

Should \$10 Be Taken? Where Are \$3,000 Bonds?

(Continued from page one)
music interest. There were "human interest" touches such as few playrights would dare to attempt in a portrayal—two women with children in arms, saying—and voting—until after midnight, the children sleeping through it all.

But if there was very much element of the drama, there was every kind of warfare, too. There was "guerrilla" warfare—sniping, firing from in front and from both sides. And almost every bit of it centered on a woman. Yet she was ready and willing to meet the attacks that came thick and fast, from several directions, and in the end she won. But that is getting ahead of the story.

The casual visitor who dropped in at the hall at say half past nine, found some hundred and fifty people trying to find as little discomfort as possible in the heat and the unpadding, folding wooden chairs. Across the front of the room was a long table. At this table sat the members of the Board of Education. At one end of the table sat another man, one who came to a task such as never dreamed of before, and probably never wanted to see again.

Has Stenographer
There was a court stenographer, and he was brought there by the woman trustee who suspected that she might be put under fire. Whatever else they might say about Mrs. Eva Tesch, the trustee, no one would claim that the opposition would "catch her napping." She was ready for them, in more ways than one. And everything everybody said, she was going to have word for word, on black and white, as soon as it could be transcribed.

Mrs. Tesch has been a member of the Board for six years, not all of them tranquil ones. Part of the time she has been secretary and part of the time treasurer. During the past year she has not been an officer of the board. And it is her fellow-board members whose hesitancy to accept her check who caused all the trouble.

Helped Auditors
At the regular meeting of the Board before the election Monday night, the Board took up the question of Mrs. Tesch's \$10 check, which she sent to the Secretary Howard Kennedy by registered mail. The reason for sending the check was this: Two years ago Mrs. Tesch worked with the auditors on the board of education books. A year ago, in June, 1929, she did the same. In 1929 she worked two and a half days, she said, and last year two days. The Board voted her compensation of \$5 each year, and she received it.

But at the meeting two weeks ago, Mrs. Tesch asked the Board to accept her check for \$10 as a refund, because she had found it was illegal for her to take the money, as a school official, for helping the auditors.

Leave It To People
The other board members pondered the problem. And after lengthy deliberation, they decided that they had better not take it upon themselves to make a decision, but ought to wait until the annual meeting and put it before the voters.

So it was before the people. The time had come for the voters to have "their say" and a good many of them were having it, one way and another. There was not a little wrangling, and some oratory.

Time and time again Mrs. Tesch came from her seat in back of the table, to answer questions. She declared that when she took the \$10, she had no intimation whatever that it was wrong, and now that she has learned it was she had offered, like an honest woman, to pay it back. She said that she felt she had saved money for the District by working and shortening the time the auditors were needed and that the other board members had agreed with her.

He "Confesses"
A drama that "has everything," has to include, of course, a confession, and this one did. A former trustee, Russell Perry, arose. In contrite tones he told how he had received money that he thought now, perhaps, did not belong to him. It was three years ago, Mr. Perry was a member of the board. He was working at an automobile plant, and missed his day's work to attend the annual meeting. The Board voted to reimburse him, and he took it. Per-

haps it was wrong, said Mr. Perry, but he wanted the people to know it, and know that he did not intend to do anything that wasn't right.

Up rose Mr. William Rodenhous, an elector, from his seat at the far side of the hall. Now Mr. Rodenhous may never have read Socrates, but he followed that marvellous Greek intellect's method to perfection. Socrates achieved the effects he sought not by making statements, but by asking questions. So Mr. Rodenhous. Throughout the evening he sat far to one side of the hall. He engaged in no argument. But he listened carefully and about every 10 minutes he arose and asked a question. And every time he fired, it was a "bull's-eye." It would be an injustice to him not to mention that his sharp-edged queries were not at all confined to the \$10 payment to Mrs. Tesch—he was "in there" the whole evening.

Who Made Motion?
Mr. Rodenhous asked who it was that had made the motion to pay Mr. Perry for attending the annual meeting. Minutes were looked up, and it was found that on June 20, 1928, a motion was passed to reimburse Mr. Perry—and the motion was made by Mrs. Tesch.

