

The Farmington Enterprise

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FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NUMBER 14

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 since this year is 94.3. At the same time last year, for the same period, it was 92.2.

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

In only one room, the first grade, did attendance for the past month fall below 90 per cent. In that instance, it was 89 plus 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 school 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 288 times.

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

Another fact pointed to by the Superintendent is the small number of absences found in the higher grades, in contrast to the numerous days taken off by smaller children who fall ill more readily and who are kept home frequently by bad 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 98.5.

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 714 enrolled, 270 being in the high school, 186 in the intermediate division, and 262 in the elementary. Of this number, 372 are boys, 345 girls.

It is interesting to compare the present enrollment with the 901 in the grade school and high school classes now. The significance of this comparison is Mr. Burns points out, that 221 more pupils are being taken care of in the same physical plant used in 1930. 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 re-occurrence of stroke, which she first experienced last October.

Mrs. Lawrence is survived by her husband, Isaac, David, and a daughter, Esther. She had lived at the corner of Farmington road and the Eight Mile road for the past 14 years.

The funeral was held from the home of Mrs. Lawrence's brother-in-law, Rev. Edward Sherman, on Grand River. Burial was Wednesday in the North Farmington Cemetery.

JUNIORS PLAN DANCE.

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

JOINS NAVY.

Don B. Gould, a member of the Farmington High School graduating class last year, left Thursday morning for Rhode Island, where he will join the Navy. Don is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don B. Gould of 2930 Purling Brook 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 pans set at one-third price.

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

Reading of Books Increases Here and Throughout U. S.

An apparent increase in the use of library books within the past few 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 all 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 out that 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 work.

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

Mr. Milan based his statement on information from 35 cities of more than 100,000 population in the United States and Canada, of which reported greater library use in 1938 than in the previous year.

Factors accounting for the increase were determined to be chiefly less employment 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 \$367,520 PWA grant. The first step was the "Toward Some" Margaret Halley, "Listen! The Wind," Anne Lindbergh, "Madame Curie," Eve Curie, "How to Win Friends and Influence People," Dale Carnegie, "My Battle," Adolf Hitler, "My America," Louis Adamic, "America's 60 Families," Ferdinand Lüders, and "Alice," Admiral Richard E. Byrd.

Books may be obtained at the library. Mrs. Lindbergh's book, "Madame Curie," and "Alice" are among the new non-fiction books.

New books in the library are, "Trail Drive," "The Best of the Pezos," and "Lost Wagon Train," all by Zane Grey. "Song of Years," by Désiré Streeter, Lüders and Lincoln's "How to Company" are two other new books.

Those who are interested in the library, have a book, have a book added to the library. They are, "Jane," "Cat in the Rain," and "Fernhand, the Bull."

The hours of the library are 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday and 2 to 9 p.m. on Saturday.

ALL'S CALM HERE IN PAST WEEK, EXCEPT WEATHER.

With the thermometer persisting below zero part of the time, and the wind whistling by at a mile-a-minute, most of Farmington succeeded in staying inside, out of the cold, during the past week. No red lights were seen, no stop signs were violated, and the streets were quiet.

The bulk of the building will be used in hibernation, for not even a basement window was sufficiently capable of sealing out the cold.

Slippery pavement made drivers adopt such careful driving practices that no speeding tickets were issued, Deputy Sheriff Joseph DeVrient reports.

Slipper violation was Clarence Marks of Keeler Harbor, who was arrested and charged with being last Thursday at his last residence, Jan. 12. It is expected to take some time for them to be apprehended by the regional office. They will stay 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.

Gallagher Herd Given National Recognition.

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

A seven year old cow in the Gallagher herd, Kellogg Illinois' Pride 250694 produced in 31 days 932.4 pounds of milk and 386 pounds of butter fat in class A.

Atop Green Sky Hill three miles north of Charlevoix bore nine emerald, twisted trees that bear a story of early Indian days in Michigan. The nine trees are remains of an original group of thirty, each planted by a chief of a different tribe as the group moved along and with one another. Each tree was deformed to prevent its use by white men for fuel.

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Future and Scoreboard.

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

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Convict Two Of Robbing Local Bank

Solace, six-foot Walter MacDaniels and shaggy Jimmie Otto, Barnowski, each 43 years old, were convicted of robbing the Farmington State Bank by a jury of 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 stretch out on the floor, face down, while one of them, a revolver jabbed in his back, and to be given this order.

The felonies were most frequently asked for in the Farmington library. They are: A. J. Cronin's "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,"

Margaret Kinnan Rawlings' "My Son, My Son," Howard Springer's "Rebecca," Daphne du Maurier's "Northwest Passage," Kenneth Roberts' "All This and Heaven Too," Rachel Field's "The Rain Came," Louis Untermeyer's "Top Non-Fiction."

Top non-fiction titles listed by the Association were: "The Incorporation of Michigan," Lin Yutang's "How to Win Friends and Influence Doctor," Heribert, "With Malice Toward Some," Margaret Halley, "Listen! The Wind," Anne Lindbergh, "Madame Curie," Eve Curie, "How to Win Friends and Influence People," Dale Carnegie, "My Battle," Adolf Hitler, "My America," Louis Adamic, "America's 60 Families," Ferdinand Lüders, and "Alice," Admiral Richard E. Byrd.

Books may be obtained at the library. Mrs. Lindbergh's book, "Madame Curie," and "Alice" are among the new non-fiction books.

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Those Subposed

Among those subpoenaed for the trial were Cashier and Mrs. Henry and Knobbe, Mrs. Mrs. Arville Tipper, who works in the bank. Miss Mary Elizabeth Berry of Durand, and Mr. Stewart.

The U. S. 16 will be sentenced later this week. Since their apprehension they have been kept in the Federal prison at Milan, that they might be witnesses against a possible accomplice. Because the bandits had been armed with a shotgun, a revolver, and a knife.

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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.

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