

# The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 3.

THE FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE, FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1930

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## 'Closed' Sign On Grand River May Stay All Winter

Sign Thrown Over Bluff Saturday Night But Is Put Back In Place

Although the road is open to traffic, the "road closed" sign at Grand River and Farmington roads, in Farmington which has haunted business men in the east end of the town for months, is still in place, and it is reported that the State Highway Department plans to keep it there until next spring.

The sign was absent Sunday, an irate business-man east of Farmington road having come up at 3:00 o'clock Sunday morning, hooked the sign on the back of his machine, and hauled it to the Shawwassee street bluff, where he tossed it over.

Someone let the story out, and next day the paving contractors retrieved the sign.

### Claim Road "Unsafe"

It is reported that the State Highway Department's contention is that there is not a good cross-over east of the City, to the double road, and that the new pavement is unsafe for traffic both ways.

Business east of Farmington road was paralyzed for months, and it is reported that the business men have appealed to County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond, who promised his help. One business man affected said that "they'll have to put up a new sign every day if they try to keep it up there until spring."

## STOLEN DYNAMITE CAUSES BIG BLAST; CULPRIT SOUGHT

'Thrill-Seekers' Blamed For Explosion At First Believed An Earthquake

Evidence that the terrific shock which shook most of the western half of Oakland County at 10:50 p. m., Wednesday evening, was caused by a dynamite explosion rather than from an earthquake as some believed, was revealed Thursday with the finding of more than 50 pounds of dynamite and other explosives missing from a Commerce gravel pit, and later the discovery of the spot where the explosion occurred. No evidence has been found, however, that any person had been injured or killed by the explosion.

After scouring the entire western part of the county all night Wednesday, and most of Thursday, deputies found the spot where the dynamite was exploded in the woods near the road leading into Oakley Park from the Commerce road. Trees were uprooted and a huge excavation left in the ground.

The cause of the theft of the explosives and their consequent explosion remains a mystery, but officials believe it is the work of thrill-seekers, who caused the blast for the excitement.

The terrific explosion was felt as far as Keego Harbor, and Highland, and in all the intervening territory. It was particularly intense in Commerce village, where it shook windows violently. A light in Coe's store at Commerce was broken by the shock. The jar was felt slightly at Walled Lake, by a few persons.

Arthur Squires and John Long, a special deputy, both of Commerce, saw the flash, and the smell of dynamite caused Long to investigate, which resulted in finding the shacks at the pit ransacked and the explosives gone.

The explosives were of sufficient intensity to blow an automobile to bits, which caused County officials to search the roads, as anybody within several rods of the explosion would have been affected by the shock.

An optimist is one who believes the next Congress will do better.

## Clarenceville Speaker



Those attending the Clarenceville P. T. A. meeting Monday evening enjoyed hearing Anne Campbell, Detroit poet.

## Farmington Folk Injured In Crash

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Seeley Recovering From Injuries; Collision At "Bad" Corner

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Seeley of 23825 Wilmarth, Farmington, are recovering from injuries suffered Monday afternoon in an automobile collision northeast of Farmington. Mrs. Seeley, the most seriously hurt, has two ribs broken, and a broken and dislocated collarbone.

The accident occurred at the "bad" corner of Twelve Mile and Halsted roads, where many accidents have taken place. The traffic light put there some months ago because of the danger was set at the amber warning signal. The Seeley car was almost across Twelve Mile road.

Mr. and Mrs. Seeley were going north on Halsted road, and were struck by a car driven by Marshall Davis, of Twelve Mile road between Farmington and Orchard Lake roads. Both Mr. and Mrs. Seeley were thrown from the car. Mr. Seeley escaped with a bad shaking up and bruises. Mr. Davis suffered a few cuts. He had been driving west on Twelve Mile road.

The Seeleys were taken to the nearby home of their niece, Mrs. Charles Halsted, whom they had been going to visit at the time of the accident. Later they were brought home in the Heehey ambulance. Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner is attending them. Mrs. Seeley, who is past middle age, is much improved.

## Edison Company Offers First Monday 'Special'

A new and interesting series of special Monday sales will be begun next Monday by the Farmington office of the Detroit Edison Co. At these sales electrical appliances will be offered at cost and below-cost prices, in some cases half or less than half of the regular prices.

The first offering, for next Monday, is an electric iron for 95 cents, with exchange of old iron. Edison company officials state that these sales will positively be restricted to Mondays, and none of the "specials" offered will be sold before or after that day.

All the appliances will be of high quality, guaranteed by the Edison company. The electric iron advertisement appears in this issue, on page 7.

### PUBLISH ON WEDNESDAY

The Enterprise will be published Wednesday evening next week due to the holiday. All news and advertising copy should be in by Tuesday evening.

Papers will go out on the Friday morning mail as usual.

