

Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

25 Years Ago
Sept. 6, 1914

City Pays Debts
Farmington City Commission voted Wednesday night to pay interest, which in some cases has been default since February 1932, on water and sewer bonds totalling \$4,192.50. The back interest was due on three different issues, two on water bonds and one on sewer bonds.

Legion Officers

Homers Eisenlord will be installed as commander of the Groves-Walker post of the American Legion 4 on Sept. 11. Charles E. Ekin will be installed as senior vice-commander and Henry Miner as junior vice-commander.

To He Pelt

With the hour of the Primary election close at hand, members of the Farmington Leonard-for-Legislature committee in an active campaign to send Archie G. Leonard to Lansing as representative of the First Oakland County District.

Election

Primary election next Tuesday will find 36 Republican and 33 Democrat candidates on the ballot. Paramount in interest among voters in Farmington will be the battle for gubernatorial nomination between Frank Fitzgerald and Alex Groesbeck, Arthur Lacy and William Comstock, and the candidacy of Archie Leonard for legislature and Charles Wilson for sheriff. All are on the Republican ticket.

10 Years Ago
Sept. 8, 1929

Classes Held
Classes in the schools of the Clarensville School District have been dismissed for the balance of the week because of delays in construction work, announced Wednesday. Delays in securing vital construction materials and equipment caused the hold up. A gymnasium auditorium is being built.

Enrollment Highest

O. E. Dunkel, superintendent of the Farmington Township School District, announced Tuesday that the starting enrollment would be over the 2,000 mark on the basis of pre-school registration. Already, 51 new students have enrolled in the elementary grades and 30 more in the high school.

Married

Marilyn Kay Vivier became the bride of Robert Bacon Friday evening, August 26, in a ceremony at the bride's home on Prospect street. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Vivier, 23215 Prospect. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds Bacon, 33-536 Shawassaw.

Labor Day

Farmington escaped the Grim Reaper over the Labor Day weekend, police reported after traffic fatalities were computed state-wide. Only four minor mishaps were reported here.

Vote on Funds

The Clarensville board of education is seeking authorization from the people to use funds, now in the Building and Site fund, for general school building improvements. The measure has been earmarked and other use must be approved by vote. An election is scheduled Sept. 2. More than \$6,500 is involved.

5 Years Ago
Sept. 9, 1934

Labor Day Death
One person died and seven were injured as the result of two separate auto accidents over the Farmington area over the long Labor Day weekend. The fatal accident occurred Saturday when a Plymouth motor backed his way into the driveway in Farmington and an oncoming auto collided with it.

Record Enrollment

Farmington Township School District will have an enrollment in excess of 3,500 this year.

Finishes Army

Food Course
Army Pvt. Richard C. La Fontaine, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. La Fontaine, 34315 Twelve Mile Road, completed the food service course Aug. 27 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

La Fontaine

La Fontaine received training in cooking, baking, meat cutting and preparing a field kitchen.

Entered the Army

La Fontaine completed basic training at the Missouri fort.

The 22-year-old soldier

is a 1934 graduate of Shrine High School in Royal Oak and was associated with F. J. La Fontaine Sons, Landscape, before entering the Army.

Shop in Friendly Farmington.

LAVERY INSURANCE AGENCY

FIRE - LIFE - AUTO
30760 Grand River Phone GR. 4-6933
(Near Nine Mile)

DRIVE CAREFULLY
Is open

Yes, school is open—and we know from experience it is the time of year that appetites perk up and different foods are in demand here.

If you feel a wish for good filling food, tastefully prepared, bring your family to our dining room this evening. It's comfortably cool there right now.

He Took It on the Lam Down to General Auto Repair!

Not one to postpone the important is Charlie. He hears one of the doctors talking about our great repair service... and he's off and running.

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What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

DEARBORN—Vandals broke into the Dearborn High School last week inflicting approximately \$5,000 worth of damage. Nine classrooms and the assistant principals' offices were ransacked. Several windows in the corridors were smashed with a hammer. Acid in fire extinguishers was sprayed throughout the school, including onto expensive machinery in the auto mechanics room. Considerable damage was also done in the art room, print shop, electronics laboratory, home-making rooms and drafting room. Police believed the vandalism occurred about 8:30 p.m. A smashed clock had stopped at that time.

The vandals entered the building by breaking out a window in the auto mechanics room. One of the vandals cut himself and then helped himself to handgrips in the nurse's office, police reported.

A year ago the high school was also vandalized just prior to the holding of an open house celebrating its completion.

—The Dearborn Press.

