

COUNTY NEWS-LETTER

(Special Correspondence)

The Oakland County Board of Supervisors will take action Monday on a proposal to reduce the rates of compensation now allowed them by law. The reduction, suggested by W. H. Paddison, of Oxford, as the first move in a county economy plan, will set a precedent in Michigan supervisory boards, if adopted.

Supervisors now are allowed \$7 for each day they attend sessions of the board. Mr. Paddison's plan calls for a return to the old system of \$5 a day with ten cents per mile travelling expenses, one way.

Each supervisor has been supplied with complete financial reports showing the county's outstanding indebtedness and the serious situation resulting from the unusually high percentage of tax delinquency in the southern section of the county.

Member banks of the County Bankers' Association have taken particular care to acquaint supervisors with details of the county's financial status, so that supervisors may not blindly commit themselves to further drains on the county treasury.

An uninstructed delegation of 62 members will represent Republicans of Oakland County in the State Republican Convention at Grand Rapids, Sept. 26. Among the delegates from this section are Harry Kinney, of Milford, Bert Wardlow, of Highland, and A. B. Hubbard, of Clarkston. Prominent members are Luther D. Allen, road commissioner, Burton P. Daugherty, county clerk, Judge Frank Doty, Frank L. Covert, C. D. Underwood, E. B. Howarth, Clarence L. Smith and Philemon J. Miller.

The 62 were selected after a wordy battle on the floor of the county convention last Tuesday, precipitated by former Governor Groesbeck supporters, who objected to the complexion of the original nominating committee's selection. Almost 100 percent of the committee's nominations were staunch Brucker adherents.

A new committee, appointed by the chair, submitted the 62 names finally accepted. The delegation now is preponderantly a Brucker delegation but has a fair number of Groesbeck supporters. A lively battle is forecast at Grand Rapids over certain state offices for which the state convention has the power to make nominations.

Inasmuch as the recount, which doubtless will be demanded by Mr. Groesbeck, will be under way at the time of the convention, certain politicians, now on the fence and ready and willing to topple to whichever side seems most profitable, are going to give a nice exhibition of equilibristics for the next week or so.

County Democrats ran off their convention smoothly and started off their campaign for the November elections with an enthusiastic ballyhoo and banquet, attended by more than 200 persons. Twenty-three delegates to the state convention to be held at St. Joseph, Sept. 19 and 20, were selected, among them H. C. Gordon, of Holly; Manly C. Baker, White Lake; Scott Lovejoy, of Milford; Alfred Gale and Mrs. Edith Joy, Waterford; Frank Dunston, Clarkston; William Miller, of Roseland, and Mrs. Blanche Mann, of Brandon.

The delegation was instructed to do all in its power to prevent the prohibition problem from being included in the state platform, after the convention had resolved that it was "inadvisable" to make any statement on the prohibition issue.

T. W. Jackson, of Pontiac, called the convention to order. Homer Colim was elected chairman and Clark Adams, secretary.

Leaders among the Democrats scoffed at the idea that a Republican couldn't be defeated in the November elections. Judging from the earnest manner in which some of the Democratic candidates are preparing their campaigns, the forthcoming weeks will see some merry times.

The official canvass of votes in Oakland County of the recent Republican primary show that Alex J. Groesbeck polled 14,567 votes against Wilber M. Brucker's 13,324, or a margin for the former governor of 1,243.

Next to the usual sheaf of prohibition violation cases, divorce suits hold sway in Oakland County courts.

Forty-three petitions for divorce and two for annulment were filed in the County Clerk's office during the month of August and the September petitions promise to better that number.

Couples married in other cities and states and later become resident here are involved in a majority of the cases. Only a few are natives of the county.

Cruelty and non-support are

charged in 90 percent of the petitions. Four charged drunkenness and five desertion.

Unemployment, leading to discontent, quarreling and domestic battling, is a story woven into most of the pleas for freedom.

Of 56 criminal cases called for arraignment in Oakland County Circuit Court at the opening of the September term, 42 were for violations of the prohibition laws. An unusual number of respondents, unrepresented by counsel, entered pleas of guilty and expressed willingness to take whatever punishment was meted out to them.

The duck hunting season opened this week with more hunters than wildfowl. Only a few pintail and occasional small flights of teal and mallard were reported in this section. Due to the drouth, sections which in other seasons were veritable hunters' paradises are among the poorest this

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FORESTS ARE CROP FOR POORER SOILS

State College Men Urge Planting of Trees in Michigan

East Lansing, Sept. 18.—Trees are the best crop for 750,000 acres of southern Michigan soils which are not adapted to the growing of ordinary field crops due to slopes, erosion, or the type of the soil itself, according to members of soils and forestry departments at Michigan State College.

Plantings on cutover lands in the northern part of the state have been advised for several years but the recommendations for southern Michigan have been brought about by agricultural conditions which make it unprofitable to grow the common crops on lands which are hard to till or which will not produce good yields.

