

Meeting Of School Board Short, 'Snappy'

(Continued from page one) Thursday night next week. All three then left at once.

Dunfounded Trustees Lamb and Gullen, and about a dozen men who had come into the room, stood about, dumb-founded by the swiftness of what had happened. It was if a minor cyclone had swept down into the building and out again. Out in the hall, half a dozen women were equally puzzled by the rapid departure of the three trustees.

The citizens stood about the hallway for nearly an hour, trying to fathom the reason for the sudden adjournment. None seemed able to supply an answer, but all appeared agreed that the next one would be worth attending.

The letter to Mr. Lamb from Attorney-General Brucker, is as follows: February 28, 1930 Hon. Arthur G. Lamb, Mayor, Farmington, Michigan.

Dear Sir: You have requested an opinion of this Department as to whether or not school board meetings should be open to the public.

There is no express statutory requirement as to whether or not a school board meeting is to be open to the public. However, the policy of the State is that the deliberations of all our public administrative bodies should be open to the public.

Article 18 of our State Constitution provides that the doors of each house of the Legislature shall be open unless the public welfare requires secrecy. In the various statutes relating to villages and cities there are provisions requiring that all meetings and sessions of the council shall be public.

This Department has held that school board meetings should be open to the public unless the public welfare requires secrecy and this necessity does not extend to ordinary business of the school board meeting.

Yours very truly, Wilber M. Brucker, Attorney General, By Emerson R. Boyles, Deputy Attorney General.

Jae:RM The meeting next Thursday evening will be the first regular Board meeting since the present controversy became a matter of community-wide interest. It will be held at 7:45 p. m. in the library.

GOLDEN ROCKET CARS TO BE AT PUBLIC'S SERVICE

Oakland V-Type Eights Will Stop On Signal During Month Of March

In order that every local resident may enjoy the thrill of a ride in the new Oakland V-Type Eight and thus learn at first hand its many points of performance superiority, a unique and convenient demonstration campaign has been arranged by J. T. Alcock, Inc., Oakland-Pontiac dealer.

The local demonstration will be held in conjunction with a national Golden Rocket demonstration during March in which nearly 5,000 Oakland-Pontiac dealers plan to participate.

The show will be presented at Methodist Community Hall. Tickets will be on sale next week. There will be no reserved seats. The committee in charge consists of Arthur Lamb, chairman; Harry S. Wolfe, James Eastman; and Mari Pettibone.

Minstrel Show To Be Given In Farmington

Farmington Masonic Lodge will bring to this community on Wednesday evening, March 19, the D. S. R. Minstrels, a Detroit organization which has attracted great popularity there lately. Thirty players and 10 musicians are in the show.

Letters To The Editor

Two Suggestions

To the Enterprise: Beyond the shadow of a doubt every member of our school board has the best interest of our school at heart. In fact it would be hard to believe that any reputable citizen did not have. We all have the same interest in the school as the present one is very harmful to the entire community.

Every right minded person should now seek to have it brought to an end as speedily and as advantageously as possible. And every one ought to be sure that any effort right or wrong, to blame the other fellow or "pass the buck" will only make matters worse.

If anyone has any uncompromising suspicions of a weakness or controlling these cracks, try and control them. It would be such a big help.

If anyone has a constructive suggestion and can make it in the proper spirit, it certainly can do no harm and it might do a lot of good.

For example, I have heard two very good suggestions. The first one was that the two members whose terms expire next July resign and at a special meeting of the electors, a vote be taken in the usual manner and that the three remaining members appoint, for the unexpired terms, the two electors who receive the highest number of votes.

Such an action would satisfy most of the electors, the teachers and the students. It would be practically inflexible and the selection of a superintendent satisfactory to the 1930-31 board.

Another suggestion was that each faction choose a representative on an arbitration committee. They to select a member who must be some outstanding man in the educational field, a man whose experience and position would command the respect of every fair-minded person in this community.

All of the facts could be placed before him and the Board and the electors agree to accept without question his recommendation. It being understood that no one directly or indirectly should communicate with him except through the two chosen representatives, unless, of course, he requested an interview.

The beauty of this last suggestion is that every one who honestly and sincerely believes they are right should welcome it.

Yours for peace and harmony— A Parent.

"Guarantee Verified"

March 5, 1930.

Mr. Editor: After what happened at the School Board meeting which was called for last night I feel certain upon to point out certain things.

My statement before the P. T. A. last week guaranteeing that anyone who should attempt to attend the meeting would be kicked out was substantially verified. But when Mr. Lamb, in his office interfered with the majority of the Board's program of exclusion, they pulled a fast triple play and adjourned the meeting.

