

State Acts To Widen Grand River At Once On New Plan

Highway Committee Resolution Ordered Following A Meeting Of Farmington Men With State Officials; Width Is Changed

With the State Highway Committee approving of a new Grand River plan developed recently by its engineers and the Oakland County Road Commission, Farmington citizens are looking forward again to the widening of the highway into the City this summer. A resolution for approval by the State Administrative Board is to be drafted by the Highway Department, to be presented at the next Administrative Board meeting.

If the report is adopted, as signs indicate, the Highway Department will start work at once, preparing the roadbed and making the fill for bridges. Some pavement may be laid this year on Grand River.

The new plan involves reduction of the superhighway right-of-way width between Eight Mile road and Farmington, but provides the same amount of pavement as would have been laid for some time on the 204-foot right-of-way. It is considered ample for a number of years to come. The superhighway width and the double 40-foot pavements are to be maintained from Grand River at Eight Mile road to the Switzer road. At this point the right-of-way becomes 120 feet, with 30 feet of pavement, in a single strip, to be laid as far as the cut-off. From the cut-off to Tuck road, the 120-foot right-of-way continues but with 20-foot strips of pavement to be laid on either side of the car tracks.

Two 20-Foot Strips

The double road with 20 feet of pavement is to continue all the way to the garage of Olin Russell, the Farmington business location. However, at Tuck road the right-of-way is reduced from 120 to 60 feet, continuing thus to Farmington Junction. At the City, the right-of-way will be 50 feet.

Facing the space between the car tracks, which might be done later on, when traffic demands it, would give an additional 10 feet of driving surface in the City and 20 feet more between Farmington Junction and Tuck road. This plan was laid before the Highway Committee by Leon V. Belknap, Oakland County Engineer. Assured by State Highway Commissioner Dillman that it had full support of his department, Governor Green directed Mr. Dillman to prepare a resolution recommending the project. The resolution will, it is expected, (Continued on page five)

HOME OF F. REED NEAR FOURTH GATE BURNED TO GROUND

Explosion Starts Blaze Which Destroys Home; Firemen Save Nearby Homes

Fire caused by the explosion of a kerosene stove on Tuesday morning burned to the ground the five-room home of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Reed of Poncaia and Emmet streets below Fourth Gate road, north of Grand River avenue.

Mrs. Reed was alone in the house with her daughter, about 2 years old. She had lighted the kerosene stove and had stepped outside to the rear of the building. On her return the inside was in flames. She ran out with her child in her arms, shouting.

Neighbors came and one man wrapped a rug over his head and attempted to enter the building but was forced out by the intense heat.

The Redford Township fire department on arrival found the entire structure in flames and devoted their efforts to saving the building next door, owned by Oscar Reed, brother of Forrest Reed. The side of this house had caught fire from sparks but was saved from further damage. Nothing was saved from the home of Forrest Reed.

Neighbors assisted Oscar Reed in removing the furniture from his home. Both buildings were insured. The Detroit fire department was called but could do nothing and returned as soon as they came.

Plan Impressive Ceremonies For Memorial Day

American Legion Post Members Arrange Parade, Decorating Of Graves

Plans for fitting observance of Memorial Day in the tenth year of the American Legion are being completed by Groves-Walker Post of Farmington. A parade, speeches and other events are planned.

School children, Legionnaires, and any others desiring to march will meet at the Log Cabin on Grand River at 10 o'clock in the morning. Each child will be given a flag. All will march to the Cemetery, where graves will be decorated, and taps sounded. A brief service will be held.

The marchers will return to the Town Hall about 11 o'clock for a program, which will include, communitarily singing of patriotic songs, music by a quartette, recital of the Gettysburg address by a Farmington High School student, and an address by a speaker not yet secured.

E. A. Wagner, Joseph DeWright, Marl Pettibone and Herbert Lindstrom, are the Legion post's Memorial Day committee, and Howard Eisenlord and Carl Hoyle have been named in charge of decorating the soldiers' graves.

Plan To Sell Poppies

Women of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Groves-Walker Post will sell poppies in Farmington on Saturday, which is the annual "Poppy Day". Proceeds are devoted to the benefit of war veterans.

CITY, TOWNSHIP STUDY IMPROVED FIRE PROTECTION

Commission Rescinds \$50 Rate For Outside Fire Board Considers Problem

Efforts to organize and equip the Farmington fire department for better service both in the Township and City were continued this week by the City Commission and Township Board.

The City Commission rescinded the resolution passed March 4th, placing the rate for fire calls outside the City at \$50 each. This had the effect of putting into force again the previous agreement, which is for \$20 per call plus the pay of the firemen.

