

Take First Step Toward Improvement

Lights will be added to the typewriting room in the Farmington High School probably this week-end as the first step toward improving the lighting system of the schools, the Board of Education decided at its last regular meeting.

"The lights will be indirect, and are being put in the typewriting room as an experiment to determine the best method of lighting. The indirect method is unsatisfactory, another type of light will be tried."

Henry Clark, of the Detroit Edison Company, who sat in at the meeting of the Board, said he would start immediately on a survey of the High School and the Grade buildings to find what needs to be done, the way to do it and the cost.

Included in the estimate will be recommendations to the Board as to which rooms now have the poorest lighting conditions. The Board intends to repair the worst rooms first and then move on to other parts of the building. The new room has better lighting.

Part of the improvement program will be the painting of the walls and ceilings, which are too dry to reflect light adequately. This is true especially in the grade building where the lack of window space indicates it never was constructed for good lighting.

Change is needed most, probably in the grade building because the eyes of the pupils are more susceptible to strain.

Because of financial difficulty the Board two years ago laid aside a proposal to correct lighting faults, but improved finances now enable changes to be made.

DEM SECRETARY TO TALK AT PARTY DINNER MARCH 24

Executive secretary and publicity director of the Democratic National Congressional Committee, Capt. Victor Hunt Harding, veteran of the "Great Expeditionary Forces in the World War," will be principal speaker at the Jefferson Club dinner in Pontiac Thursday, March 24, it is announced.

Captain Harding, a former professor at the University of California, was one of the original organizers of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled Veterans. He was one of the first in California to support Franklin D. Roosevelt for President. He is a native of New York.

Expect Large Crowd
To accommodate the large crowd expected, the dinner committee has chosen the boys' gymnasium in the Pontiac high school building as the place for the dinner. The last dinner was arranged for 600 persons and 1,000 attended.

Toastmaster will be Giles Cavanaugh, collector of Internal Revenue, former editor of the Bay City Times and member of the Detroit News staff.

Other speakers include William Seemiller, an ardent Democrat for many years, and Dr. Andrew Cresswell, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church in Pontiac, who will deliver the invocation.

Executive officers are Harcourt S. Patterson, president, Alfred Gale, vice-president, and Madeline Patterson, secretary-treasurer.

Heads of the various committees which average eight members each, are T. W. Jackson, program; J. L. Van Wageningen, banquet; Henry T. McLaughlin, finance; Charles Galloway, printing; Gladys Hellich, music; Elizabeth Linton, publicity, and Arthur P. Bogue, invitations.

The reception committee is headed by Mr. and Mrs. Murray D. Van Wageningen.

TEXAS COUPLE RECEIVES MANY ANNIVERSARY CARDS

Word was received this week from Mr. and Mrs. John Grace, who are spending the winter at Edinburg, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Grace recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary, and in honor of the occasion a postal card shower was held. They received 115 cards and five letters from Detroit, Redford, Farmington, Northville, Novi, Vahle Lake, Lansing, Lincoln, California, and Florida. Mrs. Grace says it has been a constant source of joy to them to re-read all the messages, and to know the kind thoughts which prompted their sending.

Delayed Suit Against State Scheduled For Next Month

Millions of automobiles have rolled over Grand River Superhighway between Farmington and Seven Mile Road, eight years have elapsed, a State highway commissioner of that day has gone out of office, and his successor has served a four-year term and been re-elected for another—and still there remains to be settled a suit that is scheduled to come up next month over agreements on the taking of property for widening the highway.

Even more strange than the long passage of time during which the matter has been pending is the apparent indication from the papers filed in the suit that a side claim is it and has been for a

long time not only willing but actually eager to close up the matter, but that the other has declined to do so. Involved on one side are a number of owners of property along the right-of-way, some of them well-known in this community—and on the opposite side the State Highway Department.

The suit has been filed against the State department, and it has come right back with only one answer, but a cross-bill of complaint asking the court to compel the plaintiffs to carry through their commitments and sign contracts it is alleged were agreed upon.

Half Year Tag Sale Increases

Despite legislation adding a 25-cent fee to the purchase price of half-year motor vehicle permits this year, sales will show an increase of from 20 to 25 percent over those of last year, figures of the Department of State indicate.

