

**The Water Question.**

The citizens' committee appointed subsequent to the meet of citizens' association held on Saturday evening, Sept. 16, 1899, consist of Messrs. P. A. Montgomery, George D. Boulton, Robert M. Patton, J. H. Shields, F. C. Brown and S. M. Millard.

The committee was appointed for the purpose of investigating the matter of the city water supply and should the same prove to be contaminated then to ascertain the most available and practical method now in service throughout the country for purifying water, and to report at a future date to the association with their recommendation on the problem submitted.

The city council at a meeting held on Sept. 19, 1899, had under contemplation the adoption of an ordinance providing for the purification of the city water supply by a slow sand bed system of filtration. This ordinance had been submitted previously by the water committee who had given the subject a thorough investigation, a portion of the board had spent two years carefully studying the matter and without doubt are well informed in sanitary matters of Highland Park. The water commission consists of six members, Messrs. C. G. Phillips, Daniel Cobb, H. S. Haskin, L. O. Van Riper, W. C. Stubbs and W. J. Obee.

The citizens' meeting in addition to the committee appointed to investigate the purity of the city water supply, also appointed Messrs. S. M. Millard, F. D. Everett and C. W. Kirk a committee to wait on the city council and request postponement of action on the ordinance above named. The city council unanimously concurred in the request of the committee and recommended that the water commission cooperate with the citizens' committee in giving such information and assistance as laid in their power.

A joint conference was held on Sept. 27, in the city hall by the citizens' committee and water committee. Early in October a meeting of the ex-board of health and committee of citizens was held in the Young Men's Club building and on Tuesday, Oct. 10, the citi-

zen's committee and water commission met by appointment with the state board of health at the Great Northern Hotel, Chicago. By request of the citizens' committee the state board of health appointed the following committee to confer with the citizens committee to inquire into the condition of the city water supply and if found impure to consult as to ways and means of purifying the same. The state board committee is Dr. Florence W. Hunt, and Dr. James A. Gray, secretary of Chicago board of health.

A meeting of committees, with the State Board of Health will be called for October 25, 1899, at 8 o'clock p. m. at the Highland Park club.

An observer will at once see from the meetings held that the appointment to committees has been excellent; that a thorough investigation of the subject is being made, and the community of Highland Park may rest assured that their interests will be well protected in such hands.

It has been said that Highland Park was the first city in the state to apply to the State Board of Health for information on this all-important matter of sanitary condition of the lake shore water, although it will be readily admitted that Highland Park water is as good if not better than at many other places along the north lake shore.

By our efforts to ascertain the actual condition of matters we have created great interest all along the line. It has become the general topic of conversation at the fireside and the club room of how shall we overcome the contamination of the north shore water supply. Shall it be filtration of the water supply or filtration of the sewers that enter into the lake, or will it be necessary for all cities along the lake shore to change their sewer systems and carry westward to the skokie the sewage and by co-operation unite on a system that will accommodate all the north shore cities from Waukegan to Chicago, utilizing the drainage canal as the means of an outlet.

We hope to be able after the meeting of the 25th to give more details of the general view of the subject.

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