

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## MORE SCHOOL ROOM NEEDED

When the classification and registration of the pupils attending the Farmington schools was completed last fall it was discovered that the total attendance had increased over 1920 to the extent of 70 scholars. To meet the increased attendance the members of the board of education secured additional seats and by making some changes here and there were able to provide room for all students who applied for admission. Realizing the conditions as they existed at that time and feeling their responsibility to the district, the members of the board, at their meeting held last Saturday night, discussed the question of providing more room for the coming year. The members realized, of course, they could not wait until time to open school in September and then provide additional room to accommodate the young people who might desire to attend school in Farmington. The question was discussed at length and considered from every angle, and it was finally unanimously decided to call a special meeting of the district and give the taxpayers and opportunity to approve of a bond issue of \$20,000 to be used in the construction of an addition to the west building. The new addition, it is believed, will provide sufficient room for a number of years and when the present building was erected provisions were made for this addition and because of precautions taken at that time the new structure can be erected and made a part of the present building at a comparatively small expense.

It is proposed to issue the bonds for a period of years and thus the yearly outlay for the new building will be approximately \$1,000, this amount representing the interest. By this arrangement we would be meeting a very pressing need by a very nominal annual cost.

From present indications it is reasonable to expect a large increase in the number of young people who will desire to attend the Farmington schools next year, and as a community we must meet that condition if we expect, as we all do, to attract people to this village. Nothing advertises a town better than prosperity and well sustained churches and well-equipped and efficiently managed schools. Of these advantages Farmington has a right to boast just now, and with the erection of this new addition to our present school buildings we shall be in a position to welcome all who may desire to enter our schools next fall.

The people of Farmington should bear in mind the date of the special meeting—Tuesday evening, February 14th—and be on hand to give their support to the efforts that are being put forth by the members of the board of education to meeting a pressing and growing need.

## EX-GOVERNOR YATES TO ADDRESS LINCOLN CLUB

Those in charge of obtaining speakers for the Lincoln club banquet in the Armory, the night of February 10th, Friday morning received a letter from Congressman Patrick Kelley in Washington, in which he stated that he had secured as the principal speaker for the occasion, former Governor Richard Yates, of Illinois, at present congressman-at-large from that state. Congressman Kelley, who had been looking after the procuring of a speaker for the annual gathering of the Oakland County Republicans, had been "fishing" for Governor Sprout of Pennsylvania, but negotiations had to be called off when it was found that he had a previous engagement for the same date.

Congressman Charles E. Townsend, of Jackson, will also be on the program for a talk on the Great Lakes to the sea waterway proposition which at present is getting so much publicity through the press of the country. Congressman Adam Wade, of Minnesota, is another speaker who will be on hand, it is expected. It was announced Friday morning that Rev. Mr. J. Crowley would act as chaplain and that George Dondoro, mayor of Royal Oak would be the toastmaster at the banquet.—Pontiac Press.

## GATHERING DATA ON MILEAGE COSTS

Farmington Road. Cheapest In Upkeep Expense.

Information to be used in framing legislation for control of the motor bus and commercial motor freight lines is being collected by the highway department of the public utilities commission.

William W. Potter, utilities commissioner, is compiling the motor vehicle laws of all the states. Frank F. Rogers, highway commissioner, is collecting data on the number of commercial busses and trucks in the state, their routes and schedules, and on the cost of good maintenance, as it is related to traffic.

Farmington Road Cheapest.

The traffic statistics on Grand River road, from Detroit, to Grand Rapids, are practically complete. The department has figures showing the annual cost of maintenance of each section of this road. It has taken traffic census several times at various points along the road. From these statistics, Mr. Rogers has worked out the cost of maintenance for each mile traveled by an automobile.

He finds that the most economical stretch of the road, that near Farmington, the cost is one-fifth of a cent per car mile. That is, that the damage done by a single automobile running one mile over this type of road amounts to one-fifth of a cent when measured in terms of costs of repairs.

The most expensive section is near Ionia, where the cost over a stretch of gravel is one and three-quarters cents per car mile.

On this basis motor trucks and busses must be compelled to pay much higher taxes than the ordinary license fees if they are to contribute enough to repair the roads to the extent that they damage them. It is probable that ordinary automobile license fees must be raised if the revenue from this source is to pay the cost of maintenance.

