

# The Farmington Enterprise

FIFTY-SECOND YEAR—NUMBER 20

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1940

5 Cents a Copy

## Judge Rules On City Tax Case

Judge Frank L. Doty, of the Oakland County Circuit Court, Tuesday ruled in favor of the City of Farmington in a suit in which Mrs. Aldie M. Ely sought to have taxes assessed for the year 1923 set aside.

In her bill of complaint Mrs. Ely asked that the court render null and void taxes on her property for the year 1923, charging that the assessment of the property for the year 1923 was "capricious and unwarrantable and was in excess of the actual cash value thereof at that time or at any time."

The bill went on to state that the tax imposed upon the property for the year 1923 was illegal because it was determined and spread upon the 1923 assessment, which, it was claimed, was fraudulent, and that it was not valid by the Circuit Court and was ordered reassessed for that reason.

The City, represented by John J. Schulte and Earl Phillips, attorneys, denied that the taxes are null and void, but that there was a proper charge and lien against the property, and that there was no fraud in the assessment thereof. The defendants alleged that in 1923 the City Commission entered into an agreement with the late Charles Ely, then owner of the land, whereby Ely was to pay the 1923 tax, in consideration that the 1924, 1925 and 1926 taxes assessed against the land be reassessed and paid to Ely in the amount of \$5,000.

## CHAIRMEN FOR CLUB MINSTREL SHOW ANNOUNCED

A musical tour of the high spots of the world including Paris, Germany, Spain, England, Egypt, California, Chicago, New York, and on to the high seas, will be presented by Farmington Kiwanis Club and Rogers Producing Company when they present their new flashy Minstrel Revue "Anchors Aweigh" at the high school auditorium. The date has been set for Monday, March 25, and a second performance may be given, Tuesday, March 26.

Half of the proceeds will go to the local school band. A large cast of local artists will be secured by the Show Committee composed of Vic Blakeslee, general chairman; Jack Warner, financial chairman; Dick Taylor, tickets; Ken Loomis, advertising; Jimmy Layne, publicity; Ed Pierce, refreshments; and Grady McKay, talent and Henry Ols and Al Darling, property. This committee will meet with the director, Monday evening when final plans will be made.

"From all reports," says Joseph Himmelsbach, Kiwanis president, "this will be one of the most beautifully costumed and scenic productions ever staged in Farmington."

## Father of Rev. D. C. Stubbs Dies in New York

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at two o'clock from the Jones Funeral Home at Avoca, Michigan, for Rev. Thomas J. Stubbs, father of Rev. D. C. Stubbs, of the Farmington Methodist Church.

Mrs. Stubbs died at the age of 72, at Wellsville, New York. He was a Methodist minister, holding a number of pastorates in Michigan, up until the time of his retirement in 1935. Surviving are the widow, and three other sons, the youngest of whom, Rev. D. C. Stubbs, with whom he made his home, and Rev. E. P. Stubbs of Bancroft and Rev. Don Stubbs of Ishpeming, both Methodist ministers.

## Mrs. Mary Fitzpatrick Dies at Detroit Home

Word was received Thursday morning of the death of Mrs. Mary Francis Fitzpatrick, widow of the late Patrick Fitzpatrick, at her home in Detroit. Mrs. Fitzpatrick was the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Doherty, and is survived by one brother, Elmer Doherty of Eight Mile Road, Mrs. John Lapman, and Miss Mary T. Doherty, both of Farmington, are first cousins of the deceased.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed, but they will be held from the residence at 1223 W. Boston boulevard, Detroit.

## Students Invited to Enter Elks Club Essay Contest

Students of Farmington high school will have a chance to try for cash prizes in an essay contest to be sponsored by the Elks Club of Pontiac. The contest will be held as a part of the club's Americanization program.

Those eligible are members of the Senior Class, the Junior Class and the Sophomore Class (10th, 11th and 12th grades) of all Public and Parochial Schools. The age of the student is not important.

The essay must be written around the topic, "What Does My Country Mean to Me." The country referred to, of course, is the United States of America. The essay should not be less than 500 words in length and not more than 1,000 words.

## "Spring Fever" Due Here Friday

The cast for the high school senior class play, "Spring Fever," which is to be presented at the new auditorium Friday evening, March 8, has been announced by Grady McKay, director. Tickets for the play may be purchased from members of the senior class.