That was an embarrassing moment for the woman trustee, but she met it. She came forward and charged that the minutes were unreliable, that former secretaries of the board had been lax in keeping and signing minutes. The charge was over, secretaries would go around to the various trustees and ask "who made the motions."

That made an embarrassing moment for other members of the Board, and others in the audience. There were two former secretaries present.

Vote "Yes"

A vote was taken to determine whether the board should accept Mrs. Tesch's check, and the vote was in the affirmative. But here Mr. L. J. Hamill stepped forward, nor was it for the first time. Mr. Hamill like Mrs. Rodenhous, had a large evening all through. His method was different. He stood at the back of the hall, near the door, in the midst of a group about ten feet back from the last row of chairs. He took no part in the debating. But more than once, after long wrangling had seemed to end an argument, he stepped forward quietly, if not catlike, and meekly addressed the chair. Then he went on to show how the procedure was all wrong and out of order—and they had to admit he was right.

No Right To Vote

Mr. Hamill told his fellow-citizens that they had no right to vote on the \$10 refund, that it was a matter for the board to decide, and if the people were not satisfied their only remedy was to elect different trustees at the election to follow. Then he walked back. His argument was so convincing, he patiently returned and pointed out that the vote that had been taken, in favor of accepting the refund, was illegal, because there was no check-up as to who in the room was entitled to vote. This time his quiet voice did prevail, and his motion to end the discussion of the \$10 refund and strike the vote and the entire proceedings from the minutes, was carried.

Now The Bonds

But the election was still an hour away. Mrs. Tesch, in one of her numerous answers to attacks, mentioned some bonds of 1927. And Charles Collins, retiring trustee, arose, Mr. Collins said that he had "heard for months about these bonds," and that he was "fed up on it." So now the story was to be told. Mr. Collins went back five years, to a time when a 4-room addition to the school was planned, at \$40,000. Sale of the bonds was advertised in a nearby newspaper, but not in a financial paper. One Mr. S. of Detroit was very much interested in the bonds, and Mr. Collins said he learned a short while before the time of the opening bids that it was likely Mr. S.'s bid would be the only one. Whereupon Mr. Collins hurriedly communicated with the Detroit Trust Co., which prepared an offer in a few hours. The bids were opened that evening. Mr. S. had bid par for the bonds, at 4 1/2 per cent interest. But the trust company had bid a premium of \$603, on the 4 1/2 bonds, and \$2,006 bonus on 5 per cent bonds. Mr. S. it appeared,

was quite surprised, but said he could do much better. Thereupon the board threw out both bids, and Mr. S. offered a premium of \$550 for the 4 1/2 bonds, and in addition offered to return three \$1,000 bonds to the board for the district's sinking fund. Now where are those three bonds?

Too Late

Mr. Collins said when the board discovered some time later that it did not have the three \$1,000 bonds, that apparently Mr. S. had never returned them. Mrs. Tesch called the residence of Mr. S. in Detroit. She was unable to reach his home, but later Mr. Collins called and was informed that Mr. S. had died the week before.

Mrs. Tesch admitted when Mr. S. bought the bonds, he came to her home and that she as treasurer took his check for \$40,500, and rushed to the bank with it, because she "didn't want a check like that in her house over night." But she denied responsibility for failure to see that Mr. S. returned the three \$1,000 bonds.

Mrs. Tesch had set off a "powder blast." All this bond business apparently was "news" to many of the voters. The \$10 was forgotten. Pleas to halt the discussion failed. President Lewis Dowsett, who presided, pounded his gavel frequently and sharply for order, but he would not put on a "gag" rule. This is a free country where the people rule, and Mr. Dowsett was determined to carry out the principle. "They can talk as long as they want to—this is the people's meeting," he declared, and he stuck to it.

The argument was still going strong when at 11:20 Mr. Dowsett rapped with his gavel and said: "Folks, some of you in here are smoking and some ain't. I don't know how you feel about it, but I wonder if anybody would care if we all smoked? Myself I'm dying for a smoke." Everybody smoked thereafter who wanted to.

