

Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-FIRST YEAR—No. 1.

TWO SECTIONS

FARMINGTON, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOV. 8, 1928

12 PAGES

5c a Copy; \$1.50 a Year

Inquest May Be Held Into Death Of Schoolgirl

Funeral Monday Attended By Hundreds; Neighbors Believe 'All Is Not Yet Told'

Doubt still exists as to whether there will be an inquest into the first serious accident since Farmington-Detroit street car service was resumed, the tragedy of twelve-year-old Leona Slingerland, who was killed on the tracks in Clarenceville last Friday night.

Judge John J. Schulte said Wednesday night that the matter of an inquest is up to the parents, or perhaps friends who may ask an inquest if they desire. The girl's parents, prostrated by the tragedy, have not indicated their wishes. The entire community also was shocked. A conviction that "there is more to it" than had been told, has been evident among residents of Clarenceville. One belief is that the girl was knocked in front of the car by a automobile, and another is that she was frightened by a machine and ran in front of the trolley-car. When her body was found the girl's hands were crossed in front of her face. In one hand was still clutched a necklace, a gift for her friend, Beatrice Robinson, to whose home Leona was going to a Halloween party.

Funeral Is Large

Funeral services for the girl were held Monday afternoon and the funeral was one of the largest ever seen in Clarenceville. The Clarenceville Methodist Church was filled to overflowing. Many pupils from Clarenceville School, where Leona was an eighth grade pupil, and other nearby schools, attending. The girls of Miss Wood's Sunday School Class, of which Leona had been a member, sang her two favorite songs.

Rev. A. Wallace of Clarenceville M. E. Church officiated. Burial took place in Grand Lawn Cemetery.

The girl is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Slingerland, two brothers, William, 18, Jack, 7, and two sisters, Violet, 17, and June, 3.

It fell to the lot of a little boy, Donald Tabor, to bring the news to the girl's mother. A few minutes after the accident, he went to the Slingerland home and asked Mrs. Slingerland if Leona was there. Mrs. Slingerland said she was not, and the lad, in a few blunt, childlike words, blurted out the story. Mrs. Slingerland ran to the scene, Grand River avenue and Washington street, a short distance away.

Something like a premonition appeared to have come into the girl's mind before her death, for she lingered at her home for a long time before leaving. Her mother, Mrs. Ellen Slingerland, asked her whether she didn't want to go, and Leona indicated that she was not particularly eager about it. "Well, perhaps you had better go," she is reported to have said. Strange, too, her father, who had intended taking her to the party, was forced to work overtime that day, and arrived 15 minutes after the accident.

The night was rainy and dark, and Patrick Haggerty, 13148 Schoolcraft avenue, motorman of the car, did not see the girl, he told authorities. The first knowledge of the accident was the bump as it struck the girl's body, which was almost severed. The car was westbound. It was necessary to jack up the car to remove the girl's body.

Deputy Sheriff Clayton Stokes and Judge John J. Schulte of Farmington investigated the accident.

A jury was impaneled by Judge Schulte, with the consent of the girl's mother, consisting of Lawrence Bentley, R. F. D. 2, Harry Schoneberger, R. F. D. 1, Harry O. Webster, R. F. D. 4, and Clarence Bell, 631 W. Grand River, all of Farmington.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Benson, Miss Helen Benson of Detroit, and Duane Black of Ypsilanti, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Andrews Sunday. The occasion was Mr. Andrews' 86th birthday.

ATTEND THE BAZAAR IN THE afternoon and a chicken supper served from 5.30 p. m. until all are served. At the M. E. Community Hall, Friday, November 16

'Al' Smith Supporter Tenders Check For \$50 To Go To Two Church Funds

Farmington's already-famous wagger offer between two citizens who saw differently before the election—but read the same results—has had a busy week—and a climax.