I could not say which of you were left in the room, but I looked the dumbest for a while. I could not see myself, but if I compared at all favorably with the others I must have looked awful.

Now to get down to serious business, the complete demonstration over routes where the capabilities of the new Oakland Eight may be more fully revealed.

DATES FOR "KEMPY" ARE CHANGED BY PLAYERS GROUP

Comedy To Be Presented Next Friday and Saturday In Town Hall

"Kempy," the next play to be presented by the Farmington Players, will be shown next Friday and Saturday, March 14 and 15, instead of the Thursday and Friday, March 13 and 14, it is announced. The change in date was necessitated this week.

"Kempy," is reported to be a most entertaining and amusing comedy of the "high-falutin'" daughter who in a fit of pique married the young plumber-architect who comes to fix the water-pipe in the house, just because he "understands" her, having read her book and having sworn to marry the authoress. A plumber's pipe-wrench plays a large part in the denouement.

Tickets will go on sale Friday at P. L. Cook and Co.'s store. Police are puzzled by the activity of intruders in entering the Southfield Township offices Tuesday evening, scattering about of papers. No money was taken.

Board are justified in taking this attitude. The public wants to know and have a right to know the circumstances under which the new superintendent of schools is selected. Furthermore, we are determined to find out.

It is inconceivable that any such thing as a personal prejudice on the part of any member of the Board should be allowed to warp his own judgment. If the electors should serve to debar him or her from sitting with authority while the Board is passing either upon Mr. Crawford's qualifications or his application honestly and fairness to the public interest, it demands that that member decline to vote at such times or that he remove himself from the Board and allow someone to take his place who is not thus disqualified.

At the present out a situation which the School District now faces. A majority of the Board is composed of two women whose attitude is defined in the fourth paragraph of this statement and a man who in the past has not been conspicuous for rigidly preventing his personal feelings from influencing his acts in regard to affairs of the school.

These people are now in a position to select the next Superintendent for our school. Mr. Macomber's term expires in about four months and I have not yet heard anything that would indicate a great public demand for his re-election.

It is hardly to be expected that the electors of this district will replace him with a person who will help to continue the present policy of the board.

A Superintendent selected by the majority of the board faces the probability of having to work with a Board whose policy cannot now be forecast.

It would be much better if three or four members of the Board should resign and allow the electors to formulate a new one now before the Superintendent is chosen. The issue now will undoubtedly be the one on which the regular election will be decided next summer.

In regard to my activity in this matter I take full responsibility for everything that I have said or done. No other person is behind my activity and anyone who by inference or direct statements has otherwise is not speaking the truth.

—W. Allen Nelson.

A Correction

Mrs. Blanche Ross, President of the Board of Education, has called to the attention of the Enterprise an omission in publication of her statement, in last week's issue. The paragraph in which the omission occurred read as follows:

"Then the Chair wishes to state further that she deems it unethical for Board members to circulate petitions concerning applicants for office of superintendent.

In Mrs. Ross' statement, submitted for publication, there was after the word "circulate," the additional words "or cause to be circulated." The sentence thus should have read that "she deems it unethical for Board members to circulate or cause to be circulated petitions concerning applicants for the office of superintendent."

The omission occurred in resetting the paragraph after correction. The Enterprise assumes responsibility for it and is glad to correct it. In the interest of accuracy.—The Editor.

FARMINGTON MEN TO BE GUESTS OF NORTHVILLE CLUB

Exchange Members To Attend Meeting In Neighboring Town Mar. 12

Farmington Exchange Club members will go to Northville next Wednesday noon to attend a meeting there as the guests of the Northville Club. The latter organization has arranged what is considered as an exceptionally good program and has invited the Farmington members to share it.

Club members will meet at the Farmington Methodist Church at 11:15 a. m. Plenty of cars will assure transportation for any one who have not their own machines.

The best attendance in months marked the meeting Wednesday. Only one member was absent. John E. Matthews, magician and sleight-of-hand artist entertained the members, having been brought to the meeting by Past President Leo Gilchrist. Edward Baker was welcomed on his return to the Club after a number of weeks in the South, and made a few remarks.

Wins Road Office



Highway Commissioner Clayton Goers of Farmington Township, nominated for re-election in a close contest Monday.

City May Question Ruling On Town Hall

(Continued from page one) eral Brucker to Justice Headerle are as follows: February 5, 1930 Mr. W. Headerle, Farmington, Michigan.

Dear Sir: You have inquired as to the legal status of the township hall property located in the City of Farmington.

It appears that this town hall was built by the Township of Farmington, but is now located within the City of Farmington; also that the City of Farmington was formed out of the village of Farmington which was incorporated out of the township of Farmington in 1867 by an act of the legislature.

