The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-NINTH YEAR—NUMBER 51 FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY OCTOBER 14, 1937 5 Cents a Copy

Fires Burn Property At Walled Lake

Fires at two farms in the Walled Lake area this week did considerable damage to buildings and other property.

A seven room farm house belonging to Herman Rubritus on Sun Lake was destroyed as sparks from the chimney ignited the roof. A large quantity of canned foods and household furnishings were burned with the building. The family with the aid of neighbors succeeded in saving a large part of the furniture. The loss, which is estimated at approximately $3,500, is uninsured.

Mr. Rubritus, working at his morning chores first noticed the fire when he saw smoke pouring from the roof. He immediately notified his wife and six children who were in the house, giving them time to escape.

The Walled Lake fire department who were called to the scene succeeded in saving nearby buildings after working for nearly two hours before the blaze could be brought under control.

Another fire, of unknown origin, at the farm home of Garfield Seraison on Thirteen Mile road, destroyed 10,000 packing cases which were being converted into apple crates. The loss was estimated at nearly $500. Had the converting of the crates been completed the loss is estimated to have been close to $1,000. A number of apple trees in the orchard were also destroyed by the flames.

Both the Walled Lake and the Novi fire departments responded to the alarm sent out and were able to save the buildings and about $5,000 worth of materials.

The fire at the Seraison farm marked the third fire within the past ten days in the Walled Lake area. With state authorities working on the mysterious blast which resulted in the burning to the ground of a cottage on the east side of the lake last week, no explanation of the cause has yet been made.

Time Required For Car Titles Shortened

Time required to secure automobile titles from the Department of State has been shortened; care in making out applications will make it still shorter, Leon D. Case, Secretary of State points out.

While the daily peak of from 8,000 to 9,000 titles mailed out to applicants, has passed for this year, the handling of the current volume of from 2,000 to 3,000 titles daily, has been greatly expedited by a change in routing and bookkeeping procedure within the Department.

In every case when correct applications for title are received in Lansing, titles are mailed out that same day. Approximately 20 per cent of the applications are returned, however, for correction. The most frequent defect is failure of the applicant for title of a used car, to enclose the $1 fee for transfer of the plates.

This fee is imposed by law; no titles will be transferred until plates also are re-registered in the names of the new owners of the cars involved, Case has directed. In previous years, this collection was at times deferred until the new owner applied for his succeeding year's license plate. Case proceeds on the theory, however, that failure to transfer plates to the new owner's name, permits incorrect identification of the car until such transfer is made.

Oil Burner at Precise Tool Company Explodes

With a resounding blast that was heard throughout the center of the Farmington business district, an oil burner located at the Precise Tool Company on Grand River avenue next to the Warner Dairy, blew up early Tuesday evening. No persons were injured.

The blast, said to have been caused by faulty installation, blew the doors and chimney from the oil burner. No damage was done, although the building was filled with smoke, requiring several minutes before it could be cleared of fumes.

Mrs. Martha Schroeder spent Tuesday in Ann Arbor.

Miss Hope Dubois spent the week end visiting friends in Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Epley and son, Harry David, of Garden City, visited Mrs. Epley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Leonard, Sunday.

Van Wagoner Tells Of U. S. 16 Modernizing

"No improvement program of the Michigan State Highway Department," says Murray D. Van Wagoner, Michigan State Highway Commissioner, "has been pushed with more consistency in the last few years than has the modernizing of U. S. 16 between Lansing and Detroit."

Mr. Van Wagoner's statement is contained in an article contributed by him to the current issue of Concrete Highways and Public Improvements, published by the Portland Cement Association and circulating internationally among engineers, contractors, and public officials whose first interest lies in the design, construction and improvement of modern highways, streets and public improvements.

Under the title "Michigan's Improvement of U. S. 16 is Applied Safety," Mr. Van Wagoner discusses the accident record of the highway before its improvement and describes the safety features o fthe projects completed last summer. These projects, he says, have assured for the Detroit-Lansing section of U. S. 16 a minimum of a three-lane highway, and have made it much easier for the motorist to negotiate safely, vertical and horizontal curves, and to pass traffic with the minimum danger of accident.

