

The Farmington Enterprise

Established 1888
HYMAN LINDNER, Publisher
C. J. LEHMANN, Mgr. Printing Dept.
PHONE 25-52

Published Thursday of each week and
entered at the Post Office at Farmington
as Second Class, Mich., as second
class mail matter.

Subscription Rates:
(In Oakland and Wayne Counties)
One Year \$1.50
Six months \$.75
Three Months \$.50
Outside Oakland and Wayne Counties \$2.50

MEMBER:
National Editorial Association
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EDITORIAL

THE ONE WAY TO "SKIN
THE CAT"

There are supposed to be a good
many more ways than one "to skin
a cat"—and the saying is applied
to many situations. But nowadays
there appears to be only one
way to hold taxes down: The City
of Royal Oak is an example.

Royal Oak's budget was made
public last week, and although
Royal Oak has grown almost
overnight to a city of over 20,000,
its tax rate is being reduced for
the fourth consecutive year. And
this with extensive improvements,
increases in salary, etc., which
make the revenue from taxes ne-
cessary to run the city in 1928-29
greater by \$4,595 than was ap-
propriated for the current year,
according to the Royal Oak Trib-
une.

No do higher assessments form
the answer, for assessments are
reported as not increased, but in
some cases lowered, on vacant
property. The secret, if it can
be called such, lies in a greater
total of valuations. Annexation
and new buildings brought new
valuations of over \$950,000 to the
city tax roll, and enabled Royal
Oak to not only prevent an in-
crease, but actually reduce taxes
in the face of a constantly in-
creasing investment in public
works. Royal Oak has started on
a program of paving 25 streets
this year.

Here is the "handwriting on
the wall" for every town, includ-
ing Farmington. It must be ad-
mitted, soon or later, that govern-
ment costs are going to keep on
increasing, no matter how much
"economy" is exercised. The City
Commissioners may work on the
budget are doing their utmost
to keep taxes down. But a slicing
here and a shaving there will not
do the work. Costs appear and
mount faster than others can be
reduced.

Royal Oak's experience shows
that there is one way, and only
one way, to keep taxes down, and
that is not by chipping off small
items of expense, but by adding
large amounts of valuations. In
Farmington, annexation will not
do it—only building will.

But to bring about the building
of new homes and the business
structures that follow them,
Farmington must offer induc-
ments at least equal to those of-
fered by neighboring towns—
good water, good sewers, good
streets. We have good water, a
comprehensive sewer system is on
the way, and we must have paved
streets. Old residents may toler-
ate mud roads out of affection for
their home town—newcomers
have no such sentiment, and they
demand pavement in the town
which they choose for their
homes.

A paving program, far from
being an expensive undertaking
as some may fear, is unquestion-
ably a sound investment, and
probably would prove actually a
tax-reducing measure within a
short time.

We wonder if it would be pos-
sible to bring about a compa-
nionate marriage between Senator
Borah and the elephant until after
the fall election?

HONORING SUPT. LEONARD

Citizens of Farmington School
District will gather Friday eve-
ning to honor to Superintendent
of Schools Archie G. Leonard,
to commemorate his seven years' service
to the community. Such an
expression of gratitude and
esteem is entirely fitting and is
worthy of the support of all.

It is a credit to the community
that is not unmindful for those
who serve it well. Too often do
public servants, elective and ap-
pointive, give their best and most
sincere efforts toward the ad-
vancement of public welfare without
due recognition.

The testimonial to Supt. Leon-
ard demonstrates that this com-
munity is one which is far from
forgetting, is eager to accord
recognition to unselfish service.
In honoring Supt. Leonard, the
community honors itself.

BOTH INTERESTING AND
USEFUL

Once again has City Clerk N. H.
Power proved himself a most use-
ful as well as entertaining citizen.
Before the Farmington Exchange
Club some time ago, Mr. Power
provided an interesting and in-
structive resume of the history of
Farmington from its settlement
until almost the present day.

