

The Farmington Enterprise

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Three Homes Burglarized Saturday

Three Farmington homes were broken into Saturday night, and two of them were robbed of property valued at more than \$200 by police. All three houses were probably broken into by the same burglar, according to Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt.

In each instance, entry was made by breaking a basement window in a house that had no lights on and no one at home. Although the clues are scanty, police believe an arrest may be made in the next week or so.

Sarkis Mekjian's home at 2311 Wilmarth was robbed of a revolver, a Luger pistol, a shotgun, \$300, an overcoat, jewelry, and a set of silverware. The value of the loot was placed above \$100 and DeVriendt. The theft was believed to have taken place between 10 p. m. and midnight.

The home of Arnold Stolz, 3419 Oakland, was robbed of \$10, an overcoat, and a wrist watch. Ironically enough, Stolz lives next door to DeVriendt, whose house is at 3415 Oakland.

At 3275 Oakland, which is about two blocks east of the Stolz home, the same burglar technique was used to enter the basement of the Herbert L. Todd home. That was all the farther the burglar was able to go, however, because the door to the first floor of the house was bolted.

The burglar's entrance was discovered Sunday morning by neighbors who saw footprints in the snow alongside the house and the broken basement window.

At each of the houses no fingerprints were left behind, only the non-committal smudges left by the burglar. DeVriendt believes that the footprints are the same, however, leading him to the conclusion that the looting was done by the same burglar. This view is strengthened by the fact that the houses were broken into in the same way and second, all three robberies are believed to have occurred within about three hours of each other.

Reports from Detroit and other nearby police departments indicate that this is one of the most fruitful seasons for burglars. DeVriendt points out. Many home owners are away shopping in the evenings, or else visiting relatives on the holidays. The nights are long and dark, and few people are outside where they might hear the operations of a burglar.

There is one moral to be found in the breaking and entering that took place Saturday night. DeVriendt says:

"Householders should profit from the misfortunes of those who were robbed, because in each case all of the lights were out—a perfect invitation to a burglar. In two of the houses easy entry was made from the basement to the upstairs, another accommodation to the burglar.

"I would like to warn house owners that porch lights should not be left on. This has been done so much that it is now taken as an indication that no one is at home. And if you see any suspicious persons ringing doorbells and asking inane questions, such as, 'Where does Mr. Jones live?', don't fail to call the police."

If you are going to be away from home for more than a day, DeVriendt advises that you have someone remove milk bottles and newspapers from your porch, so that it will not be obvious there is no one at home.

Mrs. Mary Voss Is Dead, Was 85 Years Old

Death came Monday to Mrs. Mary Voss who for many years has lived in this area. Mrs. Voss leaves her husband, Carl, her daughter, Mrs. Nina Miller of Lansing, and her sister, Mrs. Sophia Duckittine of Farmington.

Plans were made for her burial at the Clarenceville Cemetery on Thursday, with Rev. Carl H. Schultz serving as the officiating minister.

At the age of 3, Mrs. Voss, then Mary Coers, came to this country from Germany, where she was born 85 years ago. She lived first in Dearborn and later moved to a farm on Middle Belt Road. She leaves four grandchildren, one great-grandchild and many friends.

Michigan's 1937 bean crop averaged 340 pounds an acre.

These Goodfellows Go Over the Top In Sales



Shown above are seven of the Goodfellows who shouldered packs on Monday to sell papers that the community's needy would be provided for Christmas. This is the first year a street sale has been conducted, and partly because of it, this year's drive is a record-breaker. Reading from left to right are: Floyd H. Nichols, treasurer of the Goodfellow committee; Howard Otis, Curtis H. Hall, president; Justice John J. Schelle, Jr., Dr. G. Franklin Weaver, chairman of the committee; Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt, and Earl B. Grosvenor.

Goodfellows Have More Than \$400

Records were broken Monday when the Goodfellow paper sold over the top to the extent of \$182.75. More than 1,000 papers were sold, 500 of which were special Farmington editions of The Detroit News.

This year the Goodfellows have more than \$400 with which to make this Christmas a merry one for the needy in the city and township. The box in the bank yielded \$26.67 and the Township Board voted \$100 from its central fund to the Goodfellows at its meeting Tuesday night. The Groves-Walker Post of the American Legion gave \$50 and the first week of the drive left over from last year's fund which was around \$150, according to the treasurer of the committee, Floyd H. Nichols. Even more money will be added when the earnings of the sale are returned in Mr. Nichols says.

