

The Farmington Enterprise

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School Attendance Improves

Attendance figures for the Farmington grade school and high school, released by Superintendent R. C. Burns, show that attendance during the past semester has been exceptionally high. There have been more than 80 school days since school opened last September, and the average per cent of the school that has been in attendance over this period is 94.3. At the same time last year, for the same period, it was 92.3.

Superintendent Burns attributes this improvement to two things: the less sickness among school children so far this semester, and the teaching staff has been successful in proving to the students that it is their duty to attend school for various reasons.

In only one room, the first grade, did attendance for the past month drop below 90 per cent, in that instance, it was 89 per cent.

Tabulations of tardiness as well as absence are kept by the superintendent's office. Some interesting trends are disclosed in the relationship of the high school and grade school in respect to tardiness and absence. The smaller pupils are notable for their ability to get there before the bell rings. In the grades between kindergarten and the sixth, inclusive, there were 92 instances of tardiness in December. This may seem large for a group of 262 pupils, most of whom live in Farmington or very nearby, but for the same period, those scholars who are in the high school pulled in late 283 times.

Travel Difficulties
Superintendent Burns warns that increasing tardiness is not to be exclusively associated with tardiness, although it is true that high school scholars are likely to have more outside interests and activities to distract them into lateness than the younger pupils. Perhaps the chief reason for this tardiness is that the high school students come from greater distances to attend school, whereas their younger brothers and sisters can attend grade schools nearby. Superintendent Burns explained.

Another fact pointed to by the Superintendent is the small number of absences found in the high school in contrast to the numerous days taken off by smaller children who fall ill more readily and who are kept at home more frequently by inclement weather.

Average per cent of attendance in high school for December was 96.2, but in the grades it was 91.6. The best record in the school is held by the sixth grade which had 100 per cent attendance for November. For the semester, it has an average per cent of attendance of 95.5.

More Boys
Enrollment figures for the school disclose that it is behind last year, but this is because of the pupils absorbed by Our Lady of Sorrows school, when it opened early in 1938. There are now 715 enrolled, 276 being in the high school, 156 in the intermediate division and 262 in the elementary. Of this number, 372 are boys, 345 girls, 313.

It is interesting to compare the present enrollment with the enrollment in the grade school and high school nine years ago. The significance of this comparison is, Mr. Burns points out, that 224 more pupils are being taken care of in the school system than in 1929. The new PWA school which will be in use next fall will reduce this congestion.

Mrs. Bertha Lawrence Dies After Stroke

Death came to Isaac Lawrence's wife, Bertha, this week as a result of the reoccurrence of a stroke, which she first experienced last October.

Mrs. Lawrence is survived by her husband and a son, David, and a daughter, Esther. She had lived at the corner of Farmington road and the Elchle Mill road for the last 14 years.

The funeral was held from the home of Mrs. Lawrence's brother-in-law, Rev. Edward Sherman, on Wednesday, at 2 p. m. at the North Farmington Cemetery.

JUNIORS PLAN DANCE
Members of the Junior Class of Farmington High School will give a Valentine's Dance, Saturday, Feb. 11 in the High School gymnasium. Dabbling will start at 8 o'clock and last until 12. Tickets are on sale by members of the class.

Reading of Books Increases Here and Throughout U. S.

An apparent increase in the use of library books within the past six months is reported by Mrs. Margaret Leach, librarian of the City and Township Library in the Town Hall.

This year, for the first time, the library is receiving aid from the State. As a result the budget is larger and it has been possible to purchase more books in current favor. Mrs. Leach points to this as one possible explanation of the increased use of the library. Another factor is employment, for she has found some persons turning to the library who are unable to "find time."

The increase in reading in Farmington has been accomplished by an increase throughout the country, according to Carl H. Milam, Secretary of the American Library Association.

Mr. Milam based his statement on information from 25 cities of more than 100,000 population in the United States and Canada, and which reported greater library use in 1938 than in the previous year.

Factors accounting for the increase were determined to be: "The increase in many cities and more books available where library budgets had been raised. These are the two pointed to locally."

"Listen! The Wind"
The most popular non-fiction

PWA School Foundation Done

The excavation and the foundation of the new PWA school to be located on Thomas Street was completed this week after about 20 days of work.