Lawyer Ends It

An attorney appeared, on behalf of George R. Bushnell of Detroit, lawyer for the district. At Mr. Collins request he read a letter from Mr. Bushnell, confirming things the Mr. Collins had said about the bond issue. After another long, weary period of argument about the three \$1,000 bonds, the attorney, Mr. Reed, arose. He told the people that since Mr. S. was dead and his estate had been jointly with his wife, there was nothing could be done. Apparently the board had just been "taken in" by a clever Mr. S. who, according to Mr. Bushnell's letter, had probably never intended to return the \$3,000 in bonds at all, but merely used that as "bait." Further, he said, the district had really not lost \$3,000 but actually only \$53, the difference between the \$550 premium that Mr. S. had paid and the \$603 offer of the trust company. That ended the argument.

Mrs. Tesch Wins

Election followed, shortly before midnight. Mrs. Tesch won re-election by four votes, 63 to 59 for Frank Lewis. Three years ago she was re-elected by one vote.

On the next balloting, a supporter of Mrs. Tesch, Ernest Saville, received 56 votes to 53 for Mr. Lewis and 9 for H. Bondy.

Mrs. Tesch's thermos bottle, which she had filled with water

Girl Prisoner Sued For \$50,000

Suits Filed In Circuit Court;
Sentence Deferred When She
Pleads Guilty

Unable to furnish \$400.00 in bail, Miss Jeanne Carpenter, the nineteen year old young lady of Detroit who left the scene of an accident she caused at Grand River and Middlebelt roads on July 4, is spending her second week in the County jail, wondering why she has been made the target of \$50,000 in damage suits.

Arraigned Monday
Jeanne was arraigned in circuit court Monday afternoon, and pleaded guilty to the charge. Her sentence was deferred until July 20. The case was referred to the probation department.

Jeanne spent a good part of the holiday last week participating in minor tie-ups. She was learning to drive and her efforts caused her to hit three cars during the day. Shortly after midnight she forced a car off the road on Grand River, and was caught a mile south of Farmington, when her unsteady nerves forced her into a ditch, with the right rear wheel broken off.

6 In Car Sue

Plaintiffs in the six civil damage suits against Jeanne were the six persons in the car forced off the road. Ida Busch 46 years old "Racine avenue, Detroit," asks \$25,000 in her suit. The other amounts asked are all for \$5,000, by Florence Leonard and Jacob, Violet, Martha, and Joseph Busch, Martha and Ida Busch and Miss Leonard, were cut and bruised in the accident.

Miss Carpenter was driving the car of Martin Nichols and he too is being sued in each instance. She is awaiting arraignment in Circuit Court, on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident.

NOVI VOTES FOR EXCESS TUITION AT SCHOOL MEET

Novi School district No. 2 fractional elected two new members to its school board Monday and voted to pay \$90.00 as excess tuition for high school students who will study at Farmington, Walled Lake, or Northville.

M. J. Moeren and Charles Holmes were the two elected. Holmes had no opposition, and Moeren also had no contest when other nominees withdrew.

A budget of \$12,225 was approved. The school census this year numbered 144 pupils as compared with 103 last year, bringing an increase of \$880 in primary money to the district. The attendance of 50 at the meeting was smaller than usual.

Members of the board re-elected A. C. Atkinson, president, William Maurs, secretary and James Munro, treasurer, Wednesday.

and brought to the meeting that she might refresh herself from time to time, had long since run dry. The two women with children in their arms, one a babe of little more than a year and the other about four, wearily picked up their slumbering burdens and started their homeward way. The annual meeting was over.

Alleged Cherry Stealer Jailed For 15 Days

Sylvester Bennett was "picking" cherries Wednesday morning. At ten o'clock, he had "picked" eight quarts. At five after ten, Deputy William Tamm stopped him and escorted him, cherries and all, to the municipal court in Farmington. Ten after ten, Sylvester pleaded "not guilty" on a stealing charge. Thirteen after ten, three minutes after the plea, Deputy Tamm was again escorting Sylvester this time directly to the County Jail, where Sylvester has begun a fifteen day sentence.

Sylvester, was doing his picking on William Pickard's farm in Novi township. A telephone call brought Deputy Tamm in a hurry.

