took them to Chicago and found jobs for them, and they promised to pay him \$100 apiece as soon as they could earn it. This they did and were promptly returned to their "lawful owner." The only sin the people of that neighborhood saw, was the wrong done to Mr. Hyatt. Yet these were very gentle and kind people to white folks. I never had a more pleasant home.

ROMEO BAND DID FINE
N. H. Power, chairman of the Centennial committee, says "Splendid satisfaction was given by the Romeo band. Not only was their music sweet and harmonious and well executed, but they were on the job all times. They were kind and courteous and the success of the celebration was due in no small measure to the excellent music discoursed by them."

BONUS BLANKS HERE
Adj. Norman Lee of Groves-Walker Post, American Legion, now has bonus blanks for distribution among ex-service men and their dependents. Anyone entitled to same can secure them at the Lee Hardware Co. store.