



A Courier of North Shore Intelligence.

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SATURDAY APRIL 22.

**The Reward
of
Heroism.**

The tragic episode at Highwood last week in which Mr. and Mrs. Becker lost their lives as the result of a gasoline explosion discloses a sad story. Mr. Becker opened a tailor shop and clothes renovating establishment in Highland Park about a year ago. He and his wife were industrious and frugal, but though they worked early and late it was a hard matter to meet expenses. At the time of the accident Mr. Becker had taken some clothing to his home to clean with gasoline. The explosive was put too near a stove with the result that it became ignited, setting the husband and wife on fire. Mr. Becker's first thought was of his children and though in frightful agony, he rushed up stairs, where they were asleep, to get them out of the burning building. Mrs. Becker, crazed with pain, ran out doors; but thinking her husband was still in the house she went back into the smoke and flames to try to save him, although several people endeavored to prevent her. She probably would have recovered but for this attempt to save her husband. The subject of clothes renovating may not be regarded as altogether aesthetic, yet the devotion shown for each other by these simple people makes every detail in-

teresting, and the alchemy of love transmutes the homely occupation and make the heroism of the parents shine in splendor.

Only a few days ago Highland Park rewarded the bravery of some young men who rescued a skating party from an ice floe. The heroism of Mrs. Becker, in rushing into the burning building to save her husband, cannot be rewarded as she has gone to a happier bourne. There are left, however, three helpless little girls. Whatever reward was due the heroism of their parents, should go to them. Highland Park is an enlightened and intelligent community. The NEWS-LETTER feels assured that its generous citizens will see that these little children, left only the pitiful heritage of a few bolts of cloth and some sample books, are abundantly provided for.

The Glencoe Station. On the title page of this issue of The NEWS-LETTER appears a half-tone of the Glencoe station. It is certainly one of the prettiest depot buildings on the North Shore, and there are but few that cost more. The depot was built about five years ago. It replaced an inconvenient, barn-like structure that had served the village as a station for many years. Some surprise was expressed that the railroad company should put up a building costing \$8,000 or \$10,000, for a village of only 1,200 or 1,500 inhabitants. Railroads generally know their business, however, and it is safe to say the tasteful Glencoe station was not built for sentimental reasons. The Northwestern officials foresaw the future upbuilding of Glencoe in common with other North Shore towns and accordingly put up a handsome and commodious depot that would be adequate for the needs of a "Greater Glencoe."

It is worthy of comment that all the new depots built within the last five years have gone up on the east side of the tracks. The idea in this is to provide for a third track on the west so that suburban express trains can run around the slow business. It may be some years before this third track is extended as far as Highland

Park, but the growing North Shore suburban travel will make it a necessity before a great while. The Northwestern road looks far into the future and has only prosperity and development for the North Shore.

To Daniel Cobb, Mayor-Elect of the City of Highland Park; E. F. Gorton, Mayor of Lake Forest; William F. Hogan, President of Board of Trustees, Village of Fort Sheridan; Markham Orde, President of Board of Trustees, Glencoe; F. E. Herdman, President Board of Trustees, Winnetka; W. R. Boerner, President of Improvement Society, Ravinia, and all others interested:

GENTLEMEN:

The NEWS-LETTER being in touch with the different North Shore towns between Kenilworth and Waukegan, would respectfully call your attention to a question that is agitating the thinking people of many of these towns. It is the pure water question. Mr. Gorton of Lake Forest is inclined to think the only feasible way of purifying the water supply is to use a sand filter to purify the sewage before it reaches the lake. Mr. Phillips of Highland Park, thinks the lake water should be put through sand filters, after the sewage enters the lake, and some people in other towns favor simply lengthening the intake pipes to reach farther out into the lake. This paper earnestly hopes that the men of these towns who entertain so widely divergent views may meet in a conference and discuss the pure water question. The fact that impurities from Lake Forest may contaminate the water supply of Highland Park, or vice versa, seems to indicate that there can be no adequate and lasting adjustment of this question until all North Shore municipalities act in unison. At times, under certain conditions of water current, or wind, the lake water is to some extent contaminated by the sewage and other impurities. The NEWS-LETTER would ask the gentlemen before named if they would accept an invitation from the city council of Highland Park, to attend a conference in the Park on this question. Any views on this matter from interested persons will be gladly received.