

# State senator appeals reckless driving verdict

25 YEARS AGO (Aug. 29 edition of the Farmington Enterprise) "Angry charges and countercharges were tossed back and forth across the table Tuesday evening as the Township Board approved a series of resolutions including the establishment of separate funds and the earmarking of monies for a new fire hall and township hall."

On the school beat, the Farmington Educational Association planned a Sept. 3 luncheon at Farmington High with guest speaker Roger Leatherman, assistant director of the Phoenix Project at the University of Michigan, addressing the group. The title of his speech was "Developments in Atomic Energy — What it Means to the Public School Teachers."

In the more-things-change-the-more-they-stay-the-same department, Michigan Public Service Commission announced a 60-cent-per-month telephone rate increase for two-party telephone subscribers. Even with the \$236,000 rate increase, the Bell spokesman wasn't happy. "Rate changes since 1940," he said, "have raised company revenues only 31 percent, on the average, while prices of other goods and services have almost doubled, and our own cost of providing service for each telephone also has nearly doubled."

50 YEARS AGO (Aug. 25, 1932 edition Farmington Enterprise) Headline: "Receiver Named, Takes Charge Of The People's Bank." Text of story reads: "John N. Daley, former vice president of Guardian-Detroit Bank, is now in charge of affairs at the Peoples State Bank of Farmington, having been named as receiver of the bank by Circuit Judge Glenn C. Gillespie, following

## Farmington flashback

filing of a petition by Rudolph C. Reichert, State Banking Commissioner.

"A. Floyd Blakeslee, Pontiac attorney and widely known throughout the county as former prosecuting attorney, was at the same time named as attorney for the receiver."

Also on the front page was a story detailing how state Sen. Arthur E. Wood of Detroit was appealing a reckless driving verdict handed down by Justice of the Peace Willis T. Roberts of Farmington Township.

No less than three stories were devoted to the accident, including one which noted that Wood had a "low license number" explaining that such numbers "are regarded by some as a mark of distinction or at least of measurable influence in the state." Wood's number was A-5 but the sidebar story noted "the single digit didn't seem to overawe Justice Roberts when it came to rendering the verdict or imposing sentence."

The community mourned the loss of James MacDonald, the lone surviving bagpiper of a Scottish regiment sent from Canada to France in the first World War. Known to the public as "Big Mac," the man "went through five years of war unscathed (however) several times bullets ripped holes in his kilts and into the insignia was ripped off his collar." The Canadian Legion and South African Wars Post No. 1 members attended MacDonald's funeral after he was killed in an auto acci-

dent on Eight Mile Road, near Delaware.

73 YEARS AGO The lead item in the Aug. 27, 1909, edition of the Farmington Enterprise (we couldn't locate the 1907 edition on microfilm, sorry) is headlined "Machines Milk Cows." The subhead read: "They Will Be Seen in Operation at the State Fair." "The farmer who laboriously milks fifteen or twenty cows by hand these days is doing unnecessary work, is the belief of

Ladd Bros. of Saginaw, who have arranged for a fine exhibit at the Michigan State Fair."

Inside the paper was a hard-news story about crime in neighboring Plymouth in which railroad hoboes were the prime suspects. Headlined "Hoboes Get \$800," the story told of "A gang of hoboes on a boxcar four who stepped off long enough at Plymouth to carry a small safe through a window of the railroad depot and 'Jimmy' the lock in the dark shadows of Starkweather's big

Advertising in the paper was Farmington's downtown hotel, the Owen House, with Mrs. Minnie Owen proprietor offering a room for \$1.50 per day for steam heat, Bell phone service and delivery in connection. Persons troubled by "Cramps, dysentery, diarrhea, cholera, morbus, cholera infantum and colic" were urged to try Dr. D. Jayne's Carmine Balsam at two bits a bottle.



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### the office connection

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### classified ads

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- Sale ends Saturday, August 28th.

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