

## Grand River and Drain Projects Are Given 'Boost'

Surveyors Start Preliminary Work On Drain; State Highway Man Here On Gd. River

Prospects for the early realization of two of Farmington's greatest improvement projects were suddenly and greatly increased this week. Surveyors from the County Drain Commission came to Farmington to do preliminary work on the big Farmington Drain, and a representative of the State Highway Department arrived in Farmington Thursday morning to "wind up" the work of securing the right-of-way on Grand River from the Eight-Mile road to Farmington.

Added to this activity was the assurance given citizens of Farmington that both of these projects will be started at the earliest possible moment next Spring.

The surveyors for the Drain said that their present work is to determine what obstructions there might be in the path of the drain construction, so that preparation may be made to remove them. The surveyors were working along Grand River avenue east and west of Fourth avenue.

Talks with Drain Commissioner Arthur Spencer and Engineer N. W. Straight, by F. DeVere Fleming and Emory Hatton of Farmington recently, brought the assurance that there will be no unnecessary delay. Mr. Spencer told Mr. Fleming that the delay thus far has been due, to the fact that the legal aspects have been referred to a lawyer for perusal. In the case of the Southfield Drain, Mr. Spencer said, legal difficulties developed, which the Commission desires to avoid in future work.

The same statement was made Mr. Hatton by Engineer Straight, who said that plans are being made now to start work as soon as the weather permits next Spring.

### State Man Arrives

The arrival of Peter E. Bradt, of the State Highway Department, in Farmington Thursday morning, is regarded as assurance that the right-of-way problem on Grand River will soon be ended. Mr. Bradt, who is regarded as "the last man" in obtaining rights-of-way for the State Department, was met in Farmington by County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond, who will work with him.

Unofficially it is asserted that the widening of Grand River to Farmington will be the first State road job next Spring.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 6 MAKING PLANS FOR NEW BUILDING

Rapid Growth Of Section Causes Need For Additional Space; Lack 32 Seats Now

On Sunday the school board of District No. 6, accompanied by architects, visited several of the newest and most modern schools recently built in this section. District No. 6 faces the necessity in the near future of building a new school to take care of its children of school age.

The section is growing rapidly. Practically all of the district has been subdivided and more people are moving into the district. The re-establishment of street car service, the new school bus, improved roads, and other factors are helping to increase the population of the district.

At the census taken last summer in the district, it showed about 192 children to attend the two schools, in which there are only about 160 seats. At the opening of school about 18 or 20 children were sent home.

The School Board realizes it must soon make provision for these children and is working toward this end. The Board expects to call a special meeting in the near future to place these facts before the people of District No. 6.

The district now owns two well-located school sites of three acres each, one on Switzer road at the Noble School, the other on Farmington road at the William Grace School.

## Thirtieth Anniversary of Farmington O. E. S. Will Be Celebrated Monday



F. HOMER NEWTON

The thirtieth anniversary of Farmington Chapter, No. 239, Order of the Eastern Star, will be celebrated at a special meeting to be held next Monday afternoon and evening, October 29. In honor of the occasion, Grand Master F. Homer Newton, of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Michigan will come to Farmington with eight matrons of Pontiac Chapter, assisted also by C. E. Tower, of Pontiac, will exemplify the initiatory work of 1897.

Five candidates will receive the degrees in the afternoon, the work to commence at 4:00 o'clock. One of the largest meetings in the history of Farmington chapter is anticipated. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p. m.

In addition to the members of the Farmington chapter, a large

## Mrs. Johnson To End Term As County Head

Farmington will relinquish a County honor next week, when Mrs. Marion Johnson will retire as president of the Oakland County Federation of Women's Clubs, which she has headed for two years. Federation rules limit the tenure of office to a number of Farmington women will attend the Federation's annual meeting next Tuesday, October 30.

number of visitors are expected from other chapters to aid in commemorating the anniversary.

Charter members of the Farmington Chapter will be guests of honor at the anniversary meeting.

Mrs. Bond Vice-President

At the twenty-sixth annual conference of the County Councils Farmington Star at Holly last Friday, a Farmington woman, Mrs. C. Ada Bond, was elected vice-president of the County organization. Mrs. Bond, who is secretary of the Farmington Chapter, has been County secretary for the past year.

Among those who attended the County meeting from Farmington were, Mesdames Storms, Seeler, Middlewood, Adis, Cox, Webster, Rusling, Viola and Emma Gilde-meister, Clara and Leola Page, and Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Bond. Mrs. Pearl S. Taylor of Birmingham was elected president of the County organization.

