

The Farmington Enterprise

FORTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 49.

FARMINGTON, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1931

5c a Copy; \$1.50 a Year

City To Decide Between Terrace, Retaining Walls

Delegation Appears Before Commission Monday Asking For Retaining Walls

Final decision as to whether retaining walls or terraces are to be built in front of Grand River avenue property and the completion of the task of obtaining releases from property owners to permit the city to construct sidewalks in front of their holdings, is about all that remains of the Farmington sidewalk situation which has held fire for weeks.

Retaining Walls Likely

Indications are strong that retaining walls will be finally decided upon by the City Commission, following the Commission meeting Monday night. Three women residents on Grand River avenue, appeared before the Commission and asked for retaining walls, giving as the reason the character of the soil which is gravel and judged unsuitable for the construction of terraces. The women who appeared were Mrs. William Irish, Mrs. J. A. Miller and Miss Lizzie Schaeptner. Howard Warner, as an unofficial representative of the Board of Education, also appeared.

Mrs. Irish, as spokesman for the Grand River avenue delegation, pointed out that she had looked out over the "Grand Canyon" long enough and would be satisfied with almost anything but she was convinced that retaining walls would serve to beautify property on the avenue much more than terraces where it was doubted if grass could be grown.

Obtaining Releases

The sidewalk committee, headed by Commissioner Leo Gildemeister as chairman, and assisted by P. E. Bradt of the Michigan State Highway department, has been at work obtaining releases this week. They reported that not much difficulty was being encountered, the main trouble arising as to what the final decision will be by the Commission—terraces or retaining walls.

Mr. Bradt has had previous experience in Farmington, having bought right-of-way at the time Grand River avenue was paved and widened.

MASONS TO HEAR GEORGE BUSHNELL, DETROIT ATTORNEY

To Discuss Plans For Observance Of 200th Birthday Anniversary Of Washington

George R. Bushnell, Detroit attorney, will be principal speaker, Monday, October 19, when the Farmington Masonic lodge, No. 151, will exemplify the third degree to a number of candidates.

A dinner and program will be held previous to the degree work. A charge of 50c a plate is made for the dinner.

At this meeting plans will be discussed for the 200th anniversary of the birthday of George Washington.

Monday, October 12, there will be a regular meeting of the Masonic lodge.

Method Of Poor Relief To Be Settled Friday

The Oakland County Board of Supervisors will vote Friday on the question of transferring the burden of poor relief from the county to the township. It is expected that a special committee will be ready to report on a suggested plan for financing cities and townships in the event the township poor plan is adopted until such time as they could spread a tax for indigent relief work.

With past experience as a basis Farmington would profit materially by the change. Last year Farmington paid in County taxes for such relief \$5,287 while approximately \$900 of this amount was returned directly for relief work in Farmington.

Farmington Baptist Church Will Observe 105th Anniversary Sunday



REV. ELMER W. PALMER

Denies Calling Vote On Appeal

Rumors Said To Be False Concerning Meeting On Question Of Appeal

Farmington Township's bank account is still tied up, although garnishment proceedings instituted by School District No. 1, fractional, of the Township, were dismissed more than a week ago by Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty at Pontiac. The district was given 20 days in which to appeal, but no decision has been made by the Board of Education as to whether an appeal would be taken to the Supreme Court.

From some source rumors have been started that a special meeting of the district has been called by the board, for the electors to vote on the question of an appeal. Mrs. Ina Sturman, director of the district said Wednesday that so far as she knew, no steps have been taken to call such a meeting.

Mrs. Sturman, as director of the board, expressed surprise at the wording of the judge's decision. Although apparently the verdict against the school district was not unexpected, Mrs. Sturman said she could not understand the wording of parts of the decree. The decree reads as follows:

"This matter has come up on a motion to quash a writ of garnishment.

"Plaintiff before taking out the writ of garnishment had obtained a judgment against the Township of Farmington for the amount due the plaintiff as its share of school taxes due to it from the Township.

"Owing to the large amount of delinquent taxes, the township had not been able to distribute to the various school districts their proportionate share of tax money.

"After obtaining judgment, the Township Treasurer was garnished and the plaintiff now asks for a judgment against the Treasurer for the amount of this judgment." (Continued on page eight)

Speaks Here Sunday



Dr. H. C. Gleiss, superintendent of the Detroit Baptist Union, will speak Sunday at the services marking the 105th anniversary of the church.

The 105th anniversary of the Baptist work in and around Farmington will be observed at the Farmington Baptist church Sunday. It will also be Rally Day and Homecoming day and will mark the beginning of the seventh year of Rev. W. V. Palmer's pastorate in Farmington.

Dr. H. C. Gleiss of the Detroit Baptist Union will be the principal speaker. Mrs. Minnie Wilbur will read a history in the morning.

The evening service will be featured by the Welsh Male Quartette of Lincoln Park which is well-known over the radio.

