

The Farmington Enterprise

FOURTY-SEVENTH YEAR—No. 36.

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1936.

5c a copy; \$1.50 a year.

Walks To Be Repaired on 50-50 Basis

A rough survey was made of the sidewalks which are in need of repair in the City of Farmington by Leo Oldemester, Commissioner of Sidewalks. Mr. Oldemester found that there are many sidewalks adjoining private property as well as City property which are badly in need of repairs.

It was resolved by the city commission that repairs will be made on the basis of a 50 per cent assessment to property owners. The City will bear the remaining costs as well as the costs for the repairs to publicly owned property. All new sidewalks are to be paid for by abutting property owners.

Repairing of the sidewalks will get underway in the near future. Unnecessary delay may give rise to serious consequences for the city and for property owners because each is liable for any accidents which might be caused by faulty sidewalks adjoining their respective properties.

Walks Broken

Recent severe winters have been the most responsible factor for damaged sidewalks. Alternate warm and cold periods cause the water beneath the surface of the sidewalks to freeze and thaw thus causing expansion and contraction of the soil upon which the sidewalks rest. The result of this action is found in uneven, cracked, sidewalks.

Heavy trucks and tractors have been cited as another damaging factor to sidewalks. Sidewalks are not built to withstand the heavy weight which can be borne by concrete roads. For that reason property owners should not permit trucks and other heavy vehicles to pass over their property—unless they are specially constructed sidewalks.

Trees have also taken their toll in damaged sidewalks. The roots of trees which are planted near sidewalks grow in diameter as well as in length with the result that the roots extend beneath sidewalks they create such a pressure on the soil that the sidewalks are pushed upwards until the sidewalks crack.

It is estimated that the sidewalk repairing will cost approximately 700 dollars.

FOUR PICTURES WILL BE GIVEN TO HIGH SCHOOL

Miss Carrie E. Christianity, 3309 Oakland Avenue, will present four new pictures to adorn the corridors and rooms of Farmington High School.

The pictures were given to Miss Christianity by her uncle, George Armstrong, Christian, who was related to Clara Barton of Red Cross fame. Christianity disposed of his house and furnishings in Hartford, New York to devote himself to travelling. Before her death, Christianity and his wife travelled extensively, purchasing furnishings for their home. It was on one of these journeys that he purchased the four pictures which he has given to Miss Christianity. The largest of the four pictures is an excellent copy of "The Aurora," painted on a canvas five by three feet in size. Included in the collection is a portrait of Mrs. C. F. Smith, a famous English tragedienne of the past century.

The two remaining pictures which will be donated by Miss Christianity will be especially helpful to students and teachers of ancient history. One picture represents a Greek scene, while the other depicts the interior of a Roman house. Teachers will find both these pictures of enormous value in demonstrating to the students certain facts which have been brought to light by their readings. Students will appreciate the pictures in that they will clearly certain details which otherwise might be vague.

While all of the pictures are not as large as "The Aurora," they are large enough to add to the attractiveness of any of the rooms in Farmington High School.

Miss Christianity, as a retired school teacher, realizes the educational value to young people of the types of pictures which she has volunteered to present to the students and teachers of Farmington High School.

New Catholic School Will Be Dedicated by Bishop Gallagher



BISHOP MICHAEL GALLAGHER

Change Made In Tax Collection

Tax receipts are being sent out by City Treasurer George C. Oldemester to the property owners of Farmington this week.

This year taxes will be collected strictly according to the provisions contained in section 32 of the city charter. Taxes which are paid from July 1 to July 31 will not be penalized. A penalty of 2 per cent will be added to taxes which are paid from August 1 to August 31. An assessment of 4 per cent will be levied on taxes paid after September 1.

This basis of collecting taxes is a departure from the method in effect in recent years, when a discount of 2 per cent was allowed to taxpayers throughout the month of July. The normal amount was charged during the month of August, and taxes which were paid after September 1, were assessed 2 per cent.

In recent years liberal reductions were allowed to persons who paid their taxes because of the city's immediate need for funds. While it is true that many persons took advantage of the incentive offered to them in the form of a reduction in their taxes for prompt payments, strict adherence to the charter is now necessary.

An increase of \$1,774.75 over the 1934 budget of \$30,036.25, due to increased expenditures voted by the city commission, makes such a reduction as was in effect last year in the method of tax collections impossible.

Even in prosperous times the city has had to borrow funds in order to finish its fiscal year. This year, however, the city will begin its fiscal year with a balance of \$4,357.26 in its treasury.

