

The Highland Park News.

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

FRIDAY, JULY 15.

OUR military ambition has received a terrible and perhaps fatal blow. Just as we were on the point of applying for a high grade commission and an important command, this dispatch comes over the wires: "No more general, brigadier or major wanted."

JUDGE Holmes beat the judicial record in this city last Saturday by trying a culprit before six o'clock in the morning and having the fellow in jail in Waukegan, twelve miles away, before breakfast. That rivals, rather surpasses in fact, Jersey justice in its expertness and thoroughness.

WE note with pleasure that the Lake Bluff municipality has put its foot down on dancing. That is right; the morals of those innocent bishops, presiding elders and class leaders should be protected. But it is rather rough to compel ordinary Christians to come back to the Forest or the Park, or go to Waukegan to spend the night and have a bit of healthful and innocent recreation. Still, the righteous have always suffered persecution in this world and always will.

Waukegan has a population of 8500. It was over 10,000 a few months ago, but so many have gone to war that the above temporary reduction was effected. — Highland Park News. Good excuse; never thought of that. — Waukegan Daily Sun. We are glad our northern suburb begins to see how valiantly we put our shoulder to the wheel of its prosperity to give it a "boost." Some republics are ungrateful, but Waukegan is not; she is as thankful as an old maid who has waited years for an offer that finally came.

THEY had a "High School election" in Deerfield Saturday, used the church bells in calling people to vote and as one man said to us, "voted four to one" to take their suit against the High school board up to the supreme court. We suppose they voted to have the appeal taken and pay the bills whatever they might be. West Deerfield had by the census of 1890 a population of only 783 while East Deerfield had 2890, almost four times the population they have and probably more than four times the wealth.

WHILE at Deerfield last Sunday at the township Sunday school convention we learned, what we did not know before, that the place had four churches, — we saw three meeting houses. The population of West Deerfield in 1890 was 783. There is a Presbyterian and a Lutheran and two of Evangelical churches, as we have here. Now we have no quarrel with those churches, but frankly say they are "too numerous." To support four ministers and run four churches is too heavy a tax on that community. Then lots of folks probably pay little or nothing toward the support of these churches. And what is more two good, strong, well

supported churches would do more for the community than all these four can do.

A GROWING EVIL.

At the recent Amherst college commencement, one of the prominent speakers emphasized the need of more open frank conference between boards of managers of educational and similar institutions and their patrons or supporters. He urged more frequent and more full explicit and detailed reports of work done, money expended, changes contemplated, in fact full reports of all their doings. The business of such institutions, as of corporations and municipalities, is of necessity managed by a small body of men, as board of trustees, school board, or board of aldermen; but that fact, this speaker contended, does not make this small board the only party interested, or the only party to be consulted. In case of colleges and other institutions which depend on the free gifts or offerings of the people for their support, the motive of self interest prompts to full reports but in those under the laws of the state or municipality the tendency is toward secrecy, and sometimes toward an attitude of undue independence if not at times of despotism.

We are in a "state of mind" over a High school building. The trustees acted according to the letter of the law, but if they had posted those notices a little earlier, had a dozen or two of them printed on tough manilla card board and nailed up all over town, sent word to the trustees out west, that is taken extra pains to let the people interested in the matter know about it, we believe this sad and in some respects bitter feud and legal struggle would never have arisen. The board complied with the letter of the law, but not fully with its spirit, or what its spirit should be. Hence, as we believe all this trouble and litigation. And so they had an election out in West Deerfield Saturday last, July 9th, to see if the people in that end of the old town and district wanted to take an appeal to the state Supreme court and they voted as we were told, "four to one" to do it.

So of the matter of a new High school house: we think the matter should be talked over with the people the tax payers; it won't do any harm, it will likely result in great good. At all events the board had the same authority then that it has now: the final decision rests with the board; whether we shall build a school-house, and if so, how much it shall cost—\$15,000 or \$30,000. A great many tax payers look with disfavor on the idea of \$25,000 or more in a school building when we have less than 100 pupils in the school. Some time we shall want such a building, but it will be some years before the school grows up to it.

