

**RAVINIA ITEMS.**

**THE NEW SCHOOL.**

Last Saturday was a gala day for Raviniaites; for many days people were engaged in preparing for the grand opening or picnic, as it was called, at the new school. Even the children were on the anxious seat every day in hopes they would go into the new school the next week. Well, the final afternoon came at last, but the school furniture had not yet made its appearance, and so chairs had to be carried over to seat the audience. A large number were present (about 70), all seated in the main room, when W. C. McKenzie, the chairman, called on Rev. E. J. Heatcote to offer prayer. J. J. Hesler, president of the school board, followed with a very good speech. Mr. Hesler spoke principally of the difficulty encountered in getting the school built, and his speech showed that through pluck and perseverance, the enterprise was carried on to success. He also assured the children that the building was perfectly safe and comfortable, and that everything possible had been done to make it perfectly suitable for the purpose for which it was erected.

D. W. Gross, the teacher, who is to be the first to rule in the new school house, was the next called upon for a speech. He made some very good remarks regarding the value of education, and also said that the American system of public schools had made it as easy for both poor as it was for the rich to secure a good education.

Judge Hibbard of the Park was the next one to speak. Everybody who has ever heard a Hibbard speech knows just what he gave here. He solemnly assured the audience that if they could put all the Comstocks and Hibbards in the country in that school house that it would not affect building in the least. The judge made a very good impression, giving the people plenty to laugh at and not sparing himself in the cutting remarks, so that all were served up alike. He also related some early school reminiscences and, of course, brought in the inevitable Vermont story.

A tableaux was then given by a number of little girls, representing flowers in a garland.

W. J. McKenzie read an address which was interesting, but on account of numerous disturbances on the part of the children, it failed to receive the attention it deserved. All joined in singing "America," which concluded the program.

All the boys immediately adjourned to the ground, where a ball game

was soon in full swing while the refreshment committee prepared the table and seats to serve the ice cream and cake. The games were very attractive, but when the boys heard that ice cream was to be had for the asking there was a general exodus toward the benches, where every one was waited on to as much as they wished. After refreshments, another ball game was started, and all went home about six o'clock, tired but happy.

Mrs. J. J. Hesler and Mrs. John Dings deserve great credit for the manner in which they managed the entertainment and served refreshments to such a large crowd. W. C. McKenzie was the moving spirit among the speech makers and managed his part well.

**COST OF THE SCHOOL.**

Below is a detailed statement as furnished by the directors, showing the cost of the school and also the names of the various contractors:

