



General Courier of North Shore
Intelligence.

Published every Saturday morning at High-
land Park, Ill., and Winnetka, Ill., by the

North Shore Publishing Co.

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OFFICES:

News-Letter Building, 255 Central Avenue,
Highland Park.
Prouty Block. Winnetka.

Telephone No. 92, Highland Park,

Entered at the Post-Offices at Highland Park
and Winnetka as second-class matter.

Advertising rates made known on application
at either office.

TERMS \$1.50 PER YEAR.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25.

**A North Shore
Federation.**

Exactly what connection there is between war and material prosperity, THE NEWS-LETTER will not undertake to explain. It is a fact, however, that at the termination of most great conflicts in the past; the victorious nation has almost invariably enjoyed a great industrial impetus. The United States is probably on the verge of such a forward movement to day. Whether this movement extends over the entire country or is confined only to commercial centers like Chicago, the North Shore should place itself in a position to obtain its full share of the benefit. It occurs to the NEWS-LETTER that this could best be accomplished by a North Shore Improvement Association. Almost every village has its town meeting or improvement association. If each of these local societies would elect delegates the organization of a North Shore federation would be comparatively simple. Such an association, if thoroughly representative, would have great influence; and there would be abundant reason for its existence. What an advantage it would have been to Chicago if similar association had been organized in time to keep the Illinois Central off of the lake front. The proposed federation

could do much towards conserving the beautiful North Shore water front for the use of the public; it could see that no franchises were granted without proper restrictions; its influence would be great in securing legislation on harbor improvements, park and boulevard extension, and perhaps the location of another lighthouse and life-saving station. "Experience meetings" might occasionally be held at which a discussion could be had of such subjects as street paving, sewer and drainage systems, water and lighting plants, how far the principle of municipal control is practicable, and so forth.

Perhaps the one great idea that dominates the public mind as the century draws to its close is Co-operation. The trust system, although a perversion, has demonstrated the strength of the principle. A correct application will enable the North Shore to achieve its highest destiny.

**Breakwaters
May Have
To Go.**

The Supreme Court of Illinois has handed down a decision in the Revell suit, denying the right of water front property owners to "make" land by constructing breakwaters into the lake. The ruling controvenes a former decision of the circuit court, in the lake front cases against the Illinois Central, which conferred the right to build dockage into the lake till navigable water is reached. It is understood the latest Supreme Court decision will be made the basis for bringing the lake front controversy into the United States courts; and while the rights of the Illinois Central will prove the storm center, the interests of all North Shore water front owners will be effected. In fact, it is said the attorney general intends making a trip up the shore to consider the matter of ordering all breakwaters torn out, as under this new ruling they exist only by sufferance. The decision is based on the old English law, which held that the rights of the Crown covered all navigable waters, and the property owners might terminated at the waters' edge. The gist of the matter is that all ground under water to the center of lake belongs to the state of Illinois;

thus an owner constructing any sort of a pier into the lake does so at his own risk. The only way to protect his property from the encroachment of the waves would be to erect a bulwark paralled to the water line.

THE NEWS-LETTER does not claim to be competent to discuss the legal aspects of the question, but aside from this phase we see no good and sufficient reason for removing the breakwaters. They certainly do not interfere with navigation as only pleasure craft comes close to shore; and for this class of boats the breakwaters frequently serve as docks. Then, too, they are a great convenience to bathers and fishing parties in summer. The wide sandy beach, now so attractive to the North Shore public, would soon be a thing of the past if transverse bulwarks were erected. The lake front should, so far as possible, be conserved for the public, and it is to be hoped the lawyers will discover some legal points that will leave the riparian rights question in statu quo.

Pencilled Paragraphs.

From the way the stereopticon has held forth since the Spanish-American war, it appears that, when "general quarters" was sounded, every man was at his post, camera in hand.

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The milkmen bitterly resent the injustice of the imputation that their rejoicing over the discovery of Winnetka's mineral spring was prompted by anything but public spirit.

* * *

Ten people were rescued from an ice floe by Highland Park young men, and five others were saved by the night operator from being run over by an express train. Heroism has reach a point in the Park where the motto seems to be: "Every man his own Hobson."

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The menu of a hygienic luncheon at Glencoe, included "nutose," and "granose," but the presiding chef in some way overlooked glucose.

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The plan of publishing the names of persons given assistance by county charities is an insult and humiliation to honest poverty.