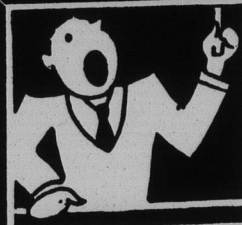


BETROTHED

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Noble of 1010 Oak street, Winnetka, announce the engagement of their daughter, Margaret Ellen, to Thomas Kerlin McIntyre, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McIntyre of 1804 Elmwood

avenue, Wilmette. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mrs. Alfred McDougal, 325 Abbotsford road, Kenilworth, motored to Decatur, Ill., to spend Thanksgiving with her sister, Mrs. Everett Brown.

**Public Forum****the CO-OP...**

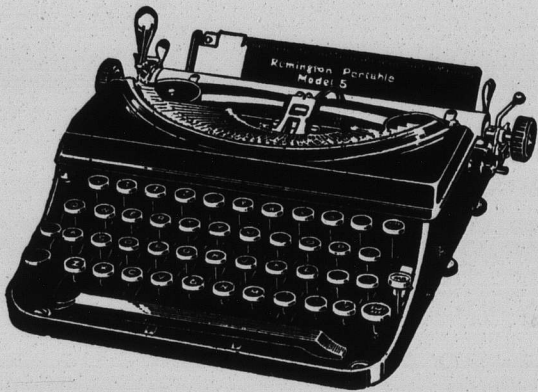
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A PROTEST

Editor, WILMETTE LIFE:

I read with a great deal of interest the leading editorial in the last issue of WILMETTE LIFE and it seemed to me that the implications in the editorial were so untrue to the facts and the tenor of the article so contrary to the general attitude of your paper towards public affairs that there should be some sort of a protest.

For example, in the second paragraph you imply that the owner of a modest home pays his taxes without any hope of receiving any benefit from the greater portion of the amount of his tax bill. The natural inference is that over half of the taxes paid by Wilmette citizens are wasted through extravagance and graft. In the distribution of the taxes among the various taxing bodies, seventy per cent goes to our local institutions and is spent either in Wilmette or in New Trier township. The members of the boards administering these taxes are just about the best type of citizens that can be gotten into public affairs and while it is implied in the editorial, I don't believe that the WILMETTE LIFE believes that there has been any crookedness in the administration of our local affairs.

Thirty per cent of the taxes paid by Wilmette citizens goes to taxing bodies outside our own community. They are, the State, County, Forest Preserve, and Sanitary district. Perhaps some of this amount is spent in corruption and graft; but, in the straightened circumstances of these governmental bodies certainly much less is going that way than in former times. The point I want to make is that a very high per cent of the money paid by Wilmette taxpayers is spent legitimately. We may have been more extravagant in developing our local institutions than we should have been, but that develop-

ment has been in response to public demand and by civic minded boards of administration.

Also, I do want to object to the term "tax eaters" in reference to our tax spending bodies. I don't believe we are going to think through our difficult problems by resorting to epithets. I wish we could avoid that term as applied to all governmental bodies, and the term "racketeer" as applied to all business institutions. Living on the north shore as I do, I have still faith enough in mankind to believe that some tax spending bodies are civic-minded and that some business institutions still have ideals of service in their attitude toward the public. Who are the tax-eaters anyway? Are they the boards that administer the funds, or are they the policemen, firemen, teachers, and other public employees, or are they the business houses that furnish supplies to the taxing bodies, or are they the 2,400 school children who receive instruction in our local schools and high school, or are they the citizens whose children are educated and who receive many other benefits from the administration of public funds?

Now, I am not unmindful of the fact that we have many problems in connection with taxation and the cost of government. In the first place we have the problem of electing the proper type of officials. That is not such a problem locally, but becomes more difficult as the area of administration becomes larger. In the second place, we have the problem of a proper system of taxation. There is no question but what our system is archaic and by far too great a burden imposed on real estate. The main proposals for reform in tax matters take the form of collections by the state, through an income tax, sales tax, etc., and then the allocation of sums to local institutions. While a system of this kind may be more just, we will have less say locally about governmental affairs than we have now. Since sums will be allocated on the basis of population and since communities with a greater income and with a greater spending power will pay more, as they should, toward the cost of government, the chances are that the cost of government will be increased rather than decreased to our citizens through a change in method in collecting public funds.

—J. R. Harper.

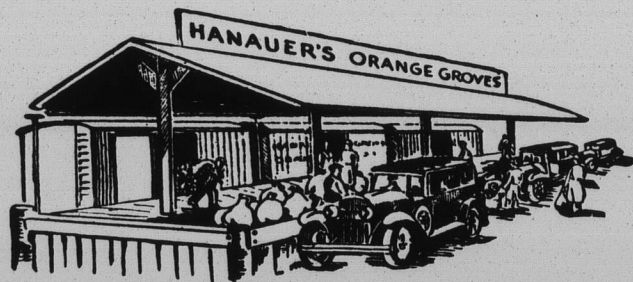
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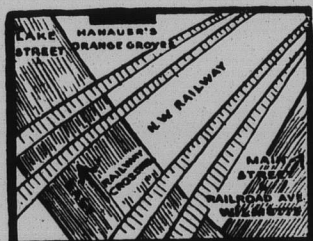
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Light Match to Peek at "Gas"; Car Burns

Three Winnetka youths narrowly escaped injury when the model "T" Ford they were driving caught fire at Chestnut avenue and Tenth street, Wilmette, last Saturday evening about 7:30. Fire Chief Walter Zibble reports that the boys made the mistake of lighting a match to see whether the gasoline supply was running low. The car was destroyed. One other run was made by firemen in the past week. That was on Tuesday morning about 8:15 o'clock to 906 Greenleaf avenue, where assistance was given to a person accidentally locked out of her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ware, 325 Abbotsford road, Kenilworth, entertained their niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman, and their three sons, of Hinsdale, at Thanksgiving dinner.