

Lone Bandit Again Robs Gas Station

Stealing a holdup almost identical to the one two months ago, a lone robber took \$12 from Harold Thornton, the attendant at the filling station at the corner of Farmington Road and the Cut-Off, Tuesday night.

The bandit, believed by Thornton to be the same one who robbed him of \$8.50 on the night of October 1, was about 25 years old, and short and heavy set, he said.

Driving into the filling station early in the evening, the man opened the door, pointed a gun at Thornton and demanded that he turn over all the money that the attendant had. After taking the money, the robber drove south on Farmington Road.

A. N. McCracken, Former Resident, Taken By Death

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon in Wabash, Ind., for Arthur N. McCracken, who succumbed to a paralytic stroke on Saturday. Mr. McCracken had recovered sufficiently from a stroke he had last fall to be able to walk without a cane and had expected to return to his law office in January.

Mr. McCracken was the third child of William and Nell McCracken and was born in 1872 on the McCracken farm, now the residence of his brother, Harry N. McCracken. One sister, Mrs. Arthur Green, lives on Fourteen Mile Road.

In 1898 he married Meta Smith of Farmington, whose death occurred in 1902. Their daughter, Margaret, passed away in 1919. In 1908 he married Hattie Reed of Wabash, who survives him.

Mr. McCracken was a frequent visitor of relatives and friends in the Farmington area and an attendant, with his wife, of the V. P. L. A. each year.

After attending the Ypsilanti Normal School, he taught a year at the Hosner school, north of North Farmington, another year at the North Farmington school, and a year at Walled Lake. He began his practice law following his graduation in law at Valparaiso, University 37 years ago. During four years of this time he served as prosecuting attorney for the city of Wabash.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Green and Mrs. Randall Alden, Mrs. and Mrs. Harry McCracken and sons Harold and Howard, and Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Hewitt of Detroit attended the funeral. The burial was in Falls Cemetery at Wabash.

Court of Honor To Be Held Monday Night

Many men and women interested in the Farmington Boy Scouts are expected to attend the Court of Honor which will be held at the M. E. Community Hall in Farmington Monday evening, December 7.

The court will make awards to scouts in the Seventh District of the Oakland County area. A dinner will be held at 5:30 p. m. Herbert Watson, scout executive of the Oakland County area, will present the awards. The public is invited to attend.

Thanksgiving Parade Attracts Farmingtonites

Among the Farmington people attending the Thanksgiving parade in Detroit on Thursday and who cheered the Farmington High School band which took part in the parade, were Superintendent and Mrs. John Dalrymple, and Mrs. A. C. Worsfold, Betty Jane Worsfold, Betty Lee Byers and Jean Byers of Redford; Arthur Powers and daughters, Ellen and Jean, and guests, Bertha Wright of Atlanta, Georgia and Mary Hester Gow of Northville; Walter Coon and son Frank and Mahlon Patrick Bradley, Jr., Mrs. James C. Bradley, and Mrs. Florence Edgar and children, Winston and Shirley Ann.

Fire Disrupts Celebration



MR. AND MRS. C. N. ANDREWS

Fire intervened in the plans of Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Andrews for a quiet 47th wedding anniversary on Wednesday, when their daughter, Miss Meriah Andrews, discovered flames in the basement of their home at 32309 Swinnow Road early Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, whose above picture was taken on their 65th wedding anniversary two



MR. AND MRS. C. N. ANDREWS

years ago, were aroused from bed and taken by their daughter to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles White. Unable to reach the telephone because of the smoke, Miss Andrews went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Emory Hutton and the fire department was summoned.

Firemen brought the blaze under control after fighting for approximately one and one-half hours. The damage, which is confined chiefly to the basement and dining room, is estimated at \$600. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire, which was discovered at 12:15 a. m., is undetermined. Most of the damage is in the basement, the cold air chute, and the dining room, where some of the furniture was badly scorched.

At present, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are living in Detroit with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Benson. Miss Meriah Andrews is staying at the Emory Hutton home.

MRS. M. B. PIERCE TO ENTERTAIN WOMAN'S CLUB

Mrs. M. B. Pierce will be hostess to the Farmington Woman's Club on Wednesday, December 3. The meeting will be in charge of the American Home Committee, who will present Mrs. H. G. Schrandt of Flat Rock, a group leader in the Home Extension Project of Wayne County, that is under the direction of the Michigan State College.

Mrs. Schrandt is the mother of Mrs. Robert Burns and is known to many Farmington people. It is expected that Miss Emma DuBois, the head of county extension work, will be present, also.