So we say of the city school. A great deal of the criticism and friction and bad feeling of the last few years might have been saved had the board been more open, published full reports of its cash receipts and expenditures; in a word, told the public, who pays all the bills, all about its doings and plans.

So our city council would often gain in public confidence if many of its measures were introduced at one meeting, and then laid over as a special order to a subsequent meeting, full notice of which being given in the papers the people interested would be present to hear and be heard if they wished.

What we want in short is that the managers of our schools, city, library and every other institution shall keep themselves in frank, free and full touch with the people and no, even seemingly, star chamber methods.

Extra copies of the News can be had each week by calling at the office at three cents per copy.

WANTED--HONESTY.

We don't know why it is that so many people find it so easy to lie. There comes a little pinch on their pocket, or a little inconvenience, or unpleasantness of some kind, if the truth is known and so they flatly lie about the matter. A short time ago a young man took his chances and violated a city ordinance which imposes a good sharp fine. When the proper city official called his attention to it, he flatly denied any knowledge of the transaction. Later when confronted by another official in the presence of a witness of the whole transaction the young man owned he did it. Here is another case. The city official was looking up the dogs, and one good man said, "Oh, no, he had no dogs." Later the same official found two or three about his premises, and the owner apologized on the ground that such falsification was a small matter. We have had witnesses in court who stood up and swore positively to what everybody knew was absolutely false. Hence it begins to seem to us that society is becoming rotten on this subject. What is the matter: what causes it? Is it any worse now than formerly. The prevalence to any great extent of this vice, for vice it is, is a bad fact as well as a bad symptom in the public life. It means a sad decay or lack of moral tone, the absence of a high sense of honor and true manliness. When men will lie for a dollar, what are such men worth to the community, to the church or the world. Think of a man belonging to a Christian church and then turning around and telling a deliberate falsehood because he thinks he can save a dollar or two by so doing: what is that man's professed religion worth to him or to the world? The world sets him down as a hypocrite, a fraud and a cheat. It is such men that bring our holy religion into disrepute, not what the scoffers say and think.

What is the remedy. The press and the pulpit. Everybody reads the newspapers. Now a little less about the wickedness of the other party and a little more about the sin of lying in both or all the parties, would be a help. It pays to keep hammering away on such a sin as that: it makes people think and then they will discuss it with one another and that will make them think the more and also more carefully and thoroughly. Then the pulpit is largely responsible for any moral decline. The pulpit of the North, as a rule, was strongly anti-slavery and it toned up the public conscience and prepared the way for slavery's final abolition. True lots of people don't go to church, but a pulpit strong, bold, outspoken and scriptural on the great cardinal virtues of private and public life, reaches the entire community. Its words, and above all its silent and powerful influence, percolates all through the body social and political and so men who don't darken a church door from one year end to another are influenced by that pulpit's utterances. Given the right kind of a pulpit and its influence is sure and effectual, practically it can't be resisted because it is the voice of God.

Now we believe in doctrinal preaching, good, strong, vigorous sermons, all saturated with the doctrines of Christianity. It is the only basis of great and powerful revivals of religion, and the only basis of vigorous, healthful church growth. It is also the only positive way for toning up the public conscience and public morals. Honesty is one of the great cardinal virtues of private and public life and the pulpit must proclaim it.

July 29

The Nickel Plate Road will run an excursion to Chautauqua Lake, at one fare for the round trip. Write to J. Y. Calahan, 111 Adams Street, Chicago, for particulars. Telephone Main 3389.

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8.00 to 8.00 P. M.
HOURS (Highwood)
DR. FRAN
ROOM 1
HOURS:
2.00 to 4.00 P. M.
Office:
Highland block
DR.
Telephone 78.
Fletcher Building
DR. H.
Successor to
Dr. O. B. Fe
Professor in C
A. S. ALEXA
Veto
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Evanston
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— Rev. O. West
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