Baskets will be distributed Saturday morning, and any names submitted to members of the committee will be considered. It has not been determined how all of the money will be allocated, but a certain share of it will go toward at least 30 baskets. It is believed, last year 34 were distributed, two thirds of them in the Township. Papers were sold at Grand River and Farmington Road by hand working Goodfellows from 10:30 a. m. until 6 p. m. They were sold from 8:00 a. m. to 10:00 a. m. in Inkster to Hagerly Highways. As their sales increased, so did their ambition become vaulting, and as a result, the order went far beyond the expectations of the most hopeful and beyond the goal of \$150.

CAGERS DEFEAT WALLED LAKE EASILY, 31 TO 18

Again that athletic rival, Walled Lake, was subjected to rough treatment at the hands of the Farmington lads, for the high school team took its second league game of the basketball season from Walled Lake on Friday night. Coach Schmitt was in instance of a superior team confronting an inferior one, and slowly but surely accumulating almost twice as many points as his weaker rival. Coach Schmitt's team was not carried to victory by the brilliance of any one man, but rather the fine play of the whole team. Bob Cossin was high point man with eight points.

It was the first time in four years that Farmington has defeated Walled Lake and the many people who attended the game there were aware of the importance of the Farmington win.

The second team downed the Walled Lake second team with a score of 24 to 3. The girls were so successful as the boys, for they lost 25 to 18. It looked good for them up to within one minute of the half, and then their opponents obtained the lead that they held for the rest of the game.

Michigan produced 450,000 pounds of paper in 1937—31 per cent of the nation's crop.

How To Sell Newspapers: 'Attention---All News Boys'

The Goodfellows are responsible for many things at this time of year—for children's smiles by the hundreds, for thanks of adults by the scores, and for joys uncounted. But Farmington's Goodfellows on Tuesday of this week, came very close, so it is solemnly averred by the Goodfellows, to becoming responsible for the very thing that Goodfellows everywhere dispel and disperse—tragedy.

Some sad events almost happened Tuesday afternoon on Farmington's main corner, and it would all have been the Goodfellows' fault if those passerby hadn't braked and shifted to a stop and instead just laughed themselves into the next world.

If this seems an extreme statement, it may be because you did not see it all, or because your smile was too busy with buying last-minute Christmas gifts to allow your imagination full sway. But just for a moment visualize, if you can, three situations:

A deputy sheriff in full uniform, not standing in the steady manner which, while dignified, would hardly stop the hurrying motorists halting through "the small town." Rather, the officer standing poised at the curb, then suddenly dashing out into the highway with one arm fully outstretched and in his hand a rolled-up newspaper. It is surprising that the drivers slammed on their four-wheeled brakes and shifted to a stop had to receive a dressing down, but to give to the needy by buying a paper?

After a time the deputy finds it necessary to go elsewhere on business, he leaves behind his officer's coat and cap, visualizes next a professional man, quite some inches (or perhaps feet) larger in girth.

Locketts Enjoy Big Popularity Today

Few items of personal adornment have enjoyed such a tremendous sweep of popularity in recent years as has revival of a style of olden days—the wearing of locketts, according to Hugo VonBurg, Redford jeweler.

In his many years in the jewelry business, both in Switzerland and America, he says, he has never seen a more swift and widespread return to popularity than locketts.

Other articles of personal adornment and use have been very popular this year, says Mr. VonBurg, who states that the trend of buying in his store this year reflects the growth of the tendency in recent years to select gifts of permanent beauty and usefulness.

Whether one leading custom of the ladies of earlier generations in regard to their locketts applies to the present also, Mr. VonBurg could not say with positive knowledge. That concerns the carrying of their sweethearts' pictures therein, but he has his opinion.

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School To Be On Thomas Street

Work will begin Dec. 30 on the school building which is to be located on Thomas Street 100 feet west of the grade school. It is to be 150 feet long and 100 feet deep with a 25 foot extension for heating equipment. It will be the same distance from the street as the other two buildings.

