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Friday Night, April 3, 1925

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STATE MAY BUY PART OF GRAND TRUNK ROAD

(Continued From Page 1)

ernor Groesbeck and other state officials for its alleged unwillingness to

STATE OF MICHIGAN—In the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland in Chancery.—No. 15005.

Victor N. Dennison, Plaintiff, vs. Seymour W. Sibley, Freeman W. Sibley, their unknown heirs, and the unknown heirs of Joseph Greer or the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns of each and every of them, Defendants.

At a session of said Court held at the Court House in the City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, State of Michigan on the 10th day of February, A. D. 1925.

Present: Hon. Frank L. Covert, Circuit Judge.

On reading and filing of Bill of Complaint duly filed in said cause, and the affidavit of Carl H. Pelton, from which it satisfactorily appears to the Court that the defendants above named, or their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns are necessary and proper parties in the above entitled cause; and

It further appearing that after diligent search, inquiry and investigation, it cannot be ascertained, and it is not known whether the persons named in said Bill of Complaint, as defendants, or any of them, are living, or dead, or where he, she or they may reside if living, or whether the right, title, interest, claim, lien or possible right has been by them, or any of them assigned to any person or persons, and if deceased whether he, she or they have personal representatives or heirs living, or where they or some or any of them may reside, or whether such title, interest claim, lien or possible right has been disposed of by Will, and further that the present whereabouts of such persons, their heirs-at-law, personal representatives, devisees, legatees and assigns, are unknown and the Post Office addresses of none of them can be ascertained, nor can it be ascertained whether any of them are minors or incompetents:

On motion of Pelton and McGee, attorneys for plaintiff:

It is ordered that the appearance of each and all of the foregoing defendants be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this Order and in case of their appearance, or the appearance of any of them, that they cause their Answer to the Bill of Complaint to be filed and a copy served upon the attorneys for plaintiff within fifteen days after service upon them, or their attorneys, of a copy of said Bill, and in default thereof that said Bill be taken as confessed by the said defendants who shall fail to comply with the requirements of this Order.

It is further ordered that the said plaintiff cause this Order to be published within forty days in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper, printed, published and circulating in said County, once in each week for six weeks in succession, or that plaintiff cause a copy of this Order to be personally served upon each of said defendants herein, at least twenty days before the time prescribed for his, her or their appearance.

FRANK L. COVERT, Circuit Judge.

Countersigned:
Burton, P. Daugherty, Clerk.
By Mary Cobb, Deputy.

Please take notice that this suit, in which the preceding Order was made, involves and is brought to quiet the title to the following described lands situate in the Township of Bloomfield, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, and more particularly described as follows:

The East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 21 in Town 2 North, Range 10 East, containing 80 acres of land, be the same more or less.

PELTON & McGEE
Attorneys for Plaintiff
First National Bank Bldg.,
Pontiac, Michigan.
43—49

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co-operate in the Wider Woodward avenue project. The Detroit, Grand Haven and Milwaukee right of way is along Woodward avenue between Detroit and Pontiac and it is claimed that between Royal Oak and Birmingham the Grand Trunk has made it exceedingly difficult to secure the desired right of way for the wider highway.

If the Howarth resolution is adopted, the legislature would be in a position to name a committee to prepare proper legislation to enable the purchase. It is not likely any more definite step toward acquiring the property would be taken until the 1927 legislature.

Road Worth $15,000,000

Briefly, the resolution contends under its old one per cent charter the road in question has been paying that percentage on but $2,517,140 of capital stock or $25,171 a year. The original cost of the road, according to the governor was much higher but no capital stock was paid in. Its assessed valuation is now $7,500,000 and at the normal rate on that figure it would return about $213,000 a year to the primary fund. The old charter and subsequent rulings of the supreme court, however, prohibit the collection of any more than the about $25,000 a year unless the road is purchased and the old charter nullified. The governor claims that the road now is actually worth $15,000,000 or $20,000,000 and even the low one per cent levy would bring in $200,000 whereas the regular rate would raise it to more than $400,000. The resolution prepared by Senator Howarth states that the company has escaped the payment of $2,420,057 by the exemptions in the old charter.

Except for assessing a much greater tax burden against the road the Howarth plan would not particularly help the wider Woodward situation unless the state wanted to delay taking the right of way until it purchased the road. There is pending in the house, however, the Harris bill which would authorize the state to enter an agreement with the road to provide a new right of way to take the place of the present right of way wanted by the state. This deal, it is estimated, would be costly for the state.

