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TWO SECTIONS

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Grand River Is Again Second In County Traffic

Tabulation In August, 1928 Shows Only Woodward Exceeds In Volume

Grand River avenue again ranks second to Woodward avenue in volume of traffic, according to the annual report of the Oakland County Road Commission recently issued. The 1928 report, carrying a traffic census taken on a Sunday in August, show the corner at Grand River and Orchard Lake roads to exceed by far all other points in the County except Woodward avenue intersections.

A total of 23,443 cars, trucks, buses and trailers passed the intersection at Farmington Junction on the Sunday in question, according to the Commission's report. Michigan cars numbered 22,542, with 457 out-of-State machines counted. The remainder were buses and trucks.

Farmington occupies a prominent place in the 1928 report, in other respects also. In addition to the distinction of a Farmington resident, former Township Supervisor Isaac Bond, a member of the Commission, a native of Farmington, now deceased, is signally honored. The 1928 report, by far the most elaborate and complete ever issued by the County Road Commission, is dedicated to the late Thomas Lytle, until his death a member of the Commission.

A photograph of Farmington's "Main Street" occupies a prominent place, leading the photographs of main streets of towns in the County. Farmington township is also mentioned as one of the six Townships in the County which has placed itself in the forefront of the better and wider highways movement, by requiring that all section-line roads have 120-foot rights of way, while all quarter-section roads must have 86-foot rights of way.

In regard to the widening of Grand River avenue, the Oakland County report is similar to that in the recently-quoted bulletin of the Oakland-Wayne-Macomb Superhighway Commission, as follows: "That portion of Grand River Superhighway lying between Base Line road and a point near the City of Farmington, is a 204-foot project and is to be completed by the State during 1929."

HEARING HELD ON NORTHWESTERN AS STATE HIGHWAY

Representatives Of Eleven Counties Urge State Aid At Lansing Meeting

A hearing of great interest to property-owners and residents of this section, held in Lansing on Monday, followed announcement last week of the movement to obtain State aid for the new Northwestern Highway. A request for such aid was laid before the State Administrative Board by representatives from 12 counties through which the road will pass. County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond, who was in the Oakland delegation, pointed out after the hearing the significance of the movement. "The Northwestern Highway is a superhighway now as far as the Orchard Lake road," he said. "But the chances are that it might not continue so wide from there on. Yet the owners of property along the road believe that it will be one of the greatest in the State some day, and that the State should help pay for the 204-foot width of road."

"Ordinarily a road is built narrow, and then when traffic becomes too heavy, the State comes in and widens. The proposal now is that instead of waiting for this to happen, the State come in now and pay for the extra width that is sure to be needed some day soon. The road is acreage now, most of the way—but if it's not built wide enough, there will be some trouble as we have now on Grand River."

The matter has been referred to the State Highway Committee.

Farmington U. of M. Alumni Believe Little Resignation Is 'Best for All'

Farmington alumni of the University of Michigan are to some extent divided in opinion regarding the resignation this week of Dr. Clarence Cook Little, president of the University. Nearly all of the alumni unite in praising Dr. Little's capabilities and brilliance, but a few believe that he was not in the right place as head of the State's largest educational institution.

Opinions of Farmington residents who have attended the University are as follows: "Former" Supt. of Schools Archie Leonard: "I think it is indeed unfortunate. I believe that criticizing Dr. Little have no very definite idea of the responsibilities of the position. I do not think it is the business of the University president to agree with everybody, and be a general 'good fellow'. That seems to be the basis of most of the criticism."

Hope For 'Jitney' Start In A Week

Car Purchased, Application Made To Utilities Commission For Permit

With a "jitney" bus purchased and intense interest displayed by residents of the territories north and south of Farmington, preparations for the starting of the new Farmington "jitney" line are going forward with all possible speed. Every effort is being made to get the service in operation at the earliest possible date, and it is hoped that the line will be transporting passengers within the next ten days.

A large seven-passenger sedan was purchased several days ago, by F. DeVerell Leroy K. Fleming, backer of the new transportation line. On Tuesday a trip was made to Lansing to interview the Public Utilities Commission, whose consent is necessary before service can be begun. According to those who made the trip to Lansing and discussed the proposed new line with Commissioner Sidney D. Doyle, there is little reason to doubt that the permit will be forthcoming with the least delay, as the Commission can act.