On Tuesday evening the Township Board considered the matter of a fire-truck of the proper type for use in the Township, which could travel over dirt roads without difficulty. The Board decided to make a trip to various other communities and study their methods. The possibility of the Township buying a light truck and keeping it at the City fire hall, to be operated by the City Department, was discussed.

The City Commission is facing the problem of how to provide enough men for a department on calls and on firemen to remain in the hall for protection in case of a second fire, without running the expense too high. The men are paid two dollars for answering each call.

Chief Ed Thayer told the Commission that the State recommends 15 men for a department (that in Farmington, and that seven or eight should be on the truck going to each fire. He said also the half a dozen firemen should also be left in town to answer possible second calls.

\$85 FINES IN A WEEK

Fines collected from motorists convicted of reckless driving following arrests by Farmington deputy sheriffs totaled \$85 during the past week, according to a report by Deputy Sheriff Lee Doyle. The drivers were arraigned before Judge John J. Schulte.

Alvin Papp, store-owner at Clarenceville, was given a sentence of 25 to 30 days in the County Jail by Judge John J. Schulte Thursday, on a charge of assault and battery.

Farmington Man, Others Hurt In Three Accidents

John Johnson In Critical Condition After Being Hit; Atkinson Family Injured

A Farmington citizen, several members of a prominent Novi family, and a Detroit were injured in three traffic accidents in and around Farmington during the week end. John Johnson, well-known Farmington resident, is in critical condition in Harper Hospital, Detroit, as the result of being struck by an automobile on Grand River Saturday night.

Mr. Johnson, who is in his sixties and has not been in the best of health, lapsed into a coma Tuesday, but recovered consciousness Tuesday afternoon, only to be knocked down by the right front end of a large sedan driven by Harry Osborne of Birmingham, while crossing the street in front of his gasoline station. He suffered a broken leg and a dislocated shoulder. He was reported better Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Osborne made a statement to the Prosecutor Monday, and was released. The machine he drove was a test-car. He was west bound on Grand River when the accident occurred.

Mr. Johnson was taken to the hospital after treatment by Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner.

Atkinsons Are Hurt

Archie C. Atkinson, president of the Novi Board of Education, his wife and three children and a Plymouth resident were cut and bruised when their car was sideswiped by another on the Twelve Mile road in front of the home of Supervisor Harry N. McCracken Sunday night. None were hurt seriously.

George Atkinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson, was driving west when his car was struck by another by Orval McCamus of 2209 Grand River, Detroit, who was eastbound. It was said that a large machine had just passed at high speed, raising a thick cloud of dust which obscured vision. The Atkinson machine was turned over several times.

Mr. Atkinson, although suffering a severe cut on his left wrist, picked up his daughter, who had been knocked unconscious, and carried her into the McCracken house. The McCrackens rendered first aid, and took the injured to the office of Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner in Farmington.

In the car with the parents and brother were Margery Atkinson, 16, and Carol, 2 years old, and Mary Hallihan of Plymouth. All were bruised and shaken.

So great was the force of the collision that McCamus' car was carried backward into a field, beside the road and ploughed a furrow a foot deep. Both cars were badly damaged.

Detroit Man Injured

Driving home in the great flood of Detroit-bound traffic Sunday night, Anthony Jackays, 1465 Junction avenue, left the line and his car collided head-on with another going west, according to a police report. He suffered serious injuries which necessitated his immediate removal to a Detroit hospital.

The accident occurred at Grand River and Tuck roads. Peter Neck of Detroit was driving the other car.

Farmington Boy May Be Hero Of A "Small-Town To Stardom" Story

In the movies it happens—and any well-suited is "Seventeen," by Booth Tarkington, which means that if the Farmington boy is assigned the part, he will be "practically the whole show."

"Here the most unusual boy I ever saw," exclaimed Mr. Sherwin enthusiastically, dwelling on Johnny's acting, and Mr. Sherwin continued to sing Johnny's praises as long as he stayed in town.

Others Lauded, Too

But Johnny was not alone. Miss Helen Stungo, also of the Detroit Civic Theatre, speaking between acts Wednesday night, declared that Farmington is possessed of exceptional talent, in the Players' organization. She urged more frequent presentations, as often as once a month, and encouraged the Players to look forward to having their own "little theatre."

Agreement Near For Airport, Factory Out Grand River

Location Of Industry On Site East Of Dye's Inn Said To Be "Practically Assured" By Aircraft Men And John Lathrup

Establishment of an airport on Grand River road, west of Farmington, near Dye's Inn, is declared to be "practically assured," following a conference between representatives of the Aircraft Corporation of America with John Lathrup and attorneys for Mr. Lathrup Wednesday afternoon at Pontiac.

