

Farmin'gton Enterprise

FORTIETH YEAR—No. 25.

FARMINGTON, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1928

Ten Pages

5c a Copy; \$1.50 a Year

Merchants Get Money Back In Publicity 'Stunt'

Advertising Promoter Spends Three Days In County Jail Following Exposure

After the promoter of an "advertising" scheme had been in the County Jail at Pontiac three days, business-men and women in and around Farmington early this week recovered, by aid of police, \$185 which they had paid out for the publicity. A chain of exceptional circumstances that was almost uncanny landed M. C. Pedigo of Rochester, Ind., in the toils of the police Saturday morning and ended in reimbursement of the merchants who had paid money to him.

Pedigo is the promoter of a "Yearly Commercial Summary" of the business firms in the territory in which the review is scheduled for circulation. These reviews consist of highly complimentary publicity stories about the various firms, for which these firms pay whatever amount is agreed upon. The sections are printed by Pedigo, delivered to the publisher, who is paid by Pedigo for inserting these sections in an issue of the paper.

In the case of the Farmington "review," the section was to be inserted in a newspaper published in a nearby town on April 13. A week later, however, Farmington business men discovered that many residents of that town had not received the sections. Last Saturday morning, Pedigo, in Farmington to collect for the "advertising," was nabbed by police, who held him for investigation. He remained in the County Jail over the week end, until the amount which had been paid him was produced and repaid to the merchants of Farmington.

The expose which led to Pedigo's being held began about a week ago, when Spencer J. Heene, whose mother resides in the town where the section was to be circulated, learned that she did not get one of the reviews. Mr. Heene, who has a wife and three children, also found that two or three others did not receive the section. His suspicions were aroused, and at a party in the town last Friday evening, he inquired of Mr. Heene, he made extensive inquiry. He learned, he stated, that not one at the party received the "review." At the same time, George K. Checketts learned that a relative of his in the town also had not received the section.

Mr. Heene, aroused by the results of his inquiry, endeavored to learn the reason for this situation, but failed. He then, on Saturday morning, he stopped into the Auto Shop, which had a loan a space in the "review." In a jolly mood, he asked A. C. Wallbank, the proprietor about the matter, and was told that Pedigo, who had collected most of the money the previous Saturday, was in town, and at the Buick Garage.

Mr. Checketts, Buick dealer, had refused Pedigo's demand for money a week earlier, saying he would pay on the first of the month, as was his custom. Pedigo drove his Buick car into Mr. Checketts' garage and asked to have the brakes repaired. The price of the job was \$16 and it is understood that it was Pedigo's intention to have the job done and collect the difference between \$16 and \$20 which Mr. Checketts agreed to pay for his portion of the "review."

As soon as Mr. Heene learned Pedigo was in town, he hurried to the Buick Garage where he was soon joined by Mr. Wallbank and the two business-men demanded return of their money, which Pedigo refused. In answer to their arguments he displayed a contract. Failing to obtain the money, the Farmington man called (Continued on Page Seven)

"TWEEDEES," A COMEDY TO BE PRESENTED ON MAY 4

"Tweedles," a comedy by Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson, will be presented by the Golden Key Class of Farmington Methodist Church on Friday evening, May 4, in the Community Hall.

Nine members of the class will take part in the play, which is said to be highly interesting and entertaining. Mildred Adams, Lois MacKellar, Louise Porter, Mary Woolf, Winifred Walcott, Ruth Baker, Mary Moore, Irelia Reed, and Charlotte Stenger.

FARMINGTON CENTENARIAN



Above is the first published photograph of Mrs. Emil B. Noble, the first person in this territory to attain the age of 100 years. Mrs. Noble, who lives on Switzer Road, celebrated her one hundredth birthday on March 13.

City Water Tank Being Painted

Commission Saves Several Hundred Dollars By Waiting Few Months For Bids

Farmington's water tank at the top of the hill west of town is being prepared for "dressing up," it having been drained on Monday preparatory to painting, which is to begin next Monday.

Draining of the tank was not expected to affect the water supply, but residents in the west side of the city reported a shortage Tuesday afternoon. However, keeping the pumps working 24 hours a day is expected to prevent any difficulty. Farmington's water tank at the top of the hill west of town is to be "dressed up." Complete inspection of the tank, repairing of leaks, and painting were decided upon by the City Commission at its meeting Monday evening. The work will begin on Monday, April 30th.

