

SHERIDAN ROAD NEWS-LETTER

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What are ravines worth today Mr. Schumacher?

If you have any old ravine for sale, see me and the School board.

Yes, we'll sign the platform; although it don't represent our ideas.—Schumacher.

Yes, its true! The ravine was bought with the money levied for school purposes. You see "the people didn't know what they wanted"—Schumacher

"If the people vote this bond issue down today, we will levy \$25,000 next year." Was the threat made by the ex-boss of the School Board two week ago today.

Seven per cent is what the taxpayer will now pay on the teachers' orders for the privilege of having Schumacher financier the school affairs for two year.

Highland Park business men: Carry your ballot in your vest pocket today—if Schumacher catches you voting against him—well, look out for a resolution to boycott your business.

Schumacher thinks he was born for the express purpose of saving our schools from total loss. Where will he raise the money to pay the bond that became due Friday, now that the money has been used for purchasing ravines?

At the City election Tuesday, there is only one candidate for Alderman in each ward except the first, where Herman Denzel is the opponent of Frank McCaffery.

A young lady who is a professional story teller at children's parties (a charming profession, by the way), says she never dares venture on fairy tales, as the children are too skeptical. Animal stories she finds the most popular, farmyard stories for the poor children, and tales of adventure and hairbreadth escapes for the well-to-do classes.

A justice of the peace has a wonderful conception of the fitness of things. When a man and woman appear before him with a marriage license he always gives them a life sentence.

One of the queerest survivals is the request in death notices that New York, Boston and Chicago papers "please copy." They never do.

Charity, says a German proverb, gives itself rich; covetousness hoards itself poor.

An old lady while trading in a store in a Connecticut town sat down and extended her feet to an iron safe, remarking that she was so glad that the "air-tight stoves had come into fashion again."

It is poor consolation to know that when you aim at nothing you are pretty sure to hit it

At the High School election last Saturday, Chas. B. Rice was re-elected trustee. James H. Shields and Peter C. Wolcott were re-elected members of the board without opposition.

We understand there are several aspirants in the field, this early, for town collector next year; Jas. H. Duffy, Thos. M. Dooléy, Byron J. Stevens and A. W. Waldo. This will make things interesting.

therefore, two first class schools for the district as soon as possible.

2. A Board of Education of the people and for the people.

3. The best for the schools the school revenue will buy, within the legal limits of expenditure.

We say the ideals of the candidates have been as above set forth, because for the purpose of this election a great change of heart on Mr. Schumacher's part seems to have taken place, at least he is now soliciting votes upon certain platform principles, greatly at variance with those he has previously preached and practiced.

For instance the Schumacher platform declares for more than one school in this district, and therefore contradicts Mr. Schumacher's oft repeated arguments for the contrary condition. But this contradiction is perhaps more apparent than real, because that platform also declares for an addition to the present school building, and if only the addition to the present building is first undertaken and executed, then neither Mr. Schumacher nor any of his followers need worry over the prospect of any other school buildings being erected in this district for many years to come.

The two propositions may thus be made to harmonize beautifully, however naturally repugnant they may seem. They can be made to lie down together like the lion and the lamb, one inside of the other.

Where the money is to come from to build the proposed addition, an Allwise Providence only knows, although the taxpayers may find out hereafter. That addition will require anywhere from \$15,000 to \$25,600. But wherever it comes from, if it is once planted on the present school house site, another school house in another location becomes at that moment an iridescent dream.

If another school building of the same size as the Elm Place School building were now ready for immediate occupancy on some site, say a half mile or more away, would a y room for argument remain that the Elm Place School should be added to? No. The Elm Place School is, as it now stands, sufficient in size to accommodate all the pupils of all of the grades which it is desirable to gather together under one roof. Fire risks, epidemic risks and a reasonable limit as to number and a due regard for the accommodation of other localities all argue for the letting alone of the Elm Place School and the location of another school elsewhere as soon as funds shall be reasonably available for that purpose. That time is two or three years in the future.

The present Elm Place School building with little if any change will accommodate 350 or more children under the best conditions. There are in this district at present to be taken care of something over 400 pupils. The excess over 350 or 375 pupils can be most comfortably quartered in the High School building where they now are, until the tax payers can catch their second wind and until some arrangements can be made to enlarge the present school district and to locate elsewhere a second grammar school building in all respects equal to the one on Elm Place.

To put an addition on the present building is to indefinitely postpone that other building. The policy pursued by the outgoing Board under the domination of Mr. Schumacher has left the grammar school with a bankrupt treasury within thirty days after the collection of the spring taxes. What will be the condition of that treasury before the next spring's taxes are gathered, if that policy is persisted in another year? Is it an inviting prospect to contemplate?

But this is not all. It will be noticed by reference to the "platform" which has been freely circulated that it includes a declaration to the effect that the people are entitled to be taken into the confidence of and to be considered by the Board of Education in its various doings. This is a sound plank, but it is like finding Saul among the prophets to find Mr. Schumacher standing on it.

How sudden, indeed, must his conversion have been! Within a month past there has been committed by him as flagrant a violation of that principle as could well be imagined. Within a short month, despite the most outspoken protests of the people, despite the near approach of an election at which the voice of the people would be again heard, no less than \$3800 of the school moneys have been hurriedly and clandestinely diverted from the ordinary and necessary expenses of the school in order to purchase land adjoining the present school site. Could the platform principle last mentioned have been more contemptuously ignored?

But now with these acts fresh in memory a great repentance is professed.

What a wonderful thing is an election platform!

MORAL—If you want to see a second school building in all respects as good as that on Elm Place, located—say in the south-west part of the city—and if you want to have the school funds administered with the same judgment and discretion you would exercise over your own personal expenditures then vote for Messrs. Cole, Brand and Duffy. They only profess now the same principles they have talked for and worked for heretofore, and you can bank with reasonable certainty on their standing by them hereafter.

AN IMPORTANT ELECTION.

An election of the greatest importance to the people of this School District will take place today, from 4 to 7 p. m., at the Elm Place School House.

Two tickets are in the field, one headed by Mr. Schumacher and the other by Mr. Cole. These tickets represent two widely different theories or policies regarding school affairs in this District.

The Schumacher ideals heretofore, have been apparently:

1. One school for this district, and only one; no matter how large—the larger the better.
2. A Board of Education of absolute and autocratic powers.
3. A freehand method of expenditures of School moneys.

The Cole ideals have been:

1. The school for the child—not the child for the school—and the school brought as near the home of the child as possible, and