

## West Point Park Youth, Drowning Hero, Gets Medal

Homer Middlewood Honored For Saving Life Of Companion While Skating

Homer Middlewood, 16, a pupil of the Pierson High School, south of Farmington, received a silver medal Tuesday evening from the Detroit Automobile Club for meritorious service in saving the life of George Berger, 14, who had gone through the ice while skating on Phoenix Lake, December 28, 1928. H. O. Rounds, director of the Club's Safety and Traffic committee making the presentation in West Point Park Community Hall before a large gathering. A "safety" motion picture was shown after the presentation.

A group of youngsters were skating on Phoenix Lake the day of the accident when George Berger and Alvin Owen, 15, broke through the ice at the upper end of the lake. Young Owen never came up, but an autopsy revealed that his death was the result of heart failure rather than drowning.

Hearing Berger's cries, Homer rushed to his assistance and with the aid of a long pole was able to pull the drowning youth out of the water at great risk to his own life, due to the thinness of the ice. Young Middlewood having no support at the time, but used his ice skate to dig into the ice as he crawled backwards to safety.

Homer, when in the grade school, was a member of the school boy patrol. His mother is an employe in the Mail Service and his father died in service during the World War. There are six children in the family.

School patrols are being established by the Detroit Automobile Club throughout all of Southern Michigan as a part of the work carried on in the organization of every school in this part of the state in some form of safety work. At the present time there are more than 400,000 of these school children engaged in safety programs.

## FIVE INITIATED BY PAST OFFICERS OF EASTERN STAR

Dinner Precedes Monthly Meeting; Candidates Given Pins For First Time

Past officers of Farmington Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, initiated into the Chapter five candidates for membership at the regular meeting Tuesday evening. A dinner preceded the work of the Chapter.

In the chairs were Mrs. Dr. E. F. Holcomb, as matron; Mrs. Thomas Lytle, associate matron; Isaac Bond, patron; Mrs. T. McGee, conductress; Mrs. Ethel Schroeder, associate conductress; Miss Louise Bolens, marshal; Miss John Clark, Ada; Mrs. Clyde Seeley, Ruth; Mrs. A. Graeg, Esther; Mrs. Norman Ice, Martha; Mrs. James Hogle, Electa; Mrs. Frank Alyn, Chaplain; Mrs. George Lindblom, Warder; Miss Viola Gildemeister, treasurer; Frank Lee, Sentinel.

For the first time in the history of the Chapter, the candidates were presented with Eastern Star pins, by the Chapter.

Following the meeting, plants were presented to several past matrons, and to relatives and neighbors of sick members, to be taken to those ill.

A card party will be held at the next regular meeting, on March 12.

## Bird-Lovers Plan First Meeting Here

The first organized meeting of bird-lovers in Farmington and vicinity will be held Monday evening, February 18, when members of the newly-organized Audubon Society will gather at the home of Miss Mildred Adams.

Miss Jennie Smith, head of the Nature Study courses at Northwestern High School, Detroit, will deliver a talk on "Bird-Lore." Everyone interested in birds is invited to attend.

## Scene of 'Evangeline' Re-Enacted In Doorway of High School Gym

### Expect Battle On Lathrop Road Paving

A "battle royal" over road improvement is expected Saturday morning when the hearing is held on the paving of the Lathrop road, west of Farmington. Residents of Novi Township, in which the road is located, are reported to be protesting strongly, and to have had a petition drawn up against the paving.

The road to be paved is but three-quarters of a mile long, running north and south between Grand River and South Lyon roads. The hearing will be before the Oakland County Road Commission, at 11 o'clock, at Lathrop and South Lyon roads.

### Toxin Anti-Toxin To Be Given Here

Clinic For Administering Diphtheria Preventive Scheduled March 6

Toxin-antitoxin, preventive of diphtheria, will be administered to children of Farmington schools whose parents desire the treatment for them. It is an enough to visit the Oakland County Department of Health and the School Nurse, Miss Rosetta Barbour.

