

# The Farmington Enterprise

Vol. XL No. 29

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1926

5 Cents Single Copy \$1.50 A YEAR

## SOUTHSIDERS WIN IN CITY CLEANUP CONTEST

There was a large attendance of members and guests at the Tuesday noonday luncheon of the Exchange Club to hear the decision of the judges chosen to pick the winning side in the clean-up contest. Despite the fact that on the north side are all churches, schools and lodges and institutions which tend toward cleanliness, the south side carried off the palm and is the present holder of the silver cup now in the hands of the engravers for appropriate lettering. The north side as a consolation prize was presented with a large garbage can bearing in big letters a significant suggestion which if heeded may lead to future victory. The "cast" was accepted by Rev. E. W. Palmer in behalf of the mourners, with a promise to put it to use in an effort to win first place another year.

The trophy captured by the southsiders was presented to the victors by Supt. Leonard, chairman of the entertainment committee of the Exchange Club, and accepted by Harrison Johnson, chairman of the south side committee having charge of the clean up work. Mr. Johnson attributed the victory to the fact that special pains were taken in removing the remains of numerous discarded "Ford's" that had been laid to rest in streets, alleys and back yards.

The judges who blasted the hopes of the northsiders and caused uproarious hilarity among the southsiders were Mr. and Mrs. Harry McCracken, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Bond and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steele, all residents of Farmington township. Mr. McCracken announced the decision of the judges and in doing so stated that it had been arrived at after a very careful inspection of the city, and it was not an easy matter to decide as both sides of the city showed that much good work had been done.

In behalf of the judges the speaker paid a fine tribute to the several organizations, committees and citizens who had been instrumental in giving Farmington such a neat and attractive appearance.

As guests of the occasion were the officers and committees of the Farmington Woman's Club which organization sponsored the clean up movement, judges and others who helped in directing the work.

Mrs. Roy Brown, president of the Woman's Club spoke in behalf of that organization, and thanked the Exchange Club, committees and citizens for the hearty co-operation which made the campaign a success. While there is still an opportunity for improvement, the result of the campaign is highly gratifying.

## VIVIER SERVICE STATION ENLARGED

Earl Vivier has erected a 16x24 addition to the south side of his auto service station at the corner of Grand River avenue and Grove street. The new part will be used for car washing and general lubrication. The addition is in the same attractive style as the service station.

## PRESS CLUB MEETING

The Oakland County Weekly Press Club met Saturday at the Northwood Inn, Royal Oak. A fine chicken dinner preceded an informal discussion of various matters in which the members are mutually interested. The next meeting will be held at Lake Orion in July.

## BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

Honoring the eighty-ninth birthday anniversary of their mother, Mrs. A. McGee, her children gathered at her home on Shiawassee street, Monday, May 24, for dinner.

Mrs. McGee is an old and respected resident of Farmington and enjoys fairly good health. She was remembered with several nice gifts and many friends sent bouquets of flowers to her. Rev. Clyde McGee of Cheboygan, came especially for the event, and remained for a few days stay.

## A FINE YEARS RECORD

The success achieved by the firm of Verkes & Poss since entering the plumbing and heating trade here a year ago is in measure due to the growing prosperity of the community but largely to a close application to business and a careful study of the particular requirements needed to make each job a perfect one.

They have just completed a heating and plumbing system for Don Burton and plumbing work of the Carl Smith residence which they take considerable pride in pointing out as a specimen of their work.

They have just closed contracts for doing the plumbing and heating work in twenty houses being built by the Forker Co., at Wayne which will keep a number of men at work for some time.

The manufacturers of the V-K water softener device have placed them at the head of his list of big dealers in this modern adjunct to the household needs and conveniences.

A fine record for the first year of business.

## DIVORCES ARE INCREASING IN THIS COUNTY

Divorces in Oakland County are on the increase. For the month of April there were 41 cases as compared with 28 for the same month a year ago. Of those started this year in April there were 27 in which the friend of the court is required to make an investigation. This is the largest number of divorces involving children ever filed in a single month, according to Miss Ida Anne Reese, friend of the court.

In April 1923 there were 17 cases with children; 1924 there were 20 and in April 1925 there were 20.—Pontiac Press.

## TRUSCON DEMONSTRATION A SUCCESS

The Truscon Paint Demonstration and Prize Drawing held at the Lee Hardware Co. store Saturday night was a success as will be attested by the winners of the many prizes given at the drawing. Mr. James L. Hogle was the winner of the big prize, enough Truscon Waterproof House Paint to paint his house two coats. Mrs. J. A. Miller won a gallon of Truscon Waterproof Varnish. The following were winners of the quart prizes: W. S. Davis, J. W. Patterson, Harley Kahrl, A. R. Oldham, Mrs. Roy Keller, Mrs. H. MacDonald, Mrs. John Arthur and C. N. Andrews, all of Farmington and Mrs. I. Snader of Pontiac.

The most impressive feature of this demonstration was an unusual test of Truscon Waterproof Varnish. A large wooden panel varnished in the regular way was placed over a steaming kettle subjected to the steam continuing for hours without showing the slightest softening, checking or deterioration of any kind. In fact this same identical panel has been used in numerous other demonstrations in many Michigan cities, yet it retains the perfect lustre of its finish, and is still 100 per cent waterproof.