The cast includes: Tom Dwyer, Howard Brant, Ed Burris, Sammie Pisk, Vic Lewis, Sammy Barber, Lou Heiron, June Kays, Anne Purcell, Lois Nelson, Vivian George, Mary Ridding, Mrs. Spangler, Edna Martin, Henry Purcell, Richard Scholtz, Phoebe Purcell, Phyllis Martin, Professor Virgil Jean.

## WEST FARMINGTON P. T. A. MEETS TUESDAY EVENING

The West Farmington Parents Teachers Association will hold their regular meeting Monday evening, March 11 at the school house, beginning at 7:45. The speaker for the evening will be Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore, of Pontiac. The girls will exhibit products of their clothing project and judging of dresses will be held. Refreshments will be served at the close of the program. Members of the community are invited to attend.

## Spring Is On Its Way To Farmington Stores

Spring, by the calendar, will arrive on March 21, but a look into some of the Farmington stores will convince you that Spring has already arrived! Bargains and values that herald the approaching end of winter may be found in nearly every Farmington store.

Fred L. Cook and Co. salutes the new season with a special offer of coats and infants' clothing at prices that will dazzle the eye and please the purse. The styles are the newest.

Maybe you can't afford to buy a new Ford this year, but nearly anyone can meet the easy terms offered by Olds, Russell, Inc. on their used car bargains. They're all guaranteed to be in the best running condition.

Cook in Comfort  
Cooking over a hot stove in the winter time isn't so bad as it might be, but when the weather is warm it can be pretty uncomfortable. Why not try one of our Consumer Power Co.'s new gas ranges. Gas cookery can't be beat.

supervisor, testifying that the essay was submitted by a student of the 10th, 11th, or 12th grades.

May Use Own Subject  
The student may use his own approach and his own subject matter, as long as the general content of the essay answers the question, "What Does My Country Mean to Me."

Prizes for winning contestants are as follows: First prize, \$25; second prize, \$15; and third prize, \$10; honorable mention will be given to eight other winners. Portions of all the eleven winning essays will be read over radio station WCAR, Pontiac, and the winners themselves will also be presented over the air.

The judges in this contest will include five prominent citizens of this area, whose names will be announced in the near future.

Points to be Judged  
The points on which the essays will be judged are: first, sincerity; second, general interest; and third, grammatical construction. Students do not need to worry about spelling. Do not type or write your name and address on a separate note or sheet of paper. In this way, the judges will not be influenced by the personalities of the authors.

The contest began March 1st and will close at 12 o'clock noon, March 31. All entries must be postmarked on or before that date, and should be mailed or delivered to the Americanization Committee, the Elks Lodge, Pontiac, Michigan.

In entering this contest high school students have not only an opportunity of winning a cash prize but also the privilege of being presented on the air and of having their ideas broadcasted over the air to the listeners.

## SELFRIDGE MAN TO BE GUESTS OF EXCHANGE CLUB

An officer from Selfridge Field will be guest of the Exchange Club at their meeting Wednesday noon. Talks relative to activities at the field will be heard.

Over 50 persons attended the meeting of the Exchange Club held Wednesday at the Methodist church. Features of the evening were Senator George McCallum, of the 12th Michigan district.

Sensor McCallum chose "Taxation" as the topic for his talk. Throughout his discussion he made references to the hazardous tax law, which has been of special interest to him in State legislature. He is the author of the intangible tax law passed by the State legislature.

## Auto Plate Sales Lower This Year

Sales of automobile license plates were somewhat lower this year than last, according to Vic Blakeslee, manager of the Farmington branch office of the State of Michigan. One of the major reasons for the decrease in sales, Blakeslee believes, was that many persons were under the impression that license plates must be bought in the same county in which the person resides.

"Under the law, a person may buy his plates anywhere in Michigan," said Blakeslee. "I guess that's what they received several warnings this year to get their plates as soon as possible to avoid the rush. It was pretty crowded here at about 10 o'clock on last evening before the deadline."

New System Saves Time  
The new numbering system saved a lot of time, according to Blakeslee. Licensees were handed white, and the "special" plates were given out.

"Throughout the state it was estimated that 1,150,000 motorists have secured 1940 license plates," said Harry F. Kelly, secretary of the State Highway Department, who reported that the tabulators were 10 days ahead of last year in their accounts.

By the March 1 deadline last year, 654,457 tags had been tabulated. On March 10, the sales had reached 1,146,324.

## DISTRICT P. T. A. MEETING TO BE HELD THURSDAY

The Nominating Committee of the Farmington P. T. A. is busy selecting the slate of officers for the coming year, to be presented at the March meeting. John Hunt is chairman of the committee, and working with him are Carl Goers, Mrs. Ed Paulsen, Mrs. Walter Coon and J. B. Stewart.

