

# The Farmington Enterprise

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\$1.00 A YEAR.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

### STATE'S PRISON AT JACKSON

Under Warden Simpson, As Seen By Ex-Gov. Warner on His Recent Visit There.

Warden Simpson, who recently retired from the position as warden of Jackson prison, received his appointment December 20, 1910, by the unanimous vote of the prison board, composed of Ex-Governor Warner and his appointees, G. W. Merriman, John H. Haggerty and John Q. Adams.

Mr. Warner, in an interview the first of the week state: "If ever a man has made good in a public position N. H. Simpson has, and Michigan has certainly lost an efficient official, but Simpson will make good anywhere. He is honest, a hustler, a good organizer and has lots of ability and common sense. That succeeds anywhere, as I told the board six years ago when I urged his appointment.

"He has made improvements in every department and originated many new ones. The binder twine plant has shown great results; also the 'prison honor farms,' which in my last legislative message I strongly urged the establishment of. Under Warden Simpson these farms have proved their worth in the moral uplift of the men placed on them—trusting inmates of the prison being worked out on the several farms. They live and care for themselves in the farm homes without guards, having not even bars on the windows.

"Selected men, as high as 250 in number, are placed upon their honor, and for four years the number of escapes has been less than 1 per cent. The farms, especially as carried on by Warden Simpson, have furnished the best possible training for the men.

"The value of the pack of vegetables and fruit of the state canneries is \$100,000 annually, \$30,000 of which obtained from 80 acres of wax beans.

"All the prison farms have been improved—miles of drain tile laid, many acres of worthless land made tillable, large herds of beef cattle, as well as over 200 dairy cows being kept. The latter supply all the milk and butter needed in the prison, while the surplus of the beef herds are sold on the markets, the hides of those slaughtered stock the new tannery, which supplies leather for the institution, for shoes, belting, etc.

"Immense quantities of ensilage are fed, coming largely from the by-products of the canning factory. Poultry raising is extensively carried on at the different farms, each farm having a separate breed.

"Under the Simpson administration the twine plant has passed the 13,000,000 pound mark annually, and is now running day and night shifts of 125 men each, helping out Michigan farmers and all Michigan taxpayers, over one million of dollars in annual sales coming from our twine plant, not yet 10 years old, is the record under Simpson. In this plant, as all over the prison, every particle of waste is utilized for some purpose. This plant is

now making the successful record that I thought was possible after visiting the Minnesota prison plant in 1907, and later urged one for Michigan.

"The new dormitory, just completed, is a great addition, and contains 64 rooms 16x27, with shower baths and complete in every way to take care of 400 men, with school rooms on the upper floor. The many farm homes and new dormitory show that the men are better housed and cared for than ever before.

"The making of 'men' has been the main object under Warden Simpson, but his last report also shows that after charging off \$43,000 for depreciation on buildings and machinery, and paying \$70,000 to inmates and their dependants, there still remains a profit in increased assets of over \$205,000 for the state.

"I have always been glad that the man who now occupies one of the highest judicial positions of our state mentioned Mr. Simpson's name to me for warden. Several names had been suggested and some very strongly endorsed for the position, but being very well acquainted with Mr. Simpson, I felt certain he would make a great attempt to make good, and so backed him as strongly as I could with the prison board. He was elected and qualified two days before my term as governor expired.

"As you go through life a few things happen that you regret, but I believe Mr. Simpson's administration will always remain a shining example of honest and good management in state affairs. It is not an easy position to hold down.

"However, I wish the new warden all possible success."

#### Dr. E. F. Holcomb Honored.

At the annual banquet and meeting of the Oakland County Medical Society last Thursday evening at the Pontiac Board of Commerce rooms, Dr. E. F. Holcomb, of this village, was elected president of the association.

Dr. Frank S. Bachelor, of Pontiac, was chosen as vice president, and Dr. F. B. Geris secretary and treasurer.

There were 23 physicians present at the meeting.

#### Your Calendar Order.

With the beginning of the new year calendar salesmen commence soliciting for 1918 calendars. Most of our business men use them. The Enterprise will have a line of samples equal to any and perhaps superior to most of the out-of-town solicitors, and we want your order. We can sell them at as good if not better price than the traveling salesmen, as we do not have to add traveling expenses to the price, or the salary of an agent. We will call on you later. Kindly hold your order for us, and we will greatly appreciate it. Of course, if you wish to patronize out-of-town salesmen that is your privilege, but we need the order, and providing we can do as well by you as the outsider, we think we are entitled to it.

