

# Farmington Enterprise

FORTIETH YEAR—No. 52.

TWO SECTIONS. FARMINGTON, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 1928

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## Prizes Offered H.S. Students For Meeting Reports

Farmington Pupils Given Opportunity To Show Writing Ability

A literary contest for students of Farmington High School, with two cash prizes, is announced this week by the Farmington Woman's Club. The competition will consist of reports of a coming Woman's Club meeting, and the two best reports will be printed in the Farmington Enterprise. Thursday evening, November 15, instead of Wednesday the 14th, there will be a meeting of the Farmington Woman's Club at the Salem Evangelical Church, to which the adult public and the students of the Farmington High School are invited. Miss Ursula Hubbard, educational director for Michigan Non-Partisan Association, will tell us of international questions of the hour and of the relation of the United States to those questions. Miss Hubbard is an able speaker, well informed on this, her chosen subject. The talk will be illustrated by lantern slides.

The F. W. C. offers two prizes, one of \$5.00 for the best, and one of \$2.50 for the next best report of the meeting. This contest is open only to students of the Farmington High School. The report should not exceed 300 words, and should be handed to Miss MacKellar not later than noon Monday, November 19. The judges of the contest, N. H. Power, H. Levinson, editor of the Farmington Enterprise, and Miss Hard, will consider in their estimate of values the age and grade of the contestants, so that a Freshman, if he does well, will have an equal chance with a Senior. Please note the time, Thursday, November 15, at 8:00, the place, Salem Evangelical Church, and that the adult public and students of the High School are invited.

Helen L. Hard,  
Cor. Sec'y, F. W. C.

## OVER 200 GATHER TO CELEBRATE O. E. S. ITS 30th BIRTHDAY

Scores Of Visitors Present From Many Chapters Monday Afternoon, Evening

Farmington Chapter No. 239, O. E. S., celebrated its 30th anniversary Monday afternoon and evening, with about 200 in attendance.

The following charter members were present: Blake C. Northrup, Dr. and Mrs. E. F. Holcomb, Fred L. Cook, Mrs. and Mr. John H. Thayer, Frank L. Lee, Miss Mary H. Lee and Isaac Bond. Regrets were received from Mrs. Jennie Hendryx of Royal Oak and Miss Grace Tremper of Northville, charter members who were unable to attend.

The Past Matrons of Pontiac Chapter assisted by F. Homer Newton and C. E. Tower exemplified the work of 1897 in a commendable manner. Mrs. Erskine Evans favored with a group of songs. Worthy Patron Isaac Bond gave a history of the chapter and F. Homer Newton, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, gave a short address. Five candidates received the degrees of the order. At 6:30 o'clock dinner was served under the direction of Mrs. Lillian Zwillen, twelve Past Matrons of the Chapter being hostesses.

Visiting members were present from Pontiac, Northville, Redford, Detroit, Plymouth, Commerce, South Lyon, Dearfield, Brighton, Camden, Royal Oak, Lansing, Cleveland, Nebraska and Wisconsin.

## SCHOOL BOARD DECIDES ON 2-TON BUS CHASSIS

School Trustees Arthur Lamb and Frank Macomber have practically decided on the type of bus to be purchased for Farmington Schools. It was reported at a special meeting of the Board of Education Monday night. It has been decided to buy a two-ton chassis and a substantial durable body for it. The Board members believed that a rather heavy bus would be much safer than a light one, and more durable.

## Retires As County Head



Mrs. Harrison Johnson of Farmington on Tuesday retired after two years as president of the Oakland County Federation of Women's Clubs, being succeeded by Mrs. W. H. Sanderson of Pontiac.

## Tibbits Probably Will Lose Eye

General Condition Improves Rapidly, But Doubt Is Held As To Eye Removal

Although his general condition has improved splendidly, slight hopes are held that Arthur Tibbits, 31, shot while hunting pheasants last Thursday, will regain the sight of his right eye. X-ray pictures have failed to reveal the condition with exactness, and doctors at Harper Hospital, Detroit, where he is confined, are undecided as to whether the eye will have to be removed.