Mixed plantings of white pine and Norway spruce are recommended for lower Michigan. The trees can be set as seedlings in furrows or in holes dug with a spade. The seedlings should be spaced about six or eight feet apart each way.

About 1,200 seedlings will be needed to plant one acre. Cultivating, fertilizing or watering are not recommended after the trees are set.

Norway spruces can be thinned out for Christmas trees eight or ten years after planting. Trees from 20 to 30 years old will furnish pulpwood, 40 year old trees are large enough to cut for railroad ties, and trees which have passed the 50 year mark will be large enough to yield saw logs.

PLANTING OF TROUT NOW BEING MADE IN MICHIGAN

Lansing, Sept. 17.—With the 1929 fishing season closed, the Fish Division of the Department of Conservation has started planting trout in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas. Planting of brook, brown and rainbow trout will continue until about November.

Because of the rapidly increasing proportion of fingerling trout being planted each year, and the fact that many of these fish are almost of the legal size, most of the planting does not begin until after the close of the fishing season. By the time the 1931 trout season opens many of these fish will be of legal size and may be taken by hook and line.

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I wish to thank my friends of the community for the vote they gave me in the Primary Election last week. I shall always try to merit the trust and confidence you have shown in me.

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"Police Force" Keeping Insect Pests in Check

For a good many years now science has been fighting insect armies, and, curiously enough, amongst its most potent weapons are insects themselves. It has been found that there is hardly an insect which is not preyed upon by some other. Nature has, in fact, evolved a kind of insect police force, which keeps marauders from becoming too numerous. The greenfly, which does so much damage to roses, has a powerful foe in the larva of the ladybird, while ichnumon flies serve to keep the devastations of caterpillars within bounds.

But this police force is not always adequate, and science is engaged in the production of flying squads. Whenever a plague of obnoxious insects is noticed in any part of the empire, others which are known to prey upon the pests are bred in large numbers at an insect zoo in a Hertfordshire village and are sent out to do battle.

Policeman insects have already been sent to Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India, Africa, and the West Indies, and every year the flying squad of the scientists is waging more and more relentless war upon insect robbers and plagues in all parts of the world.—London Tit-Bits.

year. And hunters in this district probably will not enjoy any real sport until later in the season.

Republican nominees for county offices are planning to start vigorous campaigns against their Democratic opponents next week and to keep the ballyhoos going right up until election day. While nomination in the Republican primaries here has long been tantamount to election, this appears to be a season of political upsets and nobody wants to take a chance. The Democratic nominees for many of the offices are recognized as able men and there is every evidence of some stiff fighting for votes to come, with a continuance of political motercading, stump speaking and spell-binding.

A diligent effort is being made by Deputies under Sheriff Frank Schram to round up the ringleaders of what is believed to be an organized band of petty thieves and burglars whose operations during the last fortnight have caused alarm in various parts of the county.

The robberies have noticeably been in two classes—the entering of homes and the ransacking of clothing and receptacles where valuables and money are usually kept; and the burglarizing of small business places, such as gasoline stations, groceries and shops where small sums of money are kept overnight in cash registers.

Evidently none of these depredateions has been the work of "experts" or "professionals". No attempts have been made to crack even the smallest of safes and the better protected homes and business establishments have not been bothered.

Nevertheless the work gives evidence of organization. For example the recent series of burglaries in Rochester, where in the period of two hours more than ten homes were entered and systematically ransacked for loot. Deputy sheriffs point out that at least a small group of men would be required to carry on such an operation.

The burglaries affecting shops and gas stations bear similarity in the matter of entering, investigators having found that small but powerful irons were used, in almost all cases, to jimmy doors and windows.

Several suspects have been arrested.

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STATE HAY SUPPLY HAS BEEN LOWERED

Abnormal Demand Caused by Drouth Given as the Reason

East Lansing, Sept. 17.—One result of the continued drought this year, which may prove expensive for Michigan farmers, has been the great demand for hay and straw for use in Ohio and Indiana, and the sale of roughages from Michigan may have reduced the supply for home use below the amount needed, according to G. A. Brown, head of the animal husbandry division of Michigan State College.

Bids for alfalfa hay which is to be shipped or trucked into other states have been as high as thirty dollars a ton for second cutting, and many farmers who have had any surplus have already sold it. Professor Brown believes that most of this hay would find ready sale in Michigan before it will be possible to turn stock on pastures next spring.

If Michigan feeders have to purchase roughages this year, it may be necessary to go into distant markets, and the cost of shipping the hay will be added to the purchase price. In addition to the extra expense, there is always danger of importing undesirable weeds in shipments of hay from a distance.

Farmers who have hay for sale will undoubtedly take advantage of the abnormal demand and will continue to sell for shipment outside the state, and farmers who will have to buy hay are advised by Professor Brown to check up on the supply of surplus hay in their community before it is too late to make local purchases.

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