

The Farmington Enterprise

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Man Commits Suicide; Motive Is A Mystery

Farmer, Shoots Self At Providence Hospital Farm; Body Is Unclaimed

While the motive for his act remains a mystery, the body of Ehnat Romanchenko lies in the morgue at Pontiac awaiting claim by relatives or friends of the dead man. Romanchenko committed suicide Tuesday at the Providence Hospital Farm at Twelve-Mile and Town Line roads by shooting himself above the heart, according to evidence obtained by police.

The theory that poverty might have led to the suicide was dispelled when several bank books were found, indicating that the man had money in a number of banks. So far as was known, he was in good health.

The body was found in a hay-mow on the farm. Romanchenko lived at the farm, although the hospital building burned to the ground last November. He was about 35 years old.

The dead man was a farm hand. His body was discovered by another employee who had missed him and went in search of him coming upon the body in the barn. Romanchenko had used a .32 caliber revolver to end his life. Powder burns were found on his clothing about the chest. He had been dead about twelve hours, police believe.

Deputy sheriffs from Farmington were called and Coroner J. Lee Voorheis took charge of the body. If there is no claim, the body may be buried in Pottery's field, unless sufficient money is found in banks in the suicide's name to purchase a burial plot. The theory of loneliness was advanced as a possible reason for the suicide.

2 NEW TRUSTEES ARE CHOSEN AT CLARENCEVILLE

Elmer Dohany And Humphrey Sauve To Be On School Board

At the annual meeting of the election of District No. 5, Farmington, Livonia and Redford townships, held at the Central School Monday evening election of two trustees to succeed those whose terms expired was held.

Elmer Dohany was elected by an unanimous ballot to succeed William Thornton who had been on the board several years. Three were nominated to succeed Albert Tabor, the nominee being Clarence Witte, William Thornton 20; Mr. Sauve 38, and two were voted. Mr. Sauve was declared elected.

It was voted to pay full tuition for high school pupils attending school in other districts. The school year is to remain the same as last year. A motion by Mr. Utujan that the treasurer's salary be reduced to \$100 was lost. Charles Heise expressed the appreciation of those present for the splendid service rendered by Mr. Utujan as treasurer of the board. The salary of the board members will remain the same as last year.

At a board meeting held after the district meeting, Walter Headley was elected president; Setlak Utujan treasurer; Mrs. Harry Mack secretary; Humphrey Sauve and Elmer Dohany as trustees for the coming year.

BANK REPORTS APPEAR
Statements of the two Farmington banks are printed in this issue, the statements having been prepared by call of the State Banking Commissioner. The report of the Peoples State Bank is printed on page 6, and of the Farmington State Savings bank on page 10.

Wife Is Chosen To School Board After Husband Fails Of Re-Election

Suggest Full Stop Before Right Turn

Requirement of a full stop before vehicles that are headed east may be turned south from Grand River avenue into Division street is being discussed as a possible safety measure. The committee of citizens and Commissioners is to report to the City Commission at its meeting next Monday night.

A meeting of the safety committee was scheduled for Thursday evening. Howard Warner is chairman of the committee.

Detroit Official In Crash Here

Godfrey Freiwald, Wayne County Treasurer, Unhurt In Auto Accident

The long roster of motorists involved in automobile accidents along Grand River avenue this week included the name of a prominent Wayne County official, Godfrey Freiwald, treasurer of the County. Mr. Freiwald's car was in a collision west of Farmington Monday, but he was not injured.

Two occupants of the car which collided with the Wayne official's machine were injured, but neither very seriously. Mr. Freiwald was unhurt.

According to the police report, Mr. Freiwald was driving his Kissel car west on Grand River Monday afternoon and when about one and three-quarter miles west of Farmington, collided with a small coupe driven by Jack Werthermer of 16682 Tuller avenue, Detroit. Mr. Werthermer and his wife, Rose, suffered cuts and bruises and were brought to Farmington, where they were treated by Farmington physicians. The small coupe was turned over several times by the force of the collision, and was badly damaged.