A clinic for treatment will be held at the School building on each morning of Wednesday, March 6. Not only school children, but children of pre-school age, brought by their parents, will be given the anti-toxin. No child, however, will be treated unless the parents who have not had a negative test will be considered for toxin-antitoxin. When the test was given in Farmington in 1925, a few showed a negative test, and these will not be treated again.

A letter addressed to parents and guardians, pointing out the advantage of having toxin-antitoxin administered to the child, will be sent to each home in the school district. The letter reads in part as follows:

"Every year hundreds of Michigan children needlessly die from diphtheria. We are conducting an active campaign to check this waste of human lives, and to hope to check this toxin in Michigan a disease of ancient history. If the parents and guardians of the State are willing to assist us by seeing that every child receives protection, this can be accomplished. Toxin-antitoxin will render any child incapable of contracting diphtheria. For a very small percentage of children a second series is required, the necessity for this being shown by a skin reaction called the Schick test. Both the giving of toxin-antitoxin and the Schick test are harmless.

"Your private physician may give this preventive treatment if you desire. The toxin-antitoxin and Schick material are furnished to physicians without charge by the Michigan Department of Health.

"Pre-school children, six months or over, also need protection against diphtheria.

"You may bring your children to the clinic to receive toxin-antitoxin, on the same day, the serum is given in the school."

### 'HOME SERVICE APPEAL' NOW UNDER WAY HERE

The annual "home service appeal" of the Salvation Army has been begun in Michigan. Two hundred dollars have been set as the quota to be raised in Farmington.

Donations may be made to either Cashier John Fitzpatrick at the Peoples State Bank or Cashier Edgar S. Pierce at the Farmington State Savings Bank. A brief talk on the drive was made at the Farmington Exchange Club meeting Wednesday noon by Field Representative Brown.

The first of a series of Bible Lenten meetings was held Monday evening at the High School. A. C.

Three hundred men and women, boys and girls, squeezed, jammed and shoved their way into the Farmington High School gymnasium last Friday night to see Farmington play Northville. How many more than three hundred were outside looking in through every crack and crevice could only be guessed. They stood on chairs, tables and on each other's toes. One little girl stood high upon the top part of a chair-back, held there by her daddy.

The crowd was more than adequate when the girls finished their thrilling tie game, 17 to 17. But when the boys' teams appeared in the hall the crush began in earnest. Some pushed to enter; some fought for entrance; and some had entrance thrust upon them.

In the latter group was the writer. The teams fought a path-way between the tight-packed masses, and the writer caught hold of the last player and rode in on the "swell."

The pressure was terrific. Husbands and wives, who never had thought of divorcing (between spots) were separated for the first time. They all met after the game, however, but one man was so excited, it was said, that when he saw his wife he had to be reintroduced.

Inside it was worse than out. Everybody was uncomfortable. Those with overcoats on, meaning nearly everybody, sweltered. A few who were fortunate (?) enough to get seats beneath the windows froze, sitting with ruptured polars. Those standing up were equally ill at ease. Only a small rectangle about half the side of the gym floor was left for the players. None of the standing spectators wanted to be in the front row and nobody wanted to be behind the second row, where one could peek out between the shoulders of those in front. We made it into the front row, but he didn't take his glasses off for protection. He answered that he was afraid they would be broken in his pocket.

People who complain about standing in the corner for five minutes waiting for a street-car, fought eagerly for the privilege of standing up for an hour or more to see the game.

There was one profitable feature. After being in that crowd, a man didn't have to have his hat cleaned. There wasn't anything left of it.

The whistle shrieked and the game began. A few minutes later there was a Northville foul. Dick Cox stepped to the line. Everyone was excited but Dick. He tossed the ball through the hoop as squarely as if he had used a scale to find the center. It barely touched the strings passing through.

A moment later the time's watch stopped suddenly, though possibly not from excitement. They might have expected it. It was a stop-watch.

Northville was big and strong and experienced. The score at the half was 14 to 9. Players of both teams lost about "two pounds" to get to their rooms, for men squeezing their way out of doors "roasting" from their coaches.

The second half was better—or worse. Farmington fought ferociously, and came within tying distance. Then everybody DID.