On Wednesday, November 5, the club was entertained by Mrs. Hyman Levinson. The committee in charge for that day was Mrs. Gilbert Miles, Mrs. William Irish and Mrs. Zayda Wilber.

Mrs. Miles reviewed the book "There Sails the Mayflower" by Honore Willems Morrow; Mrs. Irish spoke of Thanksgiving customs of the Pilgrims, and had many of the old newspaper clippings and Mrs. Wilber showed prints of famous paintings, and told the theme of each one.

A quartette composed of Mrs. Leora Gildemester, Mrs. Ida Worsfold, Mrs. Ruth Miles and Mrs. Georgiana Bagnall sang "Sun-down" by Wilsson; and Mrs. Gildemester sang "My Task." They were accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Viola Gildemester.

Sixteen ladies from the Farmington club were guests of the Northville club at Northville on Friday, November 20.

High School Team Opens Debate Season

The Farmington High School debating team will meet the debaters of the St. Mary's school in Royal Oak on Friday evening, December 11, at 8 o'clock in Royal Oak in the first inter-school debate in which the Farmington school has taken part.

Robert Walker, Paul Fure, Jr., and Dale Marr compose the Farmington team which will have the negative side of the subject, "Government ownership and operation of electric utilities."

The first debate of the season was scheduled with Wayne High School, which withdrew. There will be debates on January 15, and on January 29.

Walter Weaver is the coach for the debate team.

plan effectively to promote apple sales and consumption in eastern cities.

Goodfellows Prepare For Xmas Drive

That the needy of Farmington and vicinity will again be remembered by their more fortunate friends on Christmas Day is assured as the annual Goodfellows campaign gets away this week to an early start, emphasizing their determination to make the Yuletide blessings flow more abundantly this year than in the past.

The Goodfellows are working this year under the leadership of Judge John J. Schulte. The Exchange Club, American Legion and all the churches and other organizations will aid in the collection. The money, food and clothing to be distributed on Christmas eve.

Assisting Judge Schulte are Floyd Nichols, Dr. Lee Halsted, Howard Otis and Roy Plimpton. "We are confident that this year the Goodfellows will be even more generous than in the past," says Judge Schulte. "We are going to work harder in our campaign and we feel sure that with increased prosperity the people of Farmington will be able to aid in a greater measure than in the past those of the community who are less fortunate than themselves."

Donations, large or small, will be appreciated by the committee. Gifts of money, food and clothing will be gathered by the Goodfellows during the weeks now remaining before Christmas and placed in baskets for the needy.

Further arrangements for the Goodfellows campaign will be discussed next week, following the second meeting of the committee Wednesday noon at the M. E. Community Hall.

CALVIN MASON'S ESCAPE INJURY IN HEAD-ON CRASH

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Mason and son, Skipper, of Yarnar avenue escaped serious injury when their car crashed head-on with another car traveling in the opposite direction as they were returning home from Chicago Sunday evening.

The accident happened in Coldwater. Mr. and Mrs. Mason and son had spent Thanksgiving and the following week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hanlon, near Chicago.

Although none of the occupants of either car suffered injuries, both cars were considerably damaged.

"PRISONER AT THE BAR" TO BE GIVEN AT M. E. CHURCH

The play, "Prisoner at the Bar" will be presented at the Methodist church in Farmington on Sunday evening, December 6, at eight o'clock.

The cast includes A. L. Ross as the judge; George Cheeketts as state's attorney; Lynn Roberts as defense attorney; N. R. Johnson as the prisoner; Norman Barrons, Jr., as Ed Johnson, the sheriff; Dick Barrons as Tom Hamlin, the finger print expert; Mrs. S. D. Harger as Mrs. Frank Hall, the star witness; Marian Maize as Dorothy Jones, the prisoner's daughter; Charles Pettibone, as clerk of court; and Albert Grimwade as court bailiff.

The members of the jury are Edward Baker, Fred L. Cook, John Dalrymple, George Hake, Arthur Lamb, Donald McCracken, Mrs. Fred Bagnall, Mrs. William Irish, Mrs. Emory Hutton, Mrs. Manley Newman, Mrs. Henry Pagel, and Mrs. Fred Warner.

Admission to the play will be free.

Noon-Day Activities Begun at High School

Intra-mural sports are being aided at Farmington High School for the benefit of those who spend the noon hour at the school. Volley ball games are played every week in the gymnasium and ping-pong games are held in the upper hall.

The new plan was inaugurated by the students under the supervision of Principal Robert C. Burns. It is expected that teams will be formed in the near future and competition will be held on a scheduled basis.