The Sixth District of the Parent Teachers Association, of which the Farmington Chapter is a part, will meet at the South Lake School, St. Clair Shores, on Thursday, March 14. Registration will begin at nine thirty. The South Lake School is located on Nine Mile Road, between Harper and Grand. All officers and committee members of Farmington are urged to attend and all others are cordially invited.

The Farmington P. T. A. has been invited to be the guests of the West Farmington P. T. A. at their meeting to be held Monday evening, March 11, at the West Farmington school house. The speaker of the evening is Probate Judge Arthur Moore, of Pontiac.

## Naomi Kimball Weds Carsonville Man

Miss Naomi Kimball, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Clifford of Hugo Street and Russell Booth, of Carsonville, Michigan, were united in marriage Saturday afternoon at the home of Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Miles, with Rev. Miles performing the ceremony. The young couple will make their home temporarily with Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert, and later at Carsonville. Mr. Booth is employed in Detroit. Witnesses at the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. Don Ennest and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Jones.

## DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA PLAN EASTER DANCE

On Friday evening, March 23, the Daughters of Isabella of Our Lady of Sorrows Church will give an Easter Dance, at Clarenceville Community Hall, Eight Mile and Grand River avenues. Kenell Theatre Orchestra will furnish the music. Mrs. Eva Danke is in charge of arrangements, assisted by Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Monette, Mrs. LeFevre, Mrs. Brown and Beatrice Sanker.

## GOLDEN RULE CIRCLE MEETS THURSDAY

The Golden Rule Circle of the M. E. Church will meet Thursday, March 14 at the home of Mrs. Manley Newman on Maple Avenue. The ladies will have their usual examination Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock at the office of Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner. Any young man 15 years of age, or over, desiring to join the church, may present himself for medical examination Saturday morning.

## New Building Takes Place In Daily Community Life

The new high school gymnasium-auditorium seems to have taken its place as an important part of Farmington's community life. Scarcely three months old, the new building has already served in such a variety of ways that school officials are beginning to wonder how they ever got along without it.

Not that the use of the building is limited to the school. Far from it. Outside organizations were quick to discover its possibilities. For many requests have come in for its use that the school board found it necessary recently to formulate a policy regarding renting arrangements.

Seldom Vacant  
The gymnasium is seldom vacant during the week. On Sunday it is given over to the use of boys and girls from Our Lady of Sorrows church. On Monday evening members of Boy Scout Troop 45 hold their meetings in the cafeteria room. A basketball team representing one of the Farmington churches has it on Tuesday evenings, and on Tuesday afternoons the Farmington girl scouts hold their meetings there.

Wednesday evening is shared by the adult recreation group who meet to play basketball, volleyball, indoor baseball, or other games, and the new Farmington Sea Scout troop, which meets in the cafeteria.

Thursday evening is the only night during the week on which the gymnasium is not given over to school affairs such as basketball games, etc. Beginning at 11 o'clock Saturday morning the place is quite likely to be full of youngsters of all ages, having the time of their lives. Recreation and supervised play periods are held each Saturday for children of grade school age. During the noon hour high school pupils use the building for student activities.

## Berkley Parcels Will Be Sold

Only small groups of bidders were on hand at the State Land Office Board scavenger sale the first part of the week as lots in Berkley were offered for sale. Most of the lots were going on first bids at which the minimum of 25 percent of the 1933 assessed valuation was bid.

According to Harry W. Jones, in charge of the sale in Pontiac, 303 parcels of land were offered during the week from February 26 through March 1 and 611 sold, or 66 percent. Owners bid in 61 percent of the parcels. Sales for the week totaled \$255,555.50 and the assessed valuation of the property sold totaled \$364,480.

Berkley property will be offered into next week but the latter part of the week Birmingham City parcels will be reached. Parcels to be sold for the next six days of the sale will be as follows:

Friday, March 8—Beginning with Boulevard Subdivision, City of Detroit, page 48, pages 49, 50, 51 and 52 through Benjamin F. Mortenson's Garden Homes Subdivision on page 53 of Book 1.  
Monday, March 11—Beginning with Pleasant Gardens Subdivision, City of Berkley, on page 53; pages 54, 55 and through Stephenson Barbers' Oakland Manor Subdivision on page 56 of Book 1.  
Tuesday, March 12—Beginning with Stephenson Barbers' Rose Subdivision, City of Berkley, on page 56; pages 57, 58, 59, 60 through 61 of Book 1.  
Wednesday, March 13—Continuing with Pleasant Gardens Subdivision on page 53; pages 62, 63, 64, completing Book 1.  
Thursday, March 14—Beginning with Book II, page 3, land in the City of Birmingham; page 4, to but not including Birmingham Gardens Subdivision on page 5.  
Friday, March 15—Beginning with Birmingham Gardens Subdivision, City of Birmingham, page 3; pages 6 and 7 through Birmingham Subdivision, Woodward Subdivision, Book II.

