

The Farmington Enterprise

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GRAND RIVER RELOCATION PROFITEERING MOVE

The Detroit News of last Sunday devoted several columns of space to a story relative to the proposed Grand River, cut-off at Farmington, giving the Farmington side of the controversy which has arisen since the State Administrative Board passed a resolution declaring its intention to relocate M16 with a 120-foot road to the south of the present highway.

Some weird explanations, purporting to be answers to questions put to officials and land speculators who have been active in the matter of relocation also appears in the article.

In support of the cut-off A. M. Comb of Pontiac makes a statement which has about as much bearing on the present controversy as Einstein's theory of relativity has to fundamentalism.

He states that last February he was instructed by State Highway Commissioner Rogers to ascertain the cost of a 200-foot roadway through Farmington. Without questioning a single property owner here whose holding would be touched, he found the cost to be \$461,000 to obtain a right of way alone. Over \$200,000 of this amount was for property east of the point where the proposed cut-off leaves Grand River avenue.

Mr. Comb then compares this cost with a 120-foot road cut-off a little over four miles in length.

He states that Farmington now has an 18-foot pavement, which he must have known to be incorrect if he ever visited this place. For two blocks in the business district the pavement is, and has been for several years, 40 and 50 feet wide and in the residence part 30 feet wide except a short distance at the creek crossing.

Two hundred foot roadways at Pontiac and Birmingham, on Woodward avenue, are not projected, nor is any such width of roadway contemplated at Redford on Grand River below Farmington where traffic is, and always will be, heavier than at this point. Why this talk of the expense of a 200-foot road through Farmington?

Mr. Comb has much to say about the cost of changing D. U. R. tracks through Farmington. The problem is a simple one compared with what is proposed at Birmingham, on Woodward avenue, where not only the electric road is shifted for miles, but a steam roadway is relocated.

The D. U. R. car and bus barns at Farmington Junction are pointed to by Mr. Comb as a great obstacle to widening through Farmington, all of which is pure bunk. Widening through Farmington to 120, the same width as proposed for the new road, would not touch either of the buildings.

The statement relative to the road situation here sounds very much like that which might be expected of an obedient servant who had been instructed in just what to report.

Mr. Snell states that it was by mere chance that he discovered that a cut-off was contemplated. While riding along the highway with his wife a row of stakes were noticed across the fields from which he surmised that a line had been run for a relocation of Grand River.

To the number of Farmington citizens who have made diligent search for that line of stakes, this sounds like a fairy tale.

Our good governor says:

"I didn't know my friends were interested until last week."

"Then Judge Miller asked me if the State Administrative Board had taken any action changing the road. I told him we had directed the new route."

"The only reason the road was changed was that Grand River must be widened. By building the new road, we can widen it so much cheaper than by widening the present road. The condemnation of a right-of-way to widen the present road would cost four or five times as much as the new road."

"The new road will be a benefit to Farmington. It will provide two highways through the town and bring new business to the merchants."

"Our surveyors have been over the ground time and again. There was no secret about our plans. In

ENJOY FOUR DAYS OF GOOD ENTERTAINMENT

The Chautauqua this year has offered a genuine, wholesome entertainment and relaxation, for four days to the people of Farmington and vicinity.

While the entertainment features are exceptionally strong, the inspiration and informational phases of the Chautauqua have been amply taken care of in arranging the program.

In these days everyone wants to get the maximum for his money, whether he is buying clothing, food or entertainment. Certainly the Chautauqua season ticket this year offered that opportunity.

One splendid dramatic company presented a play which would cost as much as the price of the season ticket if seen any other place but on the Chautauqua platform, an entertaining lecture, several fine musical programs, all under a wide spread of canvas, with the fine neighborliness and community fellowship of the Chautauqua, certainly offered a real opportunity to our citizens.

COMMUNITY CLUB

On Thursday afternoon last, the Southfield Community Club of the John Grace School, were entertained at the home of Mrs. John Grace in Clarenceville. A sumptuous supper was served to over two hundred people who all voted the occasion one long to be remembered.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

Another milestone in the history of Farmington will be reached when the Evangelical Church celebrates its fiftieth anniversary on August 16th. An elaborate program has been arranged for the three services during that day in which several of the former pastors who are available will take part. Rev. Aldinger and Rev. Stange will take part in the morning service, Rev. Deckinger in the afternoon and Rev. Schmidt in the evening. They will be glad to have all ministers present at the evening service bring their greetings and speak a few words to us.

