

The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-SECOND YEAR—No. 33

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Township Joined In Suit Caused By Water Flow

Controversy Between Neighbors Draws Township Into Suit In Circuit Court

Farmington Township has been joined in an injunction suit between two neighbors, resulting from a dispute over flow of water on the properties of the parties to the litigation.

Supervisor Arthur P. Coe reported to the Township Board Tuesday night that the Township had been made a party to the suit. The officials held the view that the Township should take no part in the controversy, and the attorney representing the Township will be instructed to ask the Court to relieve the Township from any participation in the suit.

Principals in the suit are William H. McCullough, 30710 Elm street, Hollywood subdivision, and his neighbor, F. R. Wilkinson. McCullough has obtained a temporary injunction restraining Wilkinson from interfering with the flow of water, and against the Township from "creating a dam."

Both the McCullough and Wilkinson homes are on the north side of Elm street, facing south. The houses are a little over a hundred feet apart. Between the two homes is Cora street, which is not open to travel. Water had flowed in a southwesterly direction from the rear of the McCullough property across the road and continuing, went diagonally across one front corner of the Wilkinson property, then into the ditch on the north side of Elm street.

Some time ago, Mr. Wilkinson dug a trench in a north-south direction along the west side of Cora street, for the purpose of diverting the flow of water from his property, along Cora street to the intersection of Elm street, thence westward in the Elm street drainage ditch. Mr. Wilkinson stated that the water flowing across his property was impure, and would often lie for some time on top of the ground in his yard, causing an unhealthy condition.

Mr. McCullough contended that the diversion of the water by Mr. Wilkinson provided inadequate drainage for his property, and caused the water to back up upon his land.

Culvert Put In
The culvert was installed by the Township, being a tube under the road. It is out of the laying this culvert that the injunction against the Township arose.

A hearing is expected soon on the question of the injunction being made permanent. Mr. McCullough is represented by Patterson and Patterson, and Mr. Wilkinson by Pelton and McGee. Howard Bond was engaged to represent the Township in the suit.

Both Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. McCullough are members of the board of education of School District No. 6, Farmington Township, the former being moderator and the latter treasurer.

ACCEPTS OFFER OF RIDE, NOVI MAN BEATEN, ROBBED

Strangers In Car Invite Pedestrian In; Attack And Throw Him Out

The familiar story of hitchhikers robbing a motorist was reversed Tuesday on Grand River road when John Clayton of Novi was beaten and robbed by two men who offered him a ride as he stood on the highway.

Clayton was at Grand River and Plymouth roads, awaiting a bus, when the men drove up and offered him a ride. At the Five Mile road, the men drove west, and finally out to Northville where one hit him with a billy and the other rifled his pockets.

The bandits obtained \$55 and after robbing Clayton, threw him into a ditch beside the road.

Students Publish Latch-Key 'Annual'

The journalism class of Farmington High School this week issued the annual review edition of "The Latch-Key," school newspaper which runs through the school year in the Enterprise.

The edition includes pictures of all high school classes, athletic teams and other groups, and a review of the year's activities. A new feature this year is a group of 20 "snapshots" telling of "happy days at Farmington High."

Autos Collide, Set Barn Afire

Scraping Of Fenders Causes Car To Hit Building; Man Is Hurt

One of the strangest accidents in this section in years occurred Monday when two automobiles collided and one ran into a barn, setting it afire. The barn was burned to the ground and one man was hurt.

The accident took place about 8 o'clock in the morning on Switzer road just north of the Ten Mile road. W. B. Ames of 8805 Epworth boulevard, Detroit, was driving north and hit a car, so he told authorities later. His car swung into the middle of the road and its fenders scraped those of another machine traveling south. The other car was driven by Walter Alexander of 4101 Lincoln avenue, Detroit.

Ames' machine went into a ditch, glanced off a pole, climbed up out of the ditch and ran into a barn nearby, owned by Arthur Spigler. The car caught fire and soon the barn was ablaze. Both were destroyed.

General Edgison, an occupant of Ames' machine, was cut about the head and is in Receiving Hospital at Redford. X-ray pictures have been taken to determine whether or not he has a fracture of the skull.

COUNTY HISTORIAN AND NATIVE OF FARMINGTON DIES

Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery To Be Buried In Pontiac On Friday

Funeral services will be held Friday for a native of Farmington and one of Oakland County's best beloved citizens, when Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery is laid to rest in Oak Hill cemetery, Pontiac.

Mrs. Avery, County and State Historian, died Tuesday at her home in Pontiac. She was 73 years old.

Mrs. Avery was born in Farmington November 22, 1856. A member of a family whose ancestry she traced back to days of the Mayflower. She was educated in Farmington schools, and on October 22, 1879, was married to Dr. Aaron B. Avery, at a wedding which was followed by one of the outstanding social events of years in this section.

