

The Farmington Enterprise

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NUMBER 26

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Work On Sewer Is Resumed

Work on the new Shiawassee street sewer will go forward rapidly with coming of dry weather following allotment of a new \$15,000 grant to finish the job by WPA. Workmen reporting this week were told to return in a few days. Construction of the nine-long project, delayed this week by rains which made work impossible, will be resumed as soon as the ground dries out enough to permit digging and laying of the pipes.

The sewer has been completed as far westward as the Reed Webster residence on Shiawassee street. Here the work was stopped because of the exhaustion of funds for labor. An additional allotment of \$15,000 was secured however, and 50 men will be put on to finish the job.

Although the project has already been finished far enough to provide for all the homes in the district except one, it will be necessary to carry it to its completion, that is, to the creek crossing on Shiawassee street east of the Reed Webster residence. The Grand River drainage on which the project is based, is to be provided.

Completion of the sewer is essential since Highway Engineers report that an area on the west side must be drained if trouble in the Grand River pipes is to be avoided. A large ditch-digging machine was ordered this week to facilitate the work.

WEEK'S WORRY IS ENDED QUICKLY BY EASY METHOD

For nearly a week Mrs. Max Olschansky of Farmington was constantly concerned about the loss of a purse containing money, a check, and a number of keys which she could replace with difficulty, if at all. The loss naturally bothered her a great deal, besides causing inconvenience, for a number of days, but it didn't take long to recover them, after she put a liner in last week's Enterprise.

Saturday Clyde Greenman of Parker subdivision, brought the black leather purse into the Enterprise office. The keys and check were still in the purse when he found it near a cross-road below Parker subdivision.

However, nine dollars which the purse had contained was missing. The original finder had taken the money and thrown the purse away. Mrs. Greenman found it, the owner never having been in the vicinity of the spot where it was discovered.

Mrs. Olschansky rewarded the youth with the amount of the check which remained in the purse. She also expressed to him her regret that both were losers through the loss of the money, because she said she "would have split it" with him, being so pleased to recover the purse and especially the keys. Young Greenman had found the purse a few days before, but had kept it at home because, he had heard The Enterprise had had no means of discovering the identity of the owner.

Bachelor Trial Set For April 26

April 26 has been set as the date for the trial of Russell Bachelor, 15-year old Farmington youth, who is charged with the murder of a 12-year old girl. The trial will be held before Judge Frank L. Doty of the Oakland Circuit Court.

The charges grew out of an accident on Grand River Road last February 15, which resulted in the death of Frances Labadie and serious injuries to her sister, Suzanne.

PRESENT MARIONETTE SHOW

Dick Richards, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard L. Richards, who is a sixth grade pupil in the Farmington school, entertained the pupils of the West Farmington school on Friday morning with a marionette show, the cave scene from "Tom Sawyer." He was assisted by his sister, Cherry, who took the speaking part of Becky. During scenery changes, Cherry favored the group with recitations. Dick also showed the difference between puppets and marionettes and with a short, original conversation, using two puppets.

No source of lighting will be visible to the eye at the 1939 World's Fair in San Francisco.

Need For Uniform Trunk Line Maintenance Is Shown



MURRAY D. VAN WAGONER
State Highway Commissioner

Ardis Greenman Contest Winner

Ardis Greenman, high school senior, is the Farmington winner in an essay contest sponsored in part by the Michigan Bankers' Association. With the first place goes a cash prize of \$10. Second place, with a prize of \$5, was won by Arlene Rose.

The contest, which all high school seniors were eligible to enter, carries with it a grand prize of a scholarship at Michigan State College. The winning essays from all the state high schools will be judged by the writer of the essay deemed the best will enter Michigan State College next fall for the 1939-40 term. Subject of the essays was: "How a Bank Serves Its Community."

RESIDENT OF FARMINGTON 84 YEARS IS DEAD

Funeral services were held at Heene Funeral Home on Tuesday for Mrs. Lydia Edwards, a resident of Farmington for 84 years, who passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Max Sylvester, 2504 Telegraph Road, Dearborn, following an illness of 10 days.