Dinner will be served after the service as well as supper in the church dining hall.

On Monday evening at 6:30 the celebration will close with a banquet. A special program to mark this day is being worked out.

Many new furnishings and fixtures will be installed and will truly transform the already cozy church into one of the prettiest to be found in the neighborhood community.

An Enterprise Liner will sell it.

fact, if I remember correctly Mr. Rogers, the highway commissioner, discussed the entire Grand River project with an organization of business men at Farmington several months ago.

"I remember one of the property holders had me stop at his home while driving from Lansing to Detroit. He wanted us to change the road to satisfy him, but we could not do it. Representatives of C. F. Smith have complained several times."

"We were helpless in widening Woodward avenue, and had to pay the price for the right-of-way. There was no parcel road or alternative course there. It is different in Farmington. We have a shorter alternative course and can save considerable money by putting our road on it."

"If wide-awake real estate men learned of the contemplated change which has been under consideration for a year and jumped in and took advantage of it by purchasing land, I can't help it. Farmington citizens were assured that as soon as the plan was perfected for the Grand River improvement here they would be submitted for inspection; that State Highway Commissioner Rogers would personally visit Farmington and explain plans. No plans were submitted nor did Mr. Rogers visit this place."

Nevertheless political and personal friends of the government are unknown to him, seem to have received a tip, there was a chance to clean up a bunch of money in Farmington real estate speculation at the village.

EXCHANGE NOTES

Seated around tables arranged in parallel rows at the noonday luncheon Tuesday, all members were for the first time facing face to face while performing their several gastronomical feats in reducing to a minus quantity in the shortest space of time the many courses before them.

The arrangement had the advantage of showing to the members hit who threw the bribe.

Owing to the absence of President Fitzpatrick, Harley Warner, vice president, held the seat of authority.

By unanimous vote it was decided that the club should defray the expense of two Farmington youths to the Y. M. C. A. county camp for boys.

There being no regular speaker for the occasion, Superintendent Leonard was called on for a talk. He pointed out to the members the benefits of wholesome and instructive entertainment for the young people of the community and called attention to dangers of the many questionable forms of amusement presented in Farmington and vicinity.

ELY REUNION

The fourth annual reunion of the Ely family was held August 2 at Grey Gables, Walled Lake, the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Ely. Sixty-seven members were present from Bay City, Ipsilanti, Detroit, Wayne, Northville and Farmington.

A feature of the day's pleasure was a miscellaneous shower given by the members of the family for Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morse, who were married on Saturday afternoon, August 1, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Roy Hatton, Collinswood avenue, Detroit. Mrs. Morse will be remembered as Miss Sara Myers, daughter of Lloyd Myers and the late Mrs. Jessie Ely Myers.

FAREWELL TEA

The members of Mrs. H. A. McIntyre's Larkin Club, known as the South Farmington Home Improvement Club gave a Farewell tea Thursday, July 30 for Mrs. Kharl who is to make her future home in Plymouth, Mich.

Mrs. Kharl was presented with a piece of hand painted china as a token of remembrance and friendship, Mrs. Charles Damon making the presentation for the club members.

Those present were Madames Koss, Messell, Meteyer, Damon, Soper, Kharl and McIntyre, also the Misses Markham.

Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Hofmann were away on their vacations.

SCHOOL REUNION

The fifth annual school reunion of the Novi and Lyon Old Stone school will be held Friday, August 14 on the South Lyon Union school grounds. All former teachers and pupils are invited. Also any who attended church there. In years past, Pot Luck dinner at noon. Plates, bring cups and forks. Plates and spoons furnished.

Jesse M. Blackwood, Secy. South Lyon, Mich.

COUNCIL MEETING

The regular council meeting was adjourned from Monday, August 3, to Monday, August 10, at 8:00 p. m.

BUILDERS SUBDIVISION NO. 2

At a meeting of the Township Board last week John Fitzpatrick, F. D. Fleming and others submitted a plat of a new subdivision, known as Builders Subdivision No. 2, which was approved by the board.

The subdivision consists of ten acres of land on the east side of Division street, south of the Nine Mile road, being in the township of Farmington and just outside of the village. It is directly opposite Builders Subdivision No. 1, recently platted by Mr. Fleming. Lots are selling rapidly and it is expected that building operations will commence soon.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Michel Heiben, a boy, Sunday, August 2.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fabermehl, a girl, Monday, August 3.