Mystery still surrounds the accident, which took place on Tibbits' farm, Rosemond Hills, north of Farmington, late last Thursday. His four companions, who with Tibbits, had encircled some pheasants, apparently shot almost simultaneously at the pheasants rose between them. Tibbits had just loaded his gun preparatory to shooting. None were apparently able to tell from whose gun the shot which struck Tibbits had been fired. Those in the party hunting with Tibbits were Clifford Hughes, Dr. G. F. Weaver, and N. Hummrichs of Farmington, and Ray and Robert McCrumb of Southfield Township, the latter two brothers-in-law of Tibbits. Tibbits is married.

## AMERICAN LEGION, EXCHANGE CLUB TO HAVE BALL GAME

Business Men To Aid School's Participation In National Education Week

A baseball game between the Farmington Exchange Club and Groves-Walker Post, American Legion, has been tentatively scheduled for Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock, following acceptance Wednesday noon of a challenge made by the Legion Post. The game is to be played on the school grounds, and an indoor baseball will be used. The two organizations will also hook up in a bowling match in the near future, the Exchange Club having answered the ball game challenge with a bowling proposal.

The Exchange Club will help the Farmington Schools celebrate "National Educational Week" next Wednesday when the members will go to the school after the noon luncheon and participate in a program. N. H. Power, Edgar S. Pierce, and Judge John J. Schulte will talk to the students. At the meeting Wednesday, Arthur E. Bischoff, board representative of Detroit, spoke on the history of the United States government financing. He declared the Federal Reserve Act to be "the most timely act in our history." Mr. Bischoff came to the Club as the guest of Dr. James A. Miller.

Members of the Club were urged to work for the passage of the amendment to the city charter, which would permit assessment for paying additional to benefit. The Exchange Club last Thursday evening attended a banquet and smoker given by the Exchange Club of the Metropolitan area, in Detroit.

## Condemnation To Follow Present Gd. River Work

Calls Now Being Made On Frontage Owners To Be Last Before State Goes To Court

Work now being done in obtaining right-of-way for the widening of Grand River, between the Eight-Mile road and Farmington will be the final effort along this line, according to authoritative information obtained this week, and any property not dedicated will be condemned by the State.

Peter E. Bradt, of the State Highway Department, and Oakland County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond are working vigorously every day to "clear up" the remaining portions of the frontage. Thus far they have met with considerable success, and little difficulty is anticipated from now on, although it is considered likely that a few pieces of property, at least, will have to be condemned.

According to information from reliable sources, the State expects to spend on Grand River road, inside the City of Farmington, about a quarter of a million dollars. Much of this amount will go into the building of the large bridge necessary over the creek between Brookdale drive and Lakeway.

It is also understood that the State plans to begin working westward from the Eight-Mile road at the very earliest moment possible in the Spring, aiming to complete the entire job next Summer. The paving over the new bridge inside the City limits, however, will probably have to wait another year, to allow for settling.

Mr. Bradt, it is understood, has full authority to make agreements for the State, as well as to make offers, for right-of-way. He is a brother Assistant Attorney-General Lincoln E. Bradt.

## CITY FIRE DEPT. GETS TRAINING BY EXPERT; SIX ADDED

Force Of Twelve Men Shown Best Methods Of Fire-Fighting, Rescue Work

Farmington's fire department, with six new members added, has been given the benefit of two days of thorough drilling this week practically without cost to the City. Due to the desire of the Michigan Inspection Bureau, to reduce fire, particularly incendiary blazes, the Bureau is offering training under an expert to small towns such as Farmington.

Two half-days and two evenings instruction have been given by the men by J. W. Just, of the Bureau. It included, on Monday evening, inspection of the equipment and improvement of organization. On Tuesday afternoon the apparatus was taken out and instruction given in its use. Tuesday evening the men were taught artificial respiration and first-aid work. Wednesday there was drill in stretching the hose, ground, life-lines, etc., and on Thursday final inspection by the Chief.

The only cost to the City for this instruction was small items such as material for a blackboard which will remain in the fire hall to designate hydrants out of order, etc., and the payment for the time the firemen missed from their work during the two afternoons. The firemen were benefited by the City Commission unanimously when made Friday night by Mr. Just, who works under the State Fire Marshal.

The twelve Farmington men who received training were as follows, the first six being old members of the company and the latter six new members: Chief Harvey Blough, Norman Lee, Edward J. Ford, Earl Oldenburg, John Mahoney, Walter Lee, Fred Westphal, Jr., Norman Spallier, Frank Banfield, Marj Pettibone, Frank Dolson, Harry Johnson, Howard Osmus.