MRS. SCHROEDER UNDERGOES LEG OPERATION

Farmington friends of Mrs. Louis F. Schroeder, 23636 Grand River, are anxiously awaiting the results of an operation performed upon her leg Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Schroeder has been at St. Joseph Hospital, Pontiac, for the past several weeks suffering from streptococcal ulcer of the ankle. It was expected last week that she would be able to return home following a blood transfusion which was performed last Saturday.

Many Farmington persons were tested last week in an effort to find a person whose blood corresponded to the type required for Mrs. Schroeder's transfusion. It was not until Howard Catterman's examination that the correct type was found. He gave a pint of his blood for the transfusion.

While the transfusion achieved the expected results in that it gave Mrs. Schroeder added strength for her convalescence, unforeseen complications set in and her leg making another operation necessary.

It is reported the operation consisted of cutting Mrs. Schroeder's leg for the purpose of scraping the bone.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gullen of Detroit, a son, Lawrence Raymond, on Saturday, July 23, Harold Gullen is the grandson of Mrs. Emily Gildemester.

Dedication of Our Lady of Sorrows School at Grand River and Orchard Lake Road on Sunday, July 7, 1935 in Farmington, Michigan, will recall early incidents of the founding of the parish and its first service and mass. The dedication will open at 3:00 p. m. on the school grounds after which the most Rev. Michael James Gallagher, Bishop of Detroit will speak. The dedication of the school by Bishop Gallagher will be also the observance of almost eight years since the founding of the parish.

The first mass was celebrated at the Providence House, Park Chapel located at 12 Mile and Tibbets Road on Sunday, September 17, 1927 at 8:00 o'clock p. m. by the Rev. Edward J. O'Mahoney, the first pastor. Ground was broken for the erection of the present church on Power and Shilwaukee Roads on September 18, 1927. Construction was begun on September 19, 1927, and the building was completed on Friday, December 31, 1927. The first mass was celebrated on Sunday, January 2, 1928. Father Edward J. O'Mahoney was succeeded by Father James Callahan in October of 1928, who was responsible for the addition to the present edifice, owing to its remarkable growth in a little over a year. January 15, 1928, the Holy Names Society was formed with Father O'Mahoney as spiritual director. Joseph A. Korte, President, Judge John J. Schulte, Jr., Vice-president, and Roger Guerin, secretary, and Frank C. Davis as treasurer. On March 20, 1928 a conference of the St. Vincent DePaul was formed with Wm. H. Hart as President, Joseph A. Korte as Vice-president, Arnold Stolz as Secretary and Frank Davis as Treasurer. The first church committee consisted of Wm. H. Hart, Joseph A. Korte, Arnold Stolz, Joseph Pieschke and Judge J. Schulte, Jr. The present pastor, who is responsible for the building of the school, and who succeeded Father Callahan in January 15, 1933, is Rev. John J. Larkin, formerly assistant at St. Theresa's in Detroit, St. Stephen at Port Huron, and St. Patrick at Crosswicks.

The school, completed March 1935, is located on a 10 acre tract purchased from the Detroit and Detroit United Railway. It is 75 by 55 in size, has three class rooms 32 by 24 to accommodate about 150 pupils, an auditorium and stage, office and a kitchen, fully equipped.

Much credit is due the Farmington city officials for their hearty co-operation in the granting of permits, the building of sewers, laying of sidewalks, grading of streets, etc. In order that the parish might grow and meet with success, much credit is also due the Ladies Altar Society formed in January 1928 in their zeal and endeavor to promote the good of the parish. Mrs. C. F. Smith was its first president. Mrs. Frank C. Davis, Treasurer, Mrs. J. Guerin, Secretary and Mrs. John J. Schulte, Jr., Vice-president.

Mr. and Mrs. William Large of Aurora, Ontario, returned home Monday, having spent several days with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grinwald. While here, they attended the opening of a store under the management of Norman Grinwald at Hudson.

The investigation was demanded by Attorney General Harry S. Toy last January after he said his investigators reported that more than a score of infants had died at the home. Among patients reported by Toy as having been at the home was Evelyn Frechette, sweetheart of the late John Dillinger. Judge Lamb said that should there be any attempt by Brooks to carry on the institution without a state license, the state had "ample and adequate remedy" through civil injunction.

Regarding the activity of certain newspapers, Judge Lamb said that the investigation was played up by (Continued on last page)

Bids Taken On Town Hall Repair Work

Confronted with the problem of the rapidly deteriorating Farmington Town Hall, the City will re-up the roof and the gutters sometime during the summer. It was tentatively decided at the City Commission meeting Monday evening.