Mrs. Edwards was born in Farmington Aug. 1853, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Augustus White, pioneers of this community.

She lived nearly all her life in Farmington, before the death of her husband January 5, 1937, and had many friends and neighbors who will remember her for her many acts of kindness and good will.

Rev. E. Mossner of Reiford conducted the funeral services. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Surviving besides her daughter, a nephew, Clyde White of Kalamazoo, and two nieces, Mrs. Irma Fitch of Owosso, and Mrs. Nina Goers of Oxnard, Calif.

Springtime Is The Time To Select Many New Things

Are you buying something new this week? Springtime is the time for new things, and shoppers can find everything in the Farmington stores from a new spring outfit in clothing to new paint for the barn. For those women who need new linens and towels in the home, Fred L. Cook and Co. is the place to stop and shop.

A new house, charmingly designed in 50 different models is the enticing offer of Ernest Light Contracting Co. If you have a car you know how important it is to have tires that are safe and dependable. That's the kind of tires that you can buy at Burnett Bros. service station.

The Redford Theatre is offering a new double feature bill to movie patrons, "The Cowboy and the Lady" starring Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon, and "The Three Musketeers" with Don Ameche and the Ritz Brothers.

If you're using an out-of-date electric fan that tends to be obsolete or if your waffle iron isn't doing its best after years of faithful service, why not stop in at the Detroit-Edition office and ask to see their display of home appliances? They have all the newest conveniences.

Editor's Note—Of particular interest to the local area which is honeycombed with improved highways, and upon the efficient maintenance of which depends the effective functioning of community life, is a bill now before the Legislature aiming to drastically alter the system of highway maintenance which has been carried forward in Michigan during the past dozen years with such success as to make the State outstanding in this respect in the United States. The issue being a vital one not only for the local community but for the entire State, which counts tourist attraction as providing its second largest industry, there is presented herewith in full a statement on the question issued this week by State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagoner.

A STATEMENT

by Murray D. Van Wagoner

"Stripped of its subterfuge, House Bill No. 252 is simply a political measure directed against my party and the Democratic state highway commissioner."

"To accomplish this objective, a bill is offered which would set state highway administration in this state back at least twenty years. This is a mighty big price to pay for political spite."

"The people of Michigan in 1937 elected me as their state highway commissioner for a second four-year term to 'maintain and improve' the state highways. House Bill 252 proposes to defeat the will of the people by taking the maintenance of state trunkline highways away from the state highway department."

"An eminent Republican predecessor of mine, Frank P. Rogers, instituted the policy of direct maintenance of trunkline highways at the specific request of counties themselves. In his biennial report of June 29, 1926, Mr. Rogers said: 'I am confident that the road commissions will find their organization best devoted to the work of developing county road systems and they requested that the state relieve them of the contracting for the trunkline maintenance work.'"

Who May Vote.

The record shows that the maintenance of trunklines was taken over by the state highway department in 18 counties in 1926, the largest number ever taken over in a single year. This policy of direct maintenance was continued and extended by Mr. Rogers' successor and my predecessor, Grover C. Dillman, likewise a Republican.

"In continuing such a policy, this administration has merely done that which has proved to be the most efficient and most economical system of maintenance. It is a system followed by virtually every state in the Union. A substantial reduction in the per-mile cost of maintenance has been achieved by adoption of this system, not to mention the superior service afforded the public."

"One of the greatest achievements of this administration has been its highway maintenance. Even my most bitter enemies will admit this small deposit of convenience."

New Low Price

Milk has long been recognized as one of the most healthful of foods. The Farmington Dairy has high-grade pasteurized milk for sale at a new sensational low price. If you don't have your own container, you can use one of theirs by paying a small deposit.