The purpose of the Truscon demonstrations is to acquaint householders with the proper materials to use and the proper methods of applying them to the various surfaces that require decoration and protection from the elements. Home owners are urged to take advantage of the service the Truscon Laboratories are able to offer them through the Lee Hardware Co.

## WEST POINTE PARK CHURCH

Next Sunday is Memorial Sunday at West Pointe Park Church, Seven Mile and Farmington roads. There is to be a special patriotic service. Each child present will be given a gift flag to wear.

A troop of Boy Scouts will be present in uniform. They will gather at 11 a. m. at the flag pole, sing the colors, salute the flag. A bugler will blow the salute to the colors. The national anthem will be sung. All are welcome.



## May We Always Remember and Honor

"He sleeps at last—a hero to his race. Dead!—and the night lies softly on his face, While the faint summer stars, like sentinels, Hover above his lonely resting place."

## DEATH OF CLYDE A. NICHOLS

Clyde A. Nichols, brother of Floyd H. Nichols, passed away at his home, 570 Westmeister Ave Detroit, May 24th, after an illness of three months. He was the youngest son of Gilbert C. and Nellie M. Nichols pioneer residents of Farmington and was born on the Nichols farm Feb. 21, 1880. Twenty-five years ago he went to Detroit where he embarked in the musical profession and achieved marked success as a teacher and singer. For 13 years he had been soloist at the Third Christian Scientist Church, Second and Seward Aves, Detroit.

On Oct. 2, 1907, he was united in marriage to Maude L. Voorheis of West Bloomfield, to this union one son was born, Sherwood C., both surviving him. He was a member of Palestine Lodge F. and A. M. and Kiwanis Club. Funeral and burial services were held at North Farmington cemetery, Thursday at 3 p. m.

## THE SENIOR PROM

The Senior Prom given last Friday evening at the Town Hall was a brilliant affair. With more than ordinary care the members went about the preparatory work for this the last social event of the class of '26.

The hall decorations were elaborate, but in good taste. Gray and cerise the class colors, were used exclusively in the color scheme. The ball room was softly lighted from shaded stand lamps effectively arranged at the sides of the hall. The handsomely gowned young ladies and the well groomed young men as they glided on the floor, presented a pretty picture. Music was furnished by Finzel's orchestra.

## ENTERTAINS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Mrs. Orville Taggart pleasantly entertained her Sunday School class of young ladies at her home on Grand River avenue, Monday evening. They organized and elected president, Miss Nellie MacGregory, secretary, and treasurer, Miss Olive Grimwade, committees: Ola Whitney, refreshments; Inez Weston, games; Olive Grimwade, Margaret Spalder and Willow Davis, lookout committee.

After the business meeting games were played and dainty refreshments were served by the hostess.

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

## BOOSTERS MEETING

Farmington citizens are invited to attend a Booster Meeting at the Town Hall Tuesday evening, June 1.

Every property owner and persons interested in the future of Farmington should attend.

## ED. THAYER ROBBED OF CAR AND MONEY

Ed. Thayer had a thrilling experience Saturday night with two of Detroit's gun men. As he was entering his auto which was parked on Bagley street, two young men approached him and showing a gun in his face ordered him to take them in the car and drive as directed. A run out Grand River road was made, through Farmington, to a point west when the men robbed their victim of a purse containing quite an amount of money and ordered him to get out. The thugs returned the purse with a \$20 bill, but reneged on their generosity and substituted a \$10 bill for it. Monday the car was found on a street at Hastings, Mich., and Mr. Thayer is again in possession of it.

## IMPROVEMENTS AT PARK GARAGE

Albright and Henderson with a generous amount of paint and a re-arrangement of their office and display room have made a decided improvement in its appearance.

## POPPIES FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Poppies will be on sale on the streets of Farmington on Saturday morning. The sale Saturday will be in charge of the Junior class of the high school and on Monday in charge of the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion. These poppies were made by disabled soldiers and the proceeds of the sales will be used in the good work of the Legion.

## MISSIONARY TALKS ON AFRICA

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Baptist Church are having as their guest next Tuesday, June 1, Mrs. Grimshaw, for five and one-half years a missionary in Africa. A pot luck luncheon will be served at 12 o'clock noon and in the afternoon Mrs. Grimshaw will give a missionary talk on her work, to which all are cordially invited.

Carl Hendricks has sold the pool room on Grand River avenue to Lewis C. Thayer.

## HIGHWAY CONDEMNATION LAW NOW UNDER ATTACK

For the past year there has been much discussion here and at other places in the state over the highway condemnation law passed by the last legislature at the behest of Governor Grosbeck, as a means of expediting his highway improvement plans. It is claimed by many that the law is unconstitutional in that it does not safeguard the rights of property owners being confiscatory without the right of appeal.