Old residents still recall the day when Lillian Drake was married to Dr. Avery, and her close friend, Carrie Ingersoll, became the bride of Blake C. Northrop. A public reception was held for the two couples in the Town Hall, and there were speeches and music. After 51 years Mrs. Avery was the last surviving member of the quartette.

Mrs. Avery had been secretary for years of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society. She searched records and books for data of all kinds bearing on the history of the County, and she was regarded as probably the best versed individual in the State on early history of this section.

She is survived by two daughters, both living in Pontiac.

Group No. 1 of the W. H. M. S. will meet at the home of Mrs. Clyde Adams, Tuesday, June 24, at 2:00.

Enterprise Liners bring results.

City Asks Bids On Construction Of Sewer System

June 30 Set As Date For Opening Of Proposals; Encounter Easement Difficulty

Bids for construction of the sewer system extension to be built in the City of Farmington this summer have been called for by the City Commission. At its meeting Monday evening, the Commission set the evening of Monday, June 30 for opening and reading of bids.

It is expected that there will be keen competition in bidding, due to slack building conditions.

It is hoped to get construction of the Grand River section of the sewer, at least, started early next month in order not to cause delay in the State's program of widening Grand River.

Easement Problem

Difficulty has been encountered by the City in the matter of right-of-way for the new sewer at the east end of the proposed line from Maple street to the River Rouge. The plans drawn by George H. Rubling and Co., engineers of the project, provide for construction of the line straight east to the river from Maple avenue, about one block south of Grand River.

In order to follow this plan, it would be necessary to obtain easements over several parcels of property. Negotiations have been conducted for some time by Emory Hutton, sewer commissioner, with F. De Vere Fleming, owner of property abutting on the river, over which an easement is desired.

Asks Street Opening

Conditions under which Mr. Fleming agreed to consider granting the City an easement were embodied in a letter to the Commission Monday evening. The most important of these conditions was that Brookdale Drive be opened by the City from its present termination to Nine Mile road, and the street to be graded and gravelled. Opening of the street would make it necessary to acquire two small pieces of property at the south end.

The Commission stated at whose request Mr. Fleming made the offer, moved that the City accept Mr. Fleming's proposition, but the motion was lost for want of support.

The following day Mr. Fleming stated that he had withdrawn his offer.

Young Woman Injured In Grand River Crash

A young woman was injured in collision of two automobiles on Grand River avenue at Cass street in Farmington Saturday night. Vina Hutcheson, 1111 Grand avenue, Highland Park, was cut about the nose and lower limbs and was taken home.

Miss Hutcheson was in a car parked at the curb. It was struck by a machine driven by Lawrence Hahn of Detroit, who claimed that another machine had crowded him into the parked car.

Farmington Man's Garden Of Peonies 'A Corner Of Paradise'

No one knows what paradise looks like, but up at Clyde, Mich., there was, until a few days ago a place that one delighted visitor exclaimed is "just like a corner of paradise." It was the proud possession of a Farmington man, Clarence Aldrich.

At his 80-acre nursery farm on the Milford-Holly road, Mr. Aldrich has raised peonies in profusion and beauty that go beyond powers of description. Although thousands upon thousands were picked, Mr. Aldrich left a patch of about 25 rows, over 300 feet long and, nearest the road, for the enjoyment of those who might pass by. Few passed by without stopping.

Red, white, pink, crimson, run upon row of color that dazzled the eye, weighing down the stalks with their immense size and weight, this grand bed of flowers would have defied the efforts of

Speaks To Seniors



Prof. Paul Miser of Michigan State Normal College, speaker at Commencement Exercises in Farmington Thursday evening.

Alumni Gather Friday Evening

History, Reminiscences And Music On Program For Annual Meeting

Farmington High School Alumni Association will hold their annual meeting Friday evening at 6:30 p. m. President Lloyd Gulien has completed arrangements for an entertaining and profitable meeting.

Archie G. Leonard will be toastmaster. Farmington's historian, Nathan N. Pover will have something to say about the early history of the school and its surroundings, and Addie Cloyes Lewis of Ypsilanti, will tell some entertaining and amusing incidents in her school life at the old Farmington "Union" school.

Rev. Elmer W. Palmer will also speak.

Imogene Bickling will welcome the class of 1930 into the organization and the class president will respond.

Graduates present, who are attending or just returning from college will tell in two-minute talks just why they selected the college they did.

The musical features have been prepared by P. Owen Pauline, who has arranged to have the school orchestra present. Vocal selections will be given by Mr. Eaton, June Johnson, and Thelma Erick.

Mrs. Anna Brown is in charge of the dinner.

HEAVY TRAFFIC

The heaviest traffic thus far this year on Grand River avenue was reported Sunday by Chief of Police Lee Doyle of Farmington. A tie-up developed about 7 o'clock in the evening that lasted for three hours.