The reply made by Ben C. Hughes to M. B. Pierce, published in last week's issue, offering to accept \$50 of the Enterprise's wage of \$100 against "Al" Smith, precipitated a flood of discussion in the community and outside. When Mr. Hughes' statement was communicated to Mr. Pierce, he replied that he would be glad to go ahead with the wage of \$50 suggested by Mr. Hughes, but not on the terms the latter stipulated, namely, that \$25 of the loser's money should go to the Farmington Methodist Church, and the other \$25 to Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Mr. Pierce said last week after being informed of Mr. Hughes' proposition, that he believed that the winner should be permitted to decide what should be done with the money.

On Monday morning Mr. Pierce requested the Enterprise to notify him if Mr. Hughes called, and said he would accept the \$50 offer of Mr. Hughes, if the latter would change his proposal, in this way: that in case Herbert Hoover was elected President and Mr. Pierce won, the entire \$50 was to go to the Farmington Methodist Church and if Alfred E. Smith was selected, the entire \$50 was to go to Our Lady of Sorrows Church.

The matter rested there until after the election. Then Mr. Hughes addressed to the Enterprise another letter. Accompanying the letter was a check for \$50, made out to "M. B. Pierce, Rev. James A. Callahan, and Rev. H. Addis Leeson, D. D."

Mr. Hughes was informed of Mr. Pierce's counter-proposal. He asked the Editor of the Enterprise to take possession of the \$50 check and to advise Mr. Pierce that the check awaited him, to be used in accordance with Mr. Hughes' letter of last week.

The letter addressed to the Enterprise by Mr. Hughes is as follows:

November 7th, 1928.
Hyman Levinson, esq.
Editor Farmington Enterprise.
My Dear Mr. Editor:

Altho I have not to date been notified that Mr. Pierce has accepted by covering wage as published in your issue of November 1st, 1928, I am herewith tendering to him, thru the Enterprise, my check no. 352, dated November 7, 1928, drawn to order of Mr. M. B. Pierce, Rev. James A. Callahan, Rev. H. Addis Leeson, D. D.

I concur with Governor Smith, who early Wednesday morning conceded the election of Mr. Hoover in a telegram of congratulation to the successful candidate, at Palo Alto, California, as follows:

"I congratulate you heartily on your victory and extend to you my sincere good wishes for your health and happiness and for the success of your administration."
(Signed) Alfred E. Smith.

In fairness to my original contention, I feel I should state also that at high noon Friday, November 2, 1928, I wired the one man in America whose word is final on the question of Mr. Hoover's political status, as follows:

"Honorable Frank B. Kellogg, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.
Please inform me by return wire collect when and where Mr. Herbert Hoover visited at State or National elections during his annual return visits to the United States you mentioned in your recent public radio speech step also just where did he maintain his legal residence here during his 23 years voluntary expatriation."
(Signed) Ben C. Hughes, 2234 First Nat'l Bldg. Bldg. Detroit, Michigan.

(This message hereby ordered repeated.)
Up to four o'clock this afternoon, no reply had come from the Department of State at Washington.

Sincerely,
Ben C. Hughes.

First Book of Poems Is Published By M. Marie Walling of Farmington

The first book of poems by Miss M. Marie Walling of Farmington, graduate of the Farmington High School Class of 1925, is published this week by the author. The volume is entitled, "Bits O' Life," taken from the title poem. It is dedicated by the author to her friends.

Fifty poems are included in the volume, which is concluded with "Place Called Home." Copies may be obtained from the author. Miss Walling, in addition to writing poems, many of which have appeared in the Farmington Enterprise, takes part in dramatic and other activities of the community.

The volume, "Bits O' Life," was produced in the plant of the Farmington Enterprise.



Second Tax Loss Looms, City Plan Is Asked Again

Delinquent Tax Return By State Greater Than Last Year, Mayor Urges Action

With the City of Farmington again facing a loss of hundreds of dollars in delinquent taxes, due to incomplete descriptions of property on the assessment rolls, Mayor Wells D. Butterfield renewed his appeal Monday evening to the City Commission for the drawing up of a City plan. Last year, Mayor Butterfield told the Commissioners, the City lost about \$800, and the amount will probably be even greater this year.

