

# WILMETTE LIFE

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## GIVES RULES FOR SALES TAX

State Director of Finance Informs Retail Merchants About Regulations

Retail merchants in the village have been conferring this week, in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, in an effort to learn the complete details of the newly adopted state sales tax which becomes effective April 1.

Preliminary regulations for putting into operation the enforcement and collection of the sales tax were announced this week by Joseph J. Rice, director of finance, at his office in Springfield.

The law becomes effective April 1 and requires retailers to make a first report on May 15, covering sales during the month of April. Reports must be filed with the director of finance at Springfield. Copies of the preliminary regulations will shortly be available at the offices of the county clerk in every county in the state and at the Chambers of Commerce in the larger cities. Merchants' associations and all others wishing copies of the regulations may obtain them, if desired, upon request to the director of finance at Springfield.

### Cite Regulations

A summary of the regulations is as follows:

1. All retailers must make a return each month from April 1, 1933 to July 1, 1935, stating their gross cash receipts from sales of goods, wares, merchandise and commodities. Such report must include cash, charge, or time sales whether or not payment is received during the month. Returns are to be made on a form prescribed by the department of finance which will be available at the offices of the county clerk in each county of the State after April 20, 1933.

2. At the same time that the monthly return is filed, the payment of the tax (Continued on Page 6)

## Park Board Election at Kenilworth Tuesday

The Kenilworth Assembly hall will be the polling place for both Kenilworth precincts in the Kenilworth Park district election to be held Tuesday, April 4. Two members are to be elected to the Park board. Petitions have been filed on behalf of John F. White, 270 Oxford road, for a full six-year term, and for Herbert J. Prussing, 549 Earlston road, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation and subsequent death of Edward F. Hamm, whose term had two years to run. Joseph Joyce is the member of the board whose term expires this spring.

## Women Voters League to Hear About Code

The Wilmette League of Women Voters will sponsor a public hearing at the Village hall this Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Harry C. Kinne, village trustee, will explain the revised code which, it is expected, will be voted upon by the Village board at its next meeting, April 4. All Wilmette residents are urged to attend.

## REVISED WILMETTE CODE WOULD NULLIFY VILLAGE MANAGER PLAN

Perusal of the revised Wilmette Village code which it is proposed will be adopted by the board of trustees at its regular meeting April 4 indicates that, in most of its provisions, changes contemplated serve the essential purpose of bringing up-to-date a document which has become unwieldy or obsolete in certain respects.

In one very important particular, however, the revision takes an astonishing step backward.

The code as now revised virtually nullifies the Village Manager form of government in Wilmette.

Moreover, and what is particularly dangerous, it lays the Village government wide open to the spoils system in politics.

At a public meeting last week, a Village official intimated, in reply to a query, that whatever changes were to be made in regard to the Village Manager plan would serve merely to strengthen that accepted form of government.

We submit that the direct opposite is true. The revised code will definitely weaken if not actually nullify the Village Manager form of municipal government.

Under the provisions of the revised code the Village Manager is asked to bear the burden of administrative responsibility. His position is comparable to that of a general manager or supervising officer in a private business or corporation. Yet the authority to appoint or remove Village department heads and employees who are under his supervision and responsible to him for the proper performance of their duties is vested in the president and board of trustees. Their tenure of office or job thus—even though appointed for an "indefinite" period—expires with that of the president and board of trustees. The security of their position may not be predicated upon efficiency, but rather upon the favor in which they are held by the president or board of trustees. Theoretically at least, it is made possible with every change of administration to remove practically the entire working personnel of the Village and to replace it with favorites—possibly campaign workers—of the incoming president and board. And there you

have a nicely functioning spoils system.

The village manager is answerable to the president and Village board for the efficient conduct of his subordinates. If they are not efficient his position is placed in jeopardy. He must answer for them. He cannot therefore afford to appoint people who fail to function properly in the Village organization. Yet, though general supervising administrator of the municipal corporation, he lacks authority to appoint or remove his subordinates to guarantee such efficiency. His authority is, for all practical purposes, nullified. He lacks the authority to command. He can merely suggest, for his subordinates know full well that he has no authority to replace them even for good cause. He must rely upon pay-rollers who may or may not be good workers.