The village of Farmington was, by operation of Act 3, Public Acts 1895, reincorporated as a fifth class city under the provisions of section 7, Act 279, Public Acts 1909, as amended, on February 18, 1926. (See Local Acts 1927, page 32).

Section 14, Act 209, Public Acts 1909, as last amended by Act 225, Public Acts 1917, provides for the apportionment of the ownership of township property where it is included in annexation by a city, but a review of this section does not make it evident that it covers the case at hand.

In other words, the territory in which the town hall is located was not annexed to the City of Farmington but was a part of the township of Farmington and later remained within the corporate limits at the time of its incorporation as a city.

In other words, this section of the law, while it provides for the disposition of property belonging to a township, where a portion of a township is annexed to a city, make no provision for the disposition of such property of the township where a village, formerly a part of the township, is incorporated as a city.

It has been held that the incorporation of a village in no way affects the township, its property, rights of taxation, etc., these remaining the same as they were prior to the incorporation of the village. (Bray v. Stewart, 239 Mich. 340.)

Hence, the town hall would belong to the township after incorporation both as a village and later as a city, in the absence of an agreement respecting the disposition of this property. The building, when constructed, became the property of the township and could be disposed of by the township only in some manner authorized by law.

I, therefore, conclude that in the absence of a contract between the City of Farmington and the township, setting out the separate rights of each, that the property belongs to the township. As to the interest of the Masonic lodge, I cannot discern from your letter, whether the lodge contributed to the building or improvement of this property under an agreement with the township. There is no authority in law for the township to grant private agency use of public property. See Michigan Court Improvement Association v. Auditor General, 150 Mich. 69, also Detroit Museum of Art v. Engel, 187 Mich. 432. Hence, unless there is something additional to the facts disclosed in your letter, the lodge has but a moral claim or equity, but not an enforceable legal title or ownership by the property.

Trusting this answers your inquiry, I remain Very truly yours, Wilber M. Brucker, Attorney General.

February 17, 1930 Mr. Walter Headerle, Farmington, Michigan.

In reply to your letter of February 10th, I call your attention to the statement in my previous letter that there is no authority in law so far as I am able to find for a joint contract between township and a private agency of any kind, whether it be an individual, a lodge or a corporation, for the

joint construction and joint use of township public buildings. The lodge might have a claim in equity for its appropriation, but could have no claim to the legal title that would prevent its transfer. The equity of the lodge might be recognized by the sale to the lodge of the property or by some similar transaction which might take into consideration the facts of your individual case, but I do not see how the lodge could sell or otherwise deal with its equitable interest so as to prevent the township from unrestricted ownership.

Very truly yours, Wilber M. Brucker, Attorney General.

SHOT BIRDS, FINED Fines aggregating \$225 and jail sentences aggregating 90 days were imposed on three Detroit men, convicted of shooting song birds. In addition their guns were taken and their automobile confiscated by the Department of Conservation.

Try an Enterprise Liner.

Funeral Is Held For Mrs. Jennie Hendryx

Funeral services were held Monday for Mrs. Jennie Hendryx, who died at her home in Northville Thursday, February 27. Mrs. Hendryx had been ill five days with pneumonia. She was 59 years old.

Surviving are the husband, Frank Hendryx, a daughter, Mrs. Flora Avis. Mrs. Hendryx was well known in Farmington. Mrs. N. H. Power and Mrs. G. Francis being sisters of Frank Hendryx. Funeral services were at the home, west of Northville, and burial took place at Milford.

Funeral services were held last Friday at Brighton for M. T. Crawford, former well-known resident of Farmington, who died in the Pinckney Hospital at Pinckney last week.

Mrs. Eli Stodgel, Mrs. Ernest Drake and son Carl motored Thursday to Sermout Lake, where they visited Mr. and Mrs. William Walstead.

Advertisement for Atwater Kent Model 1055 radio. Features include 'See THE 1930 BLUE RIBBON WINNER', 'ATWATER KENT', '\$109 LESS TUBES', 'SCREEN-GRID', 'Hear the Beautiful tone!', and 'FARMINGTON HARDWARE CO. E. O. HATTON D. L. DICKERSON TELEPHONE 3 FARMINGTON, MICH.'

Advertisement for Olin Russell insurance. Features include 'Blindfolded', 'A man recently drove an automobile through a city's streets blindfolded. Did you ever stop to think that this is virtually what YOU do when you drive an automobile without liability insurance?', 'Let Us Insure You With CITIZENS MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE CO. OF HOWELL The Cost Is Small', and 'Olin Russell FORD SALES AND SERVICE Phone 151 Farmington'.