

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## Issues Appeal For Payment Of Back School Tax

Clarenceville District President Opens Campaign With Letter To Taxpayers

The first activity in the projected campaign of Farmington Township and school district leaders for collection of delinquent school tax-money, by which the schools may be kept open throughout this year, was begun this week by Walter Headerle, president of the Clarenceville Board of Education.

Mr. Headerle appeals to taxpayers to pay their school taxes, if they can pay no other portion of their delinquent tax. His letter reads as follows:

A letter to the taxpayers of District No. 5 Fractional, Farmington Township.

A situation exists in our District that demands and must have prompt attention if serious difficulties in the operation of our public schools are to be avoided. As you all no doubt know and realize the Township has been unable to raise sufficient funds to pay the various school districts the monies due them which have been collected, and that less than half of last year's taxes in our District were paid.

We cannot operate our schools without money. The Township cannot raise the money due us. We cannot borrow because we have borrowed to our limit. There are three courses left to pursue:

1. Sue the Township to recover. This is expensive and means an increase in the tax rate of approximately \$6.00 per thousand.
2. Close the schools and hope for better days to come.
3. Collect delinquent taxes. The last looks like the only logical course to pursue.

You taxpayers who are delinquent are in a position to do your community a considerable amount of good by paying up your delinquent school tax. We can operate the schools on these taxes you have not paid, if you will pay them. It is entirely up to you. We believe you do not wish us to close the schools nor do you wish us to raise your taxes by suing the Township. Yet unless you pay those past due taxes now, you are going to compel us to take an action that is expensive to you, to all of the taxpayers, and highly undesirable and distasteful to your Board.

You taxpayers who are not delinquent can help and should help too, because this condition affects your welfare and your interests as well as ours and the delinquents. If you are loyal to your community—

If you are desirous of protecting your interests—

If you are not afraid to give your school district some of your time—

And if you are ready to do your bit—

Report to any board member of School District No. 5 at once so that we may be able to develop an organization for collecting delinquent taxes.

If you are not interested—

If you are too busy—

If you don't like to work for community welfare—

If you just don't care what happens—

Stay home and close your schools or see an unhealthy influence in your taxes. It is up to you, Mr. and Mrs. Taxpayer.

(Signed)

W. Headerle, President.

CO-OPERATIVE TO MEET

The Community Co-operative Association of Farmington will meet Tuesday afternoon, November 11, at the Owen apartments, third floor, west side. All women interested in sewing for children are invited. Old shoes, galoshes, underwear, wool dresses, coats, and anything that can be made over should be brought to the meeting.

## Warmest Political Battle Of Two Parties In 20 Years Near Climax

By F. M. BLUNK  
This week-end will furnish the climax to one of the most active political battles seen in Oakland County in 20 years, for not in that time have the issues been so burning, nor have the Democratic candidates for public office waged such a determined fight for election.

Spurred by the leadership of the Democratic gubernatorial and congressional candidates, whose chances for success at the polls next Tuesday are admittedly greater than in many years. Oakland County Democrats, urging governmental reform and economy, have carried the Democratic banner far and wide in the quest

for votes. Competent political observers of both parties are willing to admit that conditions are so abnormal that the voting public is likely to make an astounding about face next Tuesday in the hope of relief. It is certain that in this County there is to be some wholesale ticket "splitting," especially in the balloting for county officials. It is certain that many voters who have voted a straight Republican ticket all their lives are going to "split" their ballots next Tuesday. And it is quite likely that there will be some Democratic "splitting" too, especially in the gubernatorial and congressional contests.

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## Brucker To Talk Here On Monday

Republican Candidate For Governor To Make Brief Stop In Farmington At 1:30

Wilbur M. Brucker, Republican candidate for governor, will visit Farmington and make a brief talk at the Town Hall Monday afternoon, it was announced Thursday. Mr. Brucker will come to Farmington at 1:30 p. m., from a luncheon meeting in Ferndale.

Supporters of Mr. Brucker in Farmington, particularly war veterans, are active in arranging a meeting to greet the attorney-general. Mr. Brucker called in Farmington during the primary campaign, meeting a number of Farmington citizens.

From Farmington the Republican gubernatorial candidate will go to South Lyon, where he is due at 2:20 p. m. His schedule calls for ten stops in the County during the afternoon.

## ONE HUNDRED AT 31st ANNIVERSARY OF EASTERN STAR

Six Charter Members Present At Celebration Of Farmington Chapter

A special meeting of Farmington Chapter No. 239, O. E. S., was held Tuesday evening to celebrate the thirty-first anniversary of institution of the Chapter. Past matrons and past patrons were guests of honor. Six charter members, John H. and Elizabeth Thayer, Jennie Hendricks, Mary H. Lee, Grace Tremper and Isaac Bond, and 14 past matrons and four past patrons were present.

