

# The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-SECOND YEAR—No. 18.

THE FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE, FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1930

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## Tie For Supervisor To Be Decided At April Election

### Farmington Township Candidates Agree To Submit Question To The People; Both Names To Be On Ballots As Nominees

The astonishing tie vote for the nomination for Farmington Township Supervisor is to be decided by the voters of the Township, it was determined Thursday afternoon. Both candidates, Supervisor Harry N. McCracken and Arthur P. Coe, agreed to submit the question to the people at the April election.

The names of both candidates will appear under the Republican insignia on the ballot, as they did on the primary ballot. This decision was reached after the prosecuting attorney's office had been unable to give the candidates and Township Clerk Willard Campbell a definite answer to the dilemma. Both candidates agreed that it was the fairest way to settle the question, and that it would be much more satisfactory than a recount, even if

### It Was Close—Did You Know How Close?

That the Supervisor vote in Farmington Township Monday was "close" is generally known. How very close it was, few yet realize.

At the conclusion of the second counting in Precinct No. 1, three doubtful ballots remained. Two were thrown out quickly. On the third, which if valid, would have given Mr. Coe a lead of one vote in the entire Township, the five election inspectors deliberated a long time, and finally took two to cast it out, as having a distinguishing mark, which determined that the election was a tie.

that were requested by both, as would have been done if necessary.

So far as is known, there is nothing in the law to cover such a situation. After Mr. McCracken, Mr. Coe and Clerk Campbell had consulted him Wednesday afternoon, Prosecutor Orr went to Lansing with the understanding that an opinion would be furnished Thursday. On Thursday, however, Assistant Prosecutor Severance, reported to the three Farmington Township men that the prosecutor's office could not furnish them an opinion by which they might be guided.

The candidates quickly decided to let the voters settle the issue at the April balloting.

### Interests County

The tie vote, 357 each, caused comment throughout the County. It is believed to be the first tie. (Continued on page four)

## LENTEN CLASSES TO BE REPEATED; BEGIN ON MONDAY

### Three Farmington Churches To Unite In Study Of The Testaments

The co-operation which the churches of Farmington enjoyed last year in the Lenten observance has encouraged them to carry out the same idea again. Four optional classes of 45 minutes each on Monday evenings will be offered.

A very special feature of the opening session next Monday evening will be an address of Dr. Eugene Moore of the Royal Oak Methodist Church. Dr. Moore has been invited to present a keynote address for the observance of this Lenten period. The address will be followed by the assembling of three simultaneous elective classes for a period of 45 minute study. These classes will be as follows: "Mountain Peak Old Testament Characters," A. G. McDonald; "The Parables of Jesus," Rev. Elmer Palmer; "The Christ of Every Road," Rev. H. A. Leason.

These classes are for everybody. Enrollment and attendance will be checked. The pastors and churches are eager to make the school one of great spiritual and personal profit. "The classes begin next Monday, March 10, and will be held in the Farmington High School auditorium.

### Asks Recount



JOSEPH GRAHAM

## Recount Asked By Jos. Graham

### Defeated Candidate For Highway Commissioner Asks New Tally

A recount of the votes for the Republican nomination for Highway Commissioner of Farmington Township is being asked by Joseph Graham, who was defeated Monday by Highway Commissioner Clayton Goers by 51 votes. Mr. Graham signed a petition for a recount Thursday afternoon, and filed it immediately with Township Clerk Willard Campbell.

The recount will probably be held next week.

It is understood that the recount will be conducted by the election inspectors of the two precincts and the Township Board. The petitioner is required to deposit \$10 for expense for wider Grand River would reduce the cost to the City also. The money would be raised by a bond issue.

Complete details of the sewer plans will appear in next week's issue of the Enterprise.

### Funeral Friday For Mrs. Robert S. Gamble

Mrs. Minna Gamble, former well-known resident of Farmington, died at her home in Detroit Wednesday. She was the daughter of Volney Babcock of Southfield and with her husband, Robert S. Gamble, had lived in the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pauline and the former's mother on Grand River avenue.

Mrs. Gamble is survived by her husband and daughter, Mrs. Florence McClatchey, also a grand-daughter, Margaret McClatchey. Funeral services will be held from her late home, 4868 Avery, Detroit, at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery.

## FIRST BOY SCOUT COURT OF HONOR TO BE HELD HERE

### Scouts Of Farmington, Walled Lake And Clarencville Gather Mar. 25

Boy Scouts of this section will hold a Court of Honor in Farmington Tuesday, March 25 at the M. E. Church auditorium at 8:30 p. m. Farmington, Clarencville and Walled Lake Scouts will participate in this, the first district Court of Honor to be held in Oakland County.

