

WILMETTE LIFE

WITH WHICH IS COMBINED
WILMETTE ANNOUNCEMENTS and THE KENILWORTH TIMES

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TOWNSHIP RELIEF

The Illinois Emergency Relief commission is scheduled to die a natural death on July 1, after which the administration of relief will be tossed into the laps of township governmental units, to be under the direction of the supervisors. These officials, it was thought, would turn the job over to the county bureau of public welfare, as did the Chicago city council. However, in a conference held Monday with a joint committee of the Chicago council and the county board, the supervisors, 29 to 2, declared that they wanted to handle the relief problem themselves, the two exceptions being Mrs. Gertrude M. Thurston of New Trier township and William A. Lally of River Forest township. Lack of organization to handle the work is the obstacle sighted by the dissenters.

More and more the dangers and expense of remote control of relief are being recognized by those honest persons in a position to know whereof they speak. More and more it is being recognized that the smaller the unit of government administering relief the lower the cost and the higher the efficiency. And in a township such as New Trier there is not need for a large organization to handle the matter. There would be less waste, if any at all. Impositions would be reduced to a minimum, because the condition and habits of relief clients would be better known and investigations reduced in both time and effort. The sorry mess which has been made of relief by state and federal agencies impels one to believe that the change to township control could not possibly be anything other than an improvement. At least it is worth trying.

IT CAN BE DONE

With hundreds of thousands of automobiles traveling the streets and highways of Chicago and its suburbs, automobiles in all stages of disrepair and with ineffective brakes, driven by all sorts of drivers, competent, incompetent, careless and plain criminal; with traffic regulations generally ignored; with courts scorned or scoffed at; with easy judges giving law violators the breaks, it seemed a hopeless task to make traffic control effective, curb reckless and dangerous drivers, reduce the appalling total of deaths and serious accidents, and make the highways comparatively safe. But gradually that very thing is being accomplished, and Judges Gutknecht and Gorman of the Chicago traffic court are showing the way. The imposition of jail sentences upon reckless drivers, of high and low degree, regardless of social or business standing or political influence, is doing the trick.

Recently speeding became a menace on one street in a New Trier village. Citizens in a residential neighborhood immediately adjacent determined that a stop must be put to it. They appealed to the Village board, and instructions were given the police department to strictly enforce traffic regulations until the nuisance was abated. Many arrests were made and convictions secured. Within a few days the news spread that it is no longer safe for motorists to "cut 'er wide open" on

that thoroughfare, and it has been made comparatively safe for pedestrians and sane drivers.

Vigorous prosecution and penalties that motorists fear are slowly but surely forcing respect for law and the rights of others. To many the payment of a fine means nothing at all, and the money is given over with a smile of satisfaction. But a jail sentence is quite another thing. Few drivers care to experience it, and the possibility fills their hearts with fear. At times it seems regrettable that under the law local magistrates cannot imprison violators.

DREDGING THE HARBOR

The present effort to raise funds by subscription to dredge Wilmette harbor and make it navigable for the current season will receive the support of the considerable number of north shore residents who are interested in boating and yachting. One important purpose of the plan is to open up the harbor so that the coast guard can use it at all times, and especially in stormy weather.

It does no good now to complain of a short-sighted government which, with billions to spend, permits its coast guard station to become sandlocked in the harbor. It is more than likely that funds will become available later and that a comprehensive rebuilding of the harbor will take place, but that is months in the future. The practical necessity is immediate action.

WE DID OUR PART

Under the title "Let's Do Our Best," this paper printed the following editorial in its issue of August 10, 1933:

"The ready response to President Roosevelt's recovery program—a response that has come from the largest centers and the smallest communities alike—indicates an earnest desire on the part of American business to help itself out of a sickbed and back to normal health.

"The blanket code, which has for its object the shortening of working hours and the absorption of unemployment, was received by all employers in the New Trier villages last Saturday, and immediately steps were taken to put its provisions into operation. While the code is in some particulars obscure in meaning, leaving much uncertainty as to exact requirements, it is generally accepted in a spirit of patriotic loyalty that forecasts a genuine effort to adhere to the program.