Although the tank will be drained for at least a week, this will not affect the city's water supply. Superintendent of Public Works George Grant informed the Commission. It is planned to keep the pumps at the Water Works going 24 hours a day while the tank is being dried out and painted.

By waiting from last fall until this Spring for the work, the City Commission saved several hundred dollars, as recent bids were much lower than earlier ones. The contract was awarded to the Detroit Tank Company, whose bid of \$25,000 was the lowest of four offers filed.

The tank will be thoroughly scraped inside and painted with a coat of asphalt surface material, after the accumulated scale is brushed off. The outside will be thoroughly cleaned and painted, probably a gray shade.

BAPTIST CHURCH ADI'S 40 MEMBERS DURING PAST YEAR

Sunday School Attendance Doubles In Twelve Months, Report Reveals

An increase of 40 new members within the past year and doubling of the attendance at Sunday School in the same period, were reported at the annual meeting of the First Baptist Church of Farmington in Wednesday evening.

The financial condition of the church was reported good. S. R. Turner, Ray Howard, and Orville Taggart were elected deacons at the annual election. Trustees elected were C. C. Kellogg, Roy Smith and Frank McGregory. Mrs. A. C. McDonald was chosen deaconess.

Mrs. E. Weston was elected current treasurer, Mrs. J. Sim benevolent treasurer, and Ray Howard clerk. Orville Taggart was chosen Sunday School superintendent, Cecil Kellogg, assistant. Marie Cain, secretary and Mrs. O. Taggart, treasurer. Young Peoples' officers are Margaret Cain, president; Ray Howard vice-president, and Edith Cain secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. J. W. Palmer will head the women's auxiliary, with Mrs. John St. as vice president and Mrs. C. C. Kellogg as treasurer. Rev. Palmer presided at the annual meeting.

Ask Retention Of Opportunity Room And Nurse

Farmington Board of Education Requested By Citizens To Keep Two Features Of System

Requests that the Farmington Board of Education retain the Nursing Service and Opportunity Room in Farmington Schools were made at the monthly meeting of the Board last Thursday evening. Although the number of citizens attending the meeting was small, discussion was none the less spirited on the requests. Mrs. Emil Roos, past president of the Parent-Teacher Association, started the discussion with a statement to the Board that "We would like to maintain our Nursing Service." She added that she would like to have our Opportunity Room continued also, but that would probably be part of the program of the new Superintendent.

Trustee Floyd Nichols replied that the Board "meant to have the question of the health service left open until the annual meeting in June, until an expression of the will of the people could be obtained." Mrs. Roos then asked the other teachers signed right away, so that if they don't sign, you can still obtain the finest teachers for other departments," said Mr. Roos. "If you wait until the annual meeting to hire a nurse, you will have then?"

Board Cites Criticism Members of the Board replied that there had been criticism of the Nursing Service, and that the Board felt the citizens should decide the matter. Mr. Roos then asked, "What criticism has not been of the institution, has it?" to which Trustee Fred Macomber replied, "There has been criticism on the expense, which is around \$2,000 or \$2,500. Mr. Roos asked, 'What does that mean on a tax proposition to which Mr. Macomber answered that "it does not mean much to the individual," but that he "had heard some object to it, while other mothers insisted that the nursing service be continued at any cost."

Mrs. Roos then asserted that "the children in the Opportunity Room are very happy—it is impossible to tell what the results are by the vote." President Power then asked what the financial situation was, and Trustee Arthur Lamb replied that the Board "would have to borrow money to pay the bills passed on by President Power."

He said that "there are more returned taxes all the time, although perhaps that shouldn't be considered in this matter." Mr. Roos objected, "But in a child's case, the question of delinquent taxes cannot be taken into consideration. What has a child to do with delinquent taxes? The school nurse discovered the situation when our child's eyes were bad, which was a great worth-while. Some people think a child is disgraced if placed in the Opportunity Room. We do not. The town owes it to children needing special attention to give it the advantage of the Opportunity Room."

President Power then asked the attendance in the Opportunity Room, which Supt. Leonard stated was "15 or less." Mrs. Roos suggested it would be well "if we could have two such rooms, one for older and one for younger children." Some are going to be real artists in this world, but need special attention in childhood," she said.