## TO HOLD HARMONY MEETING SATURDAY

Members of the executive board of the Oakland County Farm Bureau, at a private meeting to be held here Saturday, Feb. 11, are expected to take action that will end the present dispute among board members as to whether the future policy of the bureau should be a purely financial one or whether the educational features shall be continued, it was learned here today.

Mr. Coryell is known as a firm believer in the broader farm bureau program. Mr. Matthews, it is said, has become convinced that he can no longer serve the farmers of the county on the board, and made use of the automatic attendance forfeiture clause to withdraw.

The dollar policy, as referred to by bureau members, means, it is said, that the bureau should aim only toward the purely financial benefit of the farmers. The educational program includes the improvement of agricultural methods, the attempt to bring the producer a larger share of the consumers' dollars, and the continuation of boys' and girls' farm club work. All these collateral branches aim at building up a better and more attractive rural life.

Cook Makes Plea. At the annual meeting of the farm bureau early this month, C. B. Cook, county agent, made a strong plea for the continuation of the educational program, saying that it is the only hope for American agriculture, and that if it were not continued he would relinquish his post as county agent and return to his own farm business.—Pontiac Press.

## MILK PATRONS TO MEET.

A meeting of the patrons of the Warner Dairy Company has been called for Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. The meeting will be held in the Farmington Town Hall. Speakers will be in attendance and at the close of the meeting a lunch will be served in the new community room in the new bank building. The premiums offered by the company for the 1921 quality contest will be awarded at this meeting.

## INTERESTING FACTS OF BURNED BUILDING

The building destroyed last Friday has a history remembered by a few and while now it is nothing but a blackened heap of red wood, it once was a place where acquaintances met and left on their way to the city.

The building was one of the oldest landmarks in the village, having been moved to its present location, from Shiloh street, some sixty years ago, and was first used as a general store by P. D. Dean, Warner and O. P. Hazard, and afterwards changed hands a number of times and was used for various purposes. The last one to use it as a general store was James H. Murray, and finally for a saloon, kept by Dennis Toomey. In 1911 and '12 it was used for a recruiting station for the 4th Michigan Cavalry by Wesley Green.

About where the D. U. R. truck turns south stood the store used by John W. Collins and his father as a grocery and post office. John W. Collins was Farmington Post Master for many years.

In the ground where now stands the house of John Lapham, was built, in 1858, the "Green Mountain" hotel and about one hundred feet by the side of the Plank Road was built the hotel barn and afterwards a shed reaching from the hotel west nearly to the barn and in the second story was a dance hall, a popular place for public dances for many years.

As a paying proposition the hotel did not prove good, and it changed hands often. One of the late owners was Gilbert Bush, a painter, with ambition but no capital. Bush soon tired of hotel life and concluded to wind up with a grand ball. He secured the help of one of his townsmen, who like "Silas Wegg," occasionally dropped into poetry to write his notices of the farewell ball. They read, "Everybody come one and all, to Old Gib Bush's farewell ball, put on a clean shirt and a paper collar, and your bill will be just one dollar." The ball was a grand success and let Old Gib out handsomely.

The last one to occupy the hotel was James H. Murray, a strong temperance advocate, who advertised the hotel as a "Temperance Hotel." But as usual, it was non-paying and in April 1906 fire started in the upper part of the hotel and the party part of the evening and actually worked its way around the dance hall to the hotel building and all was consumed, though all the goods of the hotel were moved from the hotel and saved.

The Green Mountain hotel was one of a number of public houses that stood between Farmington and Detroit, nearly all of them being on the north side of the road. The only one now standing is the "Hotel" now owned and used as a dwelling at Clarenceville by Frank Botsford.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells D. Butterfield of Royal Oak, visited his daughter here last week of the week.

## A CORRECTION.

In last week's issue a paragraph in the fire article should have read "The building was owned by W. G. Newcombe and Henry Pauline."

## County To Receive \$106,340 From Auto Taxes Collected

During the year 1921 Oakland County turned in to the state \$212,681.49 in licenses for pleasure cars, commercial cars, trailers, motorcycles and dealers and manufacturers' licenses. Of this sum the county gets \$106,340.74 for the maintenance of its roads.