If you are planning to repair your home, to put on new screens for the summer, or to build something new, call up the Farmington Lumber and Coal Co., or stop in at their office and let them quote you some prices on building material. If you're worrying about how to pay for your home the F.H.A. has a system under which you "pay like rent." Ask the Lumber and Coal Co. for details.

One of the surest signs of spring is when you and the neighbors start to spade the ground for the garden. In what condition are your garden tools? If they are worn or if you don't have enough to put in a really good garden, you'll be interested in the low prices Hutton's Farmington Hardware is featuring on garden implements.

Keen Battle In Township Expected

A spirited contest looms in Farmington Township over the proposed construction of a new township hall building, to be voted on at a special election Thursday, May 4. Indications are that the issue will attract a large vote, developed by partisans on both sides of the question.

The large turnout is predicted despite the limitation whereby only owners of property which is assessed for taxes may cast ballots. While this restriction eliminates a considerable portion of the voters eligible in elections for township offices, it is nevertheless believed that interest will be so keen as to bring out a much larger proportion of property-owners than usual.

In last week's issue of The Enterprise, it was stated on the basis of an offhand local opinion that others besides property-owners might vote on purchase of the proposed site. This was erroneous—inasmuch as the purchase proposal has to do with expenditure of money for acquiring property, only property-owners may vote on this question. Thus one must own property to vote on any of the three issues.

Both Sides Active

Those urging the proposed town hall building have been active thus far, and there are indications of a vigorous opposition also. Generally it is predicted that the residents of the Clarencville area are likely to show the greatest favor toward proposed, while the rural sections are expected to provide the strongest opposition. The requirement of a two-thirds majority on raising the mill-tax provides an admittedly difficult barrier for proponents of the issue, despite the fact that more than \$27,000 would be provided for construction by WPA while \$10,000 is the amount of the proposed township bond issue.

It is suggested that in order to avoid delay and difficulty in connection with the election, the newer residents particularly would do well to bring to the polls either a tax receipt, last census record, or other evidence attesting to their qualification to vote.

The list of qualifications follows:

Who May Vote. Under the Constitution persons voting on questions involving the direct exercise of public money or the issue of bonds must possess the following qualifications:

A. Be a citizen of the United States; B. Be twenty-one years of age (either male or female); C. Have resided in the state six months and in the township twenty days immediately preceding the election. (Art. III Sec. 1 Const.); and

D. Have property assessed for taxes in any part of the township which also included the lawful husband or wife of such property owner. (Art. III Sec. 4 Const.)

Under these provisions of the constitution anyone who possesses the qualifications of electors set forth in paragraphs A, B, and C who has property assessed for taxes in any part of the township, or the lawful husband or wife of such a person may vote. It is not necessary that such voter reside on the property. If the property has been sold on a land contract under which the purchaser agrees to pay the taxes, both the title owner of the property and contract purchaser, with their respective wives, may vote.

Notes Required. A majority only of these voting at the election is necessary in order to pass the propositions involving the purchase of the site and the issue of bonds, but, the constitution requires a two-thirds vote of approval on the proposition to increase the tax limit above 15 mills.

More Dogs Shot In Fight Against Rabies

Continuing his effort to curb the mad dog menace which has become so prevalent in the Farmington district, Deputy Joseph DeVriendt destroyed several more dogs this week. The task of wiping out the rabies-infected dogs is very difficult because of the rapidity with which the disease spreads among loose dogs.

Dog-owners are cautioned to keep their pets tied up as all strays will be destroyed on sight.

SCHOOLS CLOSED FRIDAY—Farmington public schools will be closed Friday, April 21, in honor of the late Dr. Pontiac for the Oakland County Teachers' meeting.

Letters to the Editor are always welcomed by this newspaper.

Farmington Boy On Major League Pitching Staff

Baseball fame and glory is within reach of a young Farmington boy for the next several weeks. The young man is Harry Wolfe, Jr., well-known to Farmington people as a home town boy as well as through his prowess as a top-notch pitcher. For the next several weeks Harry will travel with the Cincinnati Reds, matching his skill as a hurler with some of baseball's leading pitchers.