## City And Lodge Are Served In Town Hall Suit

Township Court Action Brings Summonses; Must Appear Within 15 Days

The suit of Farmington Township to determine ownership of the Town Hall property was officially under way Thursday, when City Clerk Nathan H. Power of Farmington, and A. L. Ross, worshipful master of Farmington Masonic lodge were served with summonses to Oakland County Circuit Court. The summonses require filing of appearance within 15 days.

The bill of complaint filed by Perry and Lynch, attorneys for the Township, assumes that ownership rests with the Township, and asks that the Township's title to the property be cleared. This places the burden upon the City and the Masonic lodge, of proving their claims.

City Clerk Power and Mr. Ross were served with the papers by Patrick Lynch, of the firm of Perry and Lynch, Pontiac attorneys representing the Township. It is known that Roscoe E. Bonsteel of Ann Arbor, past grand master of the State Masonic lodge, will represent the grand lodge, but it has not been decided whether the Farmington lodge will have an attorney of its own. The City Commission discussed the matter briefly Tuesday evening when Commissioner Emory Hutton suggested that the City prepare for its part of the suit, but no action was taken.

## MRS. A. PETTIBONE, FORMER RESIDENT, DIES IN DETROIT

Deceased Spent Early Life In Farmington Township And Village

Mrs. Amelia Stewart Pettibone, 75 years old, died at the home of her daughter in Detroit, November 13, following an illness that began in early spring when she had an operation for cancer.

Mrs. Pettibone's early life was spent in Farmington Township, where she married James Pettibone and for several years they lived on the old Pettibone farm which is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Goup.

Here five children were born to them, one dying in infancy. Later the family moved to Farmhouse on Grand River avenue, now owned by the American Legion. In this house James Pettibone died over forty years ago, leaving Mrs. Pettibone a widow, with four small children.

Surviving her are a son, Guy, a daughter, Mrs. Florence Brandt and four grand children of Detroit, three grandchildren in Berkeley, Calif., children of the late Walker and Belle Hostetter, also a sister in California.

Services were held Saturday afternoon with Rev. Frank D. Adams, pastor of the Universalist church officiating. Burial was in Grand Lawn beside her husband and son Earl.

## Many Interested In New Chevrolet Cars

Much interest was displayed by visitors Saturday at Farmington Motor Sales in the new Chevrolet models on display there. The new cars, of longer wheelbase, present a much larger and roomier appearance, and new features attracted much favorable comment. The model on display Saturday was a sedan, and since then R. E. Beckley, proprietor of the agency, has obtained a coupe. Demand is reported very active for the new cars, and is taxing the production capacity, Mr. Beckley reports.

A large number of Farmington residents will attend the Michigan-Chicago game Saturday.

## City Is Called By Stream Control Body

City of Farmington officials have been summoned to a hearing before the Michigan Stream Control Commission at Lansing on December 3, as to whether the City should be compelled to build a sewage disposal plant. The call for the hearing is said to have developed out of the suit now pending to stop the City from using the new Power avenue trunk.

Hearing on this suit, brought by Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Fink, is set for Monday, December 1, in Circuit Court at Pontiac.

## Pageant To Mark Schools' 100 Yrs.

Centennial Of Farmington School System To Be Celebrated By P. T. A.

At the next meeting of the Farmington P. T. A., to be held in the Community Hall Tuesday evening, November 25 at 8 p. m., there will be presented a pageant celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of Farmington schools.

Lucile Jacobs will be in charge of an old fashioned school, while Miss Murphy will demonstrate the modern method of instruction. There will be music by the double quartette and the orchestra.

### Evening Meetings

Under a new ruling made last spring, alternate meetings are held in the evening so the men may attend. Business sessions heretofore have been eliminated from evening meetings. This year the executive committee discusses the regular business and their recommendations may be accepted or rejected, in whole or part, by the general meeting.

It is urged that all members pay their dues and become active in order to be eligible to vote on several important issues which will be brought before the meeting Tuesday night.

A silver collection will be taken and the money received will be turned over to the Community Co-operative Association as a Thanksgiving offering. A social hour will follow the pageant. The meeting is open to every one interested in the work of the P. T. A.

## MRS. F. A. KILLOM, FORMER RESIDENT, TAKEN BY DEATH

Mother Of Four Children Expires After Short Illness At Pontiac

Funeral services were held Monday in Pontiac for Mrs. Frank A. Killom, until recently a resident of Prospect avenue, Farmington, whose death occurred last Saturday. News of her death was a shock to Farmington friends. Mrs. Killom having been ill only about two weeks.

Mrs. Killom leaves her husband and four children. The family moved to Pontiac only about two months ago. Mrs. Killom was in her forties.

The Killoms still own the residence which they occupied on Prospect avenue.

### TO BORROW MONEY

Farmington Board of Education voted at its November meeting last week to borrow up to \$7,000 more, as needed, to defray expenditures of maintaining the schools. Thus far \$3,000 has been borrowed.