A casual comparison of the new provisions with those set up in the original ordinance adopted July 1, 1930, to re-organize the administrative branch of the Village government, clearly indicates what we have endeavored to point out. The comparison appears below:

### PRESENT PROVISIONS Ordinance No. 1650

Section 2: The Village board shall supervise and control the administrative branch of the Village Government by the appointment of a Village Manager, and for this purpose the office of the Village Manager is hereby created and the person appointed by the Board of Trustees to hold such office shall be, and he is hereby declared to be an officer of the Village of Wilmette.

Section 3: The Village Manager shall be appointed by the Village board for an indefinite period, and shall be subject to removal at any time by a majority vote of the entire board. During the absence of or disability of the Village Manager, the Board may designate some properly qualified person to perform the duties of the office. The Village Manager shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the Board and shall be required to file a bond satisfactory to the Board. During his term of office, the Village Manager shall be a resident of the Village of Wilmette.

Section 4: The Village Manager shall be directly responsible to the Board of Trustees for the supervision of the Public Works Department, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Health Department; the General Office of the Village of Wilmette, and shall be responsible for their efficient administration. To this end, the Superintendent of Public Works, the Chief of Police, the Fire Marshal, and the Health Officer, shall report to the Village Manager and be responsible to him for the proper performance of their duties.

Section 5: Subject to the approval of the Village Board, the Village Manager shall have the power to appoint for an indefinite period and to remove from (Continued on Page 11)

## WANT FEES AT BEACH SLASHED

Wilmette Post of American Legion Requests Elimination or Reduction of Cost

Complete elimination or radical reduction of the present fee of \$5 charged residents of Wilmette for the use of the Wilmette bathing beach is requested in a resolution adopted by Wilmette Post No. 46 of the American Legion and addressed to the Wilmette Park board.

The Legion Post makes its request in view of the circumstances growing out of the general economic depression.

The resolution reads:

"WHEREAS the Wilmette Bathing beach is a part of the Wilmette Park property, and

"WHEREAS a tax is being paid by every property owner in Wilmette to provide the people in this community with some recreation, and

"WHEREAS this beach is the only means of recreation which young and old of all classes can enjoy, and

"WHEREAS the beach is now restricted to the use of those who can afford the present fee of \$5 per family, and

"WHEREAS it is commonly known that many families, who have been residents of Wilmette for years and who have supported the local government, are now finding it impossible to secure more than the bare necessities of life and should be allowed some form of recreation and pleasure.

"BE IT RESOLVED that, owing to the present conditions, some action be taken by our Wilmette Park board officials with regard to the elimination of or the very radical reduction in the present fee charged our citizens for the use of the Wilmette bathing beach, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the beach be restricted to the use of Wilmette citizens, as far as it is legally possible to do so, and that citizens be made to identify themselves as permanent residents of the village when securing tickets and

"That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Park board and be brought to the attention of the local civic organizations through the local press."

## Dr. Oscar Olson Talks at M. E. Lenten Series

"Can Human Nature Be Changed?" will be the topic of the sermon to be delivered by Dr. Oscar Thomas Olson, the minister, at the Lenten evening service in the Wilmette Parish Methodist church, Sunday evening, April 2, at 7:30 o'clock.

Sunday's services will be one of a series marked by the discussion of timely questions. On Sunday evening, April 9, Dr. Olson will take up the question, "Is Religion a Necessity?" and on Sunday evening, April 16, he will discuss "Where Are the Dead?"

## SOMETHING FOR CHILDREN

The Economy Shop is in need of some things for the children.

Have you a child's bed large enough for a four-year-old child? Also this child very much wants a doll carriage.

If you are cleaning house do not forget that we can use anything you want to dispose of.—Mrs. Henry Cutler, chairman.

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