

The Farmington Enterprise

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Both Township And City Receive Lower Valuation

State Tax Commission Reduces Farmington Rates In Equalization Review

Both Farmington City and Township were given lower valuations by the State Tax Commission in their review Tuesday of Board of Supervisors equalization and with the State and County tax ready to be spread, the treasurers are proceeding with all possible speed to prepare the tax bills, already overdue. It will probably be the latter part of the month before the tax statements are ready.

Farmington Township received a reduction of \$341,932 in its valuation by the State Tax Commission, as compared with the State body's rating in 1929. The Township's valuation by the Commission this year is \$11,264,433.

The State and County tax to be paid by Farmington Township this year totals \$119,839.38, being made up of the following items: State tax, \$39,337.28; County tax, \$66,200.15; County Covert-at-large tax, \$14,301.95. Supervisor Arthur P. Coe states that he will spread the County and Covert-at-large taxes together on the rolls this year, in order to shorten the work and get the rolls ready earlier than would be possible by spreading them individually.

City Saves

The City of Farmington benefits considerably by the State Tax Commission's review, which was brought about by an appeal from Pontiac City and Oxford Township. Farmington will pay about \$3,000 less than it would have done under the supervisors' equalization.

The City's State and County tax totals \$31,385.58, consisting of State tax, \$10,303.30; Covert-at-large tax, \$3,746; County tax, \$17,339.28. Under the supervisors' equalization in June, the City's County tax would have been \$19,580, or \$2,241 more, and the County Covert-at-large tax would have been about \$900 more.

Valuation Less

The City's 1930 valuation by the State Tax Commission is \$2,950,187, as compared with \$3,111,670 in 1929, a difference of \$161,383.

Gain By Appeal

Pontiac gained in the appeal, paying \$99,000 less than it would have under the supervisors' equalization, although the State Tax Commission gave Pontiac's valuation another boost, raising it to \$155,129,573, as compared with \$153,915,805 last year. Pontiac pays a smaller percentage of the entire County's tax, other parts of the County being given increases.

Electric Clocks Are Offered For Monday

For the third successive week, the offering of a "Monday special" by the Farmington office of the Detroit Edison Company proved highly successful, with a practical "sell-out" of the item offered, a high-grade air heater. Next Monday the company will present what is regarded as perhaps the finest value yet offered, high quality electric clocks for \$4.95, which is far below their regular figure and the selling price of electric clocks generally.

The electric clocks require no winding. They will be sold at the special price from nine to five Monday only, and early shopping is advised for those who wish to avoid being disappointed.

Mrs. D. L. Dickerson and Mrs. Clyde Adams were calling on relatives in Plymouth on Tuesday. Mrs. Ada Brown and Mrs. Nettie Monahan returned with them for a few days' visit at the home of their brother, D. L. Dickerson.

Have you anything to rent? Try an Enterprise Liner.

Opportunity To Help Others Here Again In Christmas Fund Work

Farmington men and women will again have an opportunity to do good to their fellow-men and women during the coming ten days, when the third annual Community Christmas fund will bring cheer to the needy families of this vicinity.

A committee of four, representing the American Legion and the Farmington Exchange Club will start active solicitation of contributions. As in past years, however, the success of the work will depend largely on voluntary contributions of small amounts, rather than on a comparatively small number of contributions from those solicited. Everyone in the community who can help to even a slight degree is urged to communicate with one of the following: Myron Carrier, Phone 20;

To Install New Lodge Officers

Joseph Himmelspach Leader Of Farmington Masons For Coming Year

New officers of Farmington Masonic lodge, elected Monday evening, will be installed next Monday night at a public ceremony. An officer of the Grand Lodge of Michigan is expected to attend.

Joseph Himmelspach is the new worshipful master of the lodge. Mr. Himmelspach has been senior warden, second highest officer in the lodge, during the past year. He succeeds A. L. Ross, who will complete his term as master next Monday evening. James L. Hogle and John Thayer were re-elected secretary and treasurer respectively, each by unanimous votes. Both have held the offices for many years. Frank L. Lee, who has been tiller for many years, was also unanimously chosen for another year.