KILLED AT ROADSIDE WHILE FIXING TIRE

Elmer Craig, aged 25, of Grand Rapids, was killed about midnight Sunday when he was struck by a passing auto while he stood at the side of his car fixing a tire. The accident occurred on Grand River highway just west of Farmington.

It is said that the parked car stood about two feet from the pavement when the accident happened. The driver of the car which killed Mr. Craig and a companion are said to have left the scene immediately after inquiring if Mrs. Craig, who was sleeping and had been awakened by the shock of the collision, if she was injured.

Mrs. Craig states that when she alighted from the car she found her husband lying face downward at the road side. A passing auto took Mr. Craig to the Fickett of the scene of the accident, but hospital which is located just east he was dead before reaching it.

The off roadster in which the two men were riding was so badly damaged that it was left standing at the roadside. From the license number it was learned that it belongs to Edward J. Miller, 15354 Mansfield avenue, Detroit.

Coroner Earl Gordon impounded a jury and the inquest was adjourned until 9:00 o'clock this Friday morning. The jurors are, H. A. Schroeder, J. W. Lathrup, R. H. Marsh, C. H. Ely, O. E. Hatton and Clarence Bickling.

U. S. PUTS LABEL ON HIGHWAYS

Fifty thousand miles of roads, homecoming the United States from the Canadian border to the gulf coast and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, were selected today by the joint board on interstate highways as "United States Highways" to be designated with uniform road markers.

The actual grouping of these roads into main arterial highways was abandoned today by the full committee, and was turned over to a sub-committee, which after making tentative designations, will submit recommendations to the various states for approval.

Every federal aid highway in the United States is included in the system, which provides for no through routes but embraces every state capital and most points of national and sectional interest.

When the routing of the highways is completed, they will be numbered that tourists traveling on any road may know from its number the territory through which he is passing and where he is going. The routes also will be posted with uniform signs informing the traveler of curves, railroad crossings, and other conditions of the road.

Michigan roads designated are:

One from Detroit to Ludington by way of Pontiac, Flint, Saginaw, Clare and Baldwin. Another from Detroit to Grand Haven by way of Howell, Lansing and Grand Rapids. One from Detroit to Benton Harbor by way of Ann Arbor, Jackson, Marshall, Kalamazoo and Paw Paw. Another from Detroit to Toledo by way of Trenton and Monroe. One from Detroit to Centerville by way of Wayne, Brookline and Jonesville. One from Saginaw around the rim of the state on the shores of Lakes Huron and Michigan to Chicago by way of Lincoln, Alpena, Rogers, Cheboygan, Charlevoix, Bellair, Beulah, Hartford, Benjonia, Holland, Hartsville, Benton Harbor and New Carlisle. Another from Toledo to Cheboygan by way of Jackson, Lansing, Ithaca, Mount Pleasant, Gaylord and Petoskey. One goes from Centerville to Rapid City by way of Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Big Rapids, and Cadillac.

BIRTHDAY SURPRISE

A pleasant occasion in Baptist Church activities, was the surprise party, Wednesday afternoon, given in honor of Mrs. Frances Barber at the home of Mrs. Roy Smith in Clarenceville. Ladies and friends of the church gathered to help Mrs. Barber celebrate her birthday anniversary.

A fine supper was served and Mrs. Barber was presented with a lovely bathrobe.

THE OAKLAND COUNTY FAIR

The officers and superintendents of the Oakland County Fair to be held at Milford August 12 to 15 say that the prospect was never so encouraging for a successful fair as it is this year. Everybody seems enthusiastic and determined to put the 1925 fair over better and stronger than ever.

The premium list has been greatly enlarged and the amounts of premiums in several departments have been substantially increased. Special premiums are offered for Boys' and Girls' club work in the county. As amusement and entertainment features there will be three high class "free attractions," showing each day and evening in front of the grand stand, three ball games, three days of horse racing, three bands, a great display of fireworks on three nights, besides the usual "rides" and midway attractions.

Holly, Milford and two Pontiac ball teams—Oakland Motor Co. and Geney Dyers and Cleaners—will contest the base ball series. Holly band has been engaged for Thursday, Oakland Motor band for Friday and the noted Industrial School band from Lansing for Saturday.

The horse racing will include three events on Thursday, four on Friday, and three on Saturday. Liberal purses will bring some of the best speedsters in the state.

The night fair on Thursday, Friday and Saturday will offer each night a very attractive display of fireworks in addition to the regular exhibits, the free act performances and a special band concert.

ATTENTION

Persons sending news items to The Enterprise must get them in before Thursday noon or we cannot promise their publication. Publisher.