Under the caption of "State Highway Grab Assaulted" the Detroit Free Press publishes the following article by James P. Powers, a staff writer, in its issue of May 25:

Questioning legality and constitutionality of proposed state condemnation of land in connection with widening of Grand River avenue and declaring the prospective action to be "arbitrary, oppressive and despotic, and an unconstitutional infringement of property rights," a motion to quash the proceedings was filed in Wayne circuit court Monday by Robert E. Brownson, counsel for Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. Allen and Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Allen.

The statute that is attacked by the plaintiffs was passed by the last legislature at the insistence of Governor Alex J. Grosbeck. When it was under consideration in the legislature it was severely criticised, amended and side-tracked, but finally resurrected by the governor. Questions among the legislators as to its constitutionality were waived aside. It was contended that it was confiscatory of private property. But the governor wanted it passed to expedite his highway plans.

The property which is at issue in the circuit court action is located near the intersection of Grand River and the Seven-Mile road. It came within the city limits by reason of the vote at the election last fall, which annexed a large portion of Redford township to Detroit.

It is claimed that the proposed condemnation action is an attempted usurpation of the constitutional right to self government of the City of Detroit, and an attempt of the state to perform functions of local governmental character, in contravention of the home rule act.

The act under which the condemnation is attacked and which had orders from Governor Grosbeck as the spur to its passage, is challenged constitutionally on the grounds that it does not provide for any trial by jury, and does not provide for any right and method of appeal, nor for the enforcement of the payment of any award, nor does it provide any means of raising any money to pay for the same.

In other words, it is claimed that after the state highway commissioner arbitrary sets a valuation on a piece of property, and notifies the owners, they lose title; they have no opportunity of appealing and disputing the arbitrary valuation set upon their land, and have no means of compelling the payment of the award.

The act in question reads that the declaration and determination of a commissioner or commissioners of the necessity for the taking of particular private property for highway purposes "shall not hereafter be questioned," and that "upon the filing of such determination and the giving of such notice the title and the right of possession to all of the property and property rights described in the determination shall vest in the township, county or state, as the case may be, for the purpose or purposes therein stated."

Another question of constitutionality is raised by a contrast with another state law which expressly prohibits the state from participation "in the cost of rebuilding, repairing or maintaining any pavement heretofore built by any city or by any county within the corporate limits of any city having a population of 5,000 or more."

## A MUSICAL TREAT

This Friday evening, the men's choir of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Highland Park, will give an entertainment in the Farmington Methodist Community Hall, under the auspices of the Golden Key Class. The choir consists of 28 men. They are busy men who thoroughly enjoy singing. After church services on warm summer Sunday nights they stand together on the church lawn and sing, much to the enjoyment of the neighbors.

Their program consists of classic and semi-classic music and some of the old favorites everybody loves. They have given this program in a number of places throughout the state and their portion of the proceeds goes to the organ fund of the new church which they are building. The Golden Key's portion goes toward the building fund of the Farmington Church and toward the missionary interest of the group.

During the last four or five years this class of young women has contributed over \$400 to the building fund of the church. They will appreciate the co-operation of the community in making this affair as successful as their other efforts have been.

## MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES MONDAY, MAY 31

The American Legion, with the aid of the students and teachers of the Farmington High School and the Boy Scouts, have arranged Memorial Day services which will be held Monday, May 31.

Starting at 1:00 p. m. they will leave from the Log Cabin in their march to the cemetery. The continuance of this time-worn custom of homage to the dead is commendable and all citizens are urged to participate. After the services at the cemetery they will march back to the Town Hall and listen to the following fine program which has been arranged by the Farmington High School: Songs—

- Battle Hymn of the Republic
- America the Beautiful.....Audience
- Reading.....Margaret Webster Solo.....Virginia Otis Lincoln's Gettysburg Address
- .....Mary Burrow
- Remarks.....Robert Cook
- Tribute to the Grand Army of the Republic, Rev. E. F. Dunlavy
- America.....Audience
- Address.....A. G. Leonard
- Star Spangled Banner.....Audience
- All should go and show their appreciation of the spirit that makes these services possible.

## A CORRECTION

The Enterprise was mistaken last week when it stated that the Great Lakes Land Corp. intended opening a real estate office here. W. R. Banks and E. F. Storms have formed a partnership for transacting a general real estate business and incidentally will handle sales in this locality of lots in The Oaklands, a Great Lakes Land Corp. subdivision.

## WORTHLESS CHECK PASSER VISITS FARMINGTON

A sleek stranger appeared in Farmington last week and succeeded in leaving a few worthless checks with merchants on which he realized a few dollars. He was gone before it was discovered that checks were without value.

## MISS PARKER PROVED A GOOD SPELLER

Miss Alice Parker, eighth grade pupil of the Farmington schools, who remained a contestant in the Metropolitan Spelling bout at the State Fair Coliseum in Detroit last Friday, until all but two had failed, was with her teacher, Miss Irene Stewart, a guest of the Exchange Club at Tuesday's noonday luncheon.

Superintendent Leonard in introducing her gave a short history of the great spelling contest in which Miss Parker made such a fine record, putting Farmington on the map as a seat of orthographic learning. Mr. Leonard ascribed Miss Parker's achievement to hard study and the assistance of an able teacher.

(Continued on page 2)