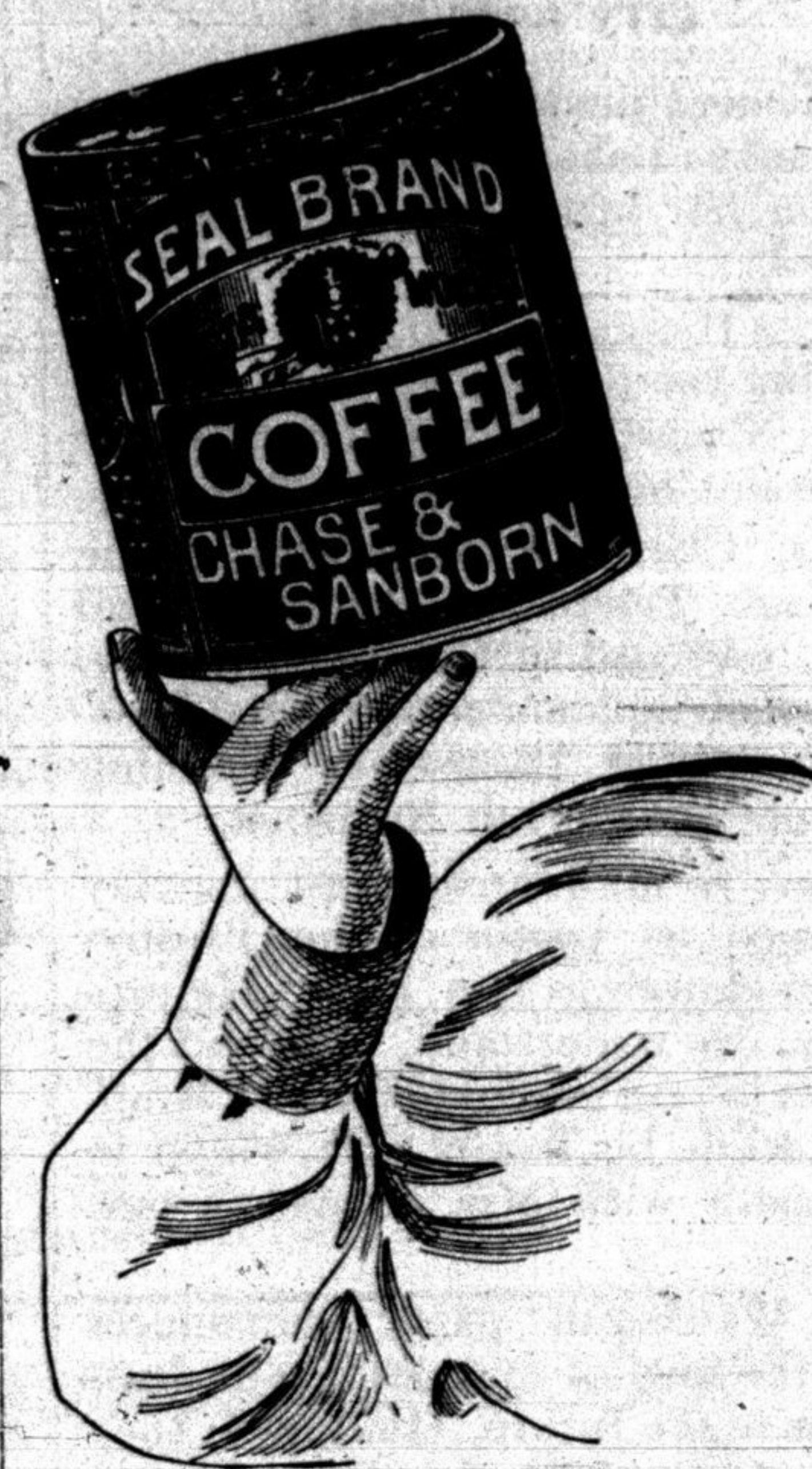
58,000 brick, Wm. J. Obee.....	\$232.00
54 yards of sand.....	27.00
Mason work and plastering, W. Obee.....	450.00
Carpenter work, Zimmer & Morton.....	975.00
Painting and glazing, Grault & Robertson.....	142.00
Architects' professional services, 5 per cent. of cost of building, Brainard & Holsman, of Chicago.....	100.00
<b>Total cost of building (omitting furniture).....</b>	<b>\$2,026.00</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.</b>	
Furniture (Thos Kane & Co., Racine).....	\$118.70
Sidewalk lumber.....	17.00
Drain.....	36.00
Grading and clearing lot.....	17.00
Well.....	200.00
Furnace.....	150.00
Price of lot.....	900.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,438.70</b>
<b>Cost of building.....</b>	<b>2026.00</b>
<b>Total cost of school.....</b>	<b>\$3,464.70</b>

Thus it will be seen that the building did not cost within \$650 of the amount voted for the purpose, while if the school had been built where the old one stands, the cost of the lot alone would have been nearly two-thirds of the total cost of the school as it is.

The directors have been untiring in their efforts and are at last able to look about and congratulate themselves on the amount of good done, while the district congratulates itself upon having a set of three men who dared to do right and have gone ahead and given the district the greatest blessing it ever possessed.

Charles H. Baker and wife went to the County Fair Wednesday. They did not take "Jack," as the Fair managers had no prizes for the smartest baby in the county.

We are glad to know that Olney Moore and Herbert F. Evans, two graduated from the News office, are happy in their college relations, the former in Milton, Wis., and the latter in Hamilton, N. Y.



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