Enterprise honors—they pay.

### DID NOT ISSUE WARRANT

Pontiac Paper gets "Wrong Tip" on attempted Burglary

In the Pontiac paper of Wednesday December 20th, appeared an article regarding a parole of one Dennis Breen, who was sentenced from the county of Wayne, for blowing the safe at Woodmere cemetery, and arrested upon a warrant issued in Wayne county. At the time of the blowing of the safe at Woodmere, Breen was suspected of an attempt to rob the McGee drug store and postoffice in this village, but no warrant was issued, so justice Thayer informs us.

A warrant was issued for Harold Breen and John Cook in 1914 for jumping a board bill in this village, and evidently the Pontiac paper has gotten "their dates mixed," as the names "Breen and Breen" are so near alike.

The man Breen was never apprehended, however, and the warrant is probably still in existence.

The article in the city paper is credited to a "staff" correspondent.

One day last week Justice Thayer received a telephone message supposedly from the sheriff's office, regarding the matter, and after looking up the records, gave them the correct information, as stated above.

#### Fourth Annual Party.

The second dancing party of the season will be given by the Eastern Stars at the Town Hall next Monday evening, January 1st, when their fourth annual ball takes place.

The hall will be appropriately decorated, the floor in the best of condition, and the music, which will be furnished by Minkel's orchestra, of Detroit, excellent.

Invitations were issued last week, and the party promises to be the "event of the season."

#### A Close Call.

Wednesday morning the home of Mrs. G. B. Reading, in the Warner subdivision at the east end of town was discovered to be filled with escaping coal gas from the furnace just in time in all probability to avert a serious if not fatal development for the members of the family.

Mrs. Reading, her son and mother Mrs. Kent, quite an elderly lady, were very nearly asphyxiated, when the grandmother awakened enough to call the other members of the family, whereupon the son, Avery, managed to dress and start for the nearest telephone.

Upon reaching the sidewalk the boy fell down nearly overcome, but finally managed to rally enough to reach a phone and call for medical help, which was soon forthcoming, and the victims made as comfortable as possible.

At this writing all are getting along nicely, although they had a narrow escape.

Fine new home for sale by Fred M. Warner.

### CHRISTMAS IN THE CHURCHES

Good Programs and a Merry Time Participated in by the Local Societies.

The M. E. exercises last Friday evening at the Town Hall was one of Farmington's most enjoyable events, the rendering of the beautiful Christmas Cantata "Foxy Santa," by the members of the Sunday school, being fine.

There were about seventy participants, which included "The Orphans," "Five Jack Frosts," "The Snow Fairies," "Santa's Military Band,"—ten generous and warmhearted young people filled to the brim and overflowing with the Christmas spirit. A dozen little girls who wrote letters to Santa, the spicy and well meaning postman, the invisible choir, and last but not least, "Foxy Santa" himself.

The play was certainly a credit to the committee who had it in charge, which included Mrs. Miller, Mrs. H. Johnson, Mrs. Nina Whipple, Mrs. Pauline, Mrs. Pierce Mr. and Mrs. Priestley, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Harger and Murray Moore. Each one had a share, and the rendering of the parts, the splendid singing of our young people, proved that much care and time had been spent in training.

After the cantata a splendid Christmas tree was unbundled of its gifts, and as a final treat every child in the hall was presented with a large luscious orange, a gift from the school.

All departed to their respective homes feeling the evening had been well spent, and each carrying the beautiful merriment which the story represented at the happy Christmas time.

The exercises at the Baptist church Saturday evening were well rendered and very enjoyable. The people on the program, both little and big, entertained the large audience that gathered at the church in a very pleasing manner.

The beautifully decorated Christmas tree, which stood at one side of the platform, presented a fine appearance, and many were the presents on and surrounding it.

Santa Claus was there of course, which pleased the youngsters in no small degree, and every one was filled with the Christmas spirit.

Sunday evening occurred the Christmas tree and exercises at the German church.

The tree was beautifully and profusely decorated with trimmings and presents.

The church was filled with parents and children, whose smiling faces, were plain evidence that the Christmas time was one of joy and happiness.

The program was nicely carried out, some of it spoken in English, the rest in German. After the distribution of presents all departed, having enjoyed a very pleasant and uplifting Christmas service.

Oscar Smith, one of Redford's "grand old men," died at his home there last week.

### ANOTHER BIG IMPROVEMENT

Cook & Company Will Rebuild and Remodel Their Store.