"In these circumstances it may be superfluous to direct attention to the fact that the 'meat' of the proposition is contained in one object, the putting of more men and women to work. If this be not achieved, the plan will fail. The simple shortening of hours to the maximum permitted in a given industry will not gain the desired results. Additional help must be recruited. In essence, the plan provides for a division of available work hours.

"This is comparatively easier of accomplishment in large industrial plants and mercantile concerns than in small establishments such as comprise the most of our New Trier concerns. Adjustments where only two or three are employed is much more difficult than where hundreds are involved. But that the difficulties can and will be overcome is a certainty.

"New Trier has never withheld wholehearted cooperation in any movement for the general welfare. She will not be found in the rear ranks now."

In line with the editorial, this paper observed the requirements of the blanket code, and later the Graphic Arts code, until they bogged down and were finally put to death by the Supreme court. Since that time the CWA, the PWA and now the WPA have followed one another as the administration solution of the unemployment problem. All have failed, the discarded CWA being reincarnated in the present WPA. And there are still approximately 12,000,000 unemployed. That is why our confidence in the ability of the Washington administration to bring about economic recovery has waned to the vanishing point. It is time to retire the theorists and get back to sound business principles.

J. Edward Jones, New Yorker who fought a winning court battle against the New Deal's securities and exchange commission, was indicted by a federal grand jury Friday on a charge of using the mails to defraud. We hold no brief for Mr. Jones—but it looks like a case of retaliation.

NEWS-COMMENT

The more we see of "tiger gangster girls," wives of gangsters and sweethearts of gangsters, the more we doubt the wisdom of the Creator in permitting some people to be born.

* * *

Multiple births are attracting as much attention these days as multiple marriages—almost. At Passiac, New Jersey, Friday, quadruplets were born to Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kasper. Saturday the Keys quadruplets from Texas (every one a peach, too) were in Chicago enroute to Callander, Ontario, to visit the Dionne quintuplets and invite 'em to the Texas Centennial exposition. Getting to be very common, these quads and quints.

* * *

"Hopes for G.O.P. Victory in November Rise," read a Monday headline. It's about time Republicans came to the conclusion that they can elect the next President. We've known it right along.

* * *

Many a liberty-loving heart received a savage wrench when the papers of Sunday were read, for in the news there were portrayed two incidents which cut deep into the sensibilities of fair-minded folks.

One pictured Mussolini declaring total Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia, proclaiming Victor Emmanuel to be emperor over Italy's war-acquired territory, and presenting his people with a new empire "on the seven fateful hills of Rome." The other showed the erstwhile king of conquered Ethiopia stealing from his hotel room in the



gray dawn of a day that brought no surcease of his sorrows, facing a world from which all joy for him had flown, kneeling before the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem and praying fervently for his unhappy, enslaved people, crying out against the cruelty of aggression. Might may not make right, but it wins wars. However, when both appear before the great Judgment Seat, the vanquished may become the victor.

* * *

And now a Democratic Senator, name Harry F. Byrd, has discovered that the big corporations will pay less taxes than now, or none at all, if the administration's grab-the-surplus tax bill goes through. The New Dealers are always talking about soaking the rich and passing laws that soak the poor.

* * *

There is nothing within the range of human experience that so deeply stirs the wells of sympathy as the tragic death of a child, or the maiming for life of a boy or girl. When such things occur the heart is profoundly touched, and both the victim and parents are objects of sincere commiseration. That is why the sympathy of the entire north shore goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Hickey, Jr., of Winnetka, whose daughter, Neona, aged 5 years, was cruelly crushed to death by a North Shore train Sunday. In such tragedies words fail, but hearts never do.

* * *

Thirteen singles and three pairs of twins is the record of an Iowa farm couple. Teddy Roosevelt died years too soon. How he would have gloried in that!

* * *

Words of wisdom sometimes come from unexpected sources. A republican candidate for congress in Minnesota declares he "will not cry on anyone's shoulder to get votes. My folks taught me that sweat on my back was the cure for most troubles, and I still think it is."

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Have you noticed that spring (fingers crossed) has come almost a month earlier than usual?

THE PHANTOM REPORTER.