The Farmington Baptist church has experienced a marked growth during Rev. Palmer's seven year pastorate. When he first took up his assignment at the Farmington church he found 30 regular church members and 25 in the Sunday School comprising his entire congregation.

The church now numbers 169 regular members, 116 of whom have come into the church through baptism. The Sunday School attendance regularly reaches 120 and occasionally runs over that mark.

PHYSICIAN TELLS OF "RABBIT FEVER" AT EXCHANGE MEET

Is Virulent Disease Contracted In Cleaning Or Skinning Small Animals

A discussion of "rabbit fever," particularly interesting because of the approach of the hunting season, was given by President Z. R. Aschenbrenner at Farmington Exchange Club Wednesday noon. "Rabbit fever" is a virulent disease which is usually contracted in cleaning or skinning small animals. Dr. Aschenbrenner stated. Infection may be through even a very small cut or scratch on the hand or arm. In about three days after infection, the affected person suffers severe chills and fever, the latter sometimes as high as 106 degrees. Glands, particularly those under the arms, swell to huge proportions; filled with pus. The glands must be drained, sometimes the pus continuing to form for several years.

Dr. Aschenbrenner stated that it has been discovered that a person having had rabbit fever once is immune, and injections of serum from the blood of one who had the disease effect a remarkable cure, provided infection is made soon enough after infection. The disease is spread by a "tick," in the fur of the animal.

Michigan is among the leading states in prevalence of the disease, others being Ohio, Kentucky and California. Dr. Aschenbrenner said. About 70 per cent of all cases are fatal.

Dr. Aschenbrenner urged the wearing of leather gloves or mittens as a precaution against infection.

WEST POINT PARK PARENT-TEACHERS ASSOCIATION MEETS

Vote To Change Meeting Night To Second Monday Of Month

The Parent-Teachers association of Pierson School, W. Point Park held its first meeting Thursday night. The committees for the year were appointed. They are finance, Mrs. T. Gillispie, Mrs. Charles Pierpont and Marvin Addis; hospitality, Mrs. Harry Wolfe, Mrs. Austin Ault, Homer Woolman and Earl Wolfe, publicity, Miss Lillian Habber, membership, Mrs. Homer Coolman; program, Miss Dorothy Edwards, with the privilege to appoint her own committee.

It was voted to change the meeting night to the second Monday of each month. The next meeting will be November 2.

Miss Ruth Macomber, who attends the U. of M. each week end with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank Macomber.

Deadline Finds 40 Per Cent Of City Tax Unpaid

Percentage Of Taxes Received Lowest In History At Same Date

Sixty per cent of Farmington city taxes had been paid by property-owners of the municipality up to the time limit for payment without penalty, according to a report compiled by Hinman G. Nichols just before concluding his work as City treasurer a few days ago. The percentage of taxes paid is 60.28, leaving 39.72 per cent uncollected.

Four per cent penalty will be imposed on the unpaid taxes until next March, when the delinquent list is turned over to the County treasurer. Payment of taxes may be made to the city treasurer, Lewis C. Thayer, until that time.

Lowest In History

The percentage of taxes paid at the end of the non-penalty period is the lowest recorded in Farmington's history but is still far above that reported in most communities and the general county average. In fact, city officials view it as an exceptionally good showing, in view of financial conditions. Of the previous year's tax, 81.4 per cent was collected by the end of the four per cent penalty period. With five months to go, it is believed that a substantial percentage will be collected before next March at the four percent rate, and that the report then will compare with the 81.4 report last March.

Nevertheless, there is some little concern on the part of city officials, inasmuch as the 39 per cent delinquency may cause a shortage of money during the coming year. Commissioner Emory Hatton pointed out Monday evening that collection of 80 per cent of the taxes is required to cover the budget set for the year by the Commission.

Led The County

In 1930 the City Treasurer collected 81.4 percent of the taxes and in 1929 an unusually high record was made when 92.4 per cent was collected. That year Farmington led all other cities in the County in percentage of tax collections made.

Last year's drop of 11 per cent in collections caused the Commission for the first time to take into serious account the problem of delinquent taxes when arranging the budget, and an increase of one dollar was made in the tax rate, along with a considerable slashing of the budget.

Eastern Stars To Hold Regular Meeting Tuesday

The regular October meeting of the Farmington Chapter, No. 239, O. E. S., will take place Tuesday at 8 o'clock. Past Matron Iva Storms will have charge of the meeting.

Worthy Matron Mary Johnson, Associate Matron Mae West, Conduress Gertrude Webster and Past Matron Ethel Middlewood will be in attendance at the Grand Chapter of Michigan O. E. S., which convenes at Grand Rapids Tuesday and continues until Thursday night.

Farmington Man's Song, Written For Legion Convention, Widely Popular

The recent American Legion convention in Detroit brought a considerable amount of inspiration to at least one Farmington man, and indications are that it will serve to bring him no small measure of fame.

