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State's Cut-Off Plans Set; Make 'Deal' With Smith

Route Is Shifted To South To Avoid Cutting Large Estate

Plans of the State Highway Department for building the Grand River Cut-off west from Farmington road, to meet the main Grand River pavement at Halsted Road, are now considered settled and the Department is ready to proceed with construction, awaiting only the arrival of the road-building season. It is anticipated that the Cut-off, which has been the subject of probably more rumors, reports and contradictions extending over a greater length of time, than any highway project in the State, will be paved next spring.

Consummation of the State's plans has been made possible by reaching of an agreement with C. F. Smith, whose large estate stood in the path of the highway as originally laid out. The original plans would have put the highway through the center of Mr. Smith's large estate, consisting of hundreds of acres of land, numerous buildings, and a private golf course. A few years ago, Mr. Smith was said to have declared that he would spend almost any sum of money necessary, to block building of the Cut-off through his estate.

Shift To South

As a result of Mr. Smith's objections, the Cut-off route was shifted some distance to the south, so that it will go along the south line of his property, instead of through the center. It is understood that he has dedicated land along the south line of his property for the right of way.

The new route will necessitate a sharp bend to the north in order to meet Grand River at Halsted Road, making the Cut-off much longer than originally planned. In fact, it is estimated that the Cut-off will be at least as long, and perhaps even longer, than the present Grand River, thus eliminating one of the chief reasons for its being built, i. e., shortening of the distance. The Cut-off, as originally planned would have been somewhat nearer a straight line than the present Grand River road, but the new route will not have this advantage.

The new route is over much more level ground than the original it is stated, and a considerable amount of cutting down and filling of grades that would have been required on the former route will be unnecessary.

Reports indicate that the State plans to lay concrete to complete the Cut-off next spring. Widening of Grand River in the City from Farmington Road to the limits is expected to be undertaken immediately following the Cut-off work, or possibly at the same time.

Farmington Lumber Co. Authorized Weightmaster

The Farmington Lumber & Coal Co., has been authorized by the Secretary of State's office to act as official weightmaster, Carl G. Hogle, manager of the company was advised this morning.

All trucks must be weighed at an official station this year before application for license can be made. There is no charge by the weightmaster.

The letter from the Department of State said, "We are pleased to acknowledge your acceptance of the appointment as an officially designated weightmaster for the Department of State. This letter will authorize you to officially act in such capacity, and this department will be pleased at any time to assist in matters pertaining to the performance of your duties as such."

TRUSTEES MEET

Trustees of Groves-Walker Post of the American Legion held a business meeting Tuesday night at the Legion home. Trustees of the Post are Paul Maas, Harley Schroeder, Charles Lueke and Lee Doyle.

"The Bunk", Devoted To Satirizing County Officials, Makes Appearance

Somewhere there is a new newspaper being published. Just where it is impossible to say, but there are strong indications that it is in the western portion of Oakland County, and possibly somewhere between Farmington and the west limits of Pontiac.

The new "newspaper" made its appearance in circular form, a single page about eight inches square, within the last week. It is entitled "volume 1, no. 1, indicating that there will be more.

The new publication is entitled "The Bunk", and its sole attention is directed to county political affairs. After each paragraph the words, "The Bunk" are repeated, and a few words of pithy comment follow.

Quite a few officials and departments are taken to task. One prominent supervisor of a township near Pontiac is treated rather severely, and his brother-in-law, holding one of the most important positions in the county, is belabored for having "four or five of his relatives on the county payroll."

The identity of the editor, place of publication, method of distribution, and other facts about the "paper" are unrevealed, but somehow the circulars got "passed around", and the contents indicate the writing was done by someone not an entire stranger to county political affairs.

Supreme Court Rules On Funds

Public Funds In Closed Banks Now Considered As Preferred Claims

One of the serious legal obstacles that has been confronting L. C. Thayer, City Treasurer and Mark D. Bachelor, township treasurer, in collection of winter taxes has been removed, State officials believe, by a decision of the Michigan Supreme Court.