The chapter room was beautifully decorated with palms and cut-flowers, and a bountiful supper was served, with a large birthday cake surmounted by a star and candles. An interesting program of readings and music was presented by Margaret Webster, Roberta Russell, June Johnson, Thelma Garlick and Fern Ault. Past matrons and past patrons conferred the degrees of their order on two candidates, Mrs. Louise Bell and Miss Helen Seeley. One hundred members and visitors were present.

## Dr. Howell, Specialist, To Be In Farmington

Don M. Howell, M. D., an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, will be in Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner's offices in the Cook building, Farmington, on Tuesday, Friday from 9 to 11 a. m. and Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p. m.

Dr. Howell is a graduate of the University of Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery, having spent two years of preparatory work at the University of Michigan. Following his graduation, Dr. Howell interned at Harper Hospital, and spent a year in Vienna, later being associated with Dr. Don M. Campbell.

The uplift this country needs is not of upturned noses.

## Mass Meeting Demands Grand Jury For County

Vote For An Inquiry Into County's Financial Affairs; "Bosses" Assailed

A demand that a grand jury be impaneled to investigate financial affairs of Oakland County was voted at a mass meeting in Farmington Town Hall last Friday evening, under auspices of the Oakland County Citizens' League. The vote placing the meeting on record as favoring a grand jury investigation was followed by shouts of "No one man grand jury," and "We want a 23-man jury."

About 100 men and women attended the meeting, which was presided over by Judge John J. Schulte. Speeches were made by members of the League from other parts of the County, and Miss Helen Hard of Farmington, briefly cited the difference in taxes on similar properties in which she is interested, in Oakland and Wayne Counties.

Supervisor Earl Nash of Ferndale, the first speaker, outlined the origin of the League. He said that after the primary, "a group from all over the County decided that the political bosses of Pontiac should be cut off from their source of revenue, that expenses of the County are too great." The League decided, he said, that it could not hope to elect a greater number of candidates, and determined to concentrate on one office and try to elect its man for that place.

Mr. Nash said that the organization consists of voters of all parties, Republican, Democratic and some Socialists, working for one purpose—"the reduction of enormous taxes."

The speaker said that the office of sheriff was picked because of the tremendous increase in expense of that office in recent years. In 1925, he stated, the present sheriff was given \$90,000 to run the department, and over-drew \$32,000. In 1926, Mr. Nash said, the appropriation was raised to \$120,000 and the sheriff spent \$170,000. In 1927, the fund was increased to \$180,000, and that was exceeded by \$56, despite a doubling of the budget within two years. In 1928, Mr. Nash stated, the budget was again \$180,000, but this was exceeded by \$34,386. Last year, said Mr. Nash, the budget was boosted to \$250,000 and a little over \$100,000 was spent, "and the present sheriff is using as a

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## PLANS TO ASSIST THE NEEDY MADE IN CLARENCEVILLE

Two Movements Under Way For Aid Of Unfortunate; Boys To Gather Clothing

Parent-Teachers Association of Clarenceville, at the regular monthly board meeting on Friday evening at the home of Floyd Hallock, arranged a program for the next meeting on November 17, to be held at the Central School on Base Line road. A box social was planned and the proceeds will go to help take care of some of the needy families. There will also be a speaker and good music. All are asked to attend especially the men, to make the party a big success as the money is needed to help take care of the needy.

On Thursday and Friday of this week and any other day they are called the Boy Scouts of Troop 44, Clarenceville, will canvass the community for clothing, shoes or food to be taken to the school house and there sorted and distributed to families in need. All are urged to look in clothes closets and either send to school or call a uniformed scout and he will be glad and get it, even if only a small package.

## Sewer Injunction Suit Delayed Week

Hearing on the suit for permanent injunction against the City of Farmington's connecting up and using the Power Avenue sewer, brought by Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Fink, was on Monday postponed for a week in Circuit Court at Pontiac.

Schulte and Paré, city attorneys, asked for additional time to prepare answer to the complaint, which covers more than 60 pages.

## Discuss County Budget Friday

Salaries Question 'Pin Money' In Comparison With General Fund Amount

By F. M. BLUNK

The Taxpayers' Crusade for a grand jury investigation of Oakland County affairs and remedial measures, for economy in the conduct of the public affairs, and the suppression of unnecessary road, drain and institutional building programs is being carried "into every Middlesex, village and farm." The crusade actually got under way last week with an enthusiastic meeting at Farmington and is to be continued this week with taxpayers' meetings in various centers in the southern section of the County.

