

The Farmington Enterprise

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR—NUMBER 23

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1941

5 Cents a Copy

City Tax Collection Sets Record

A new high mark for collections of city taxes was set this year, according to George C. Gildemeister, city treasurer. Collection of 1940 city taxes reached 90 per cent, shattering last year's record high of 86 1/2 per cent. The 1938 rate of collection was 84 per cent.

Due to the unusually high percentage of collection this year, only \$23,530.83 was returned delinquent to the Oakland County treasurer. Total city taxes spread for 1940 amounted to \$21,732.60 and of this \$19,351.77 was paid before the March 1 deadline.

School Tax Returns High—A 90 per cent high percentage of 1940 county and school taxes were also collected. Gildemeister placed the collection percentage of these taxes at 87, compared to 83 per cent last year and 80 per cent the year before.

Total taxes assessed for school purposes in 1940 amounted to \$28,252.38, of which \$24,492.94 was paid, leaving a delinquency of \$3,759.44. County taxes for 1940 totaled \$7,415.61, of which \$6,284.45 was collected, leaving a delinquency of \$1,131.16.

Gildemeister announces that all unpaid taxes for the City of Farmington have been returned delinquent to the Oakland County Treasurer for collection and that a four per cent penalty fee will be added to all tax payments. This fee will be increased by one half of one per cent for each month of delinquency.

Will Not Seek Re-election—Gildemeister has announced that he will not seek re-election to the office of treasurer in the coming election, April 7.

KIWANIS CLUB TO HEAR TALK ON DAIRY PRODUCTS

A talk on "Milk and Creamery Products" will be featured at the Kiwanis Club Wednesday night of the Farmington Club. The speaker will be Joseph Himmelspach, former Kiwanis president, and owner of the Farmington Dairy. Mr. Himmelspach will discuss the varied phases of dairy management, production of milk and cream products, and the selling and business end of the industry.

More than one hundred guests enjoyed a joint meeting Wednesday evening of the Kiwanis club and the Farmington Woman's Club. A group of Kiwanis men and their wives from Holly, were also present. A representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Detroit, was the speaker. He was secured through the efforts of the Woman's club and his talk proved highly interesting to all present.

Following the dinner and talk, the group enjoyed a program of organ music, played by Mr. Lou Betterly on the Salem Evangelical church's electric organ. Mr. Betterly is a representative of the Grinnell Music Co. of Detroit.

On April 30 the club will hold a dinner-dance at the Botsford Tavern. Tickets are available at the Farmington Dairy.

GARDEN CLUB TO MEET WITH MRS. M. R. BURROWS

Members of the Farmington Branch of the Women's National Garden and Association will hold their April meeting at the home of Mrs. M. R. Burrows, 2300 Locust Drive on Tuesday, April 1, at two o'clock.

Cooperation of members in the annual spring "Ship and Seed Exchange" will be expected and appreciated.

The subject of the guest speaker, James Tyson of Michigan State College, will be "Soils."

Mother of Erskine Evans Dies Sunday

Word was received this week of the death of Mrs. William J. Evans, mother of Erskine W. Evans, of Pontiac, formerly of Farmington. The Evans family lived on Lakeview avenue for a number of years, and have many friends here. Mrs. Evans died March 23 at the home of a daughter, Mrs. William A. Doderer in Atlanta, Georgia. Burial was in St. Peter's cemetery on Tuesday, March 25.

Holder of County Drain Bonds Face Total Loss



HARRY J. MERRITT

Plan Father and Son Banquet

Final plans for the Boy Scout Southern District Father and Son Banquet are nearing completion and Commissioner John W. Hunt declared he expects a greater event this year than in the past two years. All troops in the District report increases in membership and more enthusiasm in scouting is shown.

The banquet will be held Tuesday, April 1 at 7 o'clock in the Methodist church basement. The program lists moving pictures, scouting and a featured singing event in addition to the dinner. Scouts, Sea Scouts and Cubs from Walnut Lake, Bond School District and Farmington, together with ranking Scout officials of the State will be on hand for the occasion. This will be the third successive Scout Father and Son banquet held in this district. It always is one of Farmington's largest father and son affairs.

Easter Organ Music to Be Heard From Church

Beginning Friday evening, March 28, residents of Farmington will be treated to nightly programs of organ music, played through the loud speaker amplifier atop the Salem Evangelical church, announces Rev. Carl Schultz, pastor of the church.