Scout Executive H. N. Watson, Commander Bones and other good speakers will be on the program, besides stunts by the Scouts. Merit badges, advancement, etc., will be presented at this meeting. Parents of Scouts are given a special invitation to be at this meeting. Everyone is welcome.

## Citizens Asked To Meet, Discuss Sewer Proposals

### City Commission Issues Call For Public Co-operation In Plan For Construction

Farmington's City Commission has a plan to take care of the City's sewer needs at present and in the immediate future, and has issued a call to all citizens to interest themselves in the project. All are asked by the Commission to attend that body's next regular meeting Monday evening, March 17, and discuss with the Commission the plan which has been proposed.

Besides the pressing need for more sewer facilities several factors make it very advantageous for Farmington to install additional sewers this year, in the opinion of the Commissioners. They point out that conditions in certain parts of the town can be met, and with the paving of Grand River in prospect this Spring, the City has an opportunity, working in conjunction with the State, to save a substantial amount of money, on the needed Grand River sewer. Details of two plans have been worked out by George H. Ruhling, civil engineer, and were presented Monday evening, with blue prints showing the area covered.

The second plan, which is favored by the Commission, and which is the smaller and costs the least, calls for a large trunk sewer from River Rouge westward on Grand River to the end of the proposed paving, with laterals running up Maple and Orchard streets. Thomas street and Power avenue would also be provided with sewers.

### Bids Low Now

Mr. Ruhling said that figuring at prices quoted in the average bids, this would probably cost about \$76,000. However, bids are now as much as 20 and 25 per cent below normal, he stated. Participation by the State in the cost of the drain which the State would require in any event for wider Grand River would reduce the cost to the City also. The money would be raised by a bond issue.

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## Candidates Agree: Voters Should Decide Tie



ARTHUR P. COE

Supervisor Harry N. McCracken and his opponent Arthur P. Coe, in Farmington Township's primary Monday, will be before the voters again on Monday, April 7, as a result of their tie for Republican nomination for supervisor.

## School Board's Meeting Lasts Just 2 Minutes

### Body Adjourns Hastily When Trustee Shows Letter Ruling Against Secrecy

Probably the shortest meeting ever held by any public body in the history of Farmington was held by the Board of Education Tuesday night in the School Library. It lasted two minutes and was over almost before anyone knew it had started.

A number of citizens were in the hall shortly before 8 o'clock. The start of the meeting was not announced in the hall, as had been done previously, and the citizens came into the library just in time to see the Board members prepare to depart.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Blanche Roos, president of the Farmington Board of Education has suggested that the publication of a letter on the school situation in the Enterprise last week, over the signature of "Schoolman" might create an impression that it was written by one of the Farmington School faculty, and bring them into question regarding it.

That there may be no doubt in this respect, the Enterprise can state definitely that the letter was not written by anyone connected with the Farmington Schools at the present time.

### The Editor.

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### Not From A Teacher

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er by the President, Mrs. Blanche Roos. The Secretary, Mrs. Florence Lee, read the call for the meeting, a special meeting, which had been approved at the previous session ten days ago.

"A motion to go into executive session is in order," said Mrs. Lee. Trustee Frank Macomber offered the motion, which was supported by Mrs. Lee. The three said "aye" in response to the call for votes, and the motion was declared carried.

"Just a moment," said Trustee Arthur Lamb, drawing a letter from his pocket. "I don't believe we have the right to bar the people from our meeting." He unfolded the letter and handed it to Mrs. Roos.

Mrs. Roos glanced at the letter, from Attorney-General Wilber M. Brucker, and said, "What about this letter from Mr. Goodrich, picking up the letter, the contents of which were printed in last week's issue of the Enterprise."

"No Authority"

"Mr. Goodrich has no authority to give such a ruling," said Mr. Lamb. "The Legislature has never passed a law to that effect."

"Then a motion to adjourn is in order," said Mrs. Roos. Trustee Macomber promptly supplied the requested motion, which Mrs. Lee supported and Mrs. Roos declared "carried."

Mrs. Roos, Mrs. Lee and Mr. Macomber arose immediately, and as Mrs. Roos put on her coat, she declared that "the next meeting will be the regular meeting."