Work began on the excavation Dec. 30, for it was necessary to go through the motions of preparing the site in order to qualify for the \$36,240 PWA grant. The foundation was completed Jan. 10.

Not long afterwards, the firm of Charles Rogers, to whom the excavating contract has been sublet by John Armstrong, began work on the hole with a Diesel driven, drag line shovel. This was later supplemented by men with shovels.

As the excavation proceeded, Darin Armstrong, business manager of the foundation, had cement was trucked in from Detroit and layed in the forms built by carpenters. Their time limit was the coming Tuesday.

When the work was completed this week, a rough outline of the building could be obtained by inspecting the excavation. Most of it will have a basement in which the boiler, the furnace and the water tank will be located.

The bulk of the building will be used for a combination gymnasium-auditorium capable of seating around 500.

At the present time in the construction of the building, according to Superintendent of Schools R. C. Burns, is that the plans for the general construction work on the building are approved by the regional office of the PWA in Chicago.

These plans were approved by the school board at its last regular meeting Jan. 12. It is expected to take some time for them to be approved by the regional office. They will be sent there at the end of this week.

After that is done, it will be necessary to advertise for bids on the construction work. The school will be in use in the autumn, Mr. Burns says.

JOINS NAVY
Don B. Gould, a member of the Farmington High School graduating class last year, left Thursday for the Naval Academy, Annapolis, where he will join the Navy. Don is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don B. Gould of 2309 Purling Road.

His mother accompanied him to New York and will return next week.

January Sales Offer Bargains

Two adjacent stores on Grand River are staging January sales to attract wise buyers. The stores are the Farmington Hardware and Cook's dry goods store.

At Cook's there are reductions of 25 per cent on many items, including ladies' dresses. Among the things offered at the Hardware are aluminum pan sets at one-third off.

The A & P this week offers its usual variety of bargains, too.

book here has been "Listen! The Wind." For many weeks, Mrs. Leach reports, there have been waiting lists with at least six persons on them for this book. Also popular is another book by the same author, Mrs. Anne Morrow Lindbergh: "North To The Orient." Unfortunately someone took this book out last spring and has not yet returned it.

The fiction this month frequently asked for in the Farmington library is Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' "The Yearling." Also popular is "The Citadel," by A. J. Cronin.

The American Library Association lists the seven most popular novels, each of which may be found on the shelves of the local library. They are: A. J. Cronin's "The Citadel"; "The Yearling," by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings; "My Son," by Howard Spring; "Rebecca," by Daphne du Maurier; "Northwest Passage," Kenneth Robert; "This, and Heaven, Too," Rachel Field; "The Rains Came," Louis Bromfield.

Top Non-Fiction
Top non-fiction titles listed by the Association were: "The Importance of Living," by Lin Yutang; "The Horse and Buggy Doctor," Herizler; "With Malice Toward Some," Margaret Halshay; "Listen! The Wind," by Anne Morrow Lindbergh; "My Son," by Howard Spring; "How to Win Friends and Influence People," Dale Carnegie; "My Battle," Adolf Hitler; "My America," Louis Adams; "The American People," Ferdinand Lundberg; and "Aloha," Admiral Richard E. Byrd.

Of these, three may be obtained at the library: Mrs. Lindbergh's book, "Listen! The Wind," and "Aloha," and "My Country and My People," also by Lin Yutang.

New books in the library are: "The Wind," by Anne Morrow Lindbergh; "The Yearling," by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings; "My Son," by Howard Spring; "Rebecca," by Daphne du Maurier; "Northwest Passage," Kenneth Robert; "This, and Heaven, Too," Rachel Field; "The Rains Came," Louis Bromfield.

ALI'S CALM HERE IN PAST WEEK, EXCEPT WEATHER

What with the thermometer registering below zero part of the time and a wind whining in at a mile-a-minute, most of Farmington succeeded in staying inside and out of mischief during the past week. No red lights were seen, nor any street violence, and even Farmington's burglar remained in hibernation, for not even a basement window was booted in.

Sluggish pavement made drivers avoid such careful driving practices that no speeding tickets were issued, Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt reports.