Harry's roommate, most famous of the Cincinnati hurling staff, Vandermeer, is the hurler who last season, his first in the majors, pitched a record nine appearances in succession, a record never approached before.

Young Wolfe, who is 21 years old, is being given a try-out period by Manager Bill McKechnie. The Cincinnati manager was attracted to Wolfe through the excellent record he hung up last year while playing for Sioux City, Iowa, in the Nebraska league.

Plan Effort To Form New P.T.A.

A meeting to organize a new Parent-Teachers' Association in Farmington will be held next Thursday, April 27, at 8 p. m. in the high school assembly room. All interested are invited to attend. Years ago there was a P. T. A. group in Farmington, but after a long period of dwindling membership, it ceased to exist.

A group of eighteen parents held a meeting Tuesday evening at which the possibilities and need of such an association were discussed. It was unanimously agreed that such a group could be a common meeting ground in which teachers and parents might discuss school problems.

It is believed that better relationship between parents and teachers can be fostered than in the past.

This group constituted itself a temporary committee for the organization of a Parent Teachers' Association in Farmington.

Spring Cleaning Due Here Soon

All Farmington residents are asked to keep in mind the dates, Tuesday, May 2 and Wednesday, May 3, as these are the "Clean Up" days set aside for the city's "spring house-cleaning."

All papers, rubbish, etc., should be placed in the street to be picked up by city trucks.

Residents are especially asked to remove collections of old rags, papers and other articles which constitute a fire hazard in the home.

Full cooperation from all residents on "Cleaning Days" is needed to keep Farmington a clean and safe place in which to live.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steele attended the Ladies' Night Program and dinner dance Tuesday afternoon at the Exchange Club of West Detroit, at Botsford Tavern.

News items are always welcome.

Youth Is Urged To Keep High Spirit Of Idealism

In the second half of her essay "Are We In Debt?", the first part of which appeared in last week's Enterprise, Paulette Gambee discusses the problem of crime, criminals, and the evils of unequal food distribution. She finishes with a plea to Young America to band together for mutual strength, to carry the torch of idealism, and to march on to new conquests.

Paulette's essay won first place in the district contest and is now eligible for the national judging. It will also be entered in the \$1,000 contest sponsored by the American Magazine.

One of the more urgent problems confronting the nation is crime. The percentage of criminals in the United States is appalling. We have only to read in our daily newspapers to find the all too frequent details of criminal offenses.

At least fifteen such articles daily in one newspaper. Fifteen men are taken by the police for criminal activities in one day; that is the city of Detroit alone, there are at least fifteen more in each of the other cities of Michigan. It is not only a crime problem, it is a social problem as well. Every year the land owns

He came to watch Wolfe pitch and decided to give him a chance.

If McKechnie decides that the Farmington boy is not yet ready for the major leagues, it has been agreed that he will be shipped to Durham, North Carolina, a Cincinnati farm team, for the rest of the season.

Beats Red Sox

Harry pitched the first four innings of an exhibition game a few days before the season started this year. The Reds were playing the Boston Red Sox that day and Harry was given credit for a 9 to 7 win. The score was 4 to 3 in his favor when he left the game. He has been called up by the Detroit Tigers last Sunday but the game was called off.

F. H. S. Graduate

Young Wolfe is the son of Harry Wolfe, Sr., well-known Farmington real estate man. He was graduated from Farmington High School in 1935.

City Approves New Water Line

The rapid development which is being made in the northeast section of Farmington was once more evidenced this week when the City Commission met in a special meeting voted to build a new trunk water line in that district. The line will be built on Shiawassee, east from Prospect to Lakeway, and thence south on Lakeway to the existing watermain.

The cost of the new line has been estimated at between \$1,500 and \$1,800.

The Commission stipulated, however, that before construction can begin all delinquent city taxes from properties abutting on the north side of Shiawassee from Prospect to Lakeway must be paid. These back taxes amount to between \$400 and \$500.

