



Conductor

Albert Goldberg, state director of the WPA music project, will conduct the "Starlight Symphonies" at Wilmette amphitheater Wednesday evening August 24, when the Illinois Symphony orchestra presents the eighth in its series of nine programs. The concert will open at 8:15 instead of 8:30 as heretofore.

RETURN TO OHIO

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hotchkiss Rowe (Janet Benson) of Willoughby, Ohio arrived in La Grange Saturday, August 6, for a short stay, then came to Wilmette to spend last week with Mrs. Rowe's parents, the Luther W. Bensons of 212 Woodbine avenue. They left for their home Sunday, with Mrs. Benson driving with them for a visit in Willoughby.

Andrew Schwall, 804 Ridge road, Wilmette, spent the last two weeks in Milwaukee with his brother, Joseph Schwall, and family. They went to northern Wisconsin camping, fishing, and berry picking.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Foscue, 1288 Westmoor road, Winnetka, have as house-guests this week Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Hamner of Dallas, Tex. Mr. and Mrs. Hamner arrived in Winnetka last Sunday.

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Receiver Issues Statement in North Shore Railroad's Wage Dispute Case

Asks Employees to Take Cut of 15% in Pay Rates

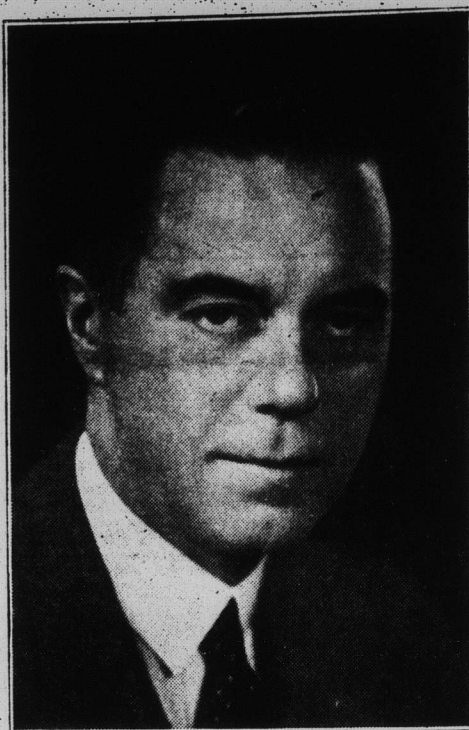
Colonel A. A. Sprague, receiver of the Chicago, North Shore, and Milwaukee railroad (The North Shore line) on Monday issued the following statement:

"The Chicago North Shore and Milwaukee Railroad Company (The North Shore line) has had in effect for 19 years contracts covering working conditions and wages with Division 900 of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, of which union a large majority of its employees were members. During all these years amicable relations have been maintained. These contracts have continued under the receivership since 1932. The last contract expired on May 31, 1938 by limitation, but pending negotiation of a new contract was continued through a written agreement dated May 20, 1938 with the proviso that either the Receiver or the union might terminate it on thirty days notice. Negotiations covering a new agreement were immediately started. These negotiations failed for the following reasons:

"Since 1932 the company has been in a receivership, and no dividends or bond interest have been paid to the security holders of the property. Rentals on equipment covered by Equipment Trust certificates were paid on a reduced basis to December, 1937. Since that time no rental has been paid for the use of this equipment, which is essential to the operation of the property. The present situation is that the only parties who have benefitted by the operation of the North Shore railroad are the public, which has had the benefit of the service, and its employees - all the receipts of the company being necessary to pay the bare operating cost.

Revenues Decline

"Because of the very drastic decline in revenue during the last few months, and in spite of every effort being made to economically operate the property, safety and efficient operation being considered, the receiver found himself in a position whereby there would not be sufficient funds in the bank to meet the payrolls under the wage scale in the then existing contract. When that situation became evident, the 30-day notice of cancellation of contract was sent to the union. The receiver's operating income disclosed that



Adviser

Francis A. Bonner of 245 Scott avenue, Hubbard Woods, recently appointed adviser to the Securities and Exchange commission, was home over the weekend, and left Sunday to return to Washington. He will be joined there late this month by Mrs. Bonner and their sons, Jack and Buddy, who will remain east until the opening of the school term.

a 15 per cent reduction in wages, if accepted, would reduce operating expenses sufficiently so as to continue the operation of the property. The union refused to accept the reduction proposed, although the reduction carried with it a proviso that a progressive restoration of the rate of wage would be made as business would increase.