Sale of the half-year permits has been nearly up to standard in the Farmington Branch Office of the Secretary of State compared to all tags, however, has almost stopped.

Half-year permits totalled 438-635 in 1937; half-year plates manufactured thus far for 1938, total 574,400, with final figures not available until late this summer. These plates being valid until September 1.

Sale of half-year plates lagged conspicuously this year until only a few days before the March 1 deadline, yet, when the deadline had been reached, many branch offices had sold more than they had throughout 1937.

Branch managers report that economy rather than necessity, has motivated many half-year plate sales; many persons to whom windshield stickers had been objectionable in the past bought half year plates without hesitation.

Law enforcement officers throughout the state prefer plates for their ready identification of cars; the public was benefitted by the change because plates can be handled more quickly.

At the State Prison of Southern Michigan, Jackson, were given additional work as a partial solution to the prison labor problem; Michigan steel and other products were sold at a reduced price, an arrangement by which stickers were printed outside of Michigan.

The manufacture of 1939 plates will start immediately after requirements for 1938 are met.

FIRST MONTH'S GASOLINE TAX REVENUE DROPS

The State Highway Department reports a \$30,411 reduction in its gasoline tax revenue for the first two months of the year. The reduction amounted to a cut of 8.2 percent under the revenue for January and February of 1937.

Should the reduction continue along the same ratio for the next 10 months, the department's gasoline tax revenue will decline more than \$2,000,000 for 1938, or a total revenue approximating \$27,500,000 compared with \$29,500,000 for 1937.

If the revenues drop this year, it will be the first decline since 1933 when the revenue amounted to \$19,456,000.

The revenue figures represent collections less rebates.

Tax List Available At The Enterprise

Copies of The Rochester Clarion, containing the County Delinquent Tax List for the 1938 tax sale to be held in May, are available at the Enterprise office. The publication lists properties in Oakland County upon which taxes are so far delinquent as to require their being sold, under the law, on May 3.

Due to the tremendous book-keeping task covering many months the list was involved in payments made in the past year to the County Treasurer may not have been recorded in time to prevent the property from being included in the tax list. However, it is emphasized that no property upon which taxes have been paid can or will be sold, even though the delinquency might appear in the publication.

Phone Company Lays Underground Cables

Workmen burrowing into the ground on Farmington Road at the southwest corner of the Farmington Improvement Company building are digging an underground system for the aerial cables which now cross Grand River at Farmington Road.

This is the first step of the change to new quarters of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

The new quarters will be an expansion of the company offices in the building in connection with the change in the type of Farmington telephones. The change will be made about May 28, a district official says.

Double Parking Ends Suddenly

An old Farmington custom apparently has ended; motorists have no double parked along Grand River avenue for nearly a week.

Double parking along Grand River, a state and national highway, has been illegal for many years. Through the city the high way is comparatively narrow and double parking has greatly obstructed traffic.

Free time ago the City made an unofficial agreement with the State Highway Department to keep Grand River clear in the city limits, but the double parking habit continued.

In making the announcement the offense would be stopped, the Commission pointed out the convenience of the city's free parking lot on Grand River back of the police booth.

SMALLPOX SPREAD BECOMES ALARMING; VACCINATION URGED

Smallpox outbreaks occurring recently in the border counties of both the Upper and Lower Peninsulas as a result of out-state infections are showing an alarming tendency to spread throughout the state, according to Dr. Gudakunst, state health commissioner.

The outbreaks are showing a dangerous tendency to spread throughout the central part of the state. From the southern part of Michigan, scattered cases of smallpox have spread northward into Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Genesee, Oakland and Wayne counties.

In the Upper Peninsula the disease is spreading out from its original source in Gogebic county until six other counties are reporting cases. Dr. Gudakunst said, New cases have appeared in Iron, Dickinson, Ontonagon, Menominee, Houghton and Marquette counties.

The commissioner advised local health officers to be on guard against outbreaks of smallpox. Further spread of the disease can be prevented only by widespread vaccination of unprotected persons, he said.

Fred Hamlin is ill with the measles.

