

North Shore

BY
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PERSONALITIES.

Approaching the Walter Clay Hughes residence at 830 Grove street, Glencoe, I thought to myself, "This house looks like Mr. and Mrs. Hughes," and I ventured to mention this thought to Mrs. Hughes when she admitted me. Laughing, she said other people had said the same thing to them.

Indeed the house has a look of serenity, graciousness, and comfortable living indicative of the character of those who built it, 30 years ago come October. If Grant Wood were to paint the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Hughes against the background of their house, he would have as interesting a study, of a totally different kind, as he had in "American Gothic."

Fine Colonial Stock

It might not be extolling the Hughes unduly to suggest that they represent the finest flowering of the American colonial stock. The background of many Yankee families in the Middle West is much the same New England ancestry and back of that, England or Scotland, then a migration into Ohio or Kentucky, and the third migration into Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan. Iowa seems to have taken the fourth move more seriously than other states, practically evacuating the prairies in favor of California. Andre Siegfried has pointed out that the Pacific Coast is more Anglo-Saxon than the New England area because of this trend westward.

Relate Background

But returning to the Hughes—they told me Grandfather Ewing came from Kentucky and Grandfather Hughes from Virginia. The latter taught school and farmed, in a combination favored by pioneers of some education. And it was because of the books around the house that the career of Walter Clay Hughes was formed.

"We didn't have many books," commented Mr. Hughes, "and I read them all. One was Parson's 'Laws of Business.' I was much impressed by that. I thought it would be fine to be a lawyer."

Years later this lad, who was born on a farm near Arcola, Ill., and made his own sleds and other playthings, did become a lawyer. He attended Eastman college in Poughkeepsie, then popular but now defunct, and later enrolled in the law school of Lake Forest university (now Chicago-Kent College of Law). And in his professional career he has specialized in patent law, trademark law, corporation law.

Was "Dollar-a-Year Man"

For many years he was secretary and general counsel of the National Confectioners association. During the World war he went to Washington as a "dollar-a-year" man in the Food administration, regulating the distribution of sugar to manufacturers. He was there 15 months, commuting to Glencoe frequently.

"I've been going to Washington ever since I was 18 years old," Mr. Hughes said with a twinkle, "and I used to think I would like to live there. But after my long stay there during the war, I changed my mind. Glencoe suits me better."

Met in Chicago

Glencoe has long been in the affections of Mr. and Mrs. Hughes. And the story of their coming is interest-

ing. To begin with, it should be explained that Mrs. Hughes, who was born and bred in Detroit, came to Chicago to study at the Sherwood School of Music after graduating from the Detroit Conservatory of Music. She gave piano lessons and sang in the choir of the Woodlawn M. E. church.

Mr. Hughes was a senior law student and attended the same church. They met, they fell in love. After what Mrs. Hughes calls "a long engagement," they married—and took an apartment in a Woodlawn building owned by the University of Chi-

school. The Skokie was just one block away.

Glencoe "Mud-age"

Glencoe 30 years ago was just coming out of the mud-age, according to the Hughes. "We used to have to get the consent of every property-owner before we could put in any improvements," related Mr. Hughes. "There were old wooden sidewalks laid on 2x4 stringers. Finally the legislature passed a law permitting villages to pass ordinances for improvements. The last of our struggles was over the paving of Bluff street."

Mrs. Hughes chimed in. "To curb or not to curb!"

It seems that it was considered civilized 30 years ago to build a curb along the street.