TO SING OVER RADIO

The male quartette of Farmington Methodist church is to sing over the radio soon. The quartette will be heard over WJR, under the auspices of First Baptist church of Pontiac.

Grand River Road Will Be Made 40 Feet Wide To Novi

Ten-Foot Strips Of Concrete To Be Laid On Each Side Of Present Pavement; To Be Completed In Season Of 1931

Grand River road is to be made 40 feet wide between Farmington and Novi, according to authoritative information obtained recently. According to the report, which is from reliable sources, the State Highway Department is planning the widening for completion by the end of the construction season next year.

It is understood that the State Department's plans call for the laying of ten-foot strips on each side of the present concrete roadway. One strip would be laid throughout the entire distance first, followed by return of the construction men and equipment along the other side.

According to the reports, the widening between Novi and Farmington is but the beginning of a more comprehensive program which includes the widening of Grand River avenue to 40 feet all the way to Lansing. It is said that the State Highway Department has already obtained right-of-way 120 feet wide, through to Lansing.

The right-of-way, of course, does not include business property in towns between Farmington and Lansing, but does include all the required land outside the villages.

Necessity for a wider roadway between Farmington and Novi has become more apparent with a sharp increase in accidents in this stretch of road during the past year.

Would Improve Street Lighting

Closer Spacing Of Overhead Lights, Brighter Boulevard Lamps Suggested

Improvement of Farmington's street lighting system on Grand River, coincident with widening of the road, was discussed by the City Commission Monday evening. A plan suggested was discussed, although no official action was taken.

Under the suggested plan, overhead lights between Farmington Junction and the Farmington Lumber and Coal Co. office would be placed 220 feet apart instead of 330 feet as at present. Overhead lights which are now maintained very close to boulevard lights in the business section would be removed, and the candle-power of the boulevard lights increased from 600 watts to 1000 watts. In one or two places it might be necessary to remove boulevard lights due to lack of space.

Increase in cost of maintaining the improved lighting system over the present equipment is estimated at \$12 a month. Detailed plans for the suggested system will be prepared at once by the Detroit Edison Co.

PROGRAMS CLOSE SCHOOL YEAR FOR SENIORS, 8th GRADE

Class Leaving Grade School Has Program; Band Appears In New Uniforms

Eighth grade students of Farmington Public Schools were feted Tuesday evening at the annual banquet given for students of that grade. Features of the usual commencement program were given, including the class will, valedictory, and salutatory.

Kathryn Storms is valedictorian and Arlene Pink is salutatory of the class.

Archie G. Leonard was the speaker of the evening. The school orchestra provided music.

Band In Uniform

Farmington High School's band appeared in their new uniforms for the first time Wednesday evening at the Class Night exercises of the senior class graduating Thursday evening.

The baccalaureate program Sunday evening was attended by a crowd that filled Farmington Methodist church. Dr. H. Addis Leeson gave the baccalaureate address.

NEW WEED CUTTER

New weed-cutting apparatus is being used by City of Farmington employees. The equipment consists of a cutter-bar which operates directly from a tractor. Formerly it was necessary to have the tractor haul the cutting apparatus, two men being required. The new cutter does more efficient work with one man in charge.

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Right-of-Way 120 Feet

Final plans of the right-of-way of wider Grand River in Farmington, between Farmington Junction and the Farmington Lumber Co. office, call for a width of 120 feet instead of 100 feet. A State right-of-way representative said this week.

Originally, the width was placed at 120 feet. Then, when it was believed that some difficulty might be encountered in obtaining dedications that would be readily given on a 100-basis, and that the 20 feet would mean a great difference in cost, the plans were changed to 100 feet and blue prints prepared on that basis.

Since that time a change was made back to the original plan of 120 feet.

Paving Open

Barriers have been removed from the Farmington road entrance to the Cut-off below Farmington, and it is now possible to drive for some distance east on the new pavement. Laying of cement has been completed as far as Grand River, and the construction crew is proceeding along Grand River south of the trolley tracks. The laying of concrete will continue to Eight Mile road as fast as possible.

Asks Review

A question of the regularity of proceedings by the State Highway Commission for condemnation of property fronting on Grand River avenue in Farmington Township has been raised in Circuit Court at Pontiac by Joseph L. and Mrs. Isabelle Cohane, who have applied for a writ of certiorari filed this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Cohane own a piece of property with a frontage of 305 feet on Grand River. They value it at \$45,000. Their claim is that proceedings to determine the necessity of widening the highway were irregular.

AUXILIARY ELECTS

The North Farmington Auxiliary was well attended at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Randall Tuesday afternoon. The old association held their annual meeting and election of officers.

The officers elected are as follows: President, Isaac Bond; vice president, Ellis Randall; secretary, Arthur Green; treasurer, Don Button.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry N. McCracken have returned after spending a week with Mr. and Mrs. Robert McFate in a log cabin at Luzern in northern Michigan.