Ben J. Hughes, attorney with offices in Detroit, and an unusually versatile personality, was inspired by the big Legion convocation to compose a song, "We're In The Legion Now". It relates how "the boys from Florida and Oregon, Golden Gate and Maine," have "swung into line again," in the ranks of Legion membership. The song which has a swinging tune, written by Percy Robinson of Detroit, was played frequently during the convention, and

Coaches Grid Squad



Principal R. C. Burns is in charge of Farmington High School's football team this year. Last Year Mr. Burns assisted with the gridiron coaching, and this fall has full charge of the squad. Farmington plays at Belleville Friday afternoon.

Lower Grade On Oakland Avenue

Road To Be Lowered Below Level Of Sidewalks For Better Drainage

Workmen began Wednesday morning to grade West Oakland avenue down to below the level of the sidewalks, following action taken by the City Commission Monday night in an attempt to solve the sidewalk situation on that street. Rains and thaws continually leave the sidewalk on the south side of the street covered with water, and mud and by doing extensive grading work on the street, it is hoped that the situation will be permanently bettered.

Just how far west the work will have to be carried is not definitely known but it will be taken far enough to establish a water flow into catch basins on Grand River. The road will be lowered a considerable degree from its present level, preventing the flow of water from the road to the sidewalk.

It has been estimated that the work will require ten days or two weeks to complete but it is possible that the time will be longer.

Grading the road was adopted instead of a previous plan of raising the walks on the suggestion of Commissioner Leo Gildemeister.

Farmington Lawyers In \$70,000 Court Case

Judge John J. Schulte and Paul A. Pare, Farmington attorneys, will go to Grand Rapids Friday for a hearing in the Kent County Probate Court concerning a large estate. Messrs. Schulte and Pare represent Raymond Duell, a resident of this section, in the case, a highly complicated one involving unusual questions of inheritance.

The estate amounts to about \$70,000, there being four claimants to shares besides Mr. Duell.

Mrs. Catherine Kohler and Miss Margaret Greene attended the Fowlerville Fair Saturday.

Lewis C. Thayer Takes Office As City Treasurer

Succeeds Hinman Nichols. Resigned, Who Has Taken A Position At Port Huron

Lewis C. Thayer is the new Farmington City Treasurer, having been named Monday night at the meeting of the City Commission to succeed Hinman G. Nichols, whose resignation was presented and accepted by the Commission.

Following reading and acceptance of Mr. Nichols' resignation, Mayor Lamb announced that he would appoint Mr. Thayer to fill the vacancy.

Commissioner Osmus moved to approve the appointment, supported by Commissioner Hamlin, and the approval was voted unanimously.

Mr. Thayer was present and the matter of arrangements for his filing of a bond was taken up immediately.

Bond was offered by Mr. Thayer at a special meeting of the Commission Tuesday night and accepted. He took up the duties of the office immediately and for the remainder of the month will be at the People's State Bank during banking hours to receive taxes on Saturdays only.

Was Township Treasurer

Mr. Thayer was formerly Township treasurer before Farmington became a city but he has never held office in the city previous to his appointment this week. He will fill out the unexpired term until the regular city election in April, 1933.

Mr. Nichols resigned the office because he has accepted a position in Port Huron and expects to move there. His resignation came as a surprise to citizens of Farmington. He was serving his third term as treasurer.

Two Other Resignations

There have been only two previous resignations from city office in Farmington. R. O. Soldan, one time village clerk, resigned the office when he moved to Marlette and John Thayer resigned the office of Justice of the Peace in July due to ill-health.

PROGRAM GIVEN AT EVANGELICAL CHURCH ENJOYED

Large Number Attend Sunday School Program Observing Rally Day

A large number of persons enjoyed the Rally Day program given by the Evangelical church Sunday School Sunday. The program was entitled "A Rainbow Rally." Seven arches were erected each color representing one of the departments of the school.

Through songs and recitations the meaning of each color was revealed and its significance in that particular department explained.

Pledge cards were distributed on which members of each department designated in what way they could help the school. This service was not only unique but helpful and impressive.

The list of officers and teachers of the Sunday School are: Rev. A. A. Schoen, superintendent and teacher of adult department, Mrs. Clara Grace, senior class, Mrs. Minnie Wilkinson, intermediate class, Miss Lenora Bruder, superintendent and junior class, George Gildemeister, treasurer and a teacher in the junior class, Miss Dorothea Kurtz, junior class, Mrs. Hertha Pauline, junior class, Mrs. A. A. Schoen, superintendent for beginners and teacher of Cradle Roll, Miss Virginia Bosswick primary, Mrs. Edward Tamm, beginners, Mrs. Harold Grace, secretary, and Betty Edgar, organist.

NOTICE

On Saturday during the rest of the month during banking hours, I will collect city taxes at the People's State Bank.

L. C. Thayer, City Treasurer