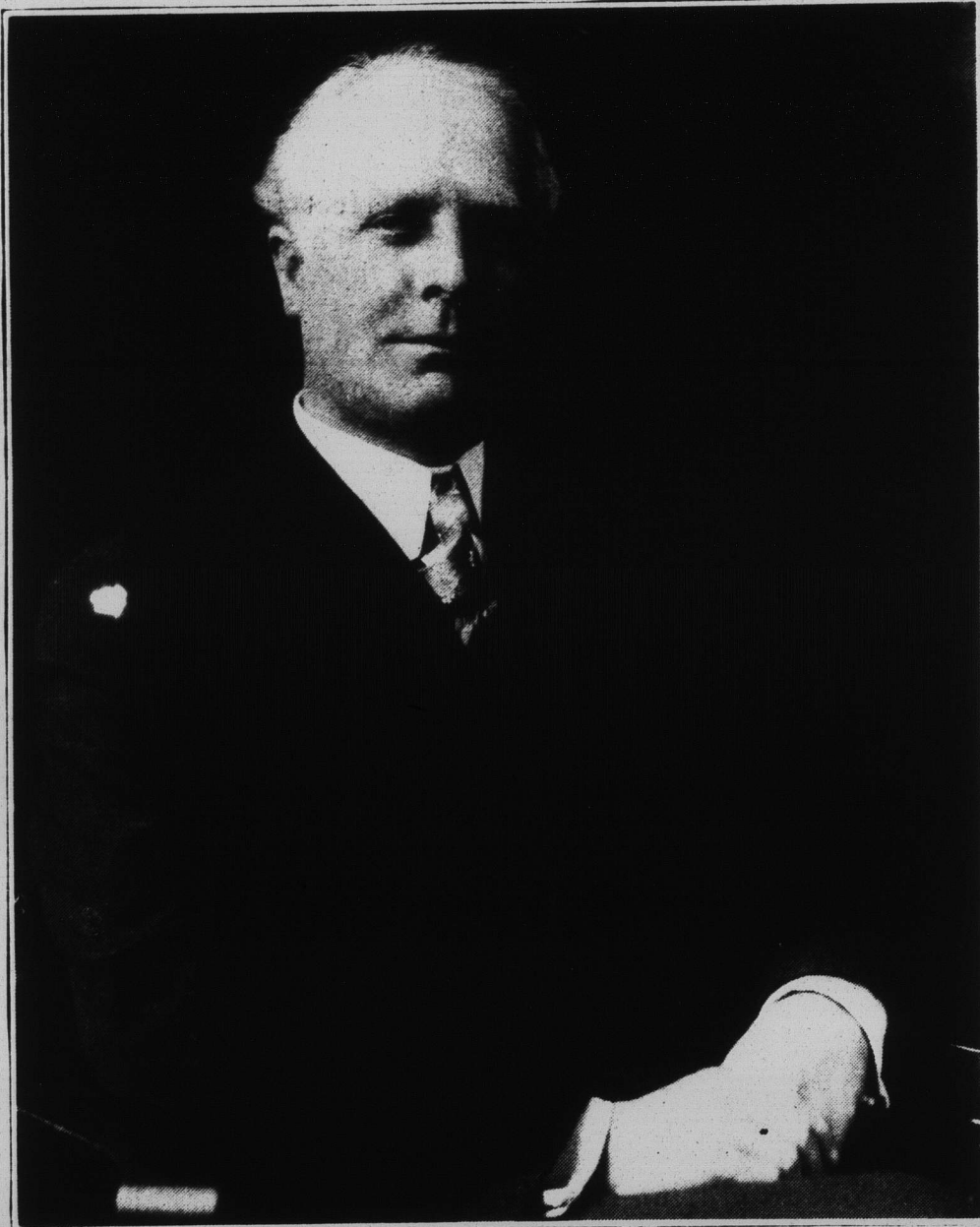
Former Village President

The Hughes became bona fide residents. Mr. Hughes served as president of the Village board during the mud age, was later president of the

practical knowledge of mechanics gained on the farm."

Presently the conversation flitted from professional and vocational topics to more general subjects. We argued about the miserable state of the railroads when under governmental control during the World war, the policies of the TVA, the merits of the Hoover and Roosevelt regimes. Mr. Hughes avowed that the best candidate for the presidency is a man who probably cannot be induced to run, Justice Owen J. Roberts of the U. S. Supreme court.