Plans for the basement of the school have been approved by the PWA office in Chicago. Before work can begin it will be necessary for contractors bids to be received. This will be held next Wednesday at 8:30 p. m. Bids for the bonds will be submitted at 7:30 p. m. the same day.

On the 30th, stakes will be set out and as soon thereafter as possible the steam shovel will be moved in to begin the excavation. R. C. Burns, superintendent of schools, says.

The building will be one story high and the basement will contain showers and a locker room. It was necessary to make a 25 foot extension on the rear of the building for heating equipment, because it is against the law to have a boiler underneath a stage. The heating plant will be flush with the ground.

Word of the approval of the PWA grant of \$26,218 was received here last week. The school will also be financed by a \$45,000 bond issue.

It's a Wise Owl Who Can Disguise Himself

Local ornithologists scratched their heads when William Gray and Ivan, Ortwin came to town last week with a weird bird in tow. They had bagged it in their barn at the Fourteen Mile Road and Orchard Lake Road. It was felled with a pitch-fork when it swooped down by the men.

In many respects it "was like a barn owl, except that it was yellow shading into light brown on its back. It was flecked with white and had a 43 inch wingspread. Whooop nows?"

Christmas In Churches To Be Observed Various

In the mad pursuit of Christmas gifts, lines and greeting cards we are likely to ignore what it is that underlies this annual shopping bee. Not the department store, but the church is the basic institution of Christmas. This Sunday Farmington's churches will observe Christmas in special services.

By special dispensation of the Most Rev. Edward M. Money, the archbishop, Our Lady of Sorrows Church will hold a midnight mass on Christmas Eve. There will be masses on Christmas day at 9:30, 10 and 11 a. m.

Rev. Fr. John J. Larkin says the church will have special announcements and beautiful effects for Christmas. On the Epistle side of the nave there will be a creche with miniature figures representing the Virgin Mary, the child Jesus and Joseph.

Observation of Christmas began last Saturday at the First Baptist Church, for it was then that the cradle roll, the beginners and the primary group held their Christmas party. This Friday from 7 to 9 p. m. the Junior department will hold its party.

On Christmas Eve the Baptist Young People's Union will pursue the gentle tradition of carolling, they will sing at houses which have a lighted candle displayed in the window and at the houses of those who have spoken to one of the members of the Union asking for a visit. After the singing is over, the group will attend a party at Mrs. N. Hautamaki's home.

On Christmas, Rev. Gilbert A. Miles will preach at 10:30 a. m. and that evening at 7:30 a program of recitations and singing will be given. (Continued on back page)

Santa Here Friday With 500 Bags of Candy

An invitation is extended to all of the children of this area to come to the Christmas party being given in front of the three community Christmas trees by the Exchange Club. Santa Claus will be there with more than 500 sacks of candy which he will distribute among the children there. The party begins at 4 p. m.

Another feature of the party will be the gifts given by the members of the Exchange Club to each other. At its meeting Wednesday noon, the members drew names, so determine to whom each would give a present. The first 25 of these gifts was set at 25 cents. Parents who would like to have Santa Claus give a present to their child may give the present to Vice-Blakeslee who will see to it that Santa gives it to the child Friday afternoon.

Several members of the Farmington High School band will provide some musical entertainment at the party.

An auction was held at the Exchange luncheon for a copy of Monday's Goodfellow paper. The paper had been autographed by members of the club and was auctioned off by Mr. Blakeslee. Bidding was sprightly, and Earl Grosvenor outbid the rest to get the paper for \$1.30. The money will be turned in to the Goodfellow fund.

At next week's meeting the annual election of officers will take place. The retiring president is Curtis H. Hall.

Tax Collections Exceed \$7,500

More than \$7,500 has been collected since Dec. 15 by Mrs. Loretta Cox, Township treasurer, who has been collecting taxes since then in the Farmington State Bank during banking hours. This is more than 10 per cent of the tax roll.

Tax collection began about two weeks earlier than last year and amount taken in the first two days was \$500 greater than that taken in during the same period last year.

Last year more than \$36,000 was collected in Township taxes. Mrs. Cox says collections have dropped off during the past week, but she is inclined to think it is because of the approaching holidays. The total tax roll is \$70,490.