Other officers elected are: William Zwahlen, senior warden; Harry S. Wolfe, junior warden; John Aitama, senior deacon; Delos Hamlin, junior deacon.

The annual financial report of the lodge, presented by Mr. Thayer, showed the lodge to be in excellent financial condition, the balance on hand being considerably more than a year ago. About 60 members attended the annual meeting.

The public installation ceremony Monday evening will begin about 7:30 p. m. A program is included and refreshments will follow. All interested are cordially invited to attend.

RITEs FRIDAY FOR O. H. SIMMS, HEART ATTACK VICTIM

Farmington Resident To Be Buried In Roseland Park; Was 62 Years Old

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon in Detroit for Otto H. Simms of Lakeway drive, Farmington, who died suddenly Monday at his office in Cincinnati.

Mr. Simms suffered a heart attack shortly after arriving at his office in the Ohio city Monday morning and died almost immediately. The body of the deceased, who was 62 years old, was brought back to Detroit, where services will be held at the Haley Undertaking Parlor, 7336 Oakland avenue, at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon. Rev. Elmer W. Palmer of Farmington Baptist church will officiate. Rites at the grave will be in charge of Farmington Masonic lodge, of which Mr. Simms was a member.

Mr. Simms had not spent much time in Farmington during past year, but had lived here most of the time during the last eight years. He was born in Pomeroy, O. Surviving are the widow, three sons, Frank, of Farmington, and Oliver and Sylvester of New

Linman Nichols, Phone 330; Leo Gildemeister, Phone 26; Matt Patibone, Phone 267.

Christmas baskets, clothing and other needed articles will be brought to every needy family in the district provided this is made possible by everyone doing his share. Not only money, but clothing and food of any description will be received gratefully. Those having food or clothing to contribute should communicate with Mayor Lamb or the managers of any Farmington church, and arrangements will be made to pick up the contribution.

The distribution will be under supervision of the Community Co-operative Association, which has been gathering a list of every needy man, woman and child in the City and Township.

Blasting Fails To Recover Body

Diver And Dynamite Are Used To No Avail At Walled Lake

All measures of rescue work have failed to bring up the body of Ralph Larsen, 18, of Detroit, who was drowned November 25 in Walled Lake while duck hunting. A Detroit diver was used last week, but was unable to make progress in the search because of the deep mud. Dynamite was used, but the only result was the slaughter of fish.

The lake was again dynamited Thursday morning, but failed to lift the ice so that row boats could penetrate to the approximate spot of the drowning, but persistent efforts failed.

With all available means of search used, it was considered by searchers to employ powerful lights at night with hope that the body may be seen through the ice.

Weather conditions have greatly hampered the rescue work. The warm weather has thawed the ice to the extent that it is impossible to walk on, and yet it is unsafe to use boats, except in restricted spots where dynamite broke up the ice.

P. T. A. CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WILL BE PRESENTED DEC. 19

Grade Pupils To Appear At The Monthly Meeting Of Parents And Teachers

The Christmas program to be given at the December meeting of Farmington Parent-Teacher Association Friday evening, December 19, has been completed. The entertainment will be given in the school gymnasium at 2:30 p. m., and everyone is invited.

The program is as follows: Grade 1: "Santa's Helper," by Robert Brewster. "Broken Doll" by Jean Doyle. Grade 2: "Secrets," Charles Larson. "Santa Up To Date," Mary Ann Karle. Grade 3: Play.

Grade 5: Play. "Santa's Coming," J. W. Erwin. "Santa's Sons," Fiv Boys. "Expecting Santa," Isabelle Laake. Grade 6: Play.

Grade 7: "Story," Margaret Webster. Grade 8: "Reading," Jean Gullen. Music: Solo, Robert Gullen. Double quartet, "Santa's Coming." "Santa Land" Double Quartet. Group songs. Everyone cordially invited.

York, a sister, Neva, of St. Louis, and a brother, Clay of California.