Meanwhile, residents of the territory to be served are indicating widespread interest in the service. Many have sought to purchase strips of tickets, and have taken some to dispose of the tickets among other residents of the districts north and south.

Tickets will be placed on sale Saturday, it is expected. They will be in strips of five, each strip selling for 50 cents. There will be ten cents each way, on both north and south runs. The new "jitney" is painted white to be easily distinguishable. It carries seven passengers besides the driver.

EDISON COMPANY IN NEW BUILDING AT NORTHVILLE

Two-Story Structure Houses Headquarters Of The Grand River District

The Northville branch of the Detroit Edison Company, headquarters for the entire Grand River district, and including Farmington, is housed in a new building which was dedicated last week of its new home. The structure, two stories high, is planned to care for the needs of the Grand River district for many years to come.

The building is of attractive construction and is conveniently located near the center of the Northville business section. It is modern in every detail, and is not only the new headquarters of the Edison Company at Northville, but also probably one of the finest for its size that has been erected by the Edison Company.

L. Mills, who is well known to many residents of Farmington is in charge of the headquarters office at Northville. At the Farmington office alterations which will improve the appearance of the building are going forward and should be completed, according to Earl Grover, Farmington manager, within the next two weeks.

A man in that position should have ideas of his own, as Dr. Little has.

Dr. H. E. Boice: "I am satisfied. Judging from the condition of some departments in the University, it can't help but be beneficial. The feeling among most people in general, even among the alumni, seems to be against him. There has been a strong undercurrent of sentiment. He has been very radical in some of his remarks, and has not been careful enough to state possible difficulties ahead. He seemed, too, to expect too much at once. "His opinions seemed to be all those that I am right and you are wrong? He appeared arbitrary—there seems to be no reasoning with him at all."

Thomas H. McGee: "I agree with Dr. Little in many of his ideas, and I think that in many ways he has been right, but he seemed to be a little impatient, a little too much in a hurry to make changes all at once. No one can gainsay that he is a very brilliant man. Perhaps it would have been better if he had been content with one or two changes at a time, rather than all at once."

Howard Warner: "I think Dr. Little was a little ahead of his time. He is certainly a bright man, but the conditions were not yet ready for him. Students seemed to be against him, nearly all of them, and also the medical men. I talked with an old alumnus recently, regarding his university college idea, which would eliminate all but the very brightest students. He told me of one student who was brilliant at first, and then failed in the later years, while another who started poorly seemed out to be an exceptional student. In this case, surely, Dr. Little's plan wouldn't work out very well."

Mrs. J. B. Bullis: "I certainly think that Dr. Little couldn't run the University alone. The Regents ought to run it. I don't know, though, whether he did right in resigning; if he could have stayed and carried the work through as best he could, that might have been a good thing. The Regents have always managed, however, to keep the school going."

"He was a very young man to advance the ideas that he did. I think he had a great deal to offer, but his opinions on birth control, and I think he would be wise to stick to science. I don't think he has made a success of his job. However, I believe he is a very wonderful man in many ways, though I haven't studied him very much."

Hinman G. Nichols: "I am inclined to think that Dr. Little had somewhat the attitude of a monarch. I haven't followed the thing very closely, but do think that if Dr. Little's ideas were carried out, we would have a very peculiar University in about five years."

Harley D. Warner: "He has made a good president, but still I don't think he did as well as he might have, and I'm just as well pleased to see him go. It has been coming some time. In Ann Arbor they had a good man, but ten or twelve years ahead of his time."

"I am inclined to think he is a little selfish, unable to see the other fellow's viewpoint, as his own standpoint would seem to show. His changes, too, were so drastic that they couldn't be put over in a year or two. He may be right about them, but he wanted them made too quickly."

Gerard Parker: "I think it is a shame and a pretty nasty deal. Dr. Little tried to improve the University to make it better for us in an intellectual way. Because he didn't believe just as all the rest did, he has to go. He is an extraordinary man, and Michigan will miss him more than they realize."

CHANGES MADE IN OFFICE

Re-arrangement of the Farmington office of the Consumers Power Company has been completed. The office now has a cashier's cage and partitioned space for the manager, V. Perret, and Miss Marie Walling.