Work Starts On U. S. 16 Next Week

State Highway Department workers will renew work on Grand River avenue Monday. They were in town this week making preparations for the job which will include grading and building shoulders and constructing curbing.

Part of the job is yet to be completed as work had to cease because of cold weather. With Spring on the way, the work can start again without much danger of long delays.

It is understood the Highway men will stay in Farmington most of the summer, indicating that widening of the Cut-off will start when the Grand River job is finished.

Prepare for Tourists

Throughout the state maintenance men are ready to start their annual job of dressing up Michigan's 9,000 miles of trunkline roads for another tourist season.

First on the program is to repair the damage from spring break-up. Severe frost action has left pavement dips and bumps. Gravel roads are rutted. Black top surfaces must be repaired after spring cleaning and grading.

Flooded bridges must be strengthened. State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagener predicted a bigger job for maintenance workers this spring because of excessive ice conditions the past winter. Abnormal patching will be required as much of this material was ripped up by snow plows or ice treatment.

Commissioner estimated that the road repair job will run to more than \$300,000 this year—an increase of about \$100,000 over last year. Damage to bridges also exceeds that of a year ago because of spring floods. Repairs to a half dozen structures damaged at the time will amount to \$25,000 or \$35,000, he said.

Spring maintenance also involves cleaning ditches and drainage of shoulders, sodding and tree planting. Familiar road side tables will be brought out of winter storage. Approximately 2500 are to be in service by summer. Only five hundred are necessary because the single table will again be in operation along the roadways.

Sometimes in May the first applications of calcium chloride will be made on gravel roads. Second and third applications will follow as conditions require. Approximately 30,000 tons probably will be used during the summer and fall.

Spring truck loading restrictions are now in effect on all trunkline highways south of and including M-55. The restrictions mean a 25 percent reduction in maximum loads on concrete pavement and 35 percent on other types of road surfaces.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bachelor of Pontiac and Mr. and Mrs. John Lock and son, Stanley, of Royal Oak were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bachelor.

Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert A. Miles returned Wednesday from Manton, Michigan, where they attended the funeral of Mrs. Miles' mother, Mrs. Phelps.

Rubber Plant Outgrows Home 10 Years Before Maturity

A huge rubber plant which outgrew its twighood home stands in the main room of the Farmington Dairy. About 10 years old now, the plant must grow nearly ten more years before it reaches maturity.

Bought in Detroit by Mrs. Fred Cook when it was just a sprig, the plant grew and grew until it became too large for the sun room. So the Cooks asked Joe Himmelspach, manager of the dairy, if he would like a rubber plant in his sales room.

"Sure," Mr. Himmelspach said. "Sure. We need a good rubber plant."

So the plant was taken to the dairy and placed near the plate glass window east of the entrance. The trunk is slightly less than six inches in circumference but the long thick leaves measure from six to 12 inches. The leaves are medium green; the trunk is gray-green with smatterings of brown. The plant is about six feet high

Propose Building New Township Hall

Township Supervisor Arthur P. Coe and Justice Walter Headerle are making investigations preparatory to the proposed building of a new Town Hall as a WPA project. A preliminary sketch would be in Farmington Township, probably in the vicinity of Nine Mile Road near Middle Belt or on Grand River.

The two members of the Township Board were appointed by the Board at its regular meeting Tuesday night in a motion made by Treasurer E. E. Cox and supported by Justice Eagle. The motion was carried unanimously.

Headerle Resigns As Work Foreman

Walter Headerle, Township Justice, next week will reopen his business of chain-link fence construction. The reopening will follow his announcement to the Township Board Tuesday night that he is resigning as work relief foreman, the resignation to take effect this week-end.

Relief workers who attended the meeting to ask for more work unanimously elected William LaForge to succeed Mr. Headerle. Mr. LaForge ran on the Republican ticket against Ward Eagle for Justice in the recent Township primary.

Other business discussed at the meeting concerned utility licenses and the election boards for the general election April 4.

The Board decided to meet at Eight Mile and Lakeland Roads at 9 o'clock Friday morning to visit all bars and beer gardens in the Township to learn if they are desirable.

The investigation will be made at the request of the State Liquor Control Commission which said in a letter to Clerk Harry N. McCracken that it would not issue new licenses in May unless the places of business were approved by the Board.