Sylvester might have paid \$25.00 in Judge Schulte's courtroom, but there was but little change in Sylvester's pocket at the time of the arraignment. He is 27 years old, colored, and lives at 9813 Russell street, in Detroit.

Large Tree Is "Hero," Saves Three In Car

A large tree at the foot of the "Methodist Hill" on Shiawassee street, Farmington, played the part of "hero" Thursday morning when Mrs. Hazel Falberg of Birmingham, driving a small sedan, tried to stop her car on the hill so as to avoid meeting a car coming in the opposite direction on the narrow bridge. Her car skidded over the embankment just at the edge of the bridge railing. Had not the tree been there the car undoubtedly would have gone down into the creek and possibly rolled over. As it was neither Mrs. Falberg nor her two boys, who were with her, were injured. Garagemen changed the left front tire and she proceeded, thanking kindly the tree and remarking it would be a long time before she would forget the "hero" part it played.

Finds Michigan Crops Surpassed By None

Michigan farmers have much to be thankful for, despite the depression, according to A. L. Ross of Farmington, who has just returned from an eastern trip. Mr. Ross' tour took him through Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York.

"In none of the states did I see crops any better than they are here in Michigan," said Mr. Ross. "And in only one were they as good. That is in Ohio. But Michigan farmers are much better off than they are in New York and Pennsylvania—if they visit those states they surely feel that 'good old Michigan' is mighty good after all."

POTATO MEETING ON FARRELL FARM

A series of potato meetings has been arranged to cover the county. The one nearest Farmington will be held Thursday, July 23 at 1:00 p. m. at the Bert Farrell farm 3 miles South of Milford.

Five Badly Hurt Near Farmington

Four Accidents Cause Injuries To
Three Women, Baby,
Officer

Two accidents near Grand River and Farmington roads and two on Telegraph road near Farmington this week caused injuries to five persons, a five year old baby, a traffic officer, and two middle aged women and a young woman. Two women suffered severe neck injuries, the baby, a fractured skull. The officer, contusions to the head, and the third woman had several ribs broken.

A collision at the intersection of Thirteenth Mile and Telegraph roads, at 1:30 o'clock, Thursday morning, caused injuries to one woman. Mabel McEaney, 22 years old, of 11824 Arlene avenue, Detroit, suffered several broken ribs and lacerations of the back in the accident.

Automobiles in the crash were driven by Sue Herring of Glenn Oaks Golf Club and Allan S. Desleres, of 13109 Washburn avenue, Detroit. The injured woman was taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac.

Crash Into Sedan

Two women, Mrs. Grace T. Cray, 47 years old, of 5558 Underwood avenue, Detroit, and Mrs. James Piggett, 58, of 307 Elmhurst avenue, were injured on Grand River, near Farmington road, in front of George Checkett's garage when a car driven by Mrs. Isabella McAvoy, 40, of 17183 Gouldburn avenue, Detroit, crashed into the rear of the Cray's sedan. Mrs. Cray suffered severe injuries to her neck, while her companion, Mrs. Piggett, was also injured above her head. Mrs. Cray suffered a neck fracture in an accident 13 years ago.

The women were taken to Redford branch of Receiving Hospital for treatment. Mrs. McAvoy was questioned by police and released. Her husband, Robert J. McAvoy, and their three children escaped injuries.

Mrs. Cray was released from Redford Receiving Hospital Tuesday.

Has Fractured Skull

The five-year old girl injured was Jola Butler, of 1637 North Dearborn avenue, Dearborn. She suffered a fractured skull when a large sedan driven by Clarence Lunn, 32 years old, of 382 West Grand Boulevard, struck the car driven by Jola's father, Ray Butler, and two other children in the car were uninjured. The car was turned over in the crash.

Mrs. William Zwahlen witnessed the accident from her front porch, and called Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner of Farmington. Dr. Aschenbrenner brought the girl to his office where he took three stitches in her head. The girl was taken home.

The purpose of these meetings will be to discuss insect and disease pests, making Bordeaux Spray, spraying, grading and marketing. At some of the places opportunity will be had to see the work on clover spacing and fertilizer effects on plantings. An effort will be made to organize a spray ring where needed.

News items are always welcome at the Enterprise office.

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