No arrests were made in connection with the accident. The automobile of County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond was slightly damaged recently when it was struck by another machine.

Six motor accidents were recorded by deputy sheriffs of Farmington on July 4. One man was arrested for intoxication.

Traffic on the holiday and on Sunday was very heavy throughout both days and eye-eyes.

LLOYD S. GULLEN RE-ELECTED TO DISTRICT BOARD

Incumbent Has No Opposition For Place At Annual Meeting Of No. 5

Election of Farmington school district No. 5 held a brief meeting Monday evening electing Lloyd S. Gulien to succeed himself on the Board of Education. Mr. Gulien will serve a full term, his membership on the Board thus far having been the filling of a vacancy.

There was no opposition to the election of Mr. Gulien. Arthur Lamb, treasurer of the Board placed the name of Mr. Gulien in nomination and no other name was offered.

Minutes of the annual meeting of 1928 were read and approved. In last week's issue of the Enterprise, an error was made, in that the minutes of the Board meeting May 9 were reprinted from the preceding week, instead of the notice of annual meeting. The mistake was made by the Enterprise, and not by the School Board.

Send in your news items early.

School District No. 6, Farmington Township, held its annual meeting Monday evening, and while the gathering lacked some of the hectic qualities that have characterized other meetings during the past year, it nevertheless provided interesting features.

In the "who's who" election, with an entire Board of Education to be named, the president of the Board was declined re-election, but his wife was later elected a member of the Board. Two women were chosen as Board members, and only two of the five incumbents were returned to office.

In spite of the fact that five were chosen, the start of the meeting found only 13 electors present besides the five Board members.

Following approval of the minutes of the 1928 meeting with Harry Schoenberger, president of the Board presiding, the matter of elections was taken up. Mrs. Minnie Robert moved that the entire Board of Education be re-elected, and her motion was supported by Harry Christmas.

Some objection was raised on the ground that the move was illegal. The objection appeared to prevail, and Fred R. Wilkinson, secretary of the Board was nominated. Balloting was started, when a woman elector arose and stated that she wanted to present another name, that of Charles Erwin. Secretary Wilkinson stated that the polls had been closed, but that he would gladly resign in order that there might be opportunity to vote for Mr. Erwin also. Others insisted, however, that the polls had been closed, and the ballot return was 18 for Mr. Wilkinson and one for Mr. Erwin, with three blank.

Has No Opposition

Treasurer W. H. McCullough was re-elected without opposition. Four nominations were made for the next place, however, Charles Erwin winning the office with 17 votes, President Harry Schoenberger polling 8, Harry Christmas 3, and George Rakestraw 2. There were nominated for the fourth place on the Board, J. B. Whitney, Mrs. Ray McCrumb and Herbert Lindstrom. On the first ballot, Mrs. McCrumb, who is the principal of the Isaac Bond school, and Mr. Whitney each received 13 votes and Mr. Lindstrom 5. It was decided to vote on the two high candidates, and in the extra balloting, Mrs. McCrumb was given 16 votes to 12 for Mr. Whitney.

For the fifth place on the Board, two were nominated, Lloyd Whitl and Mrs. May Schoenberger, whose husband had been defeated for re-election a short time before. The race was close, with Mrs. Schoenberger polling 16 votes to 14 for Mr. Whitl.

The question of school space for the children of the district, which has been a matter of contention for a year, and which led to the resignation of the entire previous Board some months ago, was brought up and discussed briefly. Erection of temporary school buildings, of portable type, was suggested. Secretary Wilkinson declared that the time for portable schools has passed and that he would vigorously oppose them.

The electors took no action on the matter of bonding for the year's expense for 1929-30.