A year ago the State tax officials returned to the City assessments amounting to over \$1,100 on delinquent taxes. The taxes on these assessments had not been paid, and the State officials declared that the descriptions of the properties, on which the assessments were based, were not definite and complete enough for the State to offer the properties at a delinquent-tax sale.

It is pointed out that although the City has a capable and experienced assessor, he is able to do little to help matters unless more accurate descriptions of property are available.

The State officials advised the Farmington authorities to re-assess the properties. However, if the time has gone by, as in some cases last year, it is illegal to do so and the City must stand the loss, being forced to turn over the amount of the taxes to the State.

The total returned for this year is \$1,679.84, for 1928 delinquent taxes about \$500 more than last year.

Mayor Butterfield pointed out that he had asked for a City plan two years ago, and several times since, and that if it were drawn up, the accurate descriptions of property it would afford would save the City the yearly loss, because it would provide accurate descriptions of every piece of property. Much of the property in the City is now described by metes and bounds, and while a complete metes and bounds description is held sufficient, many in Farmington are indefinite.

In addition, the Mayor told the Commission, a City plan would be of great help in the laying of sewers, establishing sidewalk levels, etc.

No action was taken on the recommendation Monday night.

Mayor Butterfield told the Commission a history of the question as to his right to vote, and advised them that he would act on the opinion of the president Attorney-General, Wilbur M. Brucker, to the effect that the Mayor has a vote on all questions. This opinion reverses one of two years ago by the then Assistant Attorney-General but contains an opinion of that time by Judge John J. Schulte and Attorney Carl Pelton of Pontiac. The Mayor requested that his name be called on all roll-calls, which appeared to meet the approval of the Commission.

Nonfire Causes Fire Alarm During Night

A high-blazing bon-fire resulted in a fire alarm during the night, numerous Farmington residents, early Monday morning, and sent the fire-truck to the location of the supposed fire.

Mrs. Ben Myers of 312 East Grand River, awoke and was startled to see what she believed was flames, showing through the windows of the residence of Dr. E. F. Holcomb, across the street. She called Mr. Myers, who dressed hurriedly while Mrs. Myers telephoned an alarm.

When the firemen arrived it was learned that the flames of the bon-fire, in a vacant lot on the south side of Grand River, had cast reflections on the Holcomb residence windows.

It is said that City authorities intend to investigate thoroughly the reason for a large bon-fire burning at that time of the night.

"LOVE"—sparkling with humor—the Farmington Players' first offering—at the Town Hall, Friday evening, November 16. Tickets at F. L. Cook and Co., 60c. All reserved.

Victory To Speed Paving; Township Adopts Primary

Substantial Margin For Paying Amendment Received With Satisfaction; Vote For Primary In Township Nearly Two To One

HOOVER WINS HERE!

By a vote of 271 to 114, citizens of the City of Farmington on Tuesday approved the charter amendment which will permit assessment for paving according to benefit, and made possible a paving program for next year. The percentage given the amendment was a fraction over 70, ten more than was necessary for adoption of the amendment.

The passage of the amendment was received with satisfaction by members of the Commission, and already the preliminary procedure is being studied so that petitions of residents who desire paving of the street on which they live, may be received.

While opinion in the latter part of last week seemed to indicate (Continued on Page Eight)

HOOVER WINS HERE!

Voting for it nearly two to one Farmington Township on Tuesday adopted the primary system of nominating its township officers. The new system will go into effect with the annual Township election next Spring.

The vote in the two precincts tallied 408 for the primary and 218 against it. The proportions in the two precincts for and against the proposition were almost the same. Precinct No. 1 voted 224 in favor of it and 123 against it. In Precinct No. 2, the vote was 184 to 95 for the primary.

Both precincts gave Herbert Hoover, Governor Green, and the

New Bus Bought By School Board

Two-Ton Chassis, With Body To Carry 45 Passengers, Is Selected

A new bus of a substantial type, with a capacity of 45 passengers, has been purchased by the Farmington Board of Education. The bus is expected to be delivered within a week or two.