The loans are necessitated by non-payment of money due in the Township-school district difficulty.

Farmington High School football team were guests of Coach Shadley, at a dinner Thursday

## Report On Service Gives New Hope In Track Battle

Assurance Given Both Freight And Passenger Service Would Be Continued If Rails Remain; Operation Paid Until Depression Set In

Good prospects for continuance of the both freight and passenger service providing the street car tracks can be saved, and a surprisingly favorable report on the volume of business

in the past, gave new hope this week to those who have been carrying on the fight to save the Grand River car tracks into Farmington.

A conference last Friday morning with State Highway Commissioner Grover C. Dillman and members of his department proved discouraging to the delegation from Farmington. The highway officials showed the committee the plans which they believe offer great advantages to Farmington in the way of a fine concrete road into the town, but indicated that they still looked with disfavor on the retention of the car-tracks, particularly on the State's spending any money in this regard.

## School Official Answers 'Reader'

Clarenceville Board President Offers To Relinquish Post If Critic Qualified

Walter Headerle, president of the Board of Education of Clarenceville Schools, this week replied to the letter to the Editor of the Enterprise, published last week, in which elements of the Clarenceville School situation came in for criticism. Mr. Headerle offers to resign his position in favor of the "Reader" who wrote the letter, if that person shows the qualifications necessary for the position.

Mr. Headerle's reply, contained in a letter to the Enterprise, is as follows:

November 7, 1930  
Farmington Enterprise,  
Farmington, Michigan.

To the Editor:  
After reading a letter signed by a tax-payer in last week's Enterprise, I felt that I could not do otherwise but answer it, because tax-payer deliberately started trouble in District No. 5, Frac, when he wrote and published his letter.

In my first letter, I appealed for help from tax-payers of District No. 5 Fractional because I know the most tax-payers are loyal to their community and that if the loyal tax-payers were informed of the need of funds to operate their schools, they would co-operate by paying their delinquent tax or would help collect delinquent taxes. I did not dream that there would be someone in our district who would consider the time opportune to resurrect the dead past and throw a monkey wrench in the gears of honest effort to provide sufficient funds to operate District No. 5 School this year. Yet, beyond question, this taxpayer has done just that. He evidently does not work for community welfare nor believe in it. Furthermore, his mind is biased and no School Board member would be able to please him, except should he be a close personal friend. Tax-payer says the present school board was elected by a minority as well as past boards. If this be true, taxpayer should shoulder some of the blame for that condition, because he should have worked harder before each annual election to get other tax-payers to see things as he sees them.

Tax-payer says that the last annual meeting was dominated by me. I am taking this on my shoulders because I was in charge of that meeting. My answer to that is, that the compliments given the School Board members after the meeting was over, suggested that the meeting was conducted decently and orderly.

Tax-payer says in his last paragraph, that District No. 5 (Continued on page five)

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The delegation consisted of the committee, Commissioners Leo Gildemeister and Amos Otis, and Howard Warner, Supervisor Arthur P. Coe, County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond and Commissioner Emory Hutton.

Business Large  
Although the attitude of the State Highway Department was rather discouraging, the committee under Mr. Gildemeister were pleasantly surprised when they obtained reports of the business that had been done by the street car system in the past year. A total of 386 cars of freight were brought over the road for Farmington receivers during the past ten months, making a certain total of over 400 cars for the year, although this has been a year of severe business depression. Transportation men familiar with the situation declare that this amount would undoubtedly be doubled in a normal business year, especially if any building was taking place.

31,550 Tons Received  
Figures for the Redford receivers of freight showed that a slightly larger tonnage was received by them, the total for both communities being 796 cars in ten months. The tonnage for Farmington was 14,850, and for Redford 16,700, a total of 31,550 tons.

The committee took these figures to a conference with Del A. Smith, general manager of the Detroit Department of Street Railways, Mr. Gildemeister reported Tuesday night. Mr. Smith expressed surprise at the volume of freight handled, and said he believed he could assure the committee that if the rails remain, that both passenger and freight service would be provided by the D. S. R., on the terms of the letter written by him last week, which would guarantee the D. S. R. against any deficit.

Mr. Smith said that the passenger service had been a paying proposition until the business depression set in, and that during the depression no line has paid. He said that the volume of freight handled, even in the dull period, was sufficient to indicate that the freight business would be profitable in normal times.

### 70 At Meeting

Commissioner Gildemeister, chairman of the committee, made his report Tuesday night to 70 men and women of the Township and City at the Town Hall. His report was highly commended for its completeness, as was the committee's energy and activity. The committee was continued and urged to renew its efforts to save the tracks.

The committee is planning further work, and will report at a meeting of citizens to be called when a report is ready.

Mayor Arthur Lamb presided at the meeting.