In an editorial note accompanying Mr. Van Wagoner's discussion, the magazine says:

"Michigan's improvement of U. S. 16 . . . represents a determined effort to build safety into the highway. The improvement, consisting in widening, increasing both horizontal and vertical sight distances, and improving the alignment, has not been done haphazardyl. Back of U. S. 16's reconstruction lie weeks of work in tabulation and analysis of accident datta. Studies based on these data will aid materially in eliminating many of the accident hazards now existing."

MURRAY D. VAN WAGONER

FARMINGTON MEN CHOSEN ON APPLE INSTITUTE BOARD

Two Farmington men, Howard McCracken and Louis H. Spicer, have been appointed to represent Southeastern Michigan in the Michigan Apple Institute which has been organized to help the A. A. A. in locating apple supplies. Much of the credit for the federal government's recent decision to participate actively in the purchase of several hundred cars of Michigan apples on the open market, is credited to the institute. The fruit will be distributed to families on welfare.

Roscoe J. Martin of Bangor, manager of the apple institute, and H. D. Hootman of East Lansing, secretary, were present at a September meeting of the federal surplus commodities corporation in Chicago to put in a request for Michigan growers which sets the goal of federal purchases at 600 carloads, or 350,000 bushels, in this state out of a possible 5 million bushels to be bought on the nation's markets from this year's crop. No actual committments were made by the government, but Porter R. Taylor, chief of general crops section for the federal surplus commodities corporation, expressed the opinion that the request of Michigan Apple Institute directors was not unreasonable in view of the possible extent of the 1937 buying program. Purchases will take place when and where it is felt the effect will do the most to help growers by relieving distressed marketing conditions. The volume will be based on the quantity of apples which can be distributed effectively by relief agencies.

Growers of two million bushels of apples are reported to have signed up thus far as members of the Michigan Apple Institute, Inc. This number represents only about 15 per cent of the total Michigan crop. A drive to sign 9,500 more producers by a direct mail campaign is being launched this month. Those having apples for sale are urged to get in touch with R. J. Martin, Bangor, and sign a membership contract with the Michigan Apple Institute. Funds up to $5,000 paid in by members will be matched dollar for dollar by the state of Michigan in support of the 1937 apple advertising campaign.

WOMAN'S CLUB TO MEET

The Farmington Woman's Club will meet at the home of Mrs. Beatrice Ritter on Eight Mile road, Wednesday, October 20. The program is in charge of the Arts and Textile committee, of which Mrs. Alice MacDonald is the chairman.

F.H.S. To Play Milford Team

With a total of two wins to their credit and one loss chalked up against them, the Farmington High School gridders will again battle on the home field, Friday, when they take on the strong Milford eleven. The game will mark the second that Farmington football fans have been able to witness on the Farmington gridiron.

As in last week's game, the probable starting lineup will include: Werschin, right end; Otis, right tackle; Davis, right guard; McKelvey, center; Poet, left guard; Killeen, left tackle; Banfield, left end; Lee, quarterback; Hunt, left halfback; Turner, right halfback and Pink, fullback.

A large crowd of spectators witnessed the last Friday's game played here against the Clarkston team. Although the Clarkston boys were easily outplayed, Farmington scoring 13 points in the first quarter, the visitors rallied in both the second and third quarters and managed to put over their one and only touchdown in the last of the third, after being held on Farmington's three yard stripe for three downs.

Farmington pushed over one more touchdown in the final quarter to end the game 19-0. Star of the game was Ralph Banfield who scored the three touchdowns on passes from Howard Turner and Don Lee.

Schools Organize Safety Patrol System

A permanent safety program is now organized and is functioning in an effort to reduce the number of accidents involving school children coming and going from the school building.

Under the direction of Robert Stewart, member of the school faculty, a number of boys have been organized into a safety patrol guarding corners near the school during hours in which classes are in session. They are working in conjunction with Mr. Walling and Mr. Barrons, school police, who are stationed at the intersections of Farmington Road and School street with Grand River avenue, where most accidents are likely to occur.

The boys, organized from grade students, are equipped with white "Sam Browne" belts and arm bands in order that they may be recognized by motorists.

Social Security Board Approves Old Age Grants

The Social Security Board this week authorized grants for Michigan for old-age assistance for the first two quarters of this fiscal year according to an announcement made by Benedict Crowell, regional director for the States of Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky. The grant for the quarter ending September 30 is $979,607.31 and for the quarter ending December 31, $1,732,500.