The programs will be played each evening from 7 to 8 o'clock by Don Miller, well-known Detroit organist, on the church's Hammond electric organ. Rev. Schultz said that any persons who wished to come into the church while the music is being played, are invited to do so.

Mrs. M. B. Pierce Learns Of Brother's Death

Word was received last week by Mrs. M. B. Pierce of the death of her brother, Edgar D. Kennedy, at his home in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Kennedy was well known to many friends in Farmington, who will regret his passing.

March Weather Deceptive But Not Merchants' Values

Weather in March is apt to be deceptive and uncertain but there's nothing deceptive or uncertain about the shopping bargains being featured during March by the merchants of Farmington. March is an important month for shoppers—new spring! The bargains placed on sale and Easter styles are attracting much attention.

With warm weather approaching you'll want a dependable car for week end drives as well as for every day use. Drop in and look over some of the used cars bargains at Earl Vivier's service station. They are in guaranteed condition and in most cases year old car will cover the down payment. First class repair work and Vivier's is done by Harold Olden.

Two sure signs of Spring are (1) the first robin, and (2) F. L. Cook's white shoe sale. Cook's shoes come in all sizes, shapes

and styles, but they all have one thing in common—they are smart. You'll want lots of candy for the Easter holiday. The Oak Pharmacy has a new stock of fresh, delicious Lowrey's chocolates and candy Easter eggs for children.

The lighting staff of Detroit Edison Co. is offering helpful hints to merchants concerning the lighting of their store. They have lots of ideas to help make a store more attractive. The staff volunteers their information without charge.

For an enjoyable evening of entertainment go to the Civic Theatre. They feature outstanding movies, cartoons and special subjects. Scheduled for next week are: Friday and Saturday, "Behind the News" with Lloyd Nolan and "Street of Memories" featuring Guy Kibbee. On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday a double bill program

May Appeal Now—"Other drain projects were constructed under similar interpretations of the law. Suits were started in some instances challenging the validity of the bonds. In some cases, local courts decided the bonds were good and the plaintiffs never appealed. It is now possible that appeals may be taken."

"Taxpayers may also sue to prevent the counties from spreading taxes on some of the drains, on the grounds that they were illegal from the start."

"It is hard to tell where all this is going to stop."

Merritt said however, that property owners who already have paid taxes on the contested drains have no chance to recover their payments, under the terms of the Federal decision.

As the situation now stands, matters are at a deadlock. Commissioners keep their drains, which are already built, as a free gift from the bondholders.

The major hope the bondholders have is that the United States Supreme Court will reverse the decision of the Cincinnati court.

Bonds Widely Held—Bonds affected by the decision are widely held, it is said, although some institutions own large blocks. The bonds have fluctuated widely in value, having sold at times as high as 70, but are now way down.

Oakland County has bought in approximately \$200,000 worth of securities, at low prices, over the years, to reduce its debt load.

Junior Class to Give Courtroom Drama

On the night of March 28th, the Junior Class of Farmington High school will present "The Night of January 16th." The play tells a thrilling-paced story of the courtroom and a criminal trial. It's a drama—and bits of comedy keep the audience from getting too fast. Directed by Miss Isabel Steele, the cast includes Beatrice Cole, Melvin Rowland, Tom Shrieber, John Orlano, Margaret Miles, Jack Samuelson, Eileen Gunning, Clifford Punge, Judith Oates, Myrl Ann Smith, Charlotte King, Leo Canillo, Roland Muirhead, Thea Gernache, Irene Brykaski, Albert Rose, Margery Collins, Clark Cleghorn, William Dallas, Dorothy Fox and Hugo Pascoe. Robert Gullen is stage manager.

Class advisers are Miss Genevieve Johnston, Ellis Tooker and Paul Shoemaker.

Howard L. Richards, Cubmaster of Pack 45, Farmington, announces that the Pack has been re-registered for 1941 and will re-register on March 31.

After a very successful year has passed, the re-registered membership of 49 Cubs. The Pack is the largest in the Clinton Valley Council, having well over 50 per cent of all Cubs in both Oakland and Macomb Counties.

The next regular Pack meeting will be held at the High School Gymnasium April 4. The theme for the month is "Bird House," and there will be an interesting display on the boys' workshop.

The public is cordially invited.

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Growers Protest Tax Policies

Harry McCracken and L. H. Spicer, prominent fruit growers of the Farmington area, have been named to a committee of 12 men to attend a special session of the state apple commission at Michigan State College, East Lansing on April 1.

