



A Courier of North Shore Intelligence.

Published every Saturday morning at Highland 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 APRIL 1.

Pure Water Problem.

The subject of water filtration is of vital interest to every North Shore municipality. Mr. C. G. Phillips of Highland Park gives this week in a printed pamphlet a general discussion of the reasons why a "sand filter" should be constructed at Highland Park. Mr. Phillips' presentation of one side of the case, shows him well qualified to write as an authority and his arguments are based on fact,—the experiences of cities all over this country being cited to prove his theories capable of easy and practical solution.

It is difficult within limited space to do justice to the entire article as that written by Mr. Phillips, but the following few lines will give a suggestion as to the general character of his work. After naming many other towns he says, "At Lawrence, Mass., one of the towns I have named, the effect of the sand filter bed is shown in the following table: Deaths from typhoid fever per 100,000, of population: In 1890—death rate 123; in 1891—115; in 1892—102; in 1893—93; in 1894—48; in 1895—31 and in 1896 death rate, 15.

"The reason for the gradual decrease is, that at first the people were

skeptical of the efficacy of the filter, and persisted in drinking unfiltered water, but in time their doubts were removed with the result that the reduction in typhoid fever rates of that city has been over 86 per cent. John W. Hill, C. E. Water and Gas Review, August, 1898: "The percentage of water bacteria removed by the Lawrence city filter averages for the entire year between 97 and 99 per cent." * * * "The percentage of bacteria removed by experimental sand filters at the Experiment Station of the State Board of Health of Massachusetts averaged for months at a time between 99 and 100 per cent"—Paper of Edmund B. Weston, M. Am. soc. C. E. read at national convention of mayors and councilmen, Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 1, 1897.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Phillips can supply all who wish it with copies of his pamphlet, for it gives one side of the case in an able and comprehensive manner.

The Ideal Residence Section.

Beginning a few miles north of Evanston the topography of the country changes radically. In place of the low swamp lands or monotonous sand dunes that surround Chicago we find a beautiful rolling country, heavily wooded with stately oaks, elms and various other trees. At intervals of perhaps half a mile deep, picturesque ravines occur, winding in and out, among foliage almost tropical in luxuriance, seeking an outlet in the lake.

While the Sheridan road begins at Chicago, there is nothing, aside from its name, to distinguish it from any other street. It is simply a straight, rigid sameness of asphalt with no more inspiration than a cellar floor. After leaving Evanston, however the Road seems to have caught the spirit of the surrounding beauty. In and out it winds in graceful, serpentine curves, now plunging down a ravine side, now rising to the edge of the bluff bringing to view, through the trees, the blue waters of Lake Michigan, dotted perhaps here and there with tiny sail boats. Every bend in the Road brings fresh surprises and a new sensation of delight, until one

seems almost to have entered the fairies' realm.

This charming region is locally known as the North Shore. It is the Chicago residence section par excellence. Men who are in professional and mercantile pursuits in the city have concluded a home on the lake bluffs to be the rational medium between the overcrowding of the great city, with its attendant evils, and the isolation of farm life on the other.

Track elevation and the fast train service to be inaugurated will, in effect, move the North Shore several miles nearer the city. Then the completion of the trolley line, which is to run over the down-town loop, will give the Sheridan road district unexcelled transportation facilities. Taking everything in consideration the conclusion is evident the North Shore will experience a wonderful growth during the next few years.

Pencilled Paragraphs:

March came in like a lion and, notwithstanding the old saying, went out like the same animal.

Perhaps that Waukegan paper was thinking of "Layhurst" when it said the Millard house was ready to set.

The way in which the Northwestern has gone about elevating its tracks makes us hope that some day it will undertake to elevate the stage.

The fallacy of solocisms and slang is made evident when we stop to consider that a man to be "on the square" should have a well-rounded character.

A subscriber accuses THE NEWS-LETTER of undue timidity in declining to make political forecasts. Very well, then, we predict the defeat of the prohibition candidates in Highwood.

According to report a proud North Shore scion was shut up in a Klondike mining town the better part of the winter with nothing to eat but hard tack and prunes. This may have been a covert attempt to prune the family tree.