## GUILD CONDUCTS SERVICE

Services at the West Point Park Community Church Sunday will be conducted by the Wesleyan Guild, which will be in charge of all four services. With the Guild will come "Callagran" and "his team," Rev. George Gullen announces.

## Detroit Lawyer Accepts Half Of \$100 Wager Offered Against 'Al' Smith

The offer of an election wager, made by M. B. Pierce of Farmington in last week's issue of the Enterprise, has not passed unchallenged. Mr. Pierce's offer to wager \$100 that Alfred E. Smith will not be the next President of the United States, is answered in part, at least, by Ben C. Hughes, a Detroit attorney, and a reader of the Enterprise.

Mr. Hughes this week sent the following letter by registered mail to the Enterprise:

Hyman Levinson, esq.  
Editor: Farmington Enterprise  
Farmington, Michigan  
My Dear Sir:

On page 1, part 1, of your issue of October 25, 1928, you announced:

"Mr. M. B. Pierce, will wager \$100, or any part of it, that Al Smith will not be the next president of the United States."

As a Republican who will cast his vote for Governor Alfred E. Smith on November 6th, for the reason among others that I am not satisfied that Mr. Herbert Hoover is a bona fide American citizen, after his voluntary expatriation for 23 years and his political acts and expressed preferences while a rate payer in England, I desire to be permitted to cover at least \$50 of Mr. Pierce's wager, with the understanding that the losers \$50 is to be turned over by the winner, one half to Rev. Father Callahan and the other half to Rev. Doctor Leeson, to be by them distributed among the needy of their parishes during the coming winter.

Not having the pleasure of knowing Mr. Pierce personally, I am thus openly covering \$50 of his published wager through the columns of the Farmington Enterprise.

Sincerely,  
Ben C. Hughes,  
2324-First National Bank Bldg.

## Halloween Celebrations Set Building On Fire

Halloween mischief makers it is believed set fire to a vacant building at the corner of LaMar and Miller avenues, Hollywood subdivision about 10:30 Wednesday night.

The structure burned to the ground in a short time. The building, it is believed, to have been owned by the River-View Homes Co., of Detroit. Farmington deputy sheriffs were called to the scene and a large crowd gathered. Kerosene the day before and water the "morning after" was the rule followed by the Farmington business-men to combat the activities of Halloween celebrators.

Windows throughout the business section were thoroughly soaped Wednesday night, and the parade was used, so most of the windows were easily cleaned. For which the business-men were duly thankful.

## What You Will Be Voting For

(AN EDITORIAL)

Reports within the past few days indicate that there are some voters in the City of Farmington who are still puzzled as to what the proposed Amendment No. 1 to the City Charter, to be voted on next Tuesday, really means.

It is important for the progress of the City and for your own welfare, that you understand just what you will be voting for. Here is the reason why the Amendment is proposed—and why it is necessary:

On your street there are undoubtedly a number of vacant lots. Let us say the vacant lot next to your house is worth \$1,000. Probably it is assessed \$500, or even less. Your house, perhaps, is worth \$8,000 and is also assessed at about half.

It is proposed to have the street paved. Paving costs about \$6 per running foot, for a 25-foot street, or \$300 for a 50-foot lot. You would be assessed \$300, or \$30 per year for ten years.

The owner of the vacant lot next to you should be assessed \$300 just the same as you are, because he gets just as much benefit as you do. BUT—the present City Charter says that no lot can be assessed, for special improvements for more than 25 per cent of its assessed valuation. Your house and lot are assessed at \$4,000, so you could be assessed up to \$1,000.

However, the vacant lot next to you is assessed at only \$500. Therefore, the City, under the present provision, could assess the other fellow only one-fourth of \$500, or \$125. And the balance would have to be paid for by you and the rest of the City at large—or there would be no paving.

Now you may not want paving on your street. And you do not need to have it any more if this amendment is passed than if it is not. It remains as it is. Paving will still be proposed by petition, and if you don't want it, you merely refuse to sign the petition. But for the sake of others on other streets, who may want paving, it is only fair to remove this bar in the charter, so that they can have their street paved.

Vote "YES" on Amendment No. 1 next Tuesday, in fairness to yourself and every other owner of property in the City.

## Business Frontage On Grand River Sold

A valuable piece of Grand River avenue frontage in Farmington changed hands Thursday morning, when Joseph Himmelsbach, proprietor of the Farmington Dairy, purchased the property and building in which his business is located.