School Trustee Arthur Lamb and Frank Macomber, the committee chosen for the purchase, decided on the bus selected after a thorough investigation. They chose a two-ton chassis with two wheels in the rear, and a durable body. The two-ton bus was chosen in preference to one of lighter weight.

A route for the new bus will be mapped out within the next week by the Board and Supt. Ralph Baker.

The route will include the section south of Farmington, along Farmington road, taking in Farmington Acres subdivision. It will also go north on Orchard Lake road as far as Pasadena Park, the residents of which have petitioned for setting over into the Bond School District. Action on the petition is scheduled for Thursday evening.

Several applications have been received for the position of bus driver, but no choice has been made.

Association Speaker Coming Next Thursday

The next regular meeting of the Farmington Woman's Club will be held in the hall of the Salem Evangelical Church at 8, Thursday evening, November 15. Miss Ursula Hubbard, Educational Director of the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association will speak, and will illustrate her talk by lantern slides.

The Club offers two cash prizes, one of \$5 for the best, and \$2.50 for the next best report of the meeting. This contest is open to students of the Farmington High School, and the winning reports will be printed in the Enterprise.

The adult public and students of the High School are invited to attend.

Mrs. Roy Brown, Mrs. Harrison Johnson, and Mrs. Spencer Healey are hostesses.

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

6 Women Ages Total 513, Cast Votes Here

Six venerable women whose ages total 513 years, voted in Farmington Township and City Tuesday.

The City won by nine years, Mrs. Kate Pettibone, 94, Mrs. Sarah Fuller, 84, and Mrs. Charles W. Andrews, 83, with a total of 261 years, marking their ballots. Mrs. Johanna Engell, 86, and Mrs. John Graham, 86, and Mrs. Eliza Utley, both 83, voted in Precinct No. 1 of the Township.

West Bloomfield To Have Primary Also

Two neighboring Townships, West Bloomfield and Farmington, adopted the primary system of nominating candidates Tuesday. Farmington's majority for the change was exceeded in West Bloomfield, where 831 voted in preference for the primary system, to 284 against it.

whole Republican slate a big majority, the total for Hoover being 581, as against 127 for Smith. Governor Green was given 578 to 150 for Comstock.

The vote on the presidency in the two precincts was:

Precinct No. 1:
Hoover 319
Smith 69
Precinct No. 2:
Hoover 262
Smith 58

On the governorship the vote was as follows:

Precinct No. 1:
Green 324
Comstock 72
Precinct No. 2:
Green 254
Comstock 78

A total of 832 votes in the Township, with the second precinct polling the largest in a long time, 332 ballots. In Precinct No. 1, 401 cast their ballots.

SCHOOL IN OLDEN DAYS TOLD ABOUT BY EXCHANGE MEN

Three Members Of Business Mens Club Speak To Pupils Wednesday Afternoon

Members of the Farmington Exchange Club attended school Wednesday afternoon, and four of them told the pupils at an assembly program something of what school was like "in the good old days." The Club's attendance was a part of the observance of National Education Week. The club president, Arthur Lamb, was introduced by A. R. Crawford of the faculty, and Mr. Lamb, after some reminiscences, presented Edgar S. Pierce, Nathan H. Power, and Dr. H. A. Leeson. Mr. Pierce told of the old school building near which stood a prolific walnut tree, and of the famous battle which took place, with walnuts as ammunition. The punishment meted out to the "warriors" was also indicated by Mr. Pierce.

Mr. Power told of the first school building in the town, a log structure that stood on Shiawassee street, then an Indian trail. In his own school days, Mr. Power said, there occurred a "falling" incident, which resulted in quite extensive imprisonment but in connection with which the pupils miraculously escaped punishment.

Dr. Leeson, who is scheduled to speak to the pupils on Friday, talked briefly, assuring the pupils that he was highly pleased to have them as "neighbors."

The school program supplanted the weekly Exchange program for the week.

Send in your news items.