A sale violator was Clarence Marks of Keego Harbor, who was arrested and charged with being drunk last Thursday. Marks was picked up by police on "Powell" road between the Eleven and Twelve Mile roads.

Justice Schulte sentenced him to pay a fine of \$25 plus \$15 in costs, or to spend 30 days in the county jail for violating the law for the second time the State law. Marks, who was arrested by Deputy DeVriendt, had a commitment to jail issued for him rather than pay the \$40 penalty.

Gallagher Herd Given National Recognition

A cow in the herd of William H. Gallagher of Rochester, has completed an official record in the National Improvement Division qualifying her for admission to the Advanced Register of The American Guernsey Cattle Club according to Karl B. Mott, secretary.

A seven year old cow in the Gallagher herd, Kellogg Billa's Pride 250604 produced in 331 days 9282.4 pounds of milk and 386.1 pounds of butter fat in class AHH.

ATOP GREEN SHILL three miles north of Charlevoix, three miles apart, twisted trees that bear a story of early Indian days in the area. The trees are remnants of an original group of thirty, each planted by a chief of a different tribe as a pledge that as long as the trees grew, peace would be between the tribes.

The trees were planted in peace with one another. Each tree was deformed to prevent its use by white men for fuel.

Convict Two Of Robbing Local Bank

Sallow, six-foot Walter MacDonald and shaggy, Impaling Otto Barnowski, each 43 years old, were convicted of robbing the Farmington State Bank by a jury of six men and six women Wednesday in the Federal Court of Judge Edward J. Mohr.

On March 25, 1938, it is charged that these men entered the bank during the lunch hour and ordered the patrons to get out on the floor, face down. One of the first to have a revolver jabbed in his back and to be given this order was Robert Stewart, principal of the grade school, who was subpoenaed Tuesday to identify the accused men.

Prostrate Patrons
Barnowski stood at the door on gun, witnesses said, while MacDonald carefully stepping between prostrate patrons went behind the cages to make the haul. MacDonald wore a handkerchief tied over the lower portion of his face, but it slipped down around his neck as he was busily scooping up the \$5,780 loot.

Barnowski did not wear a mask, and so the patrons gave a woman's eye view of each of the 43 year-olds. It was Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVriendt, however, who was perhaps as responsible as any for identifying their resemblances. He sent two pictures that looked like the suspects to the Detroit police, and when Barnowski and MacDonald were picked up on a breaking and entering charge their resemblances to the pictures was noted and DeVriendt and several witnesses were called in to identify the men.

Those Suspected
Among those subpoenaed for the trial were Cashier and Mrs. Howard Knickerbocker, Mrs. Arvale Tipper, who works in the bank, Miss Mary Elizabeth Berry of Durand, Mr. Stewart.

The men will be sentenced later this week. Since their apprehension they have been kept in the Federal prison at Milan, though they are witnesses against a possible accomplice. Because the bandits' car, was abandoned at Farmington Road and the Six Mile Road, it was assumed they had driven in on the job with them.

Later last spring the bank was robbed again, but no one has been arrested for the crime.

WOMAN'S CLUB
The Farmington Woman's Club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 2 p. m. at the home of Mrs. Fred L. Cook. Members are asked to note the change in time from 2:30 to 2 o'clock.

The program will include a book review by Mrs. J. H. Tracy, who is now attending the Council on the Cause and Cure of War, in Washington. Members are invited to bring a guest.

Formula For Basketball Expounded By Druker

From seventh graders who must throw the ball to make it reach the basket, Coach Druker expounds his formula for success in the game. "You can 'sink a shot' effortlessly, the game of basketball is being played in the Farmington schools. This year even the girls have taken to the game and are competing for the Western Western Oakland County League.

Friday night Coach Paul Shoemaker's boys will play a return engagement with Clarkston. The girls will not play, for the girls in Clarkston High do not belong to the league. The boys team confronted them for the first game of the season and defeated them. Shoemaker hopes to repeat this performance.

Basketball is well underway among the Farmington intermediates and the girls. The coach sees a chance of his boys getting the edge this time, however.