IN SPECIAL EDITION

Among pictures of the staff in a large photograph edition of the Chicago Daily News issued Monday, commemorating dedication of its new building, is one of John Eisenford, head of the circulation department. Mr. Eisenford, who is related to the Eisenfords of Farmington, visited here some time ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Luman have moved from the Mr. Pettibone house on Shawwassee to the Crawford home on the same street.

City, Township Are Fortunate In Equalization

City Gets Reduction Of \$158,000 In Supervisors' Committee Report

Farmington City and Township fared well in the report of the equalization committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, which created a considerable stir when read Tuesday afternoon. Novi Township was fortunate in a reduction of \$250,000 in its valuation, getting the second largest reduction in the County.

Farmington Township might have suffered considerably, had the substitute recommendation of Supervisor Frank G. Ely of Pontiac been adopted. Mr. Ely added, in his compilation, \$1,000,000 to the valuation of Farmington Township, but his report was overwhelmingly rejected.

The equalization committee's report gives Farmington Township a valuation of \$8,200,337, Farmington City a valuation of \$2,691,670, and Novi Township is placed at \$4,905,710. The entire County was raised about 36 millions, thus indicating that communities, especially in the lower part of the County, which escaped big increases were fortunate.

Reduced \$158,000

The City of Farmington obtained one of the largest proportional reductions, a lowering of \$158,330 from the total of last year. Mayor Arthur Lamb advised the members of the equalization committee of the substantial reduction that had been made in the assessment on the former Ely farm, purchased by the Burton interests, and emphasized the fact that Farmington was on this account entitled to a considerable reduction.

Farmington benefits not only from the reduction of \$158,330 in its own assessment, but the fact that at the same time other communities are sharing in a \$36,000,000 increase means an equal amount in the way of reduction. Mayor Lamb pointed out.

Reports brought to Farmington from Pontiac indicated that Supervisors who voted to adopt the report have little apprehension that Pontiac's appeal to the State tax commission, scheduled for Friday morning, will be of serious consequence. The opinion appears to prevail that at best Pontiac can get no lower valuation than that of 130 millions set by the committee, and may on the other hand incur an increase over that figure.

DETROIT TAXICAB CHAUFFEUR FINED AS DRUNK DRIVER

Two Companions Held On Charge Of Intoxication After Collision

Following a collision between his cab and another automobile, a Detroit taxicab driver was arrested for drunken driving and fined, the accident and arrest occurring Saturday morning.

Elmer J. Neva, 1515 Clements street, Detroit, was taken into custody after his car had struck another driven by Charles Jeffries, 2144 Curtis avenue, Detroit. Neva was charged with driving while under the influence of liquor, and two men in the rear seat of his cab were booked on charges of intoxication. They were Cast Nikula, 4631 Second boulevard and Charles Antti, 4609 Second boulevard, Detroit.

All pleaded guilty when arraigned before Municipal Judge John J. Schultz at Farmington and Neva was fined \$75 or 90 days. His license was revoked for 90 days. The other two men were fined \$20 each or 10 days in jail.

Liners in the Enterprise bring quick results. A small investment gets big returns.

Returned To Board



LLOYD S. GULLEN

was re-elected a member of the Board of Education, Farmington District No. 5, at the annual meeting Monday night.

Schools Reject Consolidation

Nichols, Hosner And German Districts Against Union With Bond School

Electors of three school districts in the northern part of Farmington Township were presented with proposals for consolidation with the Isaac Bond School district at their annual meetings Monday evening. In each case the proposition was rejected, by decisive votes.

The Nichols, Hosner and German schools were the three which voted on uniting with the larger district. The proposal received half a dozen votes at each of the first two meetings, and one less at the last.

At the Nichols school, the vote was 39 against the proposed consolidation to six in favor of it. The Hosner school district voted 52 against uniting, with six for the proposition. At the German school, 20 electors voted against it and five for it.

At each of the meetings more than usual interest was manifested. Trustees whose terms expired were all re-elected.

Mr. Currin was re-elected moderator of the Nichols school district. John Dickie was re-elected to the Hosner school board, and Ward Eagle was re-elected treasurer of the German school district.