FOUR SCHOOLS UNITE IN GIVING CANTATA

Fluttering fairies and creeping elves will be abroad next Thursday evening in the Baldwin Auditorium when a cantata entitled "The Rose Garden" will be presented to the public by the children of the four public schools of the village.

The star of the performance, if there are stars ever to be found in a rose garden, will be little Helen Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Brown of Greenwood avenue, in the role of Little Rose. Though it may be difficult to conceive of a dancing rose, in the garden marvelous things happen of course, Little Rose comes flitting out of the bushes to express her joy in a solo dance. But roses are not the only ones who dance in faery land. Out slips Rosebud, and goblins and elves absent themselves while Loraine Elliot, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter T. Elliot, expresses herself in dancing.

Of course Hop O' My Thumb, the naughty little elf, impersonated by Holden Drury, hops here and there in a seven-year-old fashion doing perhaps more than his share of mischief, while Virginia Lamborn, a grown-up fourth grader, tries to stand straight and dignified as a Queen of the Faeries should stand. The Door Faery guards the garden gate against all trouble makers but it is said that there is a terrible word on the list of characters — Can't. But perhaps Can't isn't so bad for he has a twin called Can.

Miss Myra Gratton, who has charge of the performance, refuses to select the best dancer from the Rose Garden.

MRS. WHITTEMORE ADDRESSED CIVIC CLUB

(Continued From Page 1)

all declared themselves in favor of equal rights for men and women, but frankly, I don't really believe they are, although they are not aware of it. The bills that we are working for are to be just as liberal to the man as to the woman. It is to equalize working conditions and our aim is to put the woman in a position where she will be able to hold the good jobs as well as the difficult jobs. Our opponents believed in equal rights in a degree, but our plan seemed to them a step beyond their expected goal."

Mrs. Whittemore, who lives on Opdyke Road, Bloomfield Hills, was one of the first speakers to address the judiciary committees of the House and Senate at Washington in behalf of her party.

The Parent-Teachers Association of the Adams School is planning a bake sale to be held Saturday morning at Stroup's market. Among the home-made goodies there will be pies, cookies, cakes, and doughnuts "like mother used to make." The sale will begin at eleven o'clock.

Cross Word Fans Battle For Webster In Baldwin Library

By Louise Hastings

Fads may come and fads may go but cross word puzzles stay on forever. We have found proof of the pudding right here in little Ol' Birmingham; Hoop skirts, knee breeches, sideburns and moustache spoons, men wearing their hair in curls and women shaving their necks—"all have had their hour and then were heard no more." Then there have been arena days and croquet playing days and cockfighting days and sampler making days, but the cross word puzzle, like the poor, is forever with us. Even before the perfectly harmless amusement was a week old, skeptics were snapping their fingers and predicting its downfall.

The Baldwin Public Library here possesses one Webster's Dictionary and therefore is overrun with puzzle adepts. The number is not declining either. Reports come in that there are rarely less than two pouring over the tables but more often, four, according to Mrs. Hugh Purdy, librarian. At times an even half dozen come in to buzz around the table. Let the crossest cross word puzzlerite solve the mystery of longivity.

VILLAGE NEEDS PLAN FOR PERMANENT ROAD BUILDING PROJECTS

(Continued From Page 1)

proximately $7.50 per front foot for a 24-ft. pavement (a like amount on each side of a street); the other is to install curb, gutter, and a deep layer of gravel, at a cost of approximately $2.75 per front foot. A petition, containing the signatures of the majority of the property owners on any street, if presented to the village commission, is necessary to institute any kind of permanent road-building in Birmingham.

"That is all that is necessary to make good roads here—just a matter of money. Of course, the commission could not handle every street in town at one time, becaus this would tax the village treasury to the limit. But, if several streets were under consideration at one time, the matter could be carried through without any trouble.

"At present, Birmingham is annually spending a great deal of money in trying to make its side streets passable each spring. As long as they are dirt roads we will continue to thus spend the money. Personally, I would like to see local residents express a desire for permanent hard surfaces. It will pay in the long run."

Last year the village installed curb, gutter and gravel improvements on part of Pierce and Frank streets. A petition is now being circulated by the residents of Purdy street for the same improvements.

COUNTY MUST CARE FOR UNFORTUNATES

(Continued From Page 1)

been accumulated $98,901 from fees paid into county offices. These have been set aside for the building fund and it is expected $30,000 more will accrue in that way this year.

In 1924 the county voted and paid a mill tax which raised $184,000. The three-quarter mill tax will provide for $160,000 more. These items will bring the total fund within $26,000 of the amount needed for the buildings and that small amount is to be raised by a tenth of a mill tax in 1926.