GIRL OF EIGHT STANDS AGAIN TO LIGHT TREE

Saturday will be a big day for the Michigan Children's Convalescent Home and for one little girl in it in particular. She is eight-year-old Peggy Rice who came to the Home in 1935 afflicted with tuberculosis of the spine, which she has suffered since she was one year old. Since that time she has undergone a bone grafting operation on her spine and has had to be strapped down to a Bradford frame.

On Saturday, she will perform one of the biggest jobs she has ever undertaken. She will pull the master switch that will light the huge 60 foot Christmas tree in front of the Detroit City Hall.

But, what is more important than her meeting with Mayor Reising and other city officials, even more important than her job of pulling the big switch for the hundreds of people who will be watching her from the Campus Martius is that she will stand on her own feet when she pulls that switch. It will be the first time in three years that Peggy has been able to stand, and nothing could be an important moment for her.

It will not be a very impressive piece of standing that Peggy will perform for the Mayor. The city's official Santa Claus will lift her from a wheel chair and place her by the switch. At that moment she will achieve something she has dreamed about and prayed for since she was confined three years ago. It should be a dramatic moment for the crowd, too, one that they will respond to with cheers and applause.

Peggy was chosen for her job by the Department of Education which has sponsored the community observation of Christmas for the past 25 years. Among the proudest members of her audience will be her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rice of 27169 Omira Avenue.

Water Supply For Township Is Discussed

Urging that a water-supply system is necessary in order to care for present needs and assure future development, a number of citizens of the southeast portion of Farmington Township attended the Township Board meeting Tuesday night. Harry Christmas was spokesman for the proposal.

The meeting was one of the largest in quite a while, for there were more than 40 there.

Mr. Christmas, who is the president of the Farmington Township Water Association, declared that the future of the community depended upon whether water could be obtained. He said few factories or residences would be built unless water were available.

Mr. Christmas submitted to the board a blueprint which had been filled in by the Detroit City Water Board showing a water system in the Township with 6, 8 and 12 inch mains, valves, and 71 hydrants. According to the Water Board, the entire cost of such a system, put in under contract, would be \$137,000.

Mr. Christmas said, "The area covered by this proposed system is the eastern end of the Township from Eight Mile Road north to old Farmington Road or Shilwaukee, east of Middle Belt.

Supervisor Arthur Coe, was interested in the findings, but he believed the Township's indebtedness and tax delinquency would make it impossible to set up the water system. He said he would finance the installation of a water system just now. The State bond commissioner will be consulted by the board within the next two weeks to see if this assumption is correct.

Another construction project in the Township discussed at the meeting was the proposed Town Hall, which will cost more than \$200,000 as plans are at present. Two options on potential sites for the hall were read at the meeting.

One was for the southwest corner of Eleven Mile Road and Orchard Lake Road and the other was on the northeast corner of the Fred Staman farm, which is on Orchard Lake Road south about one-quarter of a mile from the other option.

It was decided to wait before calling an election to vote on these two options. There are two reasons for waiting; it is hoped more options will be submitted; the other perhaps it will be possible to hold an election to approve both the site and WPA assistance. If the latter is possible, it will mean a savings of around \$200 to the Township, according to Investigation which will make the motion asking for a delay and investigation.

Application for WPA assistance calls for \$26,000 from the government and \$24,000 from the Township. This does not include the site. This application has passed from Pontiac to Lansing. It is being delayed there because officials would like to see working drawings of the building, and all they have now are preliminary drawings. According to the architects, Lyndon and Smith, it may be possible by a visit to Lansing to move the application through to Chicago without supplying the working drawings.

It was decided that an effort would be made to do this, and in that way speed up approval of the project. It is expected that within two months will be required for the approval of the project.

Yuletide Suggestions From The A&P Store

Last minute opportunities to purchase Yuletide for Christmas are being given by the A&P. In its ad in the Enterprise this week, the A&P tells of bargains in mince meat, cranberry sauce, dates, orange-lemmon peel, Christmas candy, Liberty cream cake and chocolate drops.

Manager M. K. Ferrier points out there is a variety of nuts offered this week for holiday consumption. He has special prices for mixed nuts, filberts, Brazil nuts, walnuts, and almonds. Besides the bargains mentioned in these limited suggestions, he says the A&P this week has its usual array of price saving offers.

and her three-year-old brother. Choristers will sing Christmas carols, and more than 2,000 are expected to attend.