Lunch facilities, for high school boys have been arranged in one of the rooms of the high school building. Girls are using one of the commercial rooms in the building as a lunch room.

Daines Homestead, Landmark Since 1885, Burns To Ground

A charred brick chimney and a cobblestone foundation on which the figures "1885" are chiseled are all that remain of one of the landmarks in the Farmington area, the Daines homestead on Halsted Road, which was consumed by flames on Monday afternoon.

The fire was discovered by a passerby, who called it to the attention of the caretaker of the home, who was busy at another part of the farm at the time. Unable to connect with a source of water supply, all the chemical tanks on the Farmington Township fire engine were used as firemen were unable to check the blaze, which had already gained considerable headway.

The three-story home was built in 1885 by William T. Daines, grandfather of Mark Daines, of Farmington. Wm. Daines moved to the farm when he was three years old. Later, rather than remodel the home, that was the standing on the same location where the one which burned stood, he built the 11-room home at a cost of a little over \$1,000. There were six bedrooms in the structure and a large basement. The roof of the home was constructed of steel and a fancy iron railing bordered the roof.

Considered for many years one of the finest homes in this part of the country, the Daines homestead was the scene of many community parties. At one time there were 35 maple trees surrounding the home and the lawn was frequently the gathering place for club picnics.

Three generations of the Daines family lived in the home. Fred Daines, son of William Daines, and Harold and Mark Daines were born there. The property, which is located between Eleven and Eleven and One-Half Mile Roads on Halsted Road, was owned by the Daines family until 1926. It was later owned by people living in Detroit. At the time of the fire it was occupied only by the caretaker, who had his living quarters in the rear portion of the home.

Christmas buying in Farmington will receive an added impetus this week as \$3,500 in Christmas Club savings are distributed by the Farmington State Bank.

Approximately 150 enrolled as members in the Christmas Club this year in Farmington, according to Edward Knickerbocker, cashier of the Farmington State Bank. This number is considered good as it is the first year that the savings plan has been instituted in Farmington.

Registrations for the 1937 Christmas Club are now being taken at the bank. Mr. Knickerbocker states, "It is probable that during the next year, double the number enrolled in the club this year will take part in the savings plan," he says.

It is estimated that 42 per cent of the money will be used directly in the purchase of Christmas gifts, that 25 per cent will become permanent savings, eight per cent for the community, 12 per cent for taxes, six per cent for mortgage interest five per cent for insurance premiums, and two per cent for education, travel and charity.

These estimates are based upon the spending habits of the 7,500,000 members in the United States who are enrolled in the Christmas Club. \$355,000,000 will be distributed by the 5,500 banking institutions and throughout the country. These banks report on an average a 14 per cent increase in total accumulations over 1935.

LADIES MIX POETRY AND DRESS MAKING

Stitches and rhymes have been keeping members of the Missionary Study club busy during the past few weeks. When not sewing verses, they have been writing dresses which are being contributed to Ruth Alden's "House by the side of the road," to be given away on Christmas Day to Detroit's needy.

Mrs. Robert Fredericks wrote the following verses which are printed below. The poem is entitled, "From The House By The Side Of The Road."

Gay little dresses red and brown, Like autumn leaves that come drifting down. There are buttercup yellow and daisy sky blue, Fields and shrubs and flowers, too. When good old Saint Nicholas comes to town. He gathers all the gay little gowns That have come to the house by the side of the road, And into his sleigh he puts the load.

There are dresses for Betty and June and Sue, Dolores, Ruth and Elsie Lou, Alice and Pearl and Little May. All will be made happy on Christmas Day.

DEPUTY DEVIENDT ON VACATION

Deputy Sheriff E. J. McKinley is substituting in the Farmington district for Deputy Joseph DeVriendt who is spending his two weeks vacation in Florida. Deputy McKinley, who also substituted for Deputy DeVriendt last year, is ordinarily stationed at New Hudson.

Bank Distributes Christmas Club Funds

The curtain will rise Friday night in Northville on the opening game of the 1936-37 basketball season for Farmington High School. Farmington's opponents will be the team from the University High School of Ann Arbor. A large crowd of spectators is expected to follow the team in its first engagement of the season. The receipts of the game will go to Farmington.

Although the game is not a league game, Farmington is anxious to avenge its defeat by University High last year. The Ann Arbor team is built around Bill Dobson, University High's star of last year. Win or lose, the game will give indication of the strength or weakness of Farmington's team. It will be an opportunity for newcomers to the team to display their ability to hold a regular position on the squad.