According to the reports of Adolph Nacker, City Commissioner in charge of buildings, and several expert carpenters, the roof and gutters are in bad shape. It is imperative that these two parts of the Town Hall be repaired at the earliest possible date. It was pointed out to the Commissioners that if the gutters are not fixed soon the cost to repair the damage done will be enormous. The roof, which has a tin base, leaks in at least a dozen places. Time and weather have caused the tin to buckle and crack the solder between strips. The leaks are causing the plaster to disintegrate and fall away and if the trouble is not corrected in time the interior will be ruined.

The rooftroughs are also in dire need of repair. They have rusted and fallen away in numerous places. It is necessary that the gutters be replaced soon or the water running down the sides of the building will in time rot the foundation.

Since Farmington Township and the Masonic Lodge own a portion of the Town Hall, the City Commission was unable to take any definite steps. Bids on the job were received and the matter will be turned over to the Township and the Masonic Lodge for consideration and to determine whether or not they will be willing to stand a part of the expense.

Following the City's plan to repair the Town Hall, the subject of the Water Tank was brought up. Bids were based on giving the Water Tank three coats of paint, one of metal paint, another of red lead, and the third of a special non-contaminating paint. Before the painting is done, however, the entire surface of the tank will be wire-brushed internally and externally.

Because of the large amount of water which are required by the residents of Farmington during the summer months, it was decided to delay the painting of the City Water Tank until October 1, when the tank must remain without water until all three coats of paint have been applied and allowed to dry.

Before the painting can begin the tank must be completely dry. The tank must remain without water until all three coats of paint have been applied and allowed to dry.

Weed Cutting Gets Underway

The annual cutting of weeds along the highways and on deserted property began in Farmington last Monday. Abundant rainfall has contributed to an overgrowth of weeds making it necessary for cutting to get underway early to prevent the weeds from going to seed and spreading to the lawns and gardens of Farmington residents.

SENSATIONAL NEWSPAPERS AROUSE CRITICISM OF CIRCUIT JUDGE LAMB

Circuit Judge Fred S. Lamb, brother of Arthur Lamb, 2320 Oakland Avenue, Farmington, criticizes activities of certain newspapers in last winter's investigation of Edward L. Brooks Maternity Home at Beulah, reported Farmington Enterprise.

Investigation of the institution revealed no grounds for indictment on the basis of the testimony submitted. The investigation was demanded by Attorney General Harry S. Toy last January after he said his investigators reported that more than a score of infants had died at the home. Among patients reported by Toy as having been at the home was Evelyn Frechette, sweetheart of the late John Dillinger. Judge Lamb said that should there be any attempt by Brooks to carry on the institution without a state license, the state had "ample and adequate remedy" through civil injunction.

Regarding the activity of certain newspapers, Judge Lamb said that the investigation was played up by (Continued on last page)

JUDGE FRED S. LAMB

Hydrant "Collides" With Auto; "Dirty Work-at-Faucets" Begins

Not the "dirty work at the crossroads" of the old-time melodramas, but dirty water at the faucets, disabled residents of Farmington Monday evening when the taps ran deep red with rust.

A peculiar thing about this unusual occurrence was that all faucets in Farmington were not affected at the same time. For this reason the persons who had not seen the "red water," were inclined to look upon the persons who were telling them about it as being possessed by the devil.

Profound investigation on the part of persons whose curiosity triumphed over their normal sense revealed the causes of the disturbance.

Not only does it seem there was a slight malady in the vicinity of the cemetery, but it is a fact which cannot be isolated from the story that a fire hydrant was struck by an automobile last Sunday night.

Fortunately, the one who hurt and the accident had no serious consequences on anything except the hydrant.

The hydrant, while it was not broken, was badly bent. This led authorities on fire hydrants to the

conclusion that the hydrant had been the cause of the accident, and that for the good of everyone in the community it should be moved back a short distance to prevent future accidents.

Now, moving a hydrant is a very intricate procedure, one that should not be performed unnoticed by the populace. In order to move it properly, and so that the fire hydrant movers would not get drenched in the performance of their duty, it was necessary to discontinue the water supply to the particular vicinity where the hydrant was situated. Consequently, people and lawns were dying of thirst Monday afternoon while the fire hydrant movers gleefully went about their work knowing the consternation and the attention which they were causing.

If you have not yet been deprived of the water supply in your home, or if there has not been "dirty work at the faucets" as yet, rest assured that your time will come, because it has been decided that all of the fire hydrants in the City of Farmington will be flushed to insure their proper performance when they are needed.

City Applies For Work Relief

Of the \$4,000,000 which is to be spent by the Federal Government in Oakland County in the near future are work relief projects. The City of Farmington has applied for approximately \$12,000, which figure represents sewer and water main work that should be done within the next year.

Commissioner E. O. Hutton, in charge of the City's public works, submitted the application to the Federal Government for work relief projects.