INJURED IN FALL OF AIRPLANE AT BERG ROAD FIELD

Paper Salesman, Well-Known Here, In Air Crash Soon After Visit

Tom Young, paper salesman representing the Dudley Paper Co. of Lansing, and well-known to many residents and business men of Farmington, suffered injuries which confined him to his home, several days after his airplane in which he was riding fell to the ground near Berg road, not far from Redford, last week. The accident occurred shortly after Mr. Young had been in Farmington. He called at the Enterprise office, and had visited for a brief time at the home of Ben Meyers on Grand River avenue. Mr. Young went to the field on Berg road and took off in the plane. As he was about to land, and while the plane was just a short distance above the ground, it fell, turning over as it struck the earth.

Mr. Young's nose was broken, and he suffered other minor injuries. He was taken to his home in Detroit immediately. Mr. Young is known as a capable flyer and has never before had an accident. He was alone at the time of the mishap.

Send in your news items.

'Final Hearing' On 10-Mile Road To Be Held Soon

Decision To Proceed With Or Abandon McGee Hill Plan Is Sought

The problem of completion of the Ten-Mile road is expected to be settled soon, according to Oakland County Road Commissioners Isaac Bond and Luther Allen, who stated Thursday that a hearing will be held in the near future. This hearing, it is understood, is to be a final meeting to determine whether the plan, which has been held in abeyance for some time, that of constructing a new road up the McGee Hill and building a bridge at the foot, will be carried forward or dropped permanently.

For some time a new suggested route to bring the Ten-Mile road traffic into Farmington over pavement has been discussed, and was supported on a basis of lower cost than the previous plan. This is involved with the Nine-Mile road paving, which has been carried westward toward Farmington at a rapid rate.

The plan suggested would be to start pavement of the old Farmington road or Shawwassee street at the point where it intersects the Nine-Mile road east of Orchard Lake road and north of Grand River. The pavement would follow the old Farmington road west to Orchard Lake road, and along Shawwassee street, west through the city and up the hill, to Division street, at the Baptist Church corner. The Ten-Mile road would be connected by a strip of concrete southward from the termination of the present pavement to the corner of Shawwassee street and Power avenue, at Our Lady of Sorrows, Church.

It is stated in support of this idea that the stretch of approximately one and one-half miles of highway could be built for the same amount as the bridge alone would cost on the McGee Hill route. This is placed at \$70,000.

The belief is expressed that a division of expense could be made about as follows: City of Farmington, 20 per cent, Township of Farmington, 30 per cent, Oakland County, 40 per cent and property-owners, 10 per cent.

On this basis, it is stated, the cost to the property-owners assessed would be 50 cents per linear foot of highway, each year for a period of ten years. In the Township, it would mean addition of \$1.75 per thousand to the tax rate, spread over a period of 10 years. For the city, the addition would be \$5.45 per thousand, divided into a ten year period. It is pointed out in the instances of the City and Township that increased valuations likely to occur later on would make the proportionate increase in rates less than these figures.

The opinion is held that a new petition would be necessary for this highway.

JESSE ZIEGLER, ELMER GARCHOW ARE ELECTED

Jesse Ziegler and Elmer Garchow were chosen members of the Board of Education of Pierston School, Livonia Township, at the annual school meeting Monday evening. About 120 were present.

For the first time, nominations were made by petition. Three were nominated, Mr. Ziegler, Mr. Garchow and Harry S. Wolfe. The two men elected will succeed Mr. Wolfe and Mrs. Anna Addis, whose terms expire this year.

Minutes of the meetings of 1927 and 1928 were read and approved, as was the report of the treasurer.

ARTHUR RUBLY RE-ELECTED

Electors of the Isaac Bond school district held their annual meeting Monday evening and re-elected Arthur Rubly to membership on the Board of Education. Minutes of the 1928 meeting were read and approved.