Thus a building program which involves a total cost of $502,901 is being financed at a minimum of expense to the people of the county, without adding a dollar for bonded indebtedness or other charges.

Whether the structures proposed are needed can well be decided upon investigation of the buildings now in use. Oakland cbunty has been getting along with a makeshift home for the poor since the old building burned years ago. The quarters are crowded uncomfortable in winter and without the ordinary provisions made even by small counties for their poor. The new home, under contract for construction, will correct those faults.

The tuberculosis sanitarium is a converted dwelling, crowded with patients, without grounds for ambulant patients, without separate quarters for advanced cases. Depressing indeed is this "sanitarium" for the patient whose case holds possibilities of cure.

The juvenile detention problem has always been handled in a makeshift manner, and without proper facilities. Other counties have far surpassed us in this respect.

As for the contagious hospital, it has moved from pillar to post as former residences have become available and been converted to this use. No one questions the wisdom of taking every precaution against epidemics of contagious disease—and a modern hospital, located away from the centers of population is the logical answer.

All of these projects will be treated in detail in a later issue.

ONCE AGAIN ROTARY RESCUES THE STARVING MEMBERS OF EXCHANGE

(Continued from page 1.)

sult of the drive was premeditated by the Rotary club. Noticing that certain of the Exchangeites presented the appearance of a bear that had just come out of a winter's hibernation, the Rotarians decided to again come to the rescue of the "hungry 38." So they proposed that the club which obtained the least amount of money in the Y. M. C. A. drive should banquet the club which obtained the highest amount. In this drive, the Exchange club turned in $1,538, while the Rotary club came next with $1,293. (Of course, the other thousands which the Rotarians obtained have never been made public.)

Thus, you will see, Wednesday night's banquet was Rotary's chance to resurrect the fading constitutions of the Exchangeites, and in this fashion preserve the Exchange charter in Birmingham. (To such an extent will a Rotarian go to prevent a blemish on the fair countenance of his home town.)

Everybody—including the Exchangeites—conceded that Wednesday's chicken dinner was "the best ever." So the Exchangites cannot find fault with the Rotarians' taste where food is concerned.

Now, folks, the only reason why I placed my name at the top of this article is because I want to expose the ruthlessness and inhospitality which a certain few of the Exchangites exercised towards me. Since the Rotary club was acting as host, and because certain of my enemies in the Rotary club made me president of it a year ago, I had to occupy a kind of central seat at the banquet table. I was so situated that all those present could see what was placed before me in the shape of food.

Here's where the gravy—I mean plot—thickens. All present except myself had been served with a half chicken, and I was waiting expectantly for my share of the fowl; I soon beheld the outcome of a foul trick which was being consummated at my expense. A waiter placed before me a two and three-quarter inch "weenie," decorated with frizzed paper, and accompanied with an olive and an onion. The portion of chicken followed later.

I tried to bribe the waiter into telling me who furnished the "weenie." At first I thought that Bill Olsen or Frank Schlaack, both Exchangites, had procured the cold "hot dog" from their meat markets. I knew that Joe Stroup, Rotarian, held nothing against me, for I had paid my last six months' bill this week, so the tender morsel did not come from Stroup's Market. But the waiter refused a fifty cent offer, and I concluded that the guilty donor of the "Weenie" had probably paid the waiter a dollar some time earlier in the evening.

Finally, however, I learned that Fred Douglass, local plumber and Exchangite, had cheated his dog out of last Tuesday night's supper, and was the chef in charge of the "weenie's" transportation to Royal Oak. As fitting reward for the position in which he placed me, I shall attempt to have Fred's plumber's license plumb high revoked.

As our society reporter might say, "the evening was a great success; a good time was had by all." And thus ended Rotary's last attempt to chase Wylie Bell out of the job of immediately burying a local Exchangite who might through starvation, pass out. The local Rotary club is determined, from now on, to refuse any contests with the Exchange club. Indeed, the local Rotarians have exemplified their motto of "service above self." Exchangites have done a similar thing with their motto of "unity for service;" they never fail to unite when the chance to be served with food presents itself.

HANNA, QUARTON, AND WATKINS APPRAISING EAST SIDE WOODWARD

(Continued from page 1.)

this week. "This changes, to some extent, the possibility of creating a special assessment district in Oakland County for the purpose of assisting the State to pay the cost of widening Woodward avenue. Of course, no one can prophecy whether the State officials will attempt to create a special assessment district. All we in Birmingham can do is to await word from Lansing. The village commission, however, is definitely agreed on a 150-ft. highway through town, and they also demand that the State pay the entire cost."