The projects roughly outlined in the request include a new section of sewer across the Town Hall park, a new water main connecting the Brookside and Power Roads water mains, and the completion of the interceptor.

Present plans are that the Federal Government will pay all of the labor and 20% of the material expense, leaving 80% of the cost of materials to be furnished by the City.

It is highly probable that if and when the public works program is launched, Farmington will receive its share. Favorable impressions were made by the City among county and state relief work officials because of the prompt and complete settlement made by the City of its public assessment. The City accepted and paid its share in the county welfare fund. It is one of the few municipalities that paid in full.

EXCHANGE CLUB AND LEGION PLAN GALA HOMECOMING

Groves-Walker Post of the American Legion, with the help of the Farmington Exchange Club will hold a gala three day homecoming celebration in Farmington Saturday through Monday, August 31, to September 2, inclusive.

Elaborate plans are being made to make the celebration a success for those who attend. The site chosen for the occasion is the grove extending from behind the police building on Grand River to Farmington Road.

To climax the celebration a new car will be raffled. A percentage of the proceeds will be given to the Farmington High School band.

WEST POINT PARK RESIDENT DIES OF HEART ATTACK

Mrs. Alma Berger of Arlington Road, West Point Park, died of heart trouble at 2 p. m. Sunday morning at her home.

She was born a small town in Georgia and came to this country and Detroit in 1902. She married Louis Carl Berger the following year.

She is survived by four children, Mrs. Melvin Murphy of Terra Haute, Indiana, Mrs. Alma Wether, Helen and George Berger, two grandchildren, Ruth and Melvin Murphy, Jr.

Funeral services were held from 9:00 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. The Rev. John Adams of Mason officiated. Interment was at Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

Plans Made To Curb Speeding

That definite and possibly drastic steps should be taken in the near future to bring to the attention of motorists the danger and seriousness of reckless driving and excessive speeds particularly within the Farmington city limits, was the subject of much discussion at the City Commission meeting Monday evening.

Commissioner E. O. Hutton cited an urgent need for definite steps to curb the almost universal carelessness with which motor cars are operated in Farmington. Once the question was brought up, several complaints of various nature, either directly from the Commissioner or from residents, were made.

The principle problem is how the speed at which motorists go through Farmington on Grand River can be held down to a sane limit. It was suggested that Farmington Road, Oakland and Shilwaukee are virtually "speedways."

Suggestions Made

The most constructive suggestion was that the Detroit Automobile Club be consulted and that reflector signs, effective at night as well as during the day, be secured and placed on Grand River marking off speed zones. The suggestion called for a speed limit of 40 miles per hour from the city limits to the Farmington Lumber and Coal Co., a 30 mile an hour zone from the lumber yard to Warner Street and, a 20 mile zone from Warner Street to Oakland Ave. The same procedure to be followed west of the business section. The zones suggested were from the city limits to Shilwaukee, 40 miles an hour; from Shilwaukee to Oakland, 30 miles an hour; and from Oakland to Warner, 20 miles an hour.

All the rest of the streets within the city limits, it was suggested, be governed by a 30 mile an hour limit. Another suggestion, that objections were raised however, was to hire a motorcycle policeman to do nothing but patrol the streets to arrest all traffic violators.

Mention was made of the condition which existed when the Farmington High School was in session. It seems that young high school motorists were in the habit of driving around and around the block formed by School Street, Warner Street and Grand River, during the lunch period, at a high rate of speed and with disregard for the younger children going to and from school.

As one method of solving the problem, it was suggested that the parents be asked to co-operate, and that a system be adopted whereby the student-driver be compelled to have his or her keys at the school office and not be allowed to have them until school is dismissed in the afternoon.

It was the consensus among the commissioners that so far it is fortunate that there have been no serious accidents, but that now, since school is out and the children, especially the smaller ones, are playing in or crossing the streets, the problem is one which concerns every resident of Farmington.

TRACTORS CAUSE DAMAGE TO NEW ROADS

Many property owners in Farmington have requested the City Commission to "do something about the damage caused by farm machinery in regard to keeping off the roads as much as possible. The roads have been constructed and repaired at great cost to the taxpayers. Unless everyone co-operates in keeping off the roads the work will have to be done again causing inconvenience and expense to the residents of Farmington.

While it is essential that tractors be in the road at times when they are crossing to the other side, it is not necessary for them to travel along the roads when they might not well travel on the road shoulders.

The preservation of the new roads as well as of those that have been repaired recently will depend to a great extent upon the care taken by the use of farm machinery in regard to keeping off the roads as much as possible. The roads have been constructed and repaired at great cost to the taxpayers. Unless everyone co-operates in keeping off the roads the work will have to be done again causing inconvenience and expense to the residents of Farmington.