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Fred W. Kerr, former Farmington business-man, for whom services were held Tuesday. Photo—Courtesy of Free Press

## Jitney Service Starts Here On Saturday Morning

First Bus Trip To Be Made On North Farmington Route; Schedule Complete

The first local effort at maintenance of a transportation service since the advent of the automobile will be inaugurated Saturday morning at 6:10 a. m. At that time the Farmington Jitney Service will begin operation, it is announced by Leroy K. Fleming.

The bus, a large sedan, painted white, will make regular trips on a schedule printed in detail on page eight of this issue. Copies of the schedule will be printed and distributed to all homes within the area served by the bus, according to Mr. Fleming. In addition to the schedule, the cards will bear the names of Farmington firms who are helping to support the line.

Fifty business and professional men have pledged themselves to contribute two dollars per month each toward the subsidy under which the service will be started. A number of owners of subdivisions along the route are also contributing to the subsidy.

A large quantity of ticket strips have been printed and distributed, with a fairly good advance sale resulting, Mr. Fleming states.

Insurance arrangements have been completed to protect patrons and the service, as well as comply with the requirements of the State Public Utilities Commission, from which a bus permit is expected daily.

The first trip Saturday morning will be from Farmington north at 6:10 a. m., to the Orchard Lake and Fourteen-Mile roads, leaving that corner at 6:25 for the first trip down to Farmington. The 6:10 a. m. trip northbound will be made from Farmington Junction only, but all the remainder from the D. U. R. terminal on Grand River.

## VIGILANTES TO BE HONOR GUESTS AT BANQUET FRIDAY

Farmington Banks Will Give Dinner For Members Of Local Group

In recognition of their services to the community, members of the Farmington Vigilantes group and local police officers will be honored at a dinner to be given Friday evening. Following the dinner, there will be a theatre party.

The Vigilantes will be guests of the two Farmington banks. Dinner will be served at Engel's Barbecue at 6:30 p. m. Later in the evening the party will attend the Kunsky-Redford Theatre at Redford.

Members of the Vigilantes, who are sworn in as special officers, and are subject to call, are Edward Thayer, Alfred Wankner, Forrest Dickerson, Frank Webb, Norman Jones, Howard Eklund, Harley Warner, Deputy Sheriffs Lee Doyle and Clayton Stokes and City Officer Thomas Armstrong will also be guests. Cashiers Edgar S. Pierce of the Farmington State Savings Bank and John Fitzpatrick of the Peoples State Bank, will act as hosts.

## GOOD ATTENDANCE AT UNION LENTEN BIBLE CLASSES

Pastors Hope For 100 In Study Sections, Open To Both Adults and Young

About fifty responded to the invitation issued last week by pastors of three Farmington churches, to attend Union Lenten Bible classes, which were begun on Monday evening. The attendance was viewed as encouraging, and it is hoped to double the original number within the next week or two.

The classes have been called "the first co-operative effort for young people and adults that has ever been adopted and conducted by the churches of Farmington." The meetings are held at 7:30 p. m. each Monday night in the high school building.

## Will Not Run Again



Mayor Wells D. Butterfield

## Mayor Not To Be Candidate Again In City Election

Wells D. Butterfield, City's First Mayor, Announces His Retirement

Mayor Wells D. Butterfield, Farmington's first city executive, will not be a candidate for reelection at the coming city election in April. An announcement to this effect was authorized Thursday by the Mayor, who is completing his second term.

The announcement puts an end to speculation which has been notably increased within recent weeks, inasmuch as it had been rumored the Mayor desired to relinquish the duties of his office. Mayor Butterfield, who has served for three years and two months when he completes his present term, his first incumbency having been but part of the regular two-year terms, which did not start until 1927.

The announcement of Mayor Butterfield's desire for retirement indicates considerable change in the personnel of the City Commission, two of the present Commissioners having been reported as saying that they will not run for the office again. The terms of four of the six commissioners expire this year.

In discussing his decision not to again be a candidate, Mayor Butterfield said that he wished to devote more of his time to his business and other interests.

"I have given of my time and whatever ability I possessed for the position unselfishly and conscientiously," he said. "And while there are one or two things that I would like to have carried through to completion, I feel that they have been given a good start. Much of the hardest work has been done."