## COUNTY BUILDING PLAN IS OUTLINED BY BUTTERFIELD

Unique Honor Accorded Farmington Mayor For Maps Of County Building Idea

Mayor Wells D. Butterfield of Farmington was recipient of a certificate awarded by the Oakland County Board of Supervisors to one of their own members for the first time, in many years at least, when he presented to the Board last Friday complete maps of a suggested civic center for new County buildings, associated with a new Pontiac City Hall. The Supervisors considering suggestions for the proposed new County building, were astonished to find that Mayor Butterfield had been laboring quietly for months on the plan, and in appreciation of his work, gave him a rising vote of thanks.

Mayor Butterfield addressed the Supervisors at length, favoring the civic center idea. Two possible sites were used as examples, but Mayor Butterfield also emphasized after his talk that his idea of the civic center, including Pontiac's city buildings, was not for joint ownership of a site. "The County and City projects would be associated, rather than combined," he stated.

Mayor Butterfield's address to the Supervisors was as follows: "The civic center or community idea has grown with me. I frankly favor it. I have given it thought and study, and thinking as it is my duty to express my view to you. But my mind is open to reason. I am not talking to you as an architect but as a citizen; and a representative on this legislative body trying to do my part in this analysis. No person either (Continued on Page Five)

## Nomination By Primary Goes On Township Ballot

Petition With 191 Signatures Filed With Town Board Friday Night; Interest Keen

The proposal that nominations for Farmington Township officers be made by primary rather than by party caucus, will go on the ballot before Township voters at the election on November 6. Following filing of a petition bearing 191 names with the Township Board last Friday evening.

The petition had 18 signatures more than the required ten per cent of the registered voters. It was presented to the Board by George S. Cotter and William Cable.

On receipt of the petition, the Board passed by unanimous vote the following resolution: "Whereas, the Town Board having received a petition consisting of 10 per cent or more of the qualified voters of the Township, asking to submit to the voters on November 6 the question of selecting Township officers by a primary election, therefore be it Resolved, the Town Board of Farmington Township submit to the voters at the general election on November 6 the question of selecting Township officers by primary election."

Keen interest has been aroused in the Township by the proposal, but few have been willing to venture an opinion as to the outcome of the vote.

The circulators of the primary petition, George S. Cotter and William Cable, on Tuesday sent the following letter to the Editor of the Enterprise for publication:

To the Editor and Readers of The Enterprise, Farmington, Mich.

On Friday last at the adjourned meeting of the Township Board, we presented a very important and essential action for the residents of this district, regarding which a lengthy article appeared in The Enterprise issue of October 19th, last.

This concession means that the electors at the National election on the 6th of November next, will be permitted to vote on a special ballot for the purpose of deciding whether we shall continue the time-worn caucus form of nominating candidates for offices in the Township or whether the "Primary" form shall be adopted. If there is a majority for the "Primary" the polls will be open on the nomination date, all day and only those who are registered voters, will be allowed a ballot, but it is presumed that the readers are familiar with the law on the subject.

There is no question in the minds of the many, that the "Primary" system of nominating candidates, is the most modern and the most satisfactory. Before the Township Board took action in the premises, it was necessary to obtain signatures of ten per cent of the total number of registered voters to a petition requesting a vote on the question and you cannot realize just how quickly the people responded. They were enthusiastic for the change and many remarked that this action should have been taken years ago.

Before concluding this article we wish to extend many thanks to Mr. Charles Heliker, Mr. Jos. Graham and others who materially assisted in obtaining signatures for the cause, and to those that signed the petition, our sincere appreciation for their eagerness and willingness to affix their names, is gladly extended.

Geo. S. Cotter, Wm. Cable.

### BOND AT ROAD MEETING

Oakland County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond, of Farmington was among the highway officials of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties, who met with representatives of the Eastern Michigan Railways, the Detroit Automobile Club and others interested in road development in the Metropolitan Area Tuesday noon. The meeting took place at Detroit.

### HURT IN A FALL

Charles B. Pettibone is recovering from bruises sustained Monday in a fall from a ladder, while painting his house. He has been confined to his bed since the accident, but expects to be out soon.

## Charter Changes Lack 1 Vote; Paving Amendment 'Legal'

Phone Call To City Clerk From Att.-General Brings Ruling That Five Commission Votes Are Needed; Paving Change Ruled Legal.

Although all doubt as to the legality of Farmington's proposed charter amendment for paving was swept away by a ruling by State Attorney-General Wilbur M. Brucker, complications developed Thursday morning which, it is feared, might cause difficulty in getting this amendment and the other one proposed, before the voters on November 6. In a long distance telephone call to City Clerk N. H. Power Thursday morning, Attorney-General Brucker stated that both amendments lack the necessary votes in the City Commission. A special meeting of the Commission has been called Friday evening to take action.