Bonds are required by law of all tax collecting officers. Banks in which tax monies are deposited must also deposit a bond. This year the bonding companies have been hesitant in writing bonds for banks in some districts, no matter how sound they might be. Treasurers have been refused bonds because the banks in which they proposed to deposit collections were not bonded.

The Supreme Court decision had to do with the United Savings Bank of Tecumseh, which closed some months ago. It held public funds deposited to \$71,757, of which \$33,150 was not covered by bond. The unprotected deposit included \$10,712 credited to five school districts which were parties to the Supreme Court case.

The court held that the money deposited by the school districts constituted a trust fund, even though it had been deposited in violation of the statute requiring that the bank give bond. This means that the claims of the school districts are preferred claims.

Constitutes Trust Fund

The court held further that these preferred claims operate not only against the cash in bank's vault, but also against the funds on deposit in corresponding banks, amounting to \$73,285. It suggested, however, that before paying the claims of the school districts, the receiver for the bank ascertain what other preferred claims exist.

Millions Affected

"I think the decision will go far toward solving our problem," said Atty-Gen. Paul W. Voorhees. "It should be possible to make depositary agreements with the banks, assuring us that enough money will be available to pay any preferred claim which may arise out of the deposit of public funds. That done, the treasurers should have no difficulty obtaining bonds. Deposits in unbonded banks still will be illegal but that is something we can't help until the Legislature meets."

Under the decision, any city, village, county, township or school district that had money in a bank which closed has a preferred claim against the receiver. Such claims in Oakland County are said to amount to millions of dollars. The ordinary depositor's chance of recovering 100 cents on the dollar is of course, lessened by the decision.

Mrs. William Eckler gave a surprise birthday party at her home for Mrs. Emory Hatton Saturday night. Mrs. Imogene Bickering received first prize and Mrs. Hatton the consolation. The ladies presented Mrs. Hatton with a bouquet of flowers.

Board Reduces School Tax Rate

Reduction Made To Offset Increase In Valuations By State Commission

Reduction in the tax rate for School District No. 5, Farmington City has been made by the Board of Education. The rate this year will be \$10 a thousand as compared with \$12 a thousand, which rate has prevailed for the past several years.

The Board made the reduction following re-assessment of the property in the district by the State Tax Commission. The new rate was determined upon as that necessary to raise the same amount of taxes as the \$12 rate provided under the former assessment.

Tax bills now being prepared by city and township treasurers will carry the \$10 tax rate.

In Good Condition

The district is in good financial condition compared with many others in this section of the county and state. Numerous districts in this area have been forced to delay teacher's payrolls or issue scrip. Thus far, however, the Farmington district has been able to meet its monthly salary rolls on time and pay every teacher in full. The monthly total is about \$3,500.

FOOD DONATIONS FILL BARRELS FOR FARMINGTON'S POOR

Contents Of Barrels Estimated To Be Enough For Ten Families

At least ten poor families of Farmington will not go hungry on Christmas Day as a result of the generosity of Farmington's shoppers.

Mayor Arthur Lamb reported Wednesday that three barrels placed in the Henry Pauline, Atlantic & Pacific and Kroger stores had been filled and the contents are being sorted to make up Christmas baskets. Mayor Lamb said that the food collected would be about enough for ten baskets.

The barrels, painted green, were placed in the three grocery stores about two weeks ago. Since then a steady trickle into the barrels of staple groceries has gone far to aid in the filling of Christmas baskets for the 50 or more families who otherwise would have nothing to eat from the County's weekly food fole for Christmas.

Canned goods comprised the greater part of the contributions in the barrels, but sugar, potatoes, cereals and other foods found their way in.

Mother Of Mrs. Olin Russell Dies At Howell

Mrs. Robert Jubb, aged 72, mother of Mrs. Olin Russell, was buried at Lakeview cemetery at Howell Wednesday. Mrs. Jubb died at her home at Howell Monday morning.