"I have enjoyed the work both here and in Pontiac on the Board of Supervisors and while I regret to give up the associations, I believe I have done my duty; I always did feel that when a man was called upon to do public work, it was his duty to respond, and although I was new here when first elected, I was glad to undertake it. It is my hope that some things that have been begun will soon be brought to completion."

In addition to the term of Mayor Butterfield, those of Commissioners Bieking, Gildemeister, Johnson and Russel expire, only Commissioner Hogle and Stamm holding over. Besides the four Commissioners and the Mayor, the offices to be voted on in April are treasurer, clerk, assessor, justice of the peace, and two members of the board of review.

There is a vacancy in the board of review as presented by the death of Herman Schroeder, James L. Hogle, being the other member.

## COUNTY PIONEER SOCIETY TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Farmington Man May Be Named President Of Historical Organization

A gathering which holds particular interest for Farmington will be that of the annual meeting of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, which will be held as usual on Washington's birthday, in Pontiac. The meeting this year will be the fifty-fifth annual event.

Interest for Farmington centers in the fact that the first vice-president of the association, Nathan H. Power, Farmington City Clerk, for years one of the outstanding members of the historical organization may be chosen president of the Society.

The Society will have a banquet at the First Presbyterian Church, Pontiac, followed by a program. The banquet will be served at noon.

A request for a copy of the Farmington Enterprise Fortieth Anniversary Edition, published last November, has been made by Lillian Avery, secretary of the Society. The copy will be placed in the archives of the Society as part of the collection of historical material of the County, according to the secretary.

The members of the M. E. choir enjoyed a banquet at the church Thursday evening.

## Former Business Man Here Expires

Fred W. Kerr, 56, Dies Suddenly At Home Of Daughter In Detroit

Reminiscences of the business history of Farmington were called to the minds of older residents by the death on Saturday of Fred W. Kerr, one of the original owners of F. L. Cook and Company. Mr. Kerr was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kerr of Farmington and a brother of Mrs. Day Dickerson.

A number of Farmington residents attended the funeral on Tuesday at Detroit. Burial took place at Woodlawn Cemetery. Mr. Kerr died very suddenly at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Frank B. Andrus, of Grosse Pointe. He had appeared to be in good health, not long before he was found dead in a room at the Andrus home.

Mr. Kerr was a travelling salesman for Lee and Cady in 1905, when he, with Grant Smith and F. L. Cook purchased the dry goods store of the late Governor Fred M. Warner, in 1905. Later the three partners bought out the hardware business of Mr. Warner.

Mr. Kerr left and became associated with Lee and Cady. Mr. Dickerson, Mr. Kerr's brother-in-law, purchased a one-third interest after the departure of Mr. Kerr. In 1919 there was a division of the business, the hardware being taken over by Mr. Dickerson and E. O. Hatton, who had purchased the interest of Mr. Smith, shortly before the latter's death.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson are in Florida, having been unable to reach Detroit for the funeral, due to delay in delivering to them the message of Mr. Kerr's death.

Beside his parents and sister, the deceased is survived by three daughters and a son.

## SAYS FATHERS AND MOTHERS SHARE IN 'WHOOPEE' BLAME

One Hundred And Thirty Attend Banquet Of Salem Evangelical Church

One hundred and thirty masculine residents of the community, most of them fathers and sons, gathered for the annual Father and Son banquet of Salem Evangelical Church, Farmington, Tuesday evening.

Speakers of the evening were Rev. Frohne Frazier, Michigan, and Deputy County School Commissioner Archie G. Leonard. Leo Gildemeister acted as toastmaster and was declared "the best ever." Fred Gerlach of East Detroit entertained with songs.

Mr. Leonard's talk had the interesting title, "Whoopee." "Whoopee," expressive of the spirit, activities and pastimes of the younger generation was described by Mr. Leonard, who declared that if there is to be blame assigned for the young people driving about so much in automobiles, and spending much of their time in aimless pleasure, the parents, too, are at fault. The parents must shoulder as much responsibility for conditions as the sons and daughters, Mr. Leonard said.