The committee was selected at a meeting of about 100 Eastern Michigan apple growers last Friday at Pontiac. The committee includes several men who were among the group instituting a suit in Oakland County circuit court last year to test constitutionality of the apple advertising tax law.

The circuit court declared the law unconstitutional but the ruling was reversed in the State Supreme Court. The special meeting April 1 is an effort by the apple commission to remedy grievances which brought about the test suits in Oakland and Berrien counties. Among the complaints was the matter of tax stamps and belief that the proposed advertising might better be carried out with voluntary rather than compulsory contributions.

All but one of the many growers present at the meeting Friday favored advertising Michigan apples, but nearly all failed to favor the tax stamp plan whereby growers must purchase stamps at their local banks and affix tags of various denominations on each separate package of apples.

John T. Miller of Birmingham suggested a tax on each tree. Donald Pildew of Milford told the assembled fruitmen he opposed this form of governmental control which he said in the Pacific Northwest has resulted in rigid monopoly practices.

C. C. Taylor of Albion, chairman of the state apple commission, pointed out the short period commission members had for their report. He said the commission and the time the new law had to be set in operation. He intimated the stamp tax might be altered following the April 1 session and pointed out that former attempts at voluntary contributions had failed.

Committee members chosen, besides McCracken and Spicer, are Miller, Pildew, J. H. Hill, Montrose, Ralph Peterson, Northville; Paul Trotter, Ann Arbor; Lee Barrows, Romeo; Ralph Kresge, Pontiac; Raymond Hyde, Fenton; and Alden Green, Walled Lake. Other apple commission members attending the meeting were W. K. Bristol, Almont and Edward Lyman, South Haven. Don Hood, secretary of the Michigan State Horticultural Society, presided. Truman Noid, Columbus, Ohio, secretary of the National Apple Institute, also spoke.

FARMINGTON O.E.S. WILL HOLD FAMILY NIGHT

Farmington Chapter No. 233, O.E.S. will hold a family night pot luck at 6:30 o'clock before the regular meeting on April 9. Members are urged to bring their families and enjoy both the dinner and the short program which will follow. It is requested that each family bring in addition to their contribution to the dinner, rolls or bread sufficient for their own family.

Each member paints approximately 10 pictures a year. The pictures will be exhibited in the theatre lobby, foyer and mezzanine.

Club's Paintings to be Exhibited at Civic

The Palette and Brush Club of Detroit will sponsor an exhibit of the work of its members in the Civic Theatre from March 28 until April 5, announces E. J. Hollier, Civic Theatre manager.

Farmington members of the club include Mrs. Lloyd Gullen, Mrs. Guy Durgan, Mrs. Leo Gernache, Mrs. Karl Rie, Mrs. E. E. Smith, Mrs. Kenneth Griffith, and Mrs. William J. Spicer. President of the club is Mrs. S. E. Walke, of Detroit.

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Cubs to Re-Register With National Council

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After a very successful year has passed, the re-registered membership of 49 Cubs. The Pack is the largest in the Clinton Valley Council, having well over 50 per cent of all Cubs in both Oakland and Macomb Counties.

Contest To Furnish Homes For City's Feathered Friends

Farmington's bird population will be the ultimate winner of a contest being planned jointly by the city's Scouting organization, the Kiwanis Club, and the Exchange Club. The contest is designed primarily for youngsters between the ages of 8 and 15 and the prizes, 16 of them, will go to the kids who build the best bird houses.

But it will be the birds, not the kids, who get the most out of the contest because after the judges have decided which of the houses are most fit for bird occupancy, all the houses will be donated to the city for erection in likely places in parks and along the streets.

Entrants will be divided into two classes—Junior, from 8 to 12

Child Dies as Home Burns

A fire which Sunday night destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hight Carrigan, 21179 Potomac street, Southfield Township, took the life of the couple's youngest son, aged 2 1/2 years.

The fire occurred while the parents were attending a meeting of the Maccabees organization in a hall a few blocks away at Grand River avenue and Eight Mile Road. The parents were gone from their home for just an hour, leaving their five sons, Bruce, 10, Maynard, 5, Keith, 2, Denis, 4, and Jimmy, alone in the house.

The mother returned to find the building in flames, but with the five boys safely outside. Jimmy, however, apparently seeking his mother in the confusion, darted back into the flaming home. A moment later the building collapsed.

The fire was believed to have started by a boy, one of the boys took from the stove and placed on the floor.