SIDEWALKS CLEARED

The heavy snowstorm that descended on Farmington Tuesday afternoon after dark, left many employees ready. By Wednesday morning all the sidewalks in town were cleared by a brigade of snowplow.

Three Seeking Nomination As Supervisor Mar. 4

Harry McCracken, Arthur Coe, William S. Kenyon Circulating Petitions For Office

The field of candidates for the nomination for Supervisor of Farmington Township was quite definitely settled with three entries during the past week: Supervisor Harry McCracken, Arthur Coe, and William S. Kenyon have issued their petitions for nomination, and the other with a public statement.

Petitions appeared first for former treasurer Arthur P. Coe, who is at present a member of the Township Board as justice of the peace. He served two terms as Township treasurer, the maximum allowed by law, his two years having expired in the Spring of 1928. He is a resident of North Farmington.

Petitions were taken out also for William S. Kenyon, who is well-known, particularly in Clarenceville, where he is in business. The present campaign is the first time Mr. Kenyon has run for office. He has lived in Clarenceville for a number of years.

Supervisor Harry McCracken, who has served since last July when he was appointed to succeed Isaac Bond, is the candidate to make a formal statement regarding his candidacy. His statement is as follows:

To the Voters of the Township of Farmington:

I have been urged by several citizens of Farmington to make a statement concerning my position relative to candidacy for the office of Supervisor for the coming year.

Before making any statement, I desire to call your attention to the following facts:

The business of the Township has grown to large proportions; a business of over \$8,000,000 valuation. The judging and appraising this valuation on the property, the expenditures of many thousands of dollars, and the spreading of tax are some of the things that come in the year's work. Questions of roads, streets, lighting, drainage, plats, franchises, legal problems, and many other important things are constantly coming before the Township officers. A Supervisor must be selected to meet with 44 other representative men of the County to apportion valuations and taxes to the various townships, to act on county committees and important questions that confront the Board of Supervisors as well as to represent and protect his township in all affairs of county administration.

The acceptance of the office of County Road Commissioner last July by former Supervisor Isaac Bond made necessary the appointment of a successor to finish the term. At that time the assessments had been made and the valuations approved by the Board of Supervisors. Because of some experience, I was urged at that time to take up the work and I finally accepted the appointment.

In accepting, I had some realization of the amount of work to be undertaken in completing the tax rolls for the Township Treasurer by December 1. The books were finished up and the important work of the year is now practically completed.

After having but part of a term and being urged by several citizens, I have decided to circulate my petition and become a candidate for the office of Township Supervisor for the coming year.

—Harry N. McCracken.

Farmington People's Relatives In Blast

Two residents of Farmington had a keen interest in the explosion which shook the Roosevelt Theatre in Detroit last week. They were Mr. and Mrs. James Hine, who operated a confectionery a few doors from the Roosevelt Theatre a few years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Webster, whose grocery store was destroyed with a loss of \$8,000, and a sister and brother-in-law of Mrs. Hine.

Fire Destroys Two Homes At Fourth Gate; Woman Ill Saved

Flames Sweep From One House To Another; Mrs. Jas. Drouillard Leaves Sick-Bed As Blaze Sweeps Toward Her Residence

Fire which is believed to have started from an overheated stove burned to the ground two homes at Fourth Gate about ten o'clock Thursday morning. All occupants of the home escaped, including a woman who was ill in bed. Practically everything in the Drouillard home was carried out before the building was burned.

Farmington Stores To Close Evenings

Owners of and managers of Farmington business places posted notices this week that after Monday, February 4, the stores will be closed at 6:30 p. m. excepting Saturdays until further notice. It is expected that most, if not all, Farmington stores will join in the closing.

A. J. Stokes, manager of the Farmington A. & P. store, has been active in getting the movement underway. A list of the stores which will be closed evenings will probably be ready next week.

Arrest Follows Lee Block Fire

Charge Of Arson Filed As Result Of Blaze; Firemen Called Twice

Frank H. Seger, 23, was arrested at the Farmington Fire Hall Wednesday afternoon for investigation, in connection with the fire in the Lee Block early Tuesday morning. He was arraigned Thursday morning in justice court at Pontiac, on a charge of arson. He demanded an examination, which was set for January 30. Bail was set at \$500.