(Continued on page five)

## City May Question Ruling That Township Owns Hall

### Letter From Attorney-General Holds That City Loses Interest By Incorporation; Right To Give Lease To Lodge Is Doubtful

That the City of Farmington may not be willing to give up any claim it may have to the Town Hall property without further effort, because of the opinion handed down by Attorney-General Wilber M. Brucker this week, appears likely from reactions to published reports of the opinion. City leaders have expressed themselves as inclining toward the belief that with so much at stake, they would not favor the City's acceptance of the opinion as terminating the question which has existed for several years.

Mayor Arthur Lamb had not, at the time of going to press, yet received the opinion which news dispatches reported was sent to him Tuesday by the Attorney-General. However, Justice Walter Headerle of the Farmington Township Board has received a letter from Attorney-General Brucker, and it is considered certain that the opinion contained therein is quite the same as that prepared for Mayor Lamb.

Justice Headerle also has another letter dealing in greater detail with the rights of the Farmington Masonic Lodge. It was received by him from the Attorney-General after he had written the latter a second time, asking a more specific ruling on the Lodge interest.

Meet March 12

A meeting of the joint committee representing the Township, City and Masonic Lodge, is scheduled for next Wednesday evening, March 12 in the Warner Dairy Co. office. It is at this meeting that the Masonic Lodge representatives will be expected to make an offer to purchase the Town Hall property. The question is expected to be taken up at the Lodge's regular meeting next Monday evening.

Supervisor Harry N. McCracken this week obtained from the office of the Register of Deeds at Pontiac a copy of the deed by which the land was conveyed to the Township on August 3, 1875. It shows that the property has a frontage on Grand River avenue of a little over 192 feet, and on Rogers street of approximately 148 feet. It was sold to the Township for \$800, by Cynthia M. Collins. It contains according to the deed, about seven-eighths of an acre.

The letters from Attorney-General (Continued on page five)

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon for Thomas L. Irving, well-known throughout this section of the County, who died in Harper Hospital, Detroit, Wednesday afternoon. Services will be in charge of Farmington Masonic Lodge, of which the deceased was a member.

Rev. Frank D. Adams of Detroit will officiate at the rites, which will be held at the Irving home on Nine-Mile road west of Farmington road. The service will begin at 2 o'clock. Burial will be at Oakwood Cemetery beside Mr. Irving's wife, who died several years ago.

Mr. Irving's death followed an operation. The operation was successful, but pneumonia set in. Mr. Irving had been seriously ill only a short time. Until shortly before he went to the hospital, he had been exceptionally active.

Mr. Irving is survived by his son, Thomas Durward Irving, of Tulsa, Okla., who has come to Farmington. A grandson who made his home with Mr. Irving also survives, and a grand-daughter.

Mr. Irving came to Farmington forty years ago, and established a machine-shop. He was an expert in work with metals of all kinds, and for nearly 20 years was in charge of the large machine shops of the Solvay-Process Co. While he had retired some years since, he kept a forge and complete equipment at his home to do work as his fancy desired.

Word of Mr. Irving's death caused much sorrow in the community, in which he was widely known for his genial nature and friendliness to all.

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## FARMHOUSE NORTH OF FARMINGTON BURNS TO GROUND

### Two Families Ousted From Home By Blaze On Old Gates Place

Two families were forced from their dwelling-place Monday morning about 8 o'clock when the farmhouse on the old Gates Farm north of Farmington road near Ten Mile road, burned to the ground. The fire started in the attic, probably from a defective flue.

The families were those of Henry Wilson and Lee Miracle. They succeeded in carrying out their furniture and clothing before the house was consumed by flames. Through the aid of Supervisor Harry N. McCracken, they have obtained quarters in a house on Power road north of Shiawassee street, on the former Ely farm.

The Wilsons have six children and the Miracles three. One of the Miracles boys notified a neighbor, who called the Farmington fire department. The fire had gained such headway, however, that there was no chance to save the house.

"The farm is owned by Richard Webber of Detroit."

Commissioner Emory Hutton, appointed to report on the proposition, suggested that there were three methods of handling the problem. One is continuance of the present service, by which the City guarantees E. N. Geney \$20 a month, the second would be discontinuing the service, and the third would be providing garbage collection for the whole city. Mr. Hutton reported proposal by Mr. Geney of a rate of \$10, per can per year for less than 150 cans, \$5 a can for 150 to 250 cans, and \$6 a can for from 250 to 500.

It was pointed out that while the service costs the City \$20 to \$25 a month in winter, due to the deficit it is almost self-sustaining in summer, and that the citizens might as well have the benefit of the coming summer's service. The Commission agreed to make efforts to increase the number of customers, and will enclose a pamphlet notice in the next mailing of water bills.

The farm is owned by Richard Webber of Detroit.