Mrs. Jubb is survived by a son, Wilmer Jubb of Marlette, and three daughters, Mrs. Howard Warner and Mrs. Albert Abramson of Howell and Mrs. Olin Russell of Farmington.

Treasurers Need Not Be Bonded; Latest Opinion

Township Had Taken Steps To Secure Bond For Full Amount Of Taxes

Returning from the office of the County Treasurer Thursday afternoon with the opinion that a bond for City and Township treasurers was unnecessary providing taxes collected were turned over to the County Treasurer at least once a week, Mark D. Bachelor, Farmington Township treasurer, is in as much of a quandary concerning the collection of Township taxes as he was before.

Steps had been taken by the Township to secure a bond to cover the \$238,000 taxes which are spread on the Township rolls for winter collection but with the opinion being expressed at the County seat that bonds for the treasurers are unnecessary, the proper procedure to be taken is not known.

It is possible that a special meeting of the Township board may be called next week to consider the treasurer's bond and definitely decide whether negotiations for the securing of a bond for the full amount of taxes to be collected, for part of the amount, or none at all, are to be made.

The rates being offered by bonding companies are \$2 per thousand. At this figure, if it is decided that a bond for the Township treasurer is unnecessary, \$476 will be saved the Township, the cost of securing a bond for the full amount of taxes to be collected, \$238,000.

L. C. Thayer, City Treasurer, will start collecting taxes Saturday at the People's State Bank. He will be at the office during banking hours until the first of the year.

MISS ADDIE BEACH, AGED 77, DIES AT WEST POINT PARK

Deceased Died Friday At Home Of Her Niece, Mrs. James Eastman

Miss Addie Beach, 77 years old, at one time a Farmington resident, was buried at Oakwood cemetery Monday afternoon following funeral services at the home of a niece at West Point Park. Miss Beach died Friday morning.

Miss Beach was born on a farm about one mile west of Farmington where she lived for about 35 years. She then moved to Farmington and recently had resided with her niece, Mrs. James Eastman. She is survived by three nieces, Mrs. Eastman, Mrs. Frank Pitts of Liberal, Kansas and Miss Anna Thayer of Muskegon Heights, and one nephew, Bert Thayer of Detroit.

(Editor's Note) The following was contributed by an old friend of Miss Addie Beach, signed "Neighbor."

Died at her home in West Point Park December 11, Addie Beach, aged 77 years. Deceased was the daughter of William S. Beach and Caroline Mead. To this couple were born four children who reached maturity. Marshall Beach, the eldest son, gave his life for his country in the Civil War and died at Nashville, Tenn., in 1863.

Ansley Beach was in the Civil War also and participated in many a hard fought battle in which he came through without a scratch only to lose an eye and part of his hand while hunting rabbits years after his return home. He was well known about town and was a leading member of the G. A. R. of the City and was one of the first rum carriers out of the Farmington post office. He died June 28, 1905.

Laura Beach, the eldest daughter, married Herbert Thayer. She was the mother of three children, all of whom survive her. She died in 1914, leaving many friends to mourn her departure.

Addie Beach, the deceased, attended the Farmington schools and was for a time a pupil at the (Continued on page five)

Retiring Master



Joseph Himmelsbach, who will retire Monday night as Worshipful Master of Farmington Lodge No. 151, F. & A. M.

Installation Of Officers Planned

William Zwahlen To Succeed Joseph Himmelsbach At Public Installation

The gavel of the Worshipful Master of Farmington lodge, No. 151, will rest in the hands of Joseph Himmelsbach, one of the most active of presiding officers of the lodge in recent years, for the last time Monday night when he passes it on to William Zwahlen, newly elected Worshipful Master, who with other officers elected by the lodge this week, will take their offices at a public installation.

Refreshments will be served and a social time spent following the installation.

Other officers who will be installed are Harry Wolfe, senior warden, John Aittama, junior warden, William Way, treasurer, James Hogle, secretary, Rev. Floyd Charles Johnson, chaplain, Delos Hamlin, senior deacon, Forest Dickerson, junior deacon, Robert Cook, senior steward, Ralph Auten, tyler, and Joseph Himmelsbach, marshal.

METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL "AT HOME" TO INVITED GUESTS

Special Features Planned For Children And Adults, To Begin At 7:30

Tickets have been issued admitting members and friends of the Methodist Sunday school to the organization's Yule-Tree at Home Wednesday evening December 23. The festivities will begin at 7:30 with a story hour for pre-school, primary and first and second grade children. At this time also, Harmon Holce will be in charge of recreation hour in the basement rooms of the church for the grade children. The adults will have a social program in the main community hall. Closing the recreation features a program of Christmas tableaux will be given under the direction of Mrs. Sayres Harger.

Other features will be a program by the school band directed by Edward Eaton and carols sung by 50 children from the Methodist Children's Village, in charge of Miss Ernestine Pierce.

The annual White Gift Offering which is given to the Children's Village Association, will be taken Sunday December 20, and also an opportunity will be given Wednesday evening.

The Sunday session of the Methodist Church School will feature a group of carols by a cornet trio, a group of Christmas readings and a black board feature, "Sending the Christmas Greeting."

GIVE FEATHER PARTY

Members of the Groves-Walker Post of the American Legion will hold a Feather Party at the American Legion home on Grand River Monday night.

Christmas Fund Drive Underway; Demands Greater

Aid For Community's Poor Needs Help; Food Or Money Desired

With only a week remaining before Christmas, Farmington's Community Christmas Fund workers are preparing for the distribution of baskets and other needed articles to the poor of the community.

The collection of funds with which to provide the contents for the Christmas baskets is well underway although committee members will not know definitely until Tuesday or Wednesday how large the fund will be. There are more families to be provided for this year than before, Mayor Arthur Lamb said Wednesday, and consequently a larger fund with which to provide food for the needy will be necessary.

Committees At Work

The committees representing the American Legion and Exchange Club will make their personal solicitations this week end and the fore part of next week. The committee members are Leo Gildemeister and Spencer Heeney of the Exchange Club and Charles Lueke and Norman Lee of the American Legion.

An especial appeal is made to citizens this year for contributions who are not business men. The demands on business men have been particularly heavy this year and it is felt that many private citizens can as well afford to as many business men.

Food Acceptable

The desire of some individuals to contribute produce rather than money has been anticipated by Mayor Lamb who is general chairman in charge of the Fund, and he has made arrangements whereby produce contributed to the Fund will be collected if the donor is unable to deliver it himself. Anyone who wishes to make a food contribution should call Farmington 25-1 before Monday night and it will be collected Tuesday. If the contribution is to be delivered, it should be taken to the home of Arthur Lamb by Tuesday noon. Carl Hogle, manager of the Farmington Lumber and Coal Co., has donated a truck for the committee's use in collecting food donations.

It is estimated by Mayor Lamb that at least 50 baskets will have to be filled this year to provide for all of the community's needy. Last year there were 42 baskets distributed.

HOUSE TO HOUSE CANVASS WILL BE MADE SATURDAY

R. C. Burns, W. A. Nelson And Eighth Grade Boys To Do Collecting

A house to house canvass for clothing and shoes to be distributed among Farmington's needy will be made Saturday morning by R. C. Burns and W. Allen Nelson for the Farmington Parent-Teachers Association. Boys of the eighth grade of the Farmington school will assist in the collection. Shoes, regardless of condition, are especially sought by the organization which will reconduct them as much as possible and distribute them where they will do the most good.

Citizens are asked by the Association to have bundles ready when the collectors call. People are especially asked not to leave anything out of the bundles because of their worn condition. Everything will be utilized.

Mrs. Viola Taylor Will Entertain Eastern Stars

Mrs. Viola Taylor will be hostess to members and friends of Farmington Chapter, O. E. S. at her home on Eight Mile road, at Grand River avenue, Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. December 23. There will be tables for bridge and pedro.