With the removal of the T. H. McGee drug store and the postoffice to the new Warner block, which will occur in a short time now, F. L. Cook & Co., expect to begin preparations for the tearing down of the two wooden buildings next to their brick, and as soon as the weather permits excavating will commence for a new and up-to-date store building.

The entire front from the hardware to the bank building will be reconstructed, making a solid front of 73 feet, to be patterned in the latest style, which according to the "blue prints" they have already obtained, will be a beauty, and a great improvement to the appearance of the Main street of our village.

The whole interior of the present brick building will be remodeled, making each department modern. The entire building will be occupied by the firm, the upper story, as now, will be used for furniture, carpets, boots and shoes and other lines.

They are also contemplating the addition of a number of other lines of merchandise, making their store one of the most up-to-date small town stores in this part of the country.

The rebuilding of the Cook store, the addition of the new Warner block, which will be occupied by C. F. Smith with one of his "chain of cash groceries," and the contemplated remodeling of a number of other store buildings along the avenue, will make a new appearance to our business section.

There are also many new homes in contemplation in different parts of the village, which will add to the beauty and size of Farmington.

The prospect for a "bigger and better" Farmington in the course of another year is, indeed bright; hence everybody interested in the "home town" should put his shoulder to the wheel and "push."

Be a booster for Farmington and see how it will grow, both in size and beauty.

#### Verdict for Insurance Company.

Last week the supreme court rendered a verdict in favor of the Michigan Mutual Home Insurance Co., of Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties, with headquarters in the village.

The case is the outcome of a suit by the insurance company against the Pere Marquette railroad for the burning of the barns of Ira Wilson, a Wayne county farmer, in July, 1911.

The insurance company sued to recover the amount of Wilson's policy (\$2,955.37), and was given a favorable verdict in the circuit court, the railroad carrying the case up to the supreme court.

It seems the railroad settled with Wilson for the burning of his barns in the amount of \$2,800, and the insurance company then sued the railroad to recover the amount paid on Wilson's policy.

Floyd Blakeslee has been appointed assistant prosecutor by Prosecuting Attorney Gillespie, and John McDonald chief deputy to Sheriff O. H. P. Green.

\$1.00 gets the Enterprise for a whole year—only 2c a day.

### LITTLE WANT ADS

MEADOWVIEW FARM—Jersey Cattle. John Morris. 8-11p

FOR SALE—Fourteen pigs, some Beans and Hay. George V. Conroy. 7tf

FOR SALE—White Giant Potatoes good cookers. \$2.00 per bushel. Inquire of C. H. Ely. 3tf

FOR SALE—Full Bred Rhode Island Red Cockerels. Call Boys Home, Farmington, phone 41w3. 8tf

HOUSE TO RENT—On electric car line. Steam heated. Inquire Harry McCracken or Fred Warner. 5tf

For Sale—A new modern six or eight room house is offered by Fred M. Warner at a reasonable price and on easy terms.

WANTED—Casings of all sizes to vulcanize by the latest improved machinery. Satisfaction guaranteed. Clyde H. Adams, phone No. 33, Farmington..

FOR SALE—The Warner farm offers at reasonable prices, 2 Holstein Bull Calves (can be registered); Also 1 grade Holstein Heifer calf. Call and look them over. 1c

FOR SALE—House and lot known as the Chamberlin place; Grand River, third house east of lumber yard. Price \$5,000; \$1,950 cash. Balance \$50 per year, with 5 per cent interest. Charles Tunis, 202 Horton avenue, Detroit. 831p.

#### Notice to the Public

On and after January 1, 1917, we will do a strictly cash business at our garages.

Positively no credit extended to anyone.

GARL R. ELY  
HENRY W. LEE & SONS.

#### Taxes Due

I now have the tax roll for the township of Farmington in my hands for collection of state and county taxes, and until further notice you can pay your taxes at my office in the Schroeder meat market, on Friday and Saturday of each week, during banking hours.

L. F. SCHROEDER  
Treasurer.

Dated December 8, 1916.

#### Attention Owners or Occupants.

The attention of the residents of Farmington is hereby called to the village ordinance requiring owner or occupants of property in the village to keep their sidewalks free from snow, dirt or other obstructions. A fine of \$10 or five days in the county jail is provided for the non-compliance of this ordinance.

GEORGE FRANCIS, Marshal.

#### Use Of Firearms.

The use of firearms or airguns is prohibited within the limits of the village of Farmington. The marshal is authorized by a village ordinance to cause the arrest of any person violating the provisions of this ordinance.

GEORGE FRANCIS, Marshal.