The county stood third, in the state in the number of its pleasure vehicles and in the amount of money derived from licenses, only Wayne and Kent counties having exceeded it.

For the past year 14,531 licenses were obtained from the state by owners of automobiles in Oakland County. There were 2,180 truck licenses; 371 trailers; 161 motorcycles; and 61 dealers and manufacturers' licenses.

In a recent statement from the state the figure given for the county's return was \$21,681.49.

## THE LETTER BOX

Detroit, Mich.  
January 27, 1922.

Mr. Harold Oldenburg,  
Fire Chief,  
Farmington, Mich.  
Dear Mr. Oldenburg:—

The effort put forth by the members of the Farmington Fire Department to extinguish the fire, which recently came near totally destroying our central office equipment in Farmington, is thoroughly appreciated.

A valuable service is regularly performed by you and other members of the Farmington Fire Department, in keeping to a minimum fire losses in your village, but the full effectiveness of extinguishing a fire, which threatens the destruction of a telephone central office, is only apparent when we endeavor to realize the situation that would exist if telephone service and telephone communications with the outside world were made impossible. This is easily conceivable, however, and a practical demonstration of the result was almost realized, had it not been for the good work of the Farmington Fire Department. Telephone people realize these things and it is because of them that we feel so grateful to the Farmington Fire Department in this instance.

Very truly yours,  
E. M. Gladden,  
Gen'l. Com'l. Sup't.

## IN OUR CHURCHES.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH.

THE METHODIST PARISH.

—Farmington—

10:30 Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Sermon: topic—"The Whirlwind."

11:45 Sunday School.

6:30 Epworth League.

7:30 Illustrated address:—"Things worth knowing about people born in February." The first of a series of illustrated addresses to be given on the Sunday evenings of February.

—North Farmington—

2:00 Preaching service.

3:00 Sunday School.

—Clarenceville—

10:30 Preaching service. Rev. W. W. Dale, preacher.

11:45 Sunday School.

7:30 Dr. I. S. Morris.

Special meetings every evening of next week.

Sidney D. Eva, Pastor.

W. W. Dale, Associate Pastor.

## Universalist Church.

10:30 Sunday morning—worship and sermon. Dr. B. Beresford's morning subject is: "Where is God when Disasters overtake His Children—Ships Sink, Theatre Roofs Fall—and Buildings Fall in Flames?"

12:00 Adult Bible class and Sunday School.

7:30 in the evening—Worship and sermon. Dr. B. Beresford's evening subject is: "He Hath Come Back." The first of four evening sermons on men we have met.

The public is cordially invited to all services.

A. B. Beresford, D. D., Minister.

## PLEASANT NEWS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

DATES APPOINTED FOR GRADE TESTS.

The 1922 eighth grade examinations in Oakland County public schools will be held May 11 and 12, it was announced recently by A. L. Craft, county commissioner of schools.

Successful candidates will each be granted a diploma signed by the state superintendent of public instruction and members of the county board of examiners.

Examinations in the following subjects will be held: orthography, spelling, arithmetic, agriculture, penmanship, grammar, reading, physiology, geography, history and government.

The schedule of examinations is announced by Commissioner Craft as follows: First morning—orthography, spelling and arithmetic; first afternoon—penmanship, grammar and reading; second morning—physiology, geography, and agriculture; second afternoon—history and government.

An average standing of 75 per cent will be required. Not less than 60 per cent will be accepted in any subject.

Successful candidates who wish to continue their education, and who do not live in a district maintaining a high school, can secure their tuition free upon the following terms, according to Commissioner Craft: If holding county eighth grade diplomas granted by the board of county examiners; or those who have successfully completed the work of an eighth grade school district properly certified by the superintendent of schools of their districts.

Written application must be made by such students to the school boards in the districts in which they reside before the fourth Monday in June, 1922.—Pontiac Press.

## SARAH COURTER.

The death of Miss Sarah Courter at the age of 88 years removes one of the pioneer characters of the Farmington district. Miss Courter was stricken with a stroke some months ago and never fully recovered from it, growing weaker during the winter months she quietly passed away last Saturday at the home of her niece at New Hudson. The burial took place on Tuesday at the Farmington cemetery. The funeral was attended by a large number of old friends and neighbors. The service was held at the Methodist church, the Rev. Sidney D. Eva officiating.

