

State Tax Body Declares It Has Not Raised Taxes

(Continued from page one)
or paying taxes in the districts affected.
"If any taxpayer's taxes have been increased, some other taxpayer's taxes have had a proportionate reduction. As a matter of fact, the Commission's findings were that some property owners had in the past been unduly favored at the expense of other owners, and it has equalized these differences wherever they have come to its attention."
"Taxpayer's Misinformed"
"Many taxpayers in this district seem to have fallen into the error of assuming that higher taxes do necessarily follow from raised valuations. It is a mistake to assume that an increased valuation necessarily means an increase in taxes. In Bloomfield Township, for example, the new valuation, as fixed by the Commission, is 50% above the 1931 figures of the supervisor. This means that all taxpayers whose valuations were increased by the Commission by less than 50% will pay fewer dollars of taxes than they would have paid on the basis of the original assessments. Only those whose valuations have been increased more than 50% will pay an increased share. The same principle applies in all townships that were re-assessed. Only those who were increased more than the average will pay more than they would have otherwise; all the rest will pay less."
"Our records show that hundreds of complaints have been filed by property owners who were directly and positively benefited by the work of the Tax Commission. Their taxes are going to be less than they would have been because of the work the Commission has done."
"Faceted Opposition"
"The Commission has completed its work for this year in the face of the most determined opposition. It has been prompted to follow this policy by the knowledge that the results of its efforts would be a lowered tax levy upon a very

large percentage of the people of the districts affected, and in the belief that these people richly deserved the reductions that were being made possible. The charge that the Commission has raised taxes is without any foundation whatever."
"The State Tax Commission is created by law as a quasi-judicial body. Its membership holds over from one administration to another, and it stands prepared to accept full responsibility for its own acts. Recent attempts to lay this responsibility at the door of other State officers are an unfair reflection upon the ability of this Commission to stand on its own feet, and clearly show the partisan source of the opposition which has arisen."
Some Taxes Lower
"The Commission requests the taxpayers of Oakland County to recognize that the new assessments in many instances mean actually reduced taxes, even though the assessed valuations may be higher, and to obtain the whole facts regarding their own particular case before jumping to the conclusion that their taxes are higher because of the re-assessments which have been made."
Edwin T. Saunders
Chairman, State Tax Commission.

OAKLAND COUNTY IS FIFTH AMONG APPLE PRODUCERS
Census Shows Oakland Produced In 1930, 287,431 Bushels Of Apples

Oakland County is fifth among apple producing counties of the State, according to the fifteenth census of the United States recently issued from Washington. Oakland is fourth among the counties in apple bearing trees.
Oceana County produces annually 529,272 bushels of apples, VanBuren 412,361 bushels, Kent, 365,594 bushels, Mason 334, 695 bushels and Oakland 287,431 bushels. Oceana nearly doubled the output of Oakland for the year 1930.
VanBuren has the largest number of apple-bearing trees according to the census. VanBuren has 294,275 trees. Kent 218,191, Oceana 217,391 and Oakland 205,992.
Although Oceana County nearly doubled the output of Oakland County, its number of fruit bearing trees is only about five per cent greater.

RAIL EXECUTIVE COMMITS SUICIDE IN EASTERN CITY

Was Graduate Of Engineering School At The University Of Michigan

Herbert Baker Flowers, 50 years old, nationally known street railway executive and well known in Farmington through his connection with the Detroit United Railway, committed suicide at Baltimore, Md., Tuesday by shooting himself through the head.
Mr. Flowers recently left New Orleans where he was chief of the street railway system. No motive was ascribed for his act.
Mr. Flowers was born in Detroit, July 14, 1881, and his entire life was spent with public utilities. He was a graduate of the College of Engineering of the University of Michigan.

MARRIAGE IS ANNOUNCED THROUGH MISINFORMATION

An announcement in this newspaper two weeks ago of the marriage of Rupert Turner to a Miss Helen Banks has been found to have no foundation. The information was submitted by a member of the Turner family and was therefore accepted without question by the editor.
Mr. Turner states that he is not married and does not know "Miss Helen Banks."

RECKLESS DRIVING CHARGE DISMISSED IN JUSTICE COURT

Trial In Schulte's Court Follows Accident Near Walled Lake Saturday

Mrs. Ethel Hunter of Walled Lake, charged with reckless driving by Hyde J. Smith following an automobile accident last Saturday, was released by Judge John J. Schulte in Justice court Tuesday night.
The accident occurred a little less than a mile east of Walled Lake on the Pontiac road and involved three automobiles. The cars driven by Mrs. Hunter and Smith were traveling east and the third car, a Dodge sedan driven by Ed Davidson of Pontiac, a driver for a Pontiac newspaper, was going west.
According to testimony offered Mrs. Hunter turned to the left side of the road to avoid hitting the car driven by Davidson. Davidson, in passing, partly side-swiped Mrs. Hunter's car and Smith, coming from the rear, collided with Mrs. Hunter's automobile. Smith suffered a slightly cut hand.
Judge Schulte held that although Mrs. Hunter may have been on the wrong side of the road, she was driving at a conservative speed and did everything possible to avert an accident.