MASQUERS TO PRESENT PLAY FRIDAY, APRIL 4

"Grandma Fought the Indians," which the Masquers are presenting April 4, is shaping up into a first class musical play. Rev. Schube, the directing director, is greatly pleased with the talent shown by members of the cast.

The men's quartet of the Methodist church is going to sing, and efforts are being made to secure a first class instrumental soloist. The program promises to be a great success, and everyone has a hunch this will be the funniest play the Masquers have presented.

The date is April 4 at the Methodist Community Hall, and tickets may be purchased from the shop, present, Henry Mahoney, or from any member of the cast.

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Easter Sale Plans Near Completion

Final arrangements for the Girl Scout Easter Sale held the spotlight at the March meeting of the Local Council of Girl Scouts at the Scout Hall on Thursday morning.

The sale, which is being sponsored by the Council, will feature cut flowers, pots of single or assorted plants, decorated chocolate Easter eggs, and hot cross buns. Freeholders are being made by the Girl Scouts of Troop 5 to be sold also.

Several scouts of Troop 5 are now working on posters to advertise the sale.

Mrs. F. J. Nash is chairman of the Easter Sale Committee.

15 Petitions Turned In To Clerk

With the deadline for petitions closing Thursday evening, City Clerk Harry Moore had received the petitions of 15 candidates by early Thursday afternoon. Several additional petitions were being circulated Thursday. The election will be held Monday, April 7.

Candidates who had filed their petitions included Howard L. Richards, Justice of peace; John J. Schulte, Justice of peace; Mrs. Aris Jamieson, treasurer; Carl G. Hogle, treasurer; Francis H. Davis, treasurer; Harold Olden, commissioner; Emory O. Hatton, commissioner; Howard Ots, commissioner; John R. Shuts, commissioner; James L. Hogle, assessor; Harrison Johnson, board of review; Clinton Wilber, board of review; Earl McManus, constable; Norman T. Barons, constable; and Horace Durham, constable.

Petitions not yet turned in, were also being circulated by Mayor Leo F. Gildemeister, City Clerk Harry W. Moore, Kenneth W. Griffith, for commissioner and Max Hulett for commissioner.

On Friday night the City Commission will hold a special meeting for the purpose of canvassing the petitions.

Voters have up to Saturday, March 29 to register, according to Mr. Moore. Registrations will be accepted by Mr. Moore at the City Hall until 8 p. m. on the final day.

Ballots will also be cast for a number of state offices and for two proposed amendments to the State constitution.

EXCHANGEITES SEE MOVIES AND HEAR SPEECH CONTEST

Members of the Farmington Exchange Club enjoyed a full and varied program at the Wednesday noon luncheon. Included were movies shown by Paul Gray, of the Saline Valley Cooperative Farm System, and the district finals of the Exchange Club speech contest.

Mr. Gray's moving pictures showed activities on the farm system. He showed two reels, one before the speech contest and one afterwards.

John Condliss, of Pontiac, received the unanimous vote of the judges, to place first in the speech contest. Second honors went to Rasmus Anderson, Dearborn. Two other contestants were Gordon Nelson, of Farmington High School and Frank O'Toole of Birmingham.

The speech contest was a part of the metropolitan contest sponsored throughout the Detroit area by the Exchange Club. District winners will compete later in a metropolitan contest in Detroit.

Robert Gullen, representing the Farmington High School Junior Class, appeared on behalf of the Junior Class play, which is to be given March 29, evening.

Visitors Observe Fifteenth Anniversary

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hurkett and family this week, are Mrs. Hurkett's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Danman of Norway, Michigan. On Saturday, Mrs. Hurkett will observe their 50th wedding anniversary. In honor of the occasion, a family dinner and gathering will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cartwright of Redford. Mrs. Cartwright is also a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Danman.

School Children to See "Passion Play" at Civic

Schools of Farmington, Bond District, North and Grand Blancville will be dismissed on Friday afternoon, March 28, so that the pupils may attend a special showing of "The Passion Play" at the Civic Theatre. The hour-long play, which tells the story of Christ's death and resurrection of Christ. Scenes were made on the actual locations in the Holy Land.

The Lakeway Ladies Club met at the home of Mrs. Grace Holmes last Thursday evening. After a short business session, business was enjoyed and refreshments were served. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Cornelia Kieren.

Farmington Girl Pledged to Sorority

Miss Betty Jane Worrold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Worrold, of Farmington, has been elected to the Omicron Chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority and was elected president of the pledges.