Farmington firemen were called out twice early Tuesday morning to extinguish fire which broke out in the Division street side of the Lee building, just south of Grand River. The first fire was discovered by Alfred Gagnon, a former city watchman, about 1 a. m. and an alarm turned in. Less than an hour after the firemen left, flames broke out again between the first and second floors, threatening the upper floor.

The room where the fire started had been used as a printing office by F. H. Seger. For a time it appeared that the blaze might extend to a confectionery store operated by James Hine on the corner, but a metal partition is believed to have checked the spread of the flames. The printing office was a complete loss.

In the second break, the office of Dr. H. E. Boice was threatened, and a small area of the floor scorched, but there was no damage. The "booster" tank on the new fire truck proved effective in controlling the fire.

WILL SPEAK ON CONSOLIDATION AT P. T. A. GATHERING

Head Of Extension Work At Central State College Will Deliver Talk

An unusually important event for all those in this section interested in schools and school affairs will take place next Thursday evening, January 31, when Professor M. L. Smith, head of the rural department of extension work of Central State Teachers' College, Mt. Pleasant, will speak in Farmington.

Prof. Smith will talk on "School Consolidation," a subject which he is unusually familiar. The occasion will be the January meeting of the Farmington Parents-Teachers Association, postponed from an earlier date. The meeting will be held in the Farmington High School auditorium, at 8:00 o'clock.

A special invitation is extended by the Farmington Association to residents of surrounding school districts. In addition to the talk by Prof. Smith, there will be an interesting program.

Home Destroys Two Homes At Fourth Gate; Woman Ill Saved

The homes destroyed were those of Ralph Lyons and James Drouillard, on Seminole avenue, a short distance south on Grand River, and one block east of Fourth Gate road. Mr. Lyons, it was reported, was in the house, asleep, at the time. The entire interior was said to have been in flames before the fire was discovered by passersby.

The Redford Township fire department was called but the blaze swept through the Lyons house and set the Drouillard residence afire. The houses were very close together.

A sewing-machine and a chair was taken from the Lyons house, but everything else burned. Meanwhile, Mrs. Drouillard left her sick-bed and almost all of the contents of the house were removed. Scarcely more than the foundations were left of the buildings.

The blaze attracted a crowd of considerable size. The homes were of moderate size. No estimate of the loss was given.

CLUB TO DISCUSS SUGGESTIONS FOR CITY IMPROVEMENTS

Each Member Of Woman's Group Is Asked To Offer Idea; Zona Gale Discussed

The regular meeting of the Farmington Woman's Club was held Wednesday, January 16, at Community Hall. The program was opened by Mrs. A. R. Crawford, who read a paper on "Zona Gale and Her Work."

Mrs. Crawford had so selected and organized her material that her hearers received a clear impression of the personality of Zona Gale, of her literary aims and achievements, and of her history of her art. A recent short story by Miss Gale, "When Things Are As They Used To Be," read by Mrs. F. D. Fleming, illustrated well some of the points in Mrs. Crawford's article.

The reading was followed by a one-act play by Miss Gale, "The Neighbors," ably enacted by Mrs. M. B. Pierce, Mrs. C. W. Wilber, Mrs. Harrison Johnson, Mrs. A. G. Leonard, Mrs. Spencer Healey, Mrs. T. H. McGee, Mrs. Howard Osmus, and Mrs. R. W. Brown. The cast were admirably chosen for the parts assigned, and gave a pleasing and well-balanced presentation.

The next regular meeting of the Club will be held at 2:30 Wednesday, January 30, at the home of Miss Hard. The program, "Suggestions for City Improvements," is in charge of Mrs. William Irish and Mrs. Lloyd Gullen. Each member of the Club is asked to send to one of these leaders, in advance of the date, in writing, at least one suggestion on the subject.

CHANGES MADE IN MAIL ROUTES AT POSTOFFICE

Changes in the mail routes were made in the Farmington postoffice during the past week without a great deal of difficulty, according to Postmaster Thomas H. McGee. The former three routes are now combined into two.

A Postmaster McGee requests that all residents on the route, notify those with whom they correspond of their new route number, where there has been a change, to facilitate the handling of mail.