"Upon receipt of the 30-day notice of cancellation of the contract, the union adopted a resolution to the effect that its members would not work after that date without a contract, and refused to consider any reduction in wages. The union did offer to arbitrate the question of wages. In view of the fact that there was not sufficient cash available to pay any more than was offered by the receiver, nothing could be accomplished by arbitration.

"On July 22, 1938, the receiver reported the situation to the United States district court and asked the instructions of the court. The matter was referred to a master in chancery for a hearing and the receiver presented evidence showing his inability to meet operating costs under existing conditions. The master's report found the situation to be as stated by the receiver, and the court approved the master's report and instructed the receiver to put the new wage scale into effect. Accordingly, all employees were notified that a 15 per cent reduction would become effective August 16, 1938, subject to progressive restoration as business increases.

Not Unusual

"Requesting the men to accept a reduction in order to tide the company over a difficult period is not unusual. In 1932 the employees voluntarily accepted a reduction of 10 per cent, which obtained until 1936, when a portion was restored and by July 1, 1937 full restoration had been made.

"The financial condition of the

Wilmette Welfare Is a Factor in Solution of Family Problems

Editor's note: This is the first of a series of short articles describing the work of the Wilmette Family Welfare association.

(Contributed)

The name "Wilmette Welfare" is known to all Community Chest workers and to residents of the village who have had some misfortune. The name appears on the north window of a one-time shop on Ridge avenue a little north of Lake avenue. On the other window is lettered "Wilmette Health Center." Most of us drive by without seeing this important building. Even if we are out for a stroll and pass it afoot, it may carry no particular meaning.

It has been suggested that an effort be made to inform our citizens, in a series of short articles, of the way in which the least understood of Wilmette's agencies for public service operates and functions in the life of the community.

The Wilmette Welfare is not a relief agency in the sense that it doles out funds to persons in desperate need. It is rather a place where family or personal problems can find a sympathetic and intelligent hearing. A trained worker and student of social problems is prepared to help the applicant to face his difficulty bravely, analyze it, and find a satisfactory solution.

Sometimes a little financial assistance is needed to help in the rehabilitation. For such emergencies the Welfare society, as a member of the Community Chest, has a fund to draw upon. But the real function and reason for being is that of counselor ready to give guidance and suggestions without a fee.

Stories will appear in future issues of WILMETTE LIFE to illustrate the way in which the Wilmette Welfare helps rehabilitate families where insecurity and unhappiness have made inroads.

HOUSE GUESTS

Miss Gertrude Nolan of New York, a sister of Mrs. Harold Preston Smith, 2423 Birchwood avenue, left for home last Saturday after spending a week in Wilmette visiting her brother-in-law and sister. Mr. and Mrs. Smith now have as house guests their cousins, Gale and Jean Smith of Gillett, Wis., who arrived here Friday, and who will leave next Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their daughter, Joan, when they go to Berry Lake, Wis. for a two-week vacation.

Mrs. Ida Nettleman, 123 Fifteenth street, and son, Fred, have returned from Ann Arbor where they spent a few days visiting Mrs. Nettleman's daughter, Mrs. George Bruns, the former Marion Nettleman.

Mrs. E. L. Perkins, 1000 Mohawk road, returned Tuesday of this week from a two-week trip through the East. Her stops included New York, Boston, and Cape Cod.

properties is far more critical at this time than in 1932 and the reduction in wages is essential to the continued operation of the railroad.

"The receiver hopes in view of all of these conditions and circumstances to have the cooperation of his employees, to the end that the road may continue operations and so serve the public, and that the men may retain their jobs."

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