Manager Starr, when asked when Birmingham might hear from Governor Groesbeck and the State Highway Department as to the latter's decision in the local project, replied "That is hard to answer. It may be a week, a month, or never fall."

In the meantime there is a growing feeling on the part of many property owners on the east side of Woodward avenue in Birmingham to make a stand for a 100-ft. road, with 80 feet of pavement. It is felt that, with the removal of the Grand Trunk railroad eastward at some future date, the old roadbed may be utilized as a relief thoroughfare for north and southbound traffic.

IMPENDING SCHOOL BOND ISSUE TOTALS ALMOST $300,000.00

(Continued from page 1)

bring the total of the bond issue down to less than $200,000. This, however, would make no provision for the three grades of the junior high school, which are going to be required to relieve the Baldwin high school within a short period. The Board was undecided at the meeting last Monday on which of these additions the people would be asked to vote.

Leigh Lynch reported on the site across Oakland avenue to the south of the Adams school that has been considered as a likely spot, to provide a playground for the Adams school children when the proposed addition to the school occupied the present playground. The entire block was discussed but the report showed such a proposition to be too costly. There are already four houses on the block and it was suggested that the board buy only five lots, facing the school. This would give a playground of about three hundred feet frontage on Oakland avenue and one hundred and fifty feet deep. The price placed on this site was about $21,000.

The question of whether the owners of the other two sites being considered will sell is now delaying the board in submitting the bond issue. One site is a piece of seven acres belonging to John McDonald. It is located at the intersection of Oak street and Chesterfield Road. Fred V. Quarton, representing the school board, has been trying to come to some terms with Mr. McDonald. The same condition exists regarding a similar piece belonging to Fred Lambert in the southeast section of the district. This is the piece that has been discussed by the board for several months, as a suitable site. It has a frontage on Lincoln avenue and is the only site in that section that is considered as meeting all school district requirements. Mr. Lambert was to give some reply to Mr. Quarton during this week.

It is hoped that a special election can be called some time in April to secure the funds for the Adams addition in order to rush the work so that the addition may be in use by next February, when it will be sorely needed. If such a bond issue was voted down by the people, many village children would be attending school only in half-day sessions before the end of the term, it is said.

"TOM" JOHNSON IS A TYPICAL AMERICAN

(Continued From Page 1)

Public Instruction in the United States.

Not only a school man but a man of wide interests he has always been an interested and active member of the various boards of which he is a member by virtue of his office. Since its inception he has been a member of the Administrative Board, where his vote and influence has always been in favor of the people in less favored communities.

In 1922 he aroused a good deal of antagonism by refusing to vote for the road program, insisting that the time had come when we must adopt a pay-as-you-go program, and suggested a gas tax as a part of the solution, being the first representative of the state government to come out and favor this form of highway finance.

When Mr. Johnson became a member of the Board of Auditors the new State Office Building had not yet been constructed, and at that time the state was at the mercy of many landlords in the City of Lansing. One of them insisted that he must have not only an advance in rent but a large payment on back rent on the department housed in his building would be forced to leave—obviously a great inconvenience to the state. The thing did not look right to Tom and he insisted that it was a form of blackmail and should not be paid. When the owner threatened eviction Tom stepped to the telephone, called the State Police and soon had a member of that organization on duty day and night in the offices involved. Naturally they were not evicted, neither did they make any payments of back rent.

MRS. J. ALLEN BIGELOW DIED ON WEDNESDAY

(Continued From Page 1)

take part in a skirmish; noticing the unfinished letter, and realizing that Richard might never finish the letter, Captain Bigelow added a few lines to it, signed his own name, and sent it back to Oakland county. There followed a correspondence between the two. Shortly afterwards Captain Bigelow lost part of his arm in battle; he was sent to the home of his parents in Franklin, just west of Birmingham, where several amputations were necessary. During his convalescence Miss Isabel Whitehead was in constant attendance at the side of her sweetheart. The two were married May 24, 1866.

Captain and Mrs. Bigelow had resided in the West Maple avenue home since their marriage, 59 years and ten months ago. Mrs. Bigelow was a charter member of St. James' Episcopal church, as well as the local Woman's Literary club.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I WISH TO ANNOUNCE to the residents of Birmingham and vicinity that I have opened up a law office in ROOM 4, FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG., Birmingham, and will be open to offer counsel all day on each Tuesday and Thursday, and on Saturday afternoon.

AUSTIN E. STEBBINS
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Detroit Address: 738-746 Penobscot Bldg.
Telephone: Randolph 6983

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