

The Highland Park News.

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LEWIS B. HIBBARD, EDITOR.
A. E. EVANS, BUSINESS MANAGER.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.

Our contemporary of the Times-Herald figures that the coal strike has cost as follows:

Miners	\$12,000,000
Mine owners	1,000,000
Railroads	5,000,000
Storekeepers	4,000,000
Consumers	8,000,000

Total loss.....\$30,000,000
Still some people say strikes pay,— whom and how?

A RIDE down Central avenue disclosed the fact that some half a dozen of those beautiful elm trees are to all appearances dead, and half a dozen more are dying, all for lack of water. We understand there is a tap in every piece of parkway so the citizens can put on their hose and wet them down as often as they will, all free of expense so far as the water is concerned. We shall watch now to see who wets down the shade trees against their lots.

LAST Saturday, Sept. 11th, was a red letter day all around. In Waukegan the city council so far recovered its senses as to pass a dock ordinance, and the "boys" made the balance of the night delightfully hideous. In the mining regions there was joy over the settlement of the coal strike, which has cost the men at least \$12,000,000 in loss of wages. Then the public-spirited citizens of Ravinia, after many struggles, dedicated their new schoolhouse with speeches, recitations, flag raising, and "Auld Lang Syne." Again, the Morris Cassard silver cup was won by Herbert Schwarz at our Exmoor Country Club golf grounds.

And last, but not least, the aristocratic coterie of boarders at Ravinook had a genuine, old-time New England boiled dinner.

PERHAPS the press has no influence. But when some Waukegan aldermen were acting very foolishly about their harbor affairs, the News called them down: told them to act like men, pass a harbor improvement ordinance, and so help place their city where nature designed it should be, in the galaxy of western cities. The aldermen read the News — indeed they could not help it — and Saturday night met like men and passed the ordinance, and the town went wild with enthusiasm and delight. The press did it.

THE HIGH SCHOOL HOUSE.

As the vote showed, the overwhelming majority of the people in this city and township want a new high school building. But lots of the people voted under protest; they want a school house, but they do not want a thirty or forty thousand dollar building, and they say if we vote for a thirty, the board will expend forty thousand dollars. There would be not a particle of objection to a fifteen thousand dollar building and then ten years later when the school demanded it, put on another fifteen thousand dollar addition. We certainly had better build a piece at a time, than to have no school building at all, as is now the case and is likely to remain for some time.

And this matter of the exorbitant expense, as they and many others style it, we are credibly informed, was the real cause of the dissatisfaction among the people out west, save perhaps three or four constitutional objectors. The farmers out west, while they do not want a high school building, recognize the wants and rights of the majority who do want one, and they would not have gone into court with the objections, had the board asked for moderate expenditure. This we are credibly informed from one who has been out there and made a sort of a house to house canvass on the subject, is the real position and feeling of the West Deerfield farmers. We state it as

given to us and publish it, hoping, if this is the case, that the board and the farmers, or their representatives, can get together and agree on a basis of action so that the farmers' objections can be withdrawn and a fifteen thousand dollar building erected. We all want the school house, and the best we can get without being extravagant and burdening those who will be least benefited.

OUR SHADE TREES.

THIS severe and unusually heated season of drouth is full of peril to our shade trees, especially those transplanted within two or three years, whose large roots, more particularly their taproots, have not had time to strike down deep into the sub-soil below the line of permanent moisture. It is the nature of some trees to throw out their roots near the surface, especially where the surface is composed of black prairie soil, or a prairie loam. This is particularly true of the rock maple. It is an excellent plan, where it can be done, to cover these roots with heavy clay from six inches to two feet thick, to protect them from the extremes of our summer and winter climates and from our sudden changes as well. We did this a few years ago on two choice maples, and the change in their vigor and growth has been quite noteworthy. We found what we had done not only in the improved appearance of the trees, but by cutting a trench near one of them for a water main, noting the development among the roots in that stratum of prairie soil, deep under the clay covering.

The marked peculiarity of this season's drouth is the intense heat and consequent absorbing power of the heated atmosphere. It draws the moisture out of the soil very rapidly and to a great depth. The cracks in our clay soil are both very numerous and very deep, hence all the moisture disappears from the soil to a great depth, and as soon as this dryness goes below the body of the tree's roots it must wither and die. Hence, first the wilting, then the discoloration and finally the falling off of the foliage, because the tree is dying.

As already suggested this is most