SCHOOL CENSUS

The school population of Farmington is now 420, according to the school census figures given out by Mrs. George Hendryx, who made the canvass several weeks ago.

Church Notes

Clarenceville Community

M. E. Church

Rev. H. B. Dittweiler, Pastor Sunday at 10:30 at Clarenceville Community Church, the pastor, Rev. H. E. Dittweiler, will speak upon the subject "The Products and By-Products in Life and Their Relative Values." Children's sermonette, "Everything Counts." The evening service at 8:00 o'clock is the glad and happy hour, with songs and a message on God's wonder world, the subject being, "The Message of the Clouds."

Farmington Methodist Church

S. D. Eva, Pastor.

10:30—"The Follower Who Leads." 11:45—Sunday School. 7:00—Epworth League. No Sunday evening service August.

Evangelical Church

Rev. J. Bollens, Pastor

10:15—Services, German. 11:45—Sunday School. Wednesday, August 12, Y. P. L. meeting. Sunday, August 16, Golden Jubilee. Monday, August 17, Banquet.

First Baptist Church

R. F. Willson, Pastor

10:30—Martin Luther's great text, "The Just Shall Live by Faith." 11:45—Bible School. Any other meetings will be announced on the bulletin board.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran

Church, Clarenceville

(at Switzer Road) Rev. Paul Graupner, Pastor 9:30—Sunday School. 10:30—Regular services, first third and fifth Sundays in German; second and fourth in English.

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FARMINGTON T. BOARD

REJECTS SNELL PLAT

The interest being taken by the citizens of this locality in the matter of changing the route of Grand River road, through the city was shown Monday evening at the meeting of the township board, when a crowd such as never before appeared; at the town hall to attend a meeting of that body.

Monday evening was the time fixed by the board for taking final action on the petition of the Grand River Homes Corporation for the approval of its plat of the Salow farm subdivision southeast of the village and lying within the limits of Farmington township. All of the members of the board including Isaac Bond, supervisor, H. A. Schroeder, clerk; Eva Leveire and John Thayer, justices, were present. The only matter before the board was the petition of the land company which had been laid over from a previous meeting. There was but one vote on it in which every member voted to reject. This action was taken upon advice of Attorney McGee of Pontiac.

At previous meetings when this matter has been before the board, there has been quite an array of Detroit legal talent present. Previous to Monday night's meeting Judge Miller, who represents the land company's interests, was notified by the township attorney that the plat would be rejected, consequently there was a slim delegation from Detroit.

Mr. Hatton, addressing the meeting, declared that the association would fight any move of the Grand River Homes Corporation, or other corporations holding land on the proposed new road, to subdivide their holdings, to force the building of the new road. He expressed a belief that an attempt would be made to open the road by means of a 1925 law which empowers the State Highway Commissioner to invoke the right of eminent domain and force the building of a road if public necessity demands such action.

"If they do that we'll fight it in the courts," Mr. Hatton said. "Our attorney believes the law is unconstitutional and we deny such a change is a public necessity."

Henry Smith, son of C. F. Smith, Detroit chain store grocer was another speaker. The proposed road would intersect Mr. Smith's farm near Farmington.

"It would make us \$150,000 if the new road went through, but we are opposed to it," Mr. Smith said. "You can depend on us to fight the new road to the last ditch."

Subscriptions were taken to raise funds to employ additional attorneys.

The 225 acres recently acquired by Detroit men were first purchased by Lawrence W. Snell, Sr., and Lawrence W. Snell, Jr., Detroit real estate men, who in turn, disposed of most of the land to three holding corporations composed of the Detroit men, including Judge Ira W. Jayne, Judge Guy A. Miller, Edwin Denby, Matthew H. Bishop and Charles W. Burton.

Just what will be the next move on the part of the land company has not been intimated, but it is expected that the board will be mandated to show cause why it refuses to accept the plat.

GOVERNOR GROESBECK TO VISIT FARMINGTON

Late Monday evening, President Hatton of the Farmington Protective Association received a telephone message from the clerk of the Administrative Board to the effect that there would be no meeting of the board Tuesday as had been expected, but that a meeting would probably be held next Tuesday when the Farmington committee would be given a hearing in regard to the Grand River cut-off.

The clerk informed Mr. Hatton that it was the intention of Governor Groesbeck to visit Farmington shortly when the matter of the proposed relocation of the highway would be talked over.

BOOKS WANTED

The "Arabian Nights" and the "Eskimo Twins" are wanted at the public library. Holders please take notice.