

WILMETTE LIFE

WITH WHICH IS COMBINED
WILMETTE ANNOUNCEMENTS and THE KENILWORTH TIMES

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GOOD FINANCING

In times like these, when all taxing bodies are finding difficulty in financing operations and economy is a prime requisite to the maintenance of public service, citizens of the New Trier villages are to be congratulated upon the fact that the New Trier High school board is embracing every opportunity to lighten the burden of the taxpayer without injury in any way to the efficiency of the school. That some members of the board, at least, are "finance minded," with a special propensity for the solving of financial problems, is an additional cause for congratulation.

When \$55,000 of 4½ per cent refunding bonds were sold to the Northern Trust company last week for the purpose of covering bonds falling due on July 1, these refunding bonds commanded a premium of \$3,370, which brings the net interest rate down to 4 per cent.

Again, a week earlier, \$50,000 in tax anticipation warrants were sold to meet June payrolls and July bond interest charges. These warrants bear 5 per cent interest instead of 6 per cent, as has been the customary rate, meaning a saving of \$5,000 annually.

When it came to setting up the budget for the coming year the board was faced with another problem. The opening of the new building, additional costs of operation and equipment presented a hurdle not easy to negotiate. But notwithstanding this, the budget, as tentatively adopted, is actually lower than last year, the amount being \$517,000. Here again financial skill was revealed, and taxpayers will be the beneficiaries.

That this "finance minded" board is alive to every means offered to overcome the financial restrictions and difficulties of the high school district is shown by the promptness with which it recognized the advantages of a new law which becomes effective July 1. Under this law any school district of less than 150,000 population may sell bonds equal to one year's levy to provide a cash revolving fund. These bonds would carry a lower interest rate than tax anticipation warrants and may be issued without a referendum. The board is investigating the feasibility of financing under this law, which would enable it to conduct its business on a cash basis, gaining the advantage of cash discounts in the purchase of materials and supplies and doing away with the necessity of selling tax anticipation warrants.

After all, that is the sane and logical and economical method of doing business, whether it be governmental or individual. It is the method that has been followed by such governmental units as the Wilmette Park district, the Village of Glencoe, the Glencoe Park district, the Winnetka Park district and the Village of Winnetka. These taxing bodies have refrained from saddling upon the taxpayers interest charges which eat deeply into incomes. True, the method gives no opportunity for eliminating tax levies or cutting them down only to be compelled to make up for it another year. But it is conducive to ease of mind for both taxpayer and official.

TIME TO THINK

The 73rd congress has come and gone. Its chief claim to distinction does not lie in the excellence of its work or the wisdom of its acts, but rather in its shameless and complete abdication of its constitutional rights and utter disregard of its constitutional duties. Only once did its majority refuse to jump through the hoop when the presidential whip cracked, and that savored strongly of stage play to fool the audience and give retiring congressmen something to talk about in their campaigns for reelection.

During the interim between now and the convening of the 74th congress early in January of 1935 the American people will have opportunity to sober up and determine whether, after all, they want to junk the constitution of the United States and the government it created; whether they wish to cast aside as of no value the lessons of history, which teach that the principles of the New Deal have a clear record of 100 per cent failure whenever and wherever tried; whether they wish to depart from the proved paths of safety and progress and follow administration theorists and dreamers into the pathless wastes of leftist experimentation.

In employing this period for the sober second thought that has seldom failed to turn the American electorate away from the temptations of short-cuts to prosperity or recovery from depression, it is well to remember that the voters have not yet passed approval upon the radical tendencies of the present administration, or the actual laws passed. Revolutionary as some of these measures are, they are conservative compared to what is to follow, if the President's last message to congress and the assertions of experienced commentators in Washington are to be given credence. The latter state that much more radical legislation would have been passed by the late congress except for the waves of protest that rolled over the capital from "the folks back home." It may be expected at the next session, we are told.