A glance at the clock prompted me to withdraw before the interview became an owl session, but Mrs. Hughes took me into the music room to see the family pictures and confided that she was a very lucky woman to have such a nice family. I privately thought that they were lucky to have her and Glencoe fortunate indeed to have the Hughes in its midst. As Eddie Guest says, "it takes a heap of living to make a home." And 830 Grove street looks like a place where real Americans live, sturdy and serene.



Walter Clay Hughes

cago. "It was full of brides," twinkled Mrs. Hughes. "And full of grooms," I added. They made friends with the other brides and grooms, and one Sunday six of them journeyed north to Glencoe to picnic.

Remember Glencoe

They lived three years in the Woodlawn apartment, but they remembered Glencoe. In the meantime they were active in the Hyde Park Baptist church, which was considered the University of Chicago church because President William R. Harper served for years as superintendent of the Sunday school. The Hughes attended the class taught in turn by Dr. Shailer Matthews, Dr. Ernest Burton, and Dr. Gerald Smith.

When Walter C., Junior, was an infant of six months, the family moved out to Glencoe, which appealed to them for one thing because it was on a 100-foot bluff above the lake. They chose a site on the west side, so that their children would not have to cross the tracks to go to

Glencoe Masonic club, the forerunner of the Glencoe Masonic lodge, of which he is a charter member. Mrs. Hughes joined the Woman's Library club and began in 1930 a three-year period as president. They reared a family of four children. Walter C., Jr., attended Amherst college, attaining membership in Phi Beta Kappa and graduation honors, and is now in California with sister Janet on a visit to brother Robert. Janet, who was an Alpha Phi at Northwestern university, has studied voice for five years. Robert has become an artist in California, after studying at the Chicago Art institute. The youngest of the family, Donald, is a senior at Purdue university, studying mechanical engineering.

"He wants to be a patent attorney, too," said Mr. Hughes. "His engineering training will be of great help to him. I have found it somewhat of a handicap not to have had technical training in my patent law practice and have had to rely on my

Saturday Offers Three College Club Events

The Chicago College club has planned a three-fold program for Saturday, May 23. At 11 o'clock, according to the club bulletin, Ethel M. Colson Brazelton is to discuss current events of American flavor and to review the following books:

"The Thinking Reed," by Rebecca West; "Monogram," by G. B. Stern; "Sparkenbroke," by Charles Morgan; "Stubborn Roots," by Emma Godchaux; and "South Riding," by Winifred Holtby.

Best sellers of a few years ago will be on sale in the club library from 11:30 throughout the afternoon. At 2 o'clock the club is to have a bridge party, many of those present being members who attended Mrs. Brazelton's lecture in the morning and stayed for luncheon.

"Today and Tomorrow" is the title of the lecture to be given at 11 o'clock Monday by C. L. Towns. This is the final lecture in Mr. Towne's series on "The American Novel," and is under the auspices of the study group.

An "Amateur Night," sponsored by the College Club Players and presented by members and their sisters and their cousins and their aunts, is to take place at the club Thursday evening, May 28. The contest starts at 8 o'clock with Emily Goehst filling the role of Major Bowes.

Arden Shore Party Meets With Success

About fifty tables were sold for the bridge tea and style show given by the Wilmette board of the Arden Shore association recently at the Woman's club. A warm day brought out spring clothes in pastel hues, so that the club seemed like a veritable flower garden.

A group of boys from the camp, numbering about fourteen, and constituting its Glee club, came to Wilmette for the occasion to sing several numbers for the guests. Miss Anna Belle Ferrier, superintendent, made one of her happy little speeches, asking especially for Boy Scout suits. She called attention to the fact that at a recent regional meeting the Arden Shore Boy Scouts had made an exceptional record.

A number of little Wilmette girls, modeling dresses made by the board this year for children of Arden Shore summer camp, were especially attractive.