The boys on Coach Druker's squad are as follows: Ernie Smith, captain, Alfred Walbank, Bill Fournier, Richard Miller, Fred Martindale, Doug Bell, Oren Mitchell, Norman Stewart, Chuck Goulet, Bill Windrim, and Clyde Wilson.

Future and Scoreboard
Basketball in junior high school is conducted with one eye to the future, the other to the scoreboard.

WPA Starts New Project, Stops One

One WPA project is being suspended Thursday afternoon and a new one will begin Monday morning. Suspended for lack of funds is the U. S. 16, or Shilwaukee street sewer, starting out is a "water main project" that will employ approximately the same number of men as the Shilwaukee street job, and will lay 12 inch sewer in five different places in the city.

The new project will replace old, small sewers in the following places: east on Thomas street to School street, and south on School to Grand River; two stretches on Shilwaukee, one at the corner of Warner, and the other out at Valley View; and a place on Grand River near the LaSalle Hotel.

Take Sanitation Flow
The 100 feet of sewer that will be put in at Warner and Shilwaukee will take the sanitation flow from the U. S. 16 sewer; the floor water will be taken down the Bagin Hill.

None of these replacements will materially affect the nearby residential, according to Emory O. Hutton, who is WPA Administrator for the city.

The U. S. 16 sewer project, which started last fall and is now two-thirds completed, has exhausted its funds. The reason, according to the report filed to WPA headquarters, is that the stones were more numerous and the clay harder than they had reckoned for in drawing up the project. Approximately one-third more money is being asked for, Mr. Hutton says. Materials for the 5,217 foot sewer are being shared by State Highway Department and the City, the latter paying 40 per cent.

Buy Materials
Materials for the new project will be provided by the City. Mr. Hutton believes that a switch-over can be effected between the jobs, so that no men will be out of work as a result of suspension of the U. S. 16 project. Most of the men on the U. S. 16 and 60 years old are residents of the Township.

As work ends under way next week on the new project, a supplementary estimate filed on door of the city will be on its way to Washington. "Like the report filed on the WPA painting and redecorating of the grade school and high school which was suspended for lack of funds, this one will probably be under consideration for several months. In the meantime, WPA workers and their bodies will be occupied with a visit to Hutton calls the "piece-meal project," which is expected to require about three or four months' work.

Work is expected to begin at the Thomas street portion of the job, on Monday.

Gale Tears Off Winter's Roof

With a 60-mph-an-hour gale whipping his trousers' cuffs and blowing through his light sweater, 49-year-old William Winter last Sunday morning climbed up a ladder armed with a hammer and some nails to save the roof on his beer garden.

It wasn't long before Winter had lost his hat to the gale, but he was given more than that. A moment later half of the roof reared up and tumbled over on itself in a spinster's crash, and with it went the ladder and Winter.

To the Pontiac General Hospital went William Winter with a leg fractured so severely that it has not yet been possible to put it in a cast. Meanwhile, workmen are putting the last touches on half a new roof over Winter's Garden, so that it will be ready for the Friday night dance. It is located on the corner of Farmington road and Seven Mile road.

It seems to be agreed upon that it was possible for the wind to lift half of the roof, because it had not been sealed up around the eaves where it rested on the walls. This was not held against the roofer, because the job had not yet been completed.

No other serious damage from the gale was reported to the police.

President's Ball Monday Night

On Monday night from 9 to 11 the Exchange Club asks you to dance that others may walk. The occasion: President Roosevelt's birthday and the annual President's Ball, receipts from which are turned over to local and national agencies for the prevention and treatment of infantile paralysis.

Delos Hamlin is the chairman of the dance, which will be held in the high school, and Howard Ous the emcee. On the reception committee will be: Mr. and Mrs. Hamlin, President of the Exchange Club, Vic Blacklee and Mrs. Blacklee; Mr. and Mrs. Ous, Dr. and Mrs. Ascher, Brenner, and Mrs. R. C. Burns.

Tickets may be bought for \$1.25 from any of the members of the Exchange Club, or at the door. The dance will be held at the Exchange Club, which is being decorated by high school art students, who did the job last year.

Recreative programs will be given to each of the women attending, according to Mr. Hamlin.

It was erroneously stated in last week's paper that the dance would be Saturday night.