## Sea Scouts Prepare For Outdoor Program

The Farmington Sea Scout Ship is rapidly rounding into shape, and soon will be ready for its "Outdoor Program." It has grown so fast in numbers that Skipper Walter Dixon has been forced to change the meeting place from the American Legion Hall to the High School Cafeteria room. This change has necessitated switching the night of meeting from Monday to Wednesday.

Materials arrived last week for the local land ship, and the young men are meeting twice a week in an effort to have the land ship built up quickly as possible. Plans are also being made to start sailing in early spring.

First Mate Wesley Goodfellow reports that the ship will be sending in their registration next Wednesday and arrangements have been made to have their medical examination Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock at the office of Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner. Any young man 15 years of age, or over, desiring to join the ship, may present himself for medical examination Saturday morning.

## Commission Approves Wiring Code

All future wiring in residences and business houses within the City of Farmington will be subject to inspection as provided in the electric code which was adopted Tuesday evening by the City Commission.

Under a clause in the City Charter which provides that in case of an emergency a measure may be passed the same night it is introduced, the Commission took final action on the ordinance at the meeting Tuesday.

Present to take part in the discussion were John J. Schulte, City Attorney, and Herbert E. Cook, electric expert. Under the ordinance the National Fire Code will be used as a standard in all cases. Appeals will be appealed before which problems of the Electrical Inspector, and of the general public may be settled.

## Electricians Want to Obtain Annual License to Inspect Homes

Electricians wishing to obtain an annual license to inspect homes in the City will be required to pay a fee to the City. By reciprocal agreement with a number of other communities in the metropolitan area, as provided in the ordinance, this license will enable the electrician to go into any other city in which this ordinance is in effect, and to fulfill contracts. To do this he must simply obtain a license costing one dollar.

The code was declared to be in effect immediately. The Commission held that an emergency existed because at the present time there was absolutely no inspection system of any kind. With new homes and business places in progress, there would be a distinct hazard unless some sort of inspection were required, it was stated.

About 23 other municipalities in this area have already adopted the ordinance, Cook said.

## CLUB TO HEAR TALK ON PAINT MANUFACTURE

An illustrated lecture on "The Manufacture of Paint" will be the feature of the Kiwanis meeting Wednesday evening. The speaker will be Roy L. Hess, of the National Lead Company, of Chicago. His talk will deal particularly with the making of white lead paint, Forrest Dickerson is in charge of the program.

At their meeting Wednesday evening the Kiwanians heard a talk by M. J. Beiser, Clarenceville superintendent of schools, who told of his recent trip to St. Louis for the national convention of educators. Mr. Beiser spoke on "What is Right in Our Schools."

Following the adjournment of the meeting the Board of Directors met to discuss club business.

## PRIZES IN MODEL PLANE CONTEST ARE ON DISPLAY

Prizes for winning planes in the Exchange Club's model airplane contest have been selected and will be on display at Hutton Farm, Ingham Hardware. All boys and girls in Farmington area are invited to compete in the contest.

There will be two divisions, one for entrants up to and including 14 years of age, and the other for entrants over the age of 14.

Plans are to be completed by May 1, and judging will be held May 6, by a representative of the Megow Model Airplane Co. and out-of-town men chosen by him. The contest is cosponsored by the Megow Co. and prizes are to be made of Megow materials.

Prizes are as follows: Seniors: First prize, Brown Jr. motor; second prize, Brownie motor; third prize, Commander kit (gas model); fourth prize, Cadet kit (gas model); fifth prize, Stinson Reliant; Juniors: First prize, Piper Cub (gas model); second prize, Aerona; third prize, Monocopter; fourth and fifth prizes, Kinner.

## Farmington Man Ends Course at State College

Equipped with diplomas and most of them back on their home farms are the 288 men and women graduates Friday, March 1, from the winter short courses at Michigan State College.

Included among the graduates is Morrow Lee, 2339 12 Mile Road, who enrolled in the poultry study class.