The property has been owned for many years by the Farmington State Savings Bank, which was formerly located there. The frontage is 22 feet. The price was not disclosed.

## Auto Tips Over, Burns; 2 Unhurt

Farmington Residents Escape Injury At Seven-Mile And Farmington Roads

Two Farmington residents escaped injury Saturday afternoon when the automobile in which they were riding overturned and caught fire. Clarence Manzel was driving the car and Miss Doris Shepoff was a passenger. Both are employees of the Detroit Edison Company at Northville and were returning from work. The accident occurred at Seven-Mile and Farmington roads. The machine struck a bump and skidded over the pavement, then tipped over. Part of the upholstery and the top caught fire and were badly burned.

Manzel and Miss Shepoff were uninjured, the car having come to rest on its side. The Farmington fire department responded to an alarm and extinguished the fire.

## LIVONIA DISTRICT No. 4 TO DEDICATE ITS NEW SCHOOL

Banquet And Exercises To Mark Formal Opening Of Building November 9

Dedication exercises commemorating the opening of the new school building in District No. 4, Livonia Township, will be held Friday evening, November 9. Members of the Board of Education have arranged an impressive program, which will start at 8 o'clock, in the school building. Special music and outside speakers will be a feature.

Preceding the program in the school, a banquet will be served in the Livonia Community church, next to the school building, for which invitations to the dinner have been sent out by the Board to residents of the District. William Garchow is moderator of the Board, Gustav Zobel director, and Daniel Fuhrman, treasurer.

## City, Township Expect Largest Vote In History

Local Questions Add Interest In Election Day Results Next Tuesday

With interest keen in both the national elections and in local questions which will go before both City and Township voters, the largest poll in the history of Farmington is expected next Tuesday.

Predictions of the vote run as high as 1,000 ballots in the Township, in which there are 1,732 voters registered. In the City it is generally expected that easily six or seven hundred votes will be cast.

Facing the Township electorate is the question of adopting the primary system for nominating Township officers. The outcome is regarded as a "toss-up," with probably a very close vote. An unusual fact is that interest is almost as keen in the outcome of the Township question, in the City, as in some parts of the Township itself.

City voters will decide two amendments to the charter. It is generally believed that both will carry, although some opposition has been manifest by a few to Amendment No. 1, which permits assessment for special improvements according to benefit, and which is preliminary to a paving. Most citizens, especially among the business-men, are confident that it will carry.

A statement regarding Amendment No. 1, urging its passage, was made Thursday morning by Mayor Wells D. Butterfield, as follows:

"Amendment No. 1 to the City Charter should be passed because it is necessary to the adoption of any sort of paving program. If the amendment is not passed, it will probably delay paving at least another year.

"Further, it is almost certain that if it should not be passed, the many who want to see paving started, would get up a petition for that purpose. Then we would have to call a special election, at some expense, to vote on the same thing. It would be a waste of money.

"This amendment does not force paving on the people, but makes it possible for those who want paving to have it, as they should."

Placing of the amendment on the ballot was made a certainty last Friday evening when the City Commission held a special meeting and quickly passed both. Commissioner Staman, who had opposed No. 2, and whose vote against it again would have defeated it, with only five present, voted "yes," saying that he was willing to do so to "put the question before the people." Amendment No. 1 passed unanimously.

## "NEARLY 100 PER CENT" IS REPORTED ON ROAD PETITION

Business-Men Said To Have Signed With But One Exception; Taxpayers Urged Now

Activity on the proposal for extending the Farmington road straight north from Shiawassee street, in lieu of the route down McGee Hill, has progressed to the drawing up of petitions for the trial of the petition line. Henry Lee, who has been active in furthering the proposal, on Wednesday, made the following statement:

"We are pleased to report the business-men's petition 99 per cent. One man refused to sign it because he thought the other, or McGee proposition, the best, which was reason enough."

The next move is a petition signed by the taxpayers of the City and Township of Farmington, and to make it as convenient as possible. There will be a petition the following places: Myers Barber Shop; Ford Garage and Lee Hardware. Please make yourself a committee of one to call and sign. Remember, it is your proposition—don't wait for some one to coax you."

## WIN COSTUME PRIZES

Miss Grace Gillis and Howard Middlewood were the winners of the prizes given at the masquerade last Saturday evening at West Point Park Community Hall. The awards were made for the best costumes.