SOUTHFIELD—A snag in getting water for a new Southfield junior high building, which it was felt might prevent the opening of the school this week, has been untangled.

The snag came several weeks ago when land developer Rodney Lockwood, who is in charge of the school, failed to get a special permit for water mains. This questioning slowed down progress.

The school board, however, had a ace in the hole. It is trumping the water snag by digging its own well on the school property. The well is producing 40 gallons of water per hour which it is estimated will be enough to service the 500 students who will be enrolled at the school.

Even when city water does come to the school, the well can be kept as a standby source.

—The Southfield News.

NOVI—Three meetings have been scheduled prior to the September 15 election on a proposal to incorporate Novi village into a city.

The first meeting has been planned as an informal gathering to discuss the pros and cons of incorporation. It will be followed by a floor show and square dancing.

A panel discussion will be sponsored by the Willowbrook Association. The panel will consist of the 17 candidates for the city charter commission.

Wrapping up the series of meetings, a University of Michigan expert on metropolitan area problems will air the theoretical and practical aspects of city incorporation at a public gathering Friday, September 11.

This speaker will be Dr. William H. Gable. He has been connected with the Institute of Public Administration of the University of Michigan since 1936. He is carrying out research on metropolitan area problems.

When Novi voters go to the polls on the 15th they will not only be asked to decide whether or not the village of Novi should be incorporated as a city but also asked to elect a charter commission to draw up a city charter within 90 days if the decision is in favor of incorporating a city.

This charter, along with a slate of candidates for the city council, would then come up for another vote of the people.

—The Novi News.

LIVONIA—City of Livonia is shy \$382,000 in funds which are overdue from the State.

The financial mess in Lansing is the cause. Money involved is that which normally would have been received as the city's share of the state racing tax, but payment of which has been delayed because Michigan's treasury is empty.

Livonia receives \$500,000 a year as its rebate from the racing tax paid the State by the track.

Mayor William Brashear has told the auditor general that if the money doesn't show up within six days the city will have to borrow to meet its payroll and other obligations.

—The Livonian.

PLYMOUTH—Unlike the popular trend, the Plymouth Community School District tax rate will drop a fraction this year—enough to give the average home owner at least four or five dollars worth of relief.

Last Monday night the Board of Education met to set the rate which has stood at 21.58 mills for the past seven years. They found it possible to cut this rate to 21.07 mills.

The drop amounts to only 51¢ per \$1,000 of valuation but it is nevertheless a drop and not an increase such as is the case in most school districts throughout this area.

—The Plymouth Mail.

BE SURE WE GET OUR MONEY'S WORTH!

MICHIGAN MIRROR • ELMER WHITE

Governor's Batting Average With Legislature Only .125

ONLY TWO of 16 bills labeled "urgently needed" by Gov. G. Mennen Williams cleared the legislature this year.

The governor early in June sent a special message to the legislature urging action on bills dealing with employment, business, education, and highway and industrial safety.

Thirteen of the measures died in committee; another—passed the House but was shelved in the Senate Education Committee.

One of the bills was the proposal to create a state Seal of Quality for agricultural products. Williams has been advocating this for 11 years.

Success came to a widely-backed motorboat safety bill providing for numbering of motorboats under a federal system. The bill, sought by Williams' Water-Safety Commission, extended jurisdiction of local enforcement agencies.

Defects in 1936 legislation were corrected by the second of the 16 priority bills.

Certain procedural and technical imperfections were noted after the 1936 legislature passed the Development Credit Corporation Act, a government-sponsored plan used with success by other states in encouraging industrial development.

The legislature corrected this by permitting industrial development corporations to acquire land.

Another industrial lure, a measure to permit siting of industrial park authorities, failed. It would have permitted the acquisition of property, borrowing of money and issuing of bonds to develop industrial parks.

The bill was considered necessary to encourage communities to develop suitable land for plant development.

Despite emphasis the past year on Michigan's "business climate," Williams and the legislature were unable to agree on measures of fostering programs to attract new industry.

The legislature was a forum for criticism of Michigan's economic climate. Little was done to build Michigan.

SCANDALS THAT develop in the Secretary of State's Branch System are soon forgotten by most. But Secretary of State James M. Hare, who thinks he has a remedy, remembers.

More than 30 branch managers have been removed from their jobs in the last four years for misuse of funds, sloppy bookkeeping or other improper activities.

There has been a turnover of about 200 managers—about one-third of the total number of branches—in the last four years.

"A great many got in and got out," Hare said. "They can't make a living."

"We've been averaging a new branch manager every 10 days. It's a bad system from end to end."

Hare's suggested remedy: put the managers under civil service instead of allowing them to be appointed—by Hare.