Arrange To Buy Fire Truck To Serve Township

City And Township Officials Approve Agreement For Chemical Engine

Approval of an arrangement for a chemical fire truck, to be housed at the Farmington City fire-hall and used for Township fire calls, was voted by the City Commission and Township Board at a joint meeting Tuesday evening. An agreement covering various phases of payment for, operation and maintenance of the truck, was read and passed on favorably.

Immediately following approval of the Township-City agreement, the City Commission passed a resolution authorizing the mayor and clerk to enter into a contract with the Boyer Fire Apparatus Co. of Logansport, Ind., for purchase of a chemical truck in accordance with Township specifications, at a cost of not more than \$4,000. The truck will be a four-tank chemical engine, priced at \$3,800, to be spread over a period of several years.

The Township has paid the City more than \$1,400 for fire calls since April 1 of this year. This amount exceeds the yearly payments upon the truck of the type which has been decided upon, and which is regarded as much more suitable for Township work.

Added Protection

By the agreement reached Tuesday evening, the Township obtains the services of a truck better adapted to its needs, and the City saves the excessive wear upon its heavier apparatus, designed primarily for use where water from hydrants is available. The City will also be protected from the hazard in which it has been recently, the possibility of a fire in the City while the engine is out in the Township. Both will gain in having a second piece of apparatus available in case of very serious fires. At the same time, it is expected that the cost will be no more to either, possibly less.

Under the agreement tentatively reached this week, if the City should require the chemical truck at a fire, it may use it and pay the Township \$20, in addition to supplies used. Similarly, if the City pumper should go out on a Township call, the Township will pay the City \$20. The City's truck is to go out into the Township only on request of an officer of the Township Board or the owner of property endangered. The chemical truck will be stored in the City's fire hall, without charge.

Four Men To Respond

Farmington's volunteer fire department will be used as heretofore, with not more than four men to go on Township calls. The Township will pay for the time of these men, as well as for the chemicals, upkeep, repairs, replacements and insurance for the chemical truck. The Township may terminate the agreement at any time by paying the amount remaining due on the purchase contract, the truck then becoming the property of the Township. It is expected that different signals will be arranged for City and Township calls.

Delivery of the new truck is expected to follow about 40 days after signing of the contract of purchase by the mayor and city clerk. Making of a small down payment, to cover the cost of the chassis, is planned, with the remainder to be paid in three annual installments.

SINGS IN OPERETTA

The many friends of Percy Owen Pauline will be glad to know of his recent engagement in New York to sing in the well-known operetta, "Babes In Toyland." All will be interested to hear of his progress, and all expect success for him as he was chosen from a great number of competitors for this part.

Clarenceville And Farmington Winners

Clarenceville Boy Scout troop, No. 44 won first place in the recent efficiency contest of the Oakland Area Council with a score of 97 and Farmington troop, No. 45 tied for third place with a score of 94. Both troops will receive efficient troop streamers at a Court of Honor to be held in the Wilson Foundry troop room in Pontiac, Monday.

The troops scored high honors in activities and in all points on which the efficiency is judged.

Leads Fight On A Second Judge

Farmington Mayor Offers Resolution Against Another Probate Judge In County

Mayor Arthur Lamb of Farmington took the lead this week in a declaration of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors against a second probate judge in the County. The possibility of an additional probate judge first appeared at the election November 4, when the name of Prosecutor Norman C. Orr was affixed to ballots, "to-fill vacancy."

Mayor Lamb declared that the work of the probate court at present does not require another judge and that the County's present financial condition is such as not to warrant creation of the additional judgeship. The resolution was passed unanimously. It was directed that copies be sent to Governor Fred W. Green, who has deferred appointment of a second judge, it is stated, for reasons of economy, and to Attorney-General Wilbur B. Brucker, who will become governor January 1, and thus have the power of appointment.