With this aid Michigan has steadily extended its program for old-age assistance. In August of last year 29,822 persons received an average of $16.44 per month while in August of this year 48,774 of Michigan's needy aged received an average of $18.02 per month.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Axford of Pontiac spent Tuesday with Mrs. Elizabeth Holcomb.

Production Record Seen By Winery

With the purchase of over 2,000 tons of grapes this week, The LaSalle Wines Inc. is expecting the largest press since their establishment in Farmington, according to Mr. C. E. Meyfarth, manager of the winery.

Although the winery purchased many shipments of grapes grown in the Farmington area, large shipments were also received from Paw Paw and Benton Harbor grape growers.

According to Mr. Meyfarth's report the winery is far ahead of last year's sales, and are expecting a record production mark for the year.

A new bottling and storage room has just been completed in order to make added accomodations for the greatly increased production of wine which began this week. The new storage room is approximately the same size as the one previously used, and is faced in white enamel and the new glass brick which permits a maximum of light to enter. The new room. No new machinery for bottling the wine has been purchased for the newly added space, as it will be used primarily for storage.

Shipment Destroyed

A large shipment of grapes from the Ann Arbor district, intended for the winery was destroyed early in the week when the truck turned over on the Plymouth road about ten miles from Ann Arbor. Between ten and twelve tons of grapes were crushed in the accident which made the entire shipment worthless for any processing as far as the winery is concerned. No persons were injured.

According to releases sent out by the Fruit Growers' Association in the Benton Harbor district, "this year's crop will be one of the largest in years."

While a large part of the grape crop will be sold to companies such as the LaSalle Wines, it is expected that growers in southeastern Michigan will see the sale of approximately 3,000,000 baskets of grapes fresh from surrounding vineyards. According to the association, grapes are usually offered to families in 12-quart baskets which quantities are especially desirable for small families.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SIGN STATE SAFETY CLUB PLEDGES

More than 1,000 children of school age have already signed safety pledges of the Michigan Safety Club although this campaign launched in an effort to reduce the rapidly mounting toll of traffic fatalities and accidents is only in its third active week.

The club, through radio programs, stirring motion pictures and safety talks seeks to create increased safety consciousness among both children and adults.

Sponsored by Leon D. Case, Secretary of State, and directed by Tom Carroll, a veteran in safety promotion work, the club has already presented three safety matinees in theaters in Wayne County, outside of Detroit. These shows, at Plymouth, Wayne and Dearborn, had the enthusiastic cooperation of police chiefs, superintendents of schools and other civic officials and resulted in capacity crowds. Mr. Carroll in his role of "The Safety Messenger" delivered a short safety talk, there were three safety films, "You Bet Your Life," Saving Seconds," and Safety Sentinels," and Miss Prudence Butterfield, popular radio entertainer, identified for many years with safety programs offered songs and piano solos. Comedy films and short subjects rounded out the program. Similar programs will be presented in other Wayne County programs. Detroit neighborhoods and will later be extended throughout the state. Mr. Carroll who can be reached at the Secretary of State's office, 4105 Cass avenue, would like to hear from parent-teacher groups or school officials who would like to present the safety programs in their districts.

In addition to the theater programs three weekly radio programs are presented each week, all on Fridays. They are: WEXL, at 9:15 a. m.; WJBK, at 11:30 a. m. and WMBC at 4:30 p. m. Miss Butterfield is featured on the W. M. B. C. Program.

Past Matrons of the O. E. S. will meet Tuesday, October 19 at 7:30 p. m. in the Masonic Hall for special practice. Please be prompt.

City Enforces No Hunting Ordinance

With the opening of the pheasant season scheduled for Friday morning, Farmington residents are warned against hunting within the city limits. City authorities have ordered the posting of no hunting" signs throughout the area bordering on the limits of the city in an effort to warn hunters that the carrying and firing of firearms within the city is unlawful and that failure to comply with the city ordinance regarding hunting within the Farmington incorporated area may mean prosecution of those persons caught violating the "no hunting ordinance."