1931 COMMERCE TOWNSHIP TAX IS \$20,000 UNDER '30

Supervisor Long Announces Decrease In Total To Be Raised This Year

"A pleasant surprise" is promised taxpayers of Commerce Township this year by Supervisor Joseph A. Long, following return of the tax rolls from the State Tax Commission. Township officials are now engaged in the work preliminary to sending out the annual tax bills.
Commerce Township was given an increase in valuation from \$3,256,885 set by the township board of review last spring, to \$4,210,080, by the State commission. In spite of this increase, most taxpayers will find their tax bills lower, according to Supervisor Long. Even those with substantial increases will find their tax bills lower, and only those property-owners whose valuations have been given a greater proportional increase than the average will find their taxes higher. These are not numerous.
The total taxes for the township to raise this year will be about \$20,000 less than last year, according to Mr. Long.

FARMINGTON DRUG CO. TO GIVE AWAY 13 DOLLS

Two doll houses and 13 dolls are to be given as gifts to the 15 most popular little girls in Farmington by the Farmington Drug Co., Christmas morning. The 15 most popular little girls are to be determined by a popular vote which is being carried on under the direction of Stanley F. Smith.

DETROITER PAYS FINE

Alfred DeNapoli, of 2445 23rd street, Detroit, paid \$3.75 fine and costs after pleading guilty to driving without proper lights, when arraigned in Justice John J. Schulte's court Monday morning.
DeNapoli was arrested Friday night by Lee Doyle, chief of police, near the Junction.

Simple Request

Saying that he came from "a very sedate family," a man recently wrote the mayor of Southend, England, asking the mayor to put him in touch with a woman who will find him a job with an eventual view to matrimony.

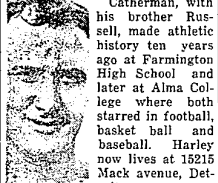
LOSERS OR FINDERS

The best lost and found station in town is the Want Ad columns of this paper. If you have lost some valuables, your chances of finding it are increased a hundredfold if you list it in the Lost and Found Column. If you have found something of value that someone would gladly pay a reward for recovering, a small ad in these columns will prove profitable for you.

REVIEW CAREER OF H. C. CATHERMAN IN NEWSPAPER SERIES

Was A Star Athlete At Farmington High School And Alma College

The athletic career of Harley C. Catherman, son of Mrs. Dorr Catherman of Farmington, was reviewed recently in a Detroit newspaper in one of a series of articles on high school athletic coaches in Detroit.



—Detroit News Photo. The following article is taken from the Detroit News:

"Harley C. Catherman, football, basket ball, hockey and skating coach at Mackenzie High School, was born at Port Huron on July 10, 1902. He came to Farmington as a boy and attended high school there, winning his letters there in football, basket ball, baseball and track.
"Catherman also was a four-sport athlete at Alma College where he was awarded 13 letters, four each in football, basket ball and base ball and one in track. He also was named as halfback on the all-M. I. A. A. eleven.
"Before coming to Mackenzie in 1930 Catherman coached at Freemont, where he had a state class C football championship in 1927, and at Northwestern where his skating team won the city title in 1929.
"Catherman's best athletes have been Lawrence Martens, all-city defense man in hockey; Howard Hopponen, city half-mile skating champion and Bud Kyes, record holder for the 220-yard dash in skating."

Canada Given Honor

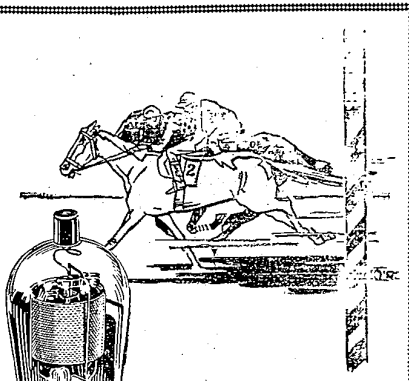
A statue commemorating the memory of Americans who lost their lives with the forces of the Dominion in the World war was erected by the Canadian government in the Arlington National cemetery. There are no other monuments in Arlington built by foreign governments.

Woman Born 86 Years Ago In Farmington, Dies

Mrs. Libby Krupp, who was born in Farmington 86 years ago, died at her home at Grand Ledge Friday. Interment was at Grand Ledge Sunday.
Mrs. Krupp was the daughter of Edmund Lamson and was born in

1845. Her father operated a grist mill, the foundation of which still remains on the Power road. A brother of Mrs. Krupp was buried at Oakwood cemetery, Farmington in 1847.

Canada's north country is the remote nesting place of the waterfowl of America.



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