Hardly had the article, printed
in serial form in The Enterprise,
been concluded when Mr. Power
demonstrated anew that his his-
torical inclinations are more than
merely interesting, that they are
genuinely useful to the community
at large. In the midst of the
discussion about the Town Hall
interests, Mr. Power, searching
with a true historian's patience
and energy, located the proceed-
ings of the Township Board in
1876, upon which the present
claims are based.

It is generally agreed that it
would take a whole corps of
"Philadelphia lawyers" to figure
out the various interests in the
Town Hall, and determine the legal
rights of the parties and Mr.
Power's unearthing of the 1876
proceedings probably wouldn't
reduce the amount of talent ne-
cessary for the job. But the value
of his work lies in the fact that
the parties will undoubtedly reach
an agreement based rather on
fair play than on strictly legal
grounds. His research provides a
basis for intelligent discussion of
the situation.

Mr. Power's labors bring no re-
ward except satisfaction to which
the appreciation of his fellow-
citizens should contribute in large
measure.

PASADENA PARK

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wagner,
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Holmes, Mr.
and Mrs. J. F. Cain attended a
bridge dinner at Glenoaks Golf
Club last Saturday. They had as
their guests Mr. and Mrs. Byron
Clute, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hatfield
of Detroit and Mr. and Mrs. Mar-
tin Owens of Birmingham.

Mrs. Harold Holmes attended a
bridge luncheon at the Detroit
Golf Club on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Cain entered
ained Detroit friends at dinner
on Sunday.

The Bond School gave their
annual picnic in the schoolhouse
auditorium on Wednesday.

A group of Y. W. C. A. mem-
bers of Detroit are holding a
picnic in the beautiful woods at
Pasadena Park on Saturday.

Mrs. J. F. Cain attended a
bridge luncheon in Detroit on
Saturday.

AUXILIARY, TO MEET

The North Farmington Cam-
berty Auxiliary will hold their
annual meeting at the West
Bloomfield Town Hall, May 22 for
supper. Everyone is invited.

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CHURCHES



Methodist Church

Rev. E. F. Dunlavy, Pastor
10:30—Morning worship and
sermons.
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Service by the pastor, "The Un-
known Keeper."

11:50—Sunday School. Classes
for all ages.

12:30—Epworth League, Miss Ef-
fie Scotts, leader.

7:30—Evening service.

For the evening service we are
to have as our speaker the Hon-
James A. White of Columbus, O.,
who will speak on the subject of
Prohibition and Law Enforce-
ment. Mr. White was for more
than ten years superintendent of
the Anti-Saloon League of Ohio.
He is an impressive speaker and
the subject should be of interest to
us all.

Baptist Church

Rev. E. W. Palmer, Pastor
10:30—Morning worship.
Sermon subject, "Man's Hope Is
God's Purpose."

11:45—Sunday School classes
for all ages.

6:30—B. Y. P. U. for young
people.

7:30—Gospel service. This week
the pastor's subject is "Conformed
or Transformed." Come and
bring a friend to the evening service.

Catholic Church

Our Lady of Sorrows Church
Rev. E. J. O'Mahoney, Pastor
Sunday masses 8:30 to 11 a. m.
Sunday School 8:30 mass.
Daily mass at 8:00.

West Point Park Church
Geo. E. Gullen, Pastor
10:30—Morning worship. Ser-
mon by the pastor. Subject, "The
Loss of the Atheist."

Children's object talk, "Shoes."

11:45—Sunday School.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Clarenceville
(At Switzer Road)

Rev. Paul Graupner, Pastor
9:30—Sunday School.
10:30—German service.

North Farmington Independent
Church

Rev. George P. Daver, Pastor
Bond School Auditorium
Morning worship, 10:30.
Sunday School, 11:45.

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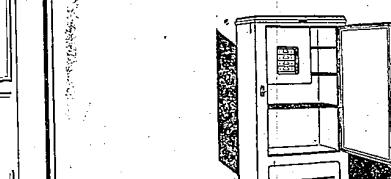
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