Coordination of county offices, elimination of unnecessary departments and commissions, repeal of the Covert Road Law and a definite curtailment of road and drain building are some of the features of the taxpayers' program. One taxpayers' organization, called the Oakland County Association for the Reduction of Taxes, has grown from an original membership of 115 to more than 2,000 in a fortnight.

Petition For Grand Jury. Petitions calling for a grand jury investigation are now being circulated in ten townships, as well as in Royal Oak City and Pontiac. One of the most active of the new committees working for the grand jury is in Waterford and the movement has been set under way in Avon.

Meanwhile many interesting things are occurring. Having disposed apparently of the salary reduction matter last week, the Board of Supervisors returns to its sessions Friday to begin the "Battle of the Budget." It is likely that the proposals for the coming budget year will make the salary matter appear as a mere bit of pin money. And, in this connection, it is understood, on good authority, that there is to be an attempt to force reconsideration of the Board's adoption of the Auditors' salary reduction recommendations. This was adopted after some wrangling by a vote of 25 to 14.

"Reduction Small"

An analysis of the salary budget, as adopted, shows that the auditors have actually reduced salaries little, if any. They claimed that substantial reductions were made. But by far the biggest item in the so-called reduction of salaries is the elimination of motor car expense, \$64,635. The present salary budget was \$715,244. The budget for 1931 calls for \$642,471, or a total reduction of \$72,773. This then is a salary reduction in all departments, of only \$8,438, when the motor car expense is deducted.

Now, in September, in its recommendation to the Supervisors' salaries, the Board of Auditors stated:

"Anticipating the necessity at this session of the Board of levying a large tax for county purposes, we have already effected many economies. We have reduced the number of County employees. We have decreased salaries and combined offices prior to the meeting of the Board to such an extent as to reduce the County

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## Says Attitude Of Public Is Factor In Crime Growth

State Police Captain Declares Changed Viewpoint, Better Equipment Is Needed

That the public attitude is in a degree responsible for the prevalence of crime, and that a change in this viewpoint, coupled with better police equipment and closer co-operation are necessary to halt the increase of crime, was the declaration of Captain Donald S. Leonard of the State Police before the Farmington Exchange Club Wednesday noon.

"It is encouraging that the public consciousness is awakening to the fact that one of our biggest problems is the 'repression of crime,'" said Capt. Leonard. Outstanding causes of crimes listed by him were: the inherited dislike of the American citizen for dictation; the lack of co-ordination of police work; the public attitude which displays more sympathy for the family of the murderer than for that of the murder victim, and which puts gang-leaders, such as Al Capone, on a pedestal; the obstructions encountered in legal machinery and the courts.

Procedure Improving

Capt. Leonard said that Michigan particularly is taking remedial measures, criminal trials in this State assuming more and more the aspect of a question as to whether or not the accused is guilty. "The legislature, in adopting the criminal code, took a great step forward," said Capt. Leonard.

"Some lawyers who do more than their duty to clients and forget they have a public duty should be assailed," said Capt. Leonard. "Others also, shirk their duty. Our best citizens dodge jury duty, and it must be remembered that law enforcement cannot rise above the level of the juries hearing the cases.

"We are trying to change the attitude of police toward the public," said Capt. Leonard. "But the public must also change its attitude toward officers." The speaker said that with thugs dressing like distinguished citizens, as they do today, the police officer cannot be blamed if he does not approach everyone gently, and told of instances in which officers off of guard had been killed by well-dressed thugs.

Capt. Leonard declared that we must carry as far as possible the modern trend of co-ordinating the police of the State as a unit. He gave examples of the results achieved by the central bureau of fingerprints at Lansing, and declared that it is necessary to

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## 2,000 CHICKENS ARE BURNED IN MORNING BLAZE

Owner Has Only Eight Left After Fire; Cause Of Blaze Is Unknown

About 2,000 chickens were burned to death early Tuesday morning in a fire that destroyed the extensive chicken-house of Roger G. Brooks at Twelve Mile and Orchard Lake roads. One of the large poultry-raisers of this section, Mr. Brooks has but eight chickens left.

The cause of the fire was unknown. The blaze was discovered by Mrs. Brooks, about 5 o'clock. At that time, a large part of the chicken-house, in the center, was in flames, and nothing could be done to save the building or the fowl inside. There was a furnace in the building, but the fire was not in that portion of the structure when first discovered.

The Farmington fire department responded to the alarm, but could do nothing except protect other buildings. The loss is partly covered by insurance. Mr. Brooks plans to rebuild and stock the new house with poultry.