Each amendment is short one vote in the Commission, according to Attorney-General Brucker, despite the fact that there was not a single vote against the paving-assessment amendment and only one against the amendment on the Commission's adding nominees to the ballot in the city elections.

Mr. Pierce has seen elections come and go since Al Smith was a boy, so it looks like "hard luck" for the New York Governor. Are there any "takers"?

## Farmington Man Will Bet \$100 Against 'A'

Who says that elections are not what they used to be in Farmington? Now comes M. B. Pierce to the Enterprise office and authorizes the following statement: "M. B. Pierce, will wager \$100, for any part of it, that Al Smith will not be the next president of the United States."

Mr. Pierce has seen elections come and go since Al Smith was a boy, so it looks like "hard luck" for the New York Governor. Are there any "takers"?

## Tells Of Grand River Car Plans

Increased Service, Extension Of Express On Grand River Outlined By Del Smith.

Plans for the development of Detroit Street Railway service out Grand River avenue, of considerable interest to Farmington and the entire Grand River section, were outlined by Del Smith, general manager of the D. S. R., at a meeting of the Grand-River Redford Federation of Civic Improvement Associations in Redford last Friday evening.

Extension of express service to Redford, building of a "loop" for turning cars at Grand River avenue and Seven-Mile road, and establishment of bus service on the Seven-Mile road from Five Points through to Woodward avenue, were among the projects mentioned by Mr. Smith, of greatest interest to this section.

"Exceedingly good," was the response of Mr. Smith to a question as to the chances for early extension of express service on Grand River as far as Redford, which would materially shorten the running time between Farmington and downtown. "We hope to extend the service to Mill road about December first," said Mr. Smith, "and to Redford by Spring or midsummer."

Hit Farmington Service

Extension of the car service to Farmington resulted in some dissatisfaction among residents of the Five Points section, it developed at the meeting, because they feel that car service to their own (Continued on Page Five)

## FARMINGTON MAN'S CONDITION SERIOUS FOLLOWING BLAST

Francis Tracy In St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, After Explosion

Francis Tracy of North Farmington is in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, in a critical condition, due to burns he suffered in an explosion at the Bigelow Clay Products Company on the Southfield-Bloomfield Town Line road last week. Tracy, who was in an oil-pit at the plant, was thrown several feet by the blast. The fire which followed destroyed the power house and the boiler room. The damage was estimated at \$10,000 and 40 men were thrown out of employment.

Tracy was further endangered after explosion by the proximity of large oil tanks, containing 20,000 gallons of oil. Two of these tanks were under the power house and another was within a few feet of the flames.

It is believed that spontaneous combustion caused the explosion. Birmingham firemen worked three hours putting out the fire which followed.

## 'Mayor Has A Vote On Commission', Ruling

One long-debated question at least, has been settled, by the proposal of amendment to the Farmington City Charter. The Mayor of Farmington has a vote on the City Commission, according to State Attorney-General Wilbur M. Brucker, who bases his ruling on the statement in the Charter that "All legislative powers shall vest in . . . the Mayor and six commissioners."

Mayor Butterfield has usually voted only when there has been a tie, and there is a resolution on the books, passed by a previous Commission, that "the Mayor has a vote only in case of a tie."

necessary because of doubt as to whether the Mayor is entitled to vote. Thus the paving amendment is short one vote.

On the amendment to change the clause which now makes it mandatory for the Commission to add candidates when there are less than two, Commissioner Staman voted "No." The others voted for it, and Mayor Butterfield declared in its favor, making the count four to one, again lacking one vote. Four and one-fifth votes, to be exact, are required.

It is expected the paving amendment, at least, will be passed without difficulty Friday evening, as there are none known to be opposed to it. The other is expected to be passed also. Passage of the amendments should eliminate further trouble, as the Commission, to forestall difficulties, has the amendments advertised for the next time.

The paving amendment aroused spirited discussion during the past week. Two citizens whose Commission engaged in a long debate on the measure Monday morning, the citizens asserting that the amendment should state exactly how the assessments should be made, and that it should strictly limit the Commission in assessing. The Commissioner declared that this was impossible, and that the citizens as a whole are responsible for electing Commissioners whom they can trust to assess fairly.

The amendment on paying is declared to be legal by Attorney-General Brucker in an opinion sent to the Farmington City Clerk. The opinion was asked of Mr. Brucker by the Enterprise the day following passage of the amendment by the Commission, because of doubt expressed by some that the measure was illegal. (Continued on Page Five)