All members of the election boards in the primary will continue in the general election except one. Only five members are necessary because the single ballot to be used does not require the secret ballot box.

Members of the boards are: Precinct 1—Mrs. Lettie McIntyre, E. V. Blum, Jay Burton, William Morris and Frank Steele. Precinct 2—Willard Campbell, Louise Brown, Charles Heise, Mrs. Frances Billings and Walter Headerle.

FARMINGTON'S NEW APPLIANCE SHOP IS OPEN

Oscar Welke is Farmington's newest business man. His store, the Farmington Appliance Shop, is open for business at 33336 Grand River with a full line of Kelvinator, Frigidaire, and other electric appliances. Mr. Johnson will do most of the repair work.

Mr. Welke, formerly of Detroit, lives here with his wife and two children, but intends to move soon with his wife to Farmington. For the past month he has been driving from his home to Farmington every week day to work on his shop.

Doing most of the work himself, he has remodeled the shop into an attractive red and white display room. At night he turns on a red light to flood a row of white Kelvinators along the east wall.

Mr. Welke worked for about eight years, with an oil company in and around Detroit. He has been in the appliance business five years.

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FARMINGTON BOYS WILL HEAR NEW HEAD GRID COACH

University of Michigan men and high school boys in Farmington have been invited to attend a banquet in Pontiac Friday evening, March 25, at which Herbert O. Fritz, newly appointed head football coach at the University of Michigan will be the honor guest and chief speaker.

The event is sponsored by the Pontiac Public Schools. Michigan Alumni at Washington Junior High School, and will give Michigan alumni in this area their first opportunity of seeing and hearing the new coach. The Pontiac alumni have extended an invitation to alumni in Oakland County as Coach

Crisher is available for but a few public appearances before the opening of spring practices for the football team. Fritz, athletic director, Fred Janke, captain-elect, and other members of the 1938 football squad will attend the banquet. A special reduced fee has been made for high school boys.

Tickets may be secured by contacting the superintendent of schools, as long as the available accommodations last. It is anticipated that a number of Michigan men and boys will attend from Farmington.

Because a project like the building of a new hall could not be approved for nearly six months, the Board decided to start the necessary investigations immediately to complete the plans and submit them for approval so that the work may be started by the time the school year is finished.

During the discussion it was brought out that improvements on roads and sewers would tend to bring settlement into the Township and lower taxes.

The Board also explained why WPA Projects were so long in being approved after they were submitted. First, the engineer must make a survey and plan the project. Then he must go to the County offices in Pontiac, from there to Flint, and on to Lansing and Washington, D. C., and back, stopping in each office again on the return trip.

Again the trend of Michigan deaths from tuberculosis has swung slightly upwards, with a rate of 41.7 a 100,000 population for 1937 against the 1936 rate of 41.3. Dr. Bruce H. Douglas, director of the Michigan Tuberculosis Association, said in a discussion of tuberculosis mortality in Michigan. The 41.7 figure, issued officially by the Michigan Department of Health, confirmed the general belief that last year the disease gained another foothold.

"Why the present hold of tuberculosis seems to resist all efforts to break it, is difficult to explain," Dr. Douglas said. "To drive down the needless toll of tuberculosis each year is the aim of many organizations in Michigan. Now operating are enough well-equipped tuberculosis hospitals, private and state-owned, to give Michigan's tuberculous modern, individual treatment. County anti-tuberculosis associations and health units work constantly to improve the tuberculosis situation in their respective areas."

Unquestionably, eradication of tuberculosis is the most vital public health problem facing Michigan today. Dr. Philip Forsbeck, new Director of the Bureau of Epidemiology under the Michigan Department of Health, said in discussing the program for controlling communicable diseases. Lack of adequate funds was emphasized as being the greatest single obstacle in the way of reducing the White Plague to a rare disease.

Through a case of typhoid or scarlet fever can be found and isolated before the disease is spread to any great extent, a different problem is met in searching for the tuberculous individual. It was noted, however, that tuberculosis was less spread as being almost unnoticeable in the early stages.

There is no calamity which right words will not begin to redress—Emerson.

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