"I have no objection to patronage," Hare said. "But when millions of dollars are involved."

The Civil Service Commission, which has 12 large branch offices under its classification now, is considering doing the same with about 30 more.

But Hare wants them all covered by civil service. Unless managers are busy enough to be full-time employees, the Commission does not want any part of Hare's plan. Most leaders of both parties like the way it is.

IT WON'T BE LONG, MEM-

bers of the Michigan Christmas Tree Growers' Association are making plans for their rush season.

Nearly 13,000 growers, many of them businessmen and professional growers are raising Christmas trees this year.

Thirty million Christmas trees are planted each year by commercial growers. About seven million become saleable every winter. But only two million will likely be sold this December, the association said in reminding its members to prepare for Christmas shopping.

Public Letter Box

Letters submitted to The Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 1,000 words.

Dumping Garbage

Gentlemen: Your pictorial series on "eyesores" in various areas of our community is highly commendable.

I would like to suggest another objective; some investigation of garbage disposal.

I have heard and am inclined to believe that while some garbage is buried other is discarded above ground. This is borne out by the "litterbug" dog brings home and by an infestation of rats I am presently fighting (unsuccessfully).

Very truly yours,
Not A. Crank

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We are gratified to know that others, like ourselves, want to see eyesores in the community cleaned up. We suggest that any specific information you have about persons dumping or disposing of garbage illegally in the area in which you live be reported promptly to township officials. Township health officers are now putting forth considerable effort to put a stop to such unhealthy practices as you report. If nothing is done after a reasonable period of time then we would like to hear from you again.

We do not wish to detract from your letter but we assume your dog is running loose in order to bring "litterbugs" home. Were you aware of the law requiring you to keep your dog confined to your own property or on a leash when away from it?

Enrolled at College

In New Mexico

Andrew N. Staudt, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Staudt, of Thorny Brae Road, Farmington, was registered as a freshman Tuesday, September 8, at New Mexico Western College, New Mexico.

He drove out to the college with Ronald Dwire, a sophomore and the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Dwire of Birmingham.

Enroute they spent several days with Ronald's grandparents in Alamogordo, New Mexico.

Even though your car appears to be in top-notch running condition, it pays to have it completely safety-checked before starting on a long motor trip. This is especially important if your car is three years old or more.

Editorial Page

Selling Liquor Permits

The state liquor control commission has a pretty good record so far as its daily operations are concerned, its detailed rules, its enforcement, and its investigations before a permit is granted or renewed.

There is one part of the procedure which we feel is open to grave question, however. Recently an establishment in the township got a liquor permit, and it was approved by the township board, but not without a complaint by at least one member. This liquor permit came from Detroit, was merely being transferred to Farmington township.

If our information is correct, the holder of a liquor permit almost certain to do very well financially when in operation. Then, if through a death or other circumstance, it is necessary to discontinue the operation, the liquor permit is sold to the highest bidder. We understand this might run from \$25,000 to \$30,000. That's almost too good a thing.

It seems the liquor permit when discontinued should merely revert back to the state liquor control commission and be cancelled. Then the state could issue another permit for the area if deemed necessary. It could thus control permits so no area got too many, as fully as it does now. It might also discourage any permit holder from being too lenient in an attempt to quickly get back the money he had to pay to buy the permit.

There seems little reason the permit holder should profit while the permit is in effect, then profit again when he sells the permit.

Let Labor Wait and See

In many of the speeches given Labor Day labor leaders bemoaned the new federal laws designed to protect the union man from crooked leaders. The new laws were called everything from unfair to a lot worse, and the congressmen who voted for them were threatened.

It is interesting to note that Senator McNamara voted for the bill and, we presume, so did Senator Hart, both Democrats.

Main theme of the speechmakers, however, seemed to be that the new laws were the result of big business cracking the whip over labor in revenge.

Let's wait and see how the new law works out. We have no doubt whatsoever that the law was passed not because of any pressure by big business, but mainly because the congress understood very plainly that the common man, and the ordinary union man, were solidly behind it. It will not hamper any honest union or union official.

A Terrible Thing

The killing of the state trooper at Argentine a few days ago was a great blot on the record of the state, and thousands of our citizens listened with interest and concern as the tragedy unfolded. We all sympathize with the widow, and with the other state troopers.

It should do one other thing which is important. We all must realize that law enforcement men of all kinds constantly face danger. If they are a little brusque in their manner, a little suspicious or cautious when they stop us for any reason, we should realize they have to be this way and cooperate gladly, rather than be outraged. That goes for minor traffic violations, too!

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