City Commission At Work On New Budget

Farmington's budget for the coming year will call for expenditures no higher than those of the current year, it appears from an informal discussion by the City Commission Monday night. Last year the expenses were placed at \$48,000.

The problem of the Commission will be to avoid a higher tax rate, in view of a considerable reduction in the assessment on Farmington Woods subdivision.

Find Gun Wired To Auto Battery

Three Held In \$3,000 Bond After Arrest By Farmington Officers

Three men charged with possession of concealed weapons following their arrest in Farmington by Detectives Lee Doyle and William Tamm last Thursday will be up for examination next Wednesday May 29. The men were taken into custody following a telephone call from officers in Brighton seeking apprehension of suspicious characters who had been spending some time in that town.

Two revolvers had been ingeniously concealed in the car in which the men had been riding. The officers found the guns wired to the battery box beneath the floor-boards. All three accused stood mute when arraigned and were each held in \$3,000 bond, which they were unable to furnish.

The men gave their names as Fred Fairfield, 36, 4304 Trumbull avenue, Detroit, Joseph Murray, 26, 4708 Lincoln avenue, Detroit, and William Baker, 37, 210 E. Wilson, Pontiac.

Bishop Gallagher To Come Here Next Week

Right Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, Bishop of Detroit, will administer the sacrament of confirmation at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Farmington, next Thursday, May 30 at 3:30 p. m. This will be the Bishop's first visit to Farmington and the new Catholic parish. The men of the Holy Name Society will form a guard of honor and a class of fifty will be confirmed. The first communion class will receive their first holy communion on Sunday, May 26 at the 8:30 mass.

The ladies of the Altar Society will give a card party and serve tea at the rectory next Wednesday afternoon.

Location Of Industry On Site East Of Dye's Inn Said To Be "Practically Assured" By Aircraft Men And John Lathrup

The plan contemplates a ten-acre site for a factory, and 90 acres for a landing-field. The land is to be provided by Mr. Lathrup, with Farmington having the opportunity to join the project and to have the field designated as a municipal airport if it so desires.

Attorneys for the airplane manufacturers are to draw up papers at once, outlining in detail their requirements, and preparing for signing of an agreement which will complete all arrangements.

Hope To Start Soon

Building of a factory in the early summer is contemplated by the company, which expects to have a force of men at work in the new plant within a few months.

The plan in general is that 100 acres are to be set aside. Ninety acres will be for the landing-field. The aircraft company would be provided with the other ten acres for its buildings.

The company would be given the use of the ten acres for five years, and would have at the end of that period an option to purchase the 90 acres at \$2,000 per acre. If the option was exercised, the company would be given a deed to the 10 acres, without further cost.

Should Farmington desire to share in the project, the landing field would be designated as the Farmington Municipal Airport, it is understood.

The plan outlined was developed at a meeting of Charles J. Azcona, of the Aircraft Corporation of America, Mr. Lathrup and Andrew L. Moore and Judge John J. Schulte, attorney for Mr. Lathrup.

Expect Revenue

It was pointed out after the conference that there would be likelihood of considerable revenue from the airport, from hangar charges made to owners of other planes landing there, from storage fees, etc. This revenue would be divided, it was stated, between the aircraft company and those supporting the project.

Emory Hatton, of the city's committee, Mr. Lathrup and Judge Schulte obtained copies of the aircraft company's incorporation papers at Lansing on Monday. Judge Schulte stated Wednesday evening that the papers showed the company to have strong backing and a sound basis. Completion of preliminary work is expected within a short time, to be followed by drawing of papers. Use of the D. U. R. building at Farmington Junction for temporary quarters may be sought on behalf of the company.

SECOND GAME OF SEASON WON BY WEST POINT PARK

Clarkston Defeated 13 To 7 On West Point Park Grounds; Three Pitchers Are Used

Continuing the heavy hitting begun in their first game of the season, West Point Park's baseball team on Sunday ran up a large score on the Clarkston team in the second game of the Inter-County League schedule, defeating the visitors, 13 to 7.

The entire team batted well. Knochs leading the slugger with two singles, a double and triple. Carl Goers was in the pitcher's box for the first time this season, and hurled well while he was in the game. He was relieved after the contest appeared safe in the West Point Park column. Two other pitchers and three catchers made a total of six batters men during the game for West Point Park.

Next Sunday the same teams will battle in a return game at Clarkston. A good number of fans are expected to follow the team to that town.