Seventy per cent of the money made at these dances held throughout the country will go to local funds for infantile paralysis work. The remaining 30 per cent is turned over to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation and other institutions specializing in research efforts to curb infantile paralysis.

This is the third year that President's Birthday Balls have been given throughout the nation. It is not known whether Mr. Roosevelt's successor will retain the same date for the parties, or whether he will establish his own birthday as the date.

Rita Clifford Weds Alfred Jones Here

Miss Rita Clifford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Clifford of Hugo Street, became the bride of Alfred Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Jones of Detroit, at a ceremony performed Sunday afternoon at the Farmington Baptist church, Rev. Gilbert A. Miles officiating.

The bride wore a gown of white lace with fingertip veil, and carried a bouquet of calla lilies and baby's breath.

The maid of honor, her sister, Naomi Kimball, wore a gown of pink tulle, with nosegay of pink carnations.

The bridegroom, Miss Hedwig Berger, wore a gown of chartreuse green tulle, with nosegay of pink carnations.

Robert Jones assisted his brother as best man, while David Brennan, Mathew Wittman and Oscar Adiel acted as ushers.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones will make their home at 40 Tyler avenue, Highland Park, and will make a trip to Europe in the spring.

City Faces Township In Trial Monday

Litigation between the City and Township over the ownership of the Town Hall will be resumed at 1:30 p. m. Monday in the Circuit Court in Pontiac. Justice John J. Schulte, Jr. and Earl Phillips are the City's attorneys and Clinton McGee of the Pontiac firm of Pelton and McGee and James Lynch claim the Town Hall for the Township. The assignment clerk has not yet disclosed who the judges will be.

At 3:30 a. m. Tuesday, the same time, with Glenn Gillespie representing the Township, will present in the same court a suit brought by the City against the Township. The City contends that because of what it calls "a huge governmental error," which it asserts was repeated annually for six years, as much as \$1,523,027 in covert road taxes may have been paid by the City taxpayers which the City claims should have been paid by the Township.

The suit is based on the fact that the City was assessed for 27 per cent of the covert road taxes during the period, 1926 to 1931, after it had become legally separated from the Township. The special assessments were made on roads not within the City.

The alleged mistake was disclosed in the Enterprise of Dec. 9, 1937. Suit was filed Jan. 19, 1938, and the case was taken up in the Circuit Court in Pontiac by Judge Frank L. Doty presiding.

Began in '31
Nine years ago this March the suit over the building, and since then the Town Hall has been a red brick Tom Mooney, subject of court battles as well as numerous sideline discussions.

When the village of Farmington was incorporated in 1856, it was without a suitable place for its officials to meet or for its citizens to vote.

"Prior to the completion of the hall," according to the old history of Oakland County "the township meetings had been held at the public houses, since the days of Nathan S. Philbrick and Solomon Walker." Ten years later a plot of ground was purchased from Mrs. Cynthia M. Collins to serve as the site for a town hall. The village raised \$450.00 by public subscription, and the Township raised the other 50 per cent by taxing, part of the taxes falling on the villagers who had already kicked in their 50 per cent.

It was for the five-eighths of the cost that the Township raised the other 50 per cent, to pay for the five-eighths of a year.

In December, 1876, the building was ready for occupancy, after having been constructed by J. S. Pratt of Pontiac for a cost of \$5,000. The Masons paid of the cost and were given a 999 year lease.

27-73 Division
When Farmington Village became a city in 1926, the assets and liabilities of the village and township were divided on the basis of the assessed valuation of each. It was agreed that a ratio of 57-43 would be fair to each. The City's share being 27 per cent. There was no provision made for the Town Hall. The City claims that because it had an interest in the hall as a village, the Township is expected to depend on the deed in denying the City a share in the hall.

The Township Board is expected to meet Friday or Saturday to receive its order dropping the suit with the Masons. The reason: more positive action is desired, if possible a court order closing the issue.

WINS HAM
Mrs. B. H. Fauver won a 13½ pound tenderized ham last Friday in a contest staged by Brown's Market, located at the corner of the drawing was held at 8 p. m. This week and next week the same opportunity will be given to win a ham, according to Mr. Brown.

William Weimore of Jonesville has been visiting at the home of his sister, Mrs. George Cotter.