The measure is being taken by the city in an effort to protect children in the area from being the victims of stray shot. During past years various citizens have complained that hunters were invading fields within the city limits in an attempt to kill pheasants which have remained close to the city in order to secure better feeding. Although no persons have been reported struck by stray shot, several owners of livestock have, in past years, reported the shooting of various domestic animals.

The signs which are printed on brightly colored board are being posted in conspicuous places near the city limits to warn hunters coming from other areas that the "no hunting" ordinance is to be enforced. Violators are liable for either jail sentences, heavy fines, or both.

City, Township Get Tax Shares

Allocation of delinquent tax money for the month of September totals $110,962.56, according to the report of Oakland County Treasurer Charles A. Sparks. The City of Farmington will receive $356.97 in the allocation, Farmington Township receiving $1,006.79.

The total amount to be allocated is below the 1936 total as $342,413.65 was distributed to cities, villages and townships during September of that year.

The allocation for the month is split as follows: State $5,869.94; county $16,000.07; county debt service $3,272.91; Covert road fund $9,934.30; drain fund $22.15, and townships, cities and villages, including schools, $72,695.93.

Following is the distribution to townships, cities and villages in the Farmington area. Townships: Commerce, $574.43; Southfield, $2,306.54; Novi, $480.55. Cities and villages: South Lyon, $260.91; Clarkston, $113.26; Milford, $10.85.

Farmington Girl Pledges National Sorority

Carol Harger of Farmington, second year student at Albion College, affiliated with Alpha Chi Omega, national collegiate sorority, at the close of the rushing week period.

Miss Harger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Harger, was one of 82 women to pledge a Greek letter organization. She was graduated from Farmington High School with the class of 1935.

Farmington Merchants Urge Buying Winter Supplies Now

the air at the present time, Farmington merchants this week are offering various items and services to prepare Farmington residents for the cold months soon to come. The Farmington Lumber and Coal company in their ad list a few of the many forms of coal and coke which they are now offering at pre-winter prices. They are also ready to give estimates on any rebuilding or repairing to homes which must be done before the setting in of cold weather.

The Blakeslee Motor Sales advertisement on page three lists but a few of the many car accessories such as heaters and windshield defrosters, with which they are now stocked in readiness for the first cold wave.

Whether your work takes you out in the open air, or whether you're planning on being on hand at the opening of the hunting season, you'll need plenty of woolen clothing to keep out the chill. Fred L. Cook and Company this week are offering a complete line of woolen hunting and work clothing.

With just a hint of winter in Drop in and look over their stock.

With the coming of cold weather you and your family will be using an extra supply of hot water every day. Why not let the Consumer's Power Company install an automatic gas water heater in your home? The cost is low and the satisfaction you will receive is great. Looking for a used car? Now is the time to buy while prices are lowest. The Ford Used Car ad on page two lists a few of the used car bargains now in their lot.

An extension to your regular telephone will give you added protection at night and greater convenience during the day. Have one installed in your home now. The cost is only a few cents each month.

The newest thing in the line of cooking utensils is being advertised by the Dickerson Hardware Company. The new Cook N Serve chinaware comes in a variety of sizes and colors and are selling at a wide price range.

Exchange Club Hears Dearborn School Head

Members of the Farmington Exchange Club heard a talk by J. Jenne, superintendent of Dearborn schools, at their regular Wednesday luncheon meeting.

Superintendent Jenne, who is credited with operating one of the finest school systems in the state, stressed the importance of selecting the correct curriculum for high school students to follow. He places courses under three types. Those coming under a general heading, for students who do not intend to go on to college, specific courses allowing college entrance after graduation from high school and commercial courses. The first and last types of high school education, he explained, should be taken by students who are planning to start work immediately after graduation from high school.

An especially interesting program is being arranged for the next meeting of the club Wednesday, October 20, by Art Power, president of the club. At the present time he is making arrangements to have a speaker, recently returned from war-torn China, who will give club members and their friends first hand accounts of the situations and conditions in that part of the world.

Should Mr. Power secure the speaker it is planned to make the next Wednesday's meeting a "Ladies' Day" in order that club members' wives may also hear the interesting account of the bombing of Shanghai and other Chinese cities.

SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD OPENS COUNTY OFFICE

The Social Security Board has opened a Field Office at 502-3 Peoples State Building, corner of Saginaw and Lawrence streets, Pontiac, to serve Oakland and Macomb Counties. Walter B. Redman is manager of this office and states that one of the principal functions is the issuing of Social Security Account Number cards to those who have not already had one issued to them. Those applying in person will be given their cards immediately at the office and all applications made out on a SS-5 form and mailed in, if properly and completely filled out, will be issued promptly and mailed to the applicants. In this connection, Mr. Redman urges that no one apply for more than one card as that number is set up on each person's account in Washington and will be good as long as the person lives.

Claims are being filed for those who reach the age of sixty-five and have worked any since January 1, 1937 when the Social Security Act became effective, and also in the case of those who die and have worked in covered employment during 1937. The family, meaning the direct heirs, is urged to call at the office at the earliest convenience in either of the above classes.

Just one word of caution! Mr. Redman desires to mention that people who were over age sixty-five last January 1 should not apply at the Social Security Office for any old-age insurance benefits, but rather should call on the Emergency Welfare Relief Administrators in their county of residence.

Mrs. William S. Kenyon was a week end guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. McGraw of Detroit.

Portion Of Grand River Opened

A part of Grand River avenue extending from Farmington Road to the intersection of Cass street and Grand River is now open to local traffic. Although the blockade at Farmington Road is still up, the new pavement is being used for parking space and also to accomodate the various business houses which are located within the area previously entirely closed to traffic.

The coming of below freezing weather is expected to put a virtual stop to any further activity of the state highway department until next spring when work will be resumed on both Grand River, from the intersection of Gill Road and Grand River avenue to the Cut-off, and the Cut-off itself.

Although the paving of the thoroughfare within the city limits is completed, highway engineers and workers have yet to finish the laying in of curbing and drains throughout the length of that portion of the highway which has been widened to 40 feet.

According to plans recently made by Murray D. Van Wagoner, state highway commissioner, the next step in the state's attempt to eliminate dangerous spots on highways will be the widening of the Cut-off. A large appropriation of state highway department funds will be set aside to be spent on the elimination of dangerous curves and the grading of certain parts of that portion of the Detroit-Lansing thoroughfare.

State engineers are still undecided as to whether the Cut-off will be rebuilt into a two lane boulevard such as now exists between Redford and the east end of the Cut-off or whether it will remain closed to two-way traffic.

The widening of both Grand River and the Cut-off is part of a state-wide program to reduce the number of fatal automobile accidents, of which a large percentage of the total were accredited to both the above named highways.

Bell Telephone Heads Receive Promotions

John R. MacLachlin, for the past nine years business office representative for the Michigan Bell Telephone company at Ann Arbor, has been appointed manager of the company's Plymouth area, with headquarters in Plymouth, according to an announcement by F. E. Reiff of Ann Arbor, district commercial representative for the company. The change became effective October 1.

In addition to the Plymouth exchange, he will have charge of the Michigan Bell Company's business in Wayne, Northville, Farmington, South Lyon and Walled Lake Exchanges.

Mr. MacLachlan is a native of Milan, Michigan, and studied at the Michigan State Normal College at Ypsilanti. He has been with the Michigan Bell Company since December, 1928, when he entered the business office organization of the company at Ann Arbor. His nine years of training in telephone work well adapts him to take over the managership of the Plymouth area exchanges.

Roy E. Crowe, whom Mr. MacLachlan succeeds here has been promoted to a position of greater responsibility, taking over the activities of district commercial representative for the entire Ann Arbor district of the company. He entered the employ of the Michigan Bell in 1912, having been manager at Plymouth since 1924. Previously he had been manager successively at Armada, Romeo, Grand Ledge, and Charlotte, and a member of the business office staff at Jackson. He is a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America, Wolverine Chapter No. 1, and long has been closely identified in the civic life of this community.

Organize Grid Team At Clarenceville

After a lapse of two years, the Northwestern A. C. football team has reorganized. They will play all their games at their home field located on Middle Belt road between Seven and Eight Mile roads. George Robinson is coaching the team and according to him, prospects seem bright for a successful season. The team is being backed by Clarenceville merchants.

The first game will be played against the Tilden A. C., a strong Detroit team, Sunday, October 17, at 3:00 p. m.