LOUISA HAMMOND AGED NOVI WOMAN TAKEN BY DEATH

Born In Walled Lake 86 Years Ago In Log Cabin; Buried Tuesday

Funeral services were held Tuesday for Mrs. Louisa Tuttle Hammond, who died Saturday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Steven Hicks of Novi at the age of 86 years. Mrs. Hammond died of complications arising from old age, and had been ill for eleven weeks. Interment was in Walled Lake cemetery with Rev. Robert Richards of Northville officiating.

Mrs. Hammond was born in a log cabin on the place now known as the Wylie farm on the Pontiac road, October 1, 1845. She was the daughter of Lee and Wealthy Ann Tuttle, and is the last of seven children.

With the exception of two years, 1859 and 1861, she has lived in this section her entire life. At the start of the Civil war her father was taken prisoner and never returned. She was married at the age of 17 to Oliver Hammond, who died in 1900.

Mrs. Hammond was the mother of eight children, four of whom are still living, Judd and Lee Hammond of Novi; Jay Hammond of Northville, and Mrs. Steven Hicks of Novi, with whom she was living at the time of her death. She is also survived by eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Clarenceville I. O. O. F. Lodge Elects Officers

Annual election of officers of the Clarenceville lodge No. 427, I. O. F., was held Wednesday evening, December 3.

Those elected to office were: John R. Uhlig, noble grand. John MacCarty, vice grand. Alfred White, recording secretary. George Marsh, treasurer.

Offer To Stand Behind Operation Of Rail System

Farmington And Redford Business-Men Sign Letter To Assure Against Loss

What is regarded as probably the most important step yet taken in the struggle to retain the trolley tracks on Grand River avenue developed this week when Farmington and Redford business men affixed their signatures to a letter to the State Highway Department, stating that they would make up any deficit that might be incurred by the Detroit Department of Street Railways in operation of the trolley system.

The letter resulted from statements that the chief objection on the part of the State Highway Department to letting the tracks remain lies in the Department's belief that the rails would not be used for any considerable length of time. The letter indicates the strong desire on the part of business-men of the Grand River section for retention of the rails and service.

Have Meeting

Signing of the letter by a number of business-men followed a meeting Tuesday night of Farmington City and Township leaders, with Del A. Smith, general manager of the D. S. R., present. The meeting was held in the Farmington State Savings Bank.

Mr. Smith outlined the viewpoint of the D. S. R., confirming that expressed in a letter written some time ago, to the effect that the D. S. R. views continuance of the service favorably, providing there is no deficit. It was pointed out that the service has paid expenses during the past year under most unfavorable conditions, and could certainly be expected to do at least as well under better circumstances.

"Crux Of Matter"

John Clark asked if it was not true that the major difficulty has rested with the State Highway Department, in their doubt that the service would remain long. Road Commissioner Isaac Bond replied that this was true, that it was "the crux of the matter." Mr. Clark then suggested that (Continued on page five)

FARMINGTON H. S. DRAMATICS CLASS TO PRESENT PLAYS

High School Organization Makes First Public Appearance December 17th

The Dramatics Class of Farmington High School will make its first public appearance Wednesday evening, December 17, at 8 o'clock at Farmington Town hall.

Three one-act plays will constitute the program. "The Pierrat of the Minuet," by Charles Dawson will be depicted by Betty Gullen and Thelma Garlick. "Neighbors" by Zona Gale, will be played by Hedwig Schoen, Dorothy Owen, Mariona Sholtz, Shirley Howarth, Matilda Chase, Viola Lamb, Frances Drake and Roderick Howarth. "Suppressed Desires," by George Cramm Cooke and Susa Glaspell will be played by June Johnson, Rose Cairns and Bob Gaff.

The Senior class is in charge of the sale of the tickets.

Advertisement Is Work Of Noted Illustrator

Art work of an unusually high type marks one of the advertisements in this week's issue of the Enterprise, being that of the Farmington Hardware Co. The "Toyland" drawing in the hardware company's advertisement is the work of Esther Friend, who is gaining recognition as one of the foremost illustrators of children's books in the United States. The drawing is one of a special series by outstanding illustrators, obtained by the Farmington Enterprise for use of advertisers. Others will appear from time to time.