

The New State Bank Building

When the old Highland Park Bank was organized in 1899 under the ownership of Messrs Holmes, Phillips and Rice, one of those gentlemen made the remark that he should not wonder if some day they would see the deposits amount to \$30,000.

This ingenious remark was based on the experience of Highland Park up to that time, when no banking facilities of any description were available, and was the custom to cash checks at the different stores or to pay bills in cash. That banking facilities were needed by the public was demonstrated by the fact that inside of a year the deposits exceeded the amount predicted such a short time before as a possibility.

The bank continued as a private concern until the beginning of 1904, when its deposits approached \$100,000, and its scope had so grown that it seemed necessary to enlarge its capital and to place it under State supervision. To this end the Highland Park State Bank was organized with a capital of \$30,000 and a surplus of \$5,000. The new banking company purchased the business and good will of the former concern and commenced operations on March 1st, 1904.

The business of the new State Bank then continued to increase so rapidly that it was found that the old quarters were not adequate for its purpose. In order to provide proper facilities the Highland Park Safety Deposit Company, with a capital of \$25,000, was organized early in the present year, and proceeded to erect the handsome building, a cut of which appears in this issue of the NEWS-LETTER. The entire lower floor of this building is devoted to the business of the State Bank, and we feel justified in saying that no handsomer business block, certainly no handsomer banking room, exists on the North Shore.

That the elaborate building and banking room were justified is evidenced by the fact that the business of the State Bank has to increase until now the deposits exceed \$210,000, while the surplus and undivided profits approximate \$10,000.

The Safety Deposit Company has taken over the safety vault business of the bank, and has provided a very large fire and burglar proof vault, containing three sizes of boxes, in which all kinds of valuables are cared for at lower rates than the same space can be rented for in the city, and with the saving of the inconvenience of carrying such articles to Chicago. The vault is 12x16 feet, consists of concrete, and hardened steel, with a thorough system of electrical protection so perfect that when closed at night, it would not be possible to puncture it even with a bradawl, without setting off the alarm.

The officers of the bank are very proud of their new home, and are at all times glad to show their courtesy to any one calling on a visit of inspection.

The building is 25 feet front by 100 feet deep, three stories and basement, built of brick with Bedford stone front. It was designed in the French Renaissance style, and the architect, Mr. E. A. Mayo, has very successfully produced a specimen of architecture which will always be in good form and especially adapted to a bank building. The building is steam heated throughout, furnished with electric lights, hot and cold water, and has all the facilities of a modern metropolitan building except an elevator, which is hardly needed.

The banking room has a very handsome mosaic floor and is finished throughout in solid mahogany with grill work and electric fixtures of black iron. The harmony of color of the interior is very pleasing to the eye, as the use of as few colors as possible has been permitted. The room possesses a quiet dignity which impresses all visitors of discriminating taste.

At the rear of the safety deposit vault which is at the east end of the banking room, a commodious room is provided for persons wishing to hold meetings to discuss business matters, the use of which

is offered free to the patrons of the bank. This room is also used for director's meetings.

At the rear of this room, again, is a room fitted up as a bedroom for the use of the night watchman, who is on the premises continuously, during the night.

On the second floor are six office rooms, three of which are occupied by Dr. F. M. Ingalls, two by Dr. B. A. Hamilton, and one by Mr. John Zengeler, the cleaner and dyer of Chicago.

The rear half of the second floor and the whole of the third floor is occupied by the Chicago Telephone Company under a long term lease.

When the Chicago Telephone Company, early in November of the present year, placed in commission its new exchange at Highland Park, there was inaugurated at this point a class of service second to none in the middle west.

This statement is founded upon the fact that changes in telephone equipment and apparatus have been rapid and frequent within the past two years. Devices for efficiency in service, for the saving of seconds in making connections, for the rapid and accurate transmission of messages over the lines, have appeared only to make obsolete the old devices, and within a few months to be themselves rendered obsolete by still newer inventions. In the Highland Park exchange today are the most modern equipments and apparatus on the market.