Half Day Suggested Trustee Macomber stated that the Board had received a suggestion from one of the applicants for the Superintendent that children be put in the Opportunity Room for half a day. Supt. Leonard remarked, "It is impossible to give special service in a half day that can be given in a full day. The pupils need all the time possible in the Opportunity Room."

Trustee Nichols explained that "the Board wants to get the opinion (Continued on page seven)

City's Water System Best, Say Visitors

Farmington has the most complete water pumping and distribution system of any city of its size in this part of Michigan and it has disinterested authority for the statement.

A delegation of city officials and citizens from Belleville, who were in Farmington last Saturday, paid the city's system that high compliment, after inspecting the pumping station and wells, to get "pointers" application in their community.

Plan Dinner In Leonard's Honor

Testimonial Banquet To Be Given On May 18 For School Superintendent

Plans for a testimonial dinner to be given Superintendent of Schools Archie G. Leonard, in recognition of his seven years' service to the community, are being made by a number of citizens of the School District. Friday, May 18, has been tentatively set as the date.

Preliminary plans for the dinner were discussed Monday evening at an informal meeting at the home of Fred L. Cook. Rufus N. Crossman was chosen general chairman for the dinner and Mr. Crossman expects to name the chairman of several committees, to work with him, in a few days. The chairman will then choose their associates on the various committees.

The dinner is to be open to all who desire to come. A system for making reservations is being worked out and will be announced next week. The price of the dinner has been set at one dollar, in order to make it possible for all to attend who wish to do so. At the banquet, there will be entertainment and short talks, by residents of the School District, with perhaps one outside speaker. Choice of a toastmaster for the occasion is still pending, but probably will be made in a few days.

BASEBALL SEASON OPENS ON FRIDAY, NORTHVILLE HERE

Nine Veterans Back This Year and Strong Team Is Expected

The baseball season is here. The bats began to crack immediately following the "spring training tour" the Senior boys took through the south. As the team lines up now, Farmington seems to be a strong competitor for the championship of the league in baseball this year.

There are nine veterans back for the team with some extraordinary young talent making a strong team for Northville. The nine veterans five have seen two previous seasons or more of service.

G. Rozenboom is slated to pitch the opener on Friday, April 27. In this game with Northville the team will probably lineup as follows:

Otis, 2b; McCully, 1b; E. Rozenboom, ss; Middlewood, 1b; Cathman, 3b; Measell-Turner, rf; Cox, cf; C. Rozenboom, p; Nielson, c.

Due to a new league ordinance, each team will play but one game against any other team, making a five league game schedule. But that will be supplemented by two or three other home games, as three contests are away from home.

The schedule is as follows: April 27—Northville at Farmington. May 4—Farmington at Ypsil.

May 11—Dearborn at Farmington. May 18—Farmington at Wayne.

May 25—Farmington at Plymouth.

JOHN H. GREENMAN STARTS LANDSCAPE GARDENING

John H. Greenman, a graduate of the American School of Landscape Design, who was south of Farmington, has entered the landscape gardening business. Mr. Greenman who has had much experience along this line, is planning first-class service for his customers.

Send in your news items.

City Commission Buys New Truck For Fire Department

Engine To Be Delivered In July Will Be Triple Combination Hose, Tank And Pumping Units; With Three Ladders

Purchase of a new fire truck, a triple combination motor pumping engine with a 600-gallon per minute pump, hose-body, and 60-gallon "booster" tank, was voted by the Farmington City Commission at a meeting Tuesday evening. The truck was purchased from the American-LaFrance Company, and is to be delivered within 45 working days, the contract having been signed by Mayor Wells D. Butterfield and City Clerk N. H. Power Wednesday morning.

The new truck will have a six-cylinder motor of 35 horsepower giving it a speed of 55 to 60 miles per hour. It will be equipped with two roof-ladders and a 24-foot extension, one roof-ladder and the extension giving a ladder reach of 34 feet. Two chemical fire extinguishers will be part of the equipment.

The cost of the truck will be \$10,600, which the city will have eight years to pay. An initial payment of \$1,500 will be made in August after tax collection, and payments of \$1,250 yearly thereafter, with interest at 6 percent on the unpaid balance. It is expected the truck will be delivered in Farmington the early part of July.