Miss Courter in her younger days was well-known as a school teacher, having taught in the Farmington schools and surrounding district schools. She received her training at the State Normal College. Without doubt, Miss Courter was the oldest public school teacher in Farmington. During the days prior to her death she would delight in relating the events and recalling the men and women of the early days of Farmington history. Miss Courter lived on a farm northwest of Farmington until she gave up the farm and came to Farmington to live. She was a woman of fine character and had lived a faithful and highly industrious life. As a link to the past history of Farmington, her passing severs one of the lines that bound the community to the interesting days and pioneers of the old days.

## JOHN WAGONJACK.

Mr. John Wagonjack of Holland, Michigan, passed away January 27th, of pneumonia. He leaves a wife and two children besides his mother, three brothers, Charles, Fred and Will; and six sisters, Mrs. Ricke Mining, Mrs. Bertha Spaller, Mrs. Gustie Gleaser, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Mary Schneider, and Mrs. Minnie Manard.

## BOARD OF HEALTH MEETS.

At a meeting of the board of health Wednesday evening a resolution was passed permitting vaccination to anyone in the township. This step was taken in view of the recent few cases of smallpox. School was closed on the same account Monday and Tuesday and nearly all the students received a shot of vaccine.

Other board of health business was transacted and bills allowed.

## FARMINGTON HIGH AGAIN VICTORIOUS

HIGH TAKES THREE GAMES.

In spirited contests with Howell, the local High teams won three games, adding more victories to their list.

The first game played by the second team of each town, was won to the tune of 21-13. The girls came next and won their game 13 to 7. So far the girls have met defeat only once in the League games.

The next game played by the first teams, was a real fight to the last minute and only in the last minute was the game decided. A chance at a foul gave the High boys the margin of one point, Banfield making a perfect basket. Catherman and Tredway made the field baskets, the former making one and the latter two, while Harger "pushed" a couple in. The other players did equally well in their respective positions. The final scores were as follows: The first team—21-13; The girls—13-7; and the first team—28-27, all in favor of Farmington.

## LITTLE REDFORD GIRL KILLED CROSSING ROAD

Little Jean Mercier, Daughter of Robert Mercer.

While returning from school to tell her mother the experiences of the first day in school, little Jean Mercier, daughter of Robert Mercer of Redford, was struck by a passing automobile, dying shortly afterwards. School had let out early and as she was crossing the road a car, reported to have been driven by Mrs. J. J. Kane, crushed her under the wheels. Mrs. Kane was held blameless for the accident.

As a rule the janitor of the school acts as a traffic man when school lets out, but due to the fact that school was let out early, he was not in his usual place when the kiddies were returning from school. The roads are intersected in front of school and passing autos are reported to have paid no attention to the janitor when he did act as traffic officer. He said that many times he had seen children narrowly escape an accident but that nothing was done by the village to prevent a recurrence. The residents are now firmly resolved that adequate protection shall be had for the children while returning from school.

## GOLDEN KEY CLUB ORGANIZED HERE

A new club was organized some time ago by the young women of Farmington under the auspices of Miss Butterfield, teacher of the young ladies' class at the M. E. church. Meetings are to be held every two weeks and all are requested to attend.

Under the leadership of Miss Butterfield the club intends to carry on constructive and social work. She is an able leader and is well-liked by her associates. The club has many purposes in view such as raising money needed for different charitable projects and offering a social time for those in the village. Farmington has long needed the club and it should merit the support of the town.

Next Tuesday evening the girls will give a special movie at the M. E. church. The picture will be "Anne of Green Gables." They have also arranged to have special music and other entertainment during the evening. Tickets can be obtained from any of the girls of Farmington and the show starts promptly at 6:30 and 8:30.

## Report of New Building.

A new building is being proposed to replace the structure occupied by the E. C. Grace store. New plans have been shown to Mr. Pauline and other interested parties. It is known except that a new building is assured. The whole block is to be used and as it is now there is a good business corner not in use. In all probability the new building will face Division street as well as Grand River avenue.

The Ground Hog sure must have seen his shadow this morning.