Three acts of the "Congress of Dishonor" appear to be especially vicious and altogether un-American. One is the placing of approximately \$10,000,000,000 into the hands of the executive to use as he sees fit, without being required to answer to anyone. Another is the power delegated to the Secretary of Agriculture whereby he is given control over every ounce of foodstuffs produced, processed or sold in this country—the power to make regulations, designate punishments as may seem to him proper, and to act as complainant, judge, jury and executioner, outside of and above the courts and the law. That is usurpation of power with a vengeance. The third act is the communications bill, delegating to a commission to be appointed by the executive, supervision over the telegraph, telephone, radio and cables. It is not difficult to find in this act the means persistently sought by the administration to abrogate the freedom of speech and of the press as guaranteed by the constitution. To what extent the power conferred by congress will be used remains to be seen. Whether used or not, it should never have been delegated, because the first necessity to a dictatorship is control of communications and muzzling of a free press.

A new congress is to be elected in November, and the voters have an opportunity to reaffirm the principles of representative government and to place the stamp of disapproval upon a regime which an administration spokesman, in a recent speech, said "is not fascism nor communism." Whatever it may be it certainly is not Americanism, and that is the only kind of "ism" that has any place in this country.

The United States has faced many problems in the 159 years of its existence, and they have always been solved on the basis of sound American principles. There is no reason to believe today's problems cannot be solved in the same way, without tearing down what it has taken generations to build. And in arriving at a verdict the voter should not overlook the assertion of Professor Tugwell, now undersecretary of agriculture, that "we have 150 years of progress to undo."

NEWS—COMMENT

The mother of those Canadian quintuplets started something. An Iowa woman followed with quadruplets. Then an Indiana woman contributed triplets. Now a cow in Tennessee has contracted the fever and presented her owner with three calves at one sitting, or whatever they call it. This thing must stop!

The well-known Mr. Mussolini of Italy, is said to be watching events with a view to preventing any monkey-business by the Nazis in Austria. That being the case, it might be well for Austria to sleep with one eye open.

Just when we thought that men had been bound into an impregnable solidarity in defense of masculine rights a jury of twelve of them found a Chicago brother guilty of cruelty to his wife, who is seeking a divorce.

A prominent California Doc. says college girls make the worst wives. We're looking at two of 'em right now and warning the boys to keep away.

If that bolt of lightning that destroyed a dance hall Saturday night is still in working condition we can use it to advantage along the north shore.

That Atlanta, Georgia, widow who made a date with a strange man and was robbed of \$6,000 was old enough to know better. Still, \$6,000 is a pretty stiff price to pay for a lesson in deportment.

It's really remarkable what Americans will endure from political demagogues and charlatans. Senator Huey Long rushed from Washington to the Louisiana capital and took charge of all state affairs, telling everybody to snap into it and do what they were told. The senator's brother demanded that a speaker at a park in Oklahoma City who had been granted a permit to speak there be summarily removed by the police so that Long might make an address. The police did as requested. How Long, O Lord, how Long?

The dead body of Oscar, the baby seal turned loose in Lake Michigan, has been washed ashore. We beg Oscar's pardon for having intimated that he was one of a menagerie that included pink elephants.

Newspapers over the country which have been whooping it up for NRA and the New Deal, are emitting tremendous squawks now because the NRA is attempting to raise the age limit for newsboys from 12 to 14 years. NRA is wonderful, they say—for the other fellow.

A lady spectator of a holdup got fresh and told the bold, bad bandit that she did not think the gun he pointed at her was real; that he had borrowed Dillinger's wooden gun or something. Whereupon the bandit fired a shot into the floor at her feet, making her dance. Regular old frontier cowboy trick.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has thought up a master stroke against bootleggers. He says that he is going to end the illegal traffic in a month by requiring that all bottles contain the blown-in names of the manufacturer, as well as the boozemaker who uses them. But Tony and Frank and Sam are just laughing. They know that booze can be sold as easily in tin cans or earthen jugs as in glass bottles. But Mr. Morgenthau hasn't thought that far—yet.

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