A determined Farmington five will meet the Northville team when the latter journeys to Farmington on Tuesday night, December 8, to play the opening home game of the Farmington basketball team. Memories of the last encounter with the Northville squad will spur the blue and white team to erase that mark or at least make the game a close one.

Northville boasts a team composed entirely of veterans from last year's games, giving them a slight advantage over Farmington. But pre-game form cannot be relied upon too much as games between these two old rivals frequently upset all forecasts.

Eliminating starting line-up is still in doubt, according to Coach Harold Kammerer. "Bob Davis and Ralph Banfield have practically clinched the guard positions but Duane Hoffman and Red Collins have a chance," Coach Kammerer says. "Don Lee and Howard Turner, regulars last year, are sure starters at forwards but the center position is very uncertain. At present Gerald Grace and Louis Wessley appear about even. Others who may get in the game are Carl Hunt, Halsey Miller and P. C. Wellington."

All home games this year, as well as the one Friday at Northville, will begin at 7:30 p. m.

Mrs. Clarence Johnson Heads Garden Club

Mrs. Max Hulet was hostess to the Farmington Garden Club on Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Clarence Johnson, the newly-elected president, presided at the meeting. The other officers are Mrs. Hulet, vice-president; Mrs. Elmer Dehaan, treasurer, and Mrs. William McCullough, secretary pro tem.

The topic for the day was Christmas wreaths and greens. Mrs. Karl Ritter read a paper on legendary lore of mistletoe and holly. Mrs. John Dalrymple, who had charge of the program, told of the conservation and feeding of the deer.

The president, Mrs. Johnson, appointed program chairman, Mrs. Ritter. Mrs. John Dalrymple, vice chairman, Mrs. Hulet to be the conservation and social chairman, Mrs. Dalrymple to be the conservation chairman. Tea was served by the hostess.

\$3,500 Cut Made In 1936 Winter Taxes

Taxpayers in Farmington City will be pleased with the announcement made by City Treasurer George C. Gildemester that their winter tax bills, which are now being prepared and will be sent out within a week or 10 days, will total \$3,500 less than the total amount of school and county taxes last year.

The saving is made possible by a reduction in the 1936 assessed evaluation and a reduction in the tax rate for the year. The 1936 evaluation in the city is placed at \$1,295,610, which is approximately \$100,000 less than the evaluation in 1935.

A reduction in the tax rate is also made for the 1936 winter taxes. The rate is reduced from \$15.47 per \$1,000 evaluation to \$13.36 for a like amount of property.

The school bills total approximately \$12,000, two-thirds of which is marked for the operations of the schools and the remaining portion of which will be used for debt service. Nearly \$6,000 will go to the county, one third of which will be applied on county debt service.

Included in this year's tax bills are the 1933 bills on property which has been re-assessed since that time.

The \$800 who will receive their statements will have until March 1, 1937, to pay taxes before they are placed on the delinquent tax list.

COMMISSIONER VAN WAGONER TO SPEAK AT CONFERENCE

Murray D. Van Wagoner, state highway commissioner, will deliver an address before the annual convention of the American Association of State Highway Officials on December 8 at San Francisco on the economic feasibility of a nationwide program for divided highways.

For the second successive year, the commissioner is one of six speakers on the general session program. Last year he addressed the convention on the inadequacy of present legislation for the protection of roadside beautification.

The commissioner, combining a vacation with business, is on a tour including Mexico City, to inspect the new highway between the Mexican Capital and Laredo, Tex., prior to his arrival in California. The entire trip is being made by automobile.

In the preparation of his address before the California convention, Commissioner Van Wagoner sent questionnaires to every state highway department in the country on the question of divided highways. Answers to questionnaires showed that Michigan ranks among the best states in the Union in its highway and divided highway mileage.

At the present time the state highway department is experimenting with highway division by the use of aluminum or netting media strips. The present site of the experiment is on US-10 north of Pontiac but it will also be extended to US-23 between Saginaw and Bay City. The Oakland County experiment is being accompanied by a law enforcement program requiring drivers to remain in their proper lane of traffic.

Car Owners May Obtain License Plates Speedily

Automobile owners in the Farmington area are being afforded immediate service in the purchase of license plates from the local branch of the Secretary of State's office at the Blackstone Motor Sales on Grand River avenue in Farmington.

"Through an inadvertent error in last week's Express it was announced that purchasers would have to wait approximately 20 days before obtaining license plates for cars. In buying drivers' licenses, there is a period of several weeks before the permits are received by the purchaser as considerable checking and recording must be done at Lansing before the permits are issued.