The requirement that back taxes be paid before the water line is begun, will protect the City against expense of constructing the line without there being any houses built to make use of it. Meanwhile it will bring to the City a portion of the expenditure in back taxes, an improvement which it is felt would probably have to be built sometime anyhow.

No requirement was set up that other than municipal taxes be paid, that is, delinquent county and state taxes.

The line will consist of six-inch pipe along Shiawassee, and four-inch pipe on the connecting link along Lakeway, necessary in order to avoid a dead-end.

SENIOR FROM SATURDAY

The senior class of Farmington high school will hold their annual Senior Prom next Saturday night, April 22, at 9 p. m. at Dearborn. About 100 invitations have been issued for the affair, which is semi-formal. Music will be provided by Red Drennan's orchestra.

News items are always welcome.

Begin School Building Next Week

Work is expected to begin next week on the new Farmington school building following the approval accorded last Friday night when Farmington property-owners and voters voted "yes" in sufficient majorities to authorize \$22,000 in construction funds. Pending the approval of the PWA offices in Chicago, a resolution is being drawn up to award the contracts. Under a PWA requirement, bids on the bonds must be received in order to show that the bonds can be sold. Already two tentative bids have been received from Detroit bond companies, and the PWA approval is expected in a few days.

Work will begin as soon as the go-ahead signal is given and the middle of next week should see the general contractor at work. Construction crews will first set up their equipment house, and will continue there operations during the summer months.

Officials hope to have the job finished by Labor Day, in time for the opening of school. A PWA time-limit ruling that the work must be finished within the month of September sets the deadline for the construction. In case the work is not finished by the opening of school, it is hoped that enough of the building will be completed so that classes may be held. Classrooms will probably be finished first, the gymnasium construction last.

The Board of Education has accepted the low bid for the work and as soon as the expected approval is received the contracts will be awarded. General construction will be done by the Norman A. Starr Co., of Detroit, who bid \$71,750. The W. H. White Co., of Detroit, bid \$15,800 for the job of installing the plumbing, heating and ventilation fixtures. The lighting and electric fixtures will be put in by the Michigan Electric Co., who bid \$5,313 for the job. The total \$92,863.

Voters approved a \$22,000 bond issue and payment thereof by increasing the mill-tax from 27.3 mills, or \$170.3 thousand dollars valuation on property in the district, at the special election Friday.

Although both issues received the necessary majority, the tax-increase measure, for which a two-thirds majority was needed, ran close. The count of 213 to 93, provided nine more than barely enough to pass. The bond issue proposition, which only property-owners were allowed to ballot, succeeded by a majority of 166 to 91.

Exchange Club Hears Pre-natal Care Talk

Members of the Exchange Club possess a keener understanding of the great importance to the nation of proper care of prospective mothers, as the result of a talk by Doctor Alexander M. Campbell of the Michigan State health department, at the club meeting Wednesday noon.

Urging better pre-natal care among women and a greater understanding among prospective fathers, Dr. Campbell pointed out the appalling fact that one woman dies in childbirth in Michigan every day. More than 150,000 women and infants perish in the United States each year from lack of proper care during the pre-natal period and from abortions, giving this nation the highest childbirth mortality rate in the world.

Using moving pictures to illustrate his talk, Dr. Campbell pleaded for nation-wide understanding and public education.

AUXILIARY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Thirty-one members were in attendance at the annual meeting and dinner of the North Farmington Auxiliary held Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Graham in North Farmington.

Following the dinner, election of officers was held, all the present officers being retained. They are: President, Mrs. Frank Dickie; Vice-President, Mrs. Arthur Green; Secretary, Mrs. John Graham; and Treasurer, Mrs. John Graham.

BAKE SALE

A candy and bake sale will be given by the Girls' Club of the Evangelical Church at Hamlin's market on Saturday, April 22, beginning at 10:00 a. m.