Purchase of the truck was recommended after an extensive investigation by Commissioners Olin Russell and Clarence Bick. Commissioner Russell stated that the fire situation hazard in Farmington is "very serious."

They reported that an overwhelming percentage of nearby cities use and recommend the type of truck purchased.

Gives High Pressure The pump on the new truck can be attached to hydrants and will give at least two high-pressure streams, and also can use creek water by suction. High road clearance and wide pneumatic tires assure it of ability to go through very bad roads which automobiles cannot negotiate, the LaFrance company representative said.

A mechanic will come to Farmington with the truck to set it out and instruct drivers. Badges for the Farmington firemen will be furnished by the truck manufacturers.

In recommending this truck, Commissioner Russell said that Farmington "should figure for the next ten years in buying a fire apparatus." It was pointed out that purchase of the truck does not affect the question of protecting the township. It was suggested that a small-car chassis could be bought, on which a "booster" tank could be mounted, which would be effective for work where there are no water mains, and would protect the city in case of two fires at once. The Commission voted unanimously for the purchase of the large truck. All except Commissioner Gildemeister were present.

Appeals of residents just outside the city limits for water were heard and granted by the City Commission, on the stipulation that those making the requests pay for extension of pipes, and also pay double rate for water used. Harry Newcombe of Farmington Junction and J. V. Snyder of Adams street were granted such requests. The city may terminate the agreements on ten days' notice.

The Commission agreed to build a sewer on Thomas street to serve property owned by Al J. Laine, on the condition that Laine pay half the expense.

STORE AND GASOLINE STATION BROKEN INTO ON GRAND RIVER ROAD

Two small robberies were reported in Clarensville on Friday night and Saturday morning, the A. & P. store, managed by E. A. Wurtzbacher at Grand River and Base Line roads being robbed of \$15 and merchandise.

The Kenyon's Service Station on Grand River, not far away also was broken into, but nothing was taken. Similar entries have been reported recently in Redford and Brightmore, according to police.

NEW OFFICER STARTS

Farmington's new police officer, Alfred Gagnon, went on duty last Friday evening for the first time. Acting Chief Police Clayton Stokes is devoting much attention to training the new officer.

Exchange To Aid Boy Scout Work

Service Club To Sponsor Renewal Of Activities In And Around Farmington

Boy Scout work in this section, which has for some time been inactive, is to be rehabilitated and aid by the Farmington Exchange Club. At its meeting Wednesday, the service club voted to sponsor the movement in Farmington and vicinity.

The decision followed a comprehensive report by Himman C. Nichols, John Fitzpatrick, and Elmer Palmer on a meeting which they had attended at Pontiac Tuesday evening, and at which a county-wide organization for scouting was discussed. An effort is being made to make scouting available to every boy in America, and the district plan, of which Farmington is a part, is desired for Oakland County.

As soon as it is determined whether the district plan is acceptable to Oakland County towns efforts will be made to organize a committee of citizens in Farmington, secure a Scoutmaster, and organize troops. The committee of which Mr. Nichols is chairman was asked to remain as a permanent Boy Scout work committee of the Exchange Club. The committee will attend another meeting in Pontiac on May 22.

Suggests Airport A suggestion that Farmington business-men consider the advisability of trying to develop an airport nearby was made by P. Devo Fleming, who said he had followed the Aviation Show closely, and that it is predicted that within a few years, 250,000 airplanes a year will be built in this country.

ELECTIONS WERE THRILLING IN THE 'GOOD OLD DAYS'

Votes Bought And Sold Freely Years Ago, N. H. Power Relates

Those who are dismayed at present election frauds don't think they are without precedent. In what some believe were "the good old days" votes were bought and sold, and cheaply too, as is shown by N. H. Power, in this week's installment of his review of Farmington history.

To add to the general feeling of dismay, a huge comet made its appearance in the Heavens. It had a long fiery tail. The movement of the Celestial Visitor was not understood by the people of the frontier settlement and some of them were ready to believe that the hard winter and the Comet together foretold the destruction of the world.

In the state of New York a man by the name of Miller claimed to have had a vision in which he saw the Comet strike the earth at terrific speed, causing the destruction of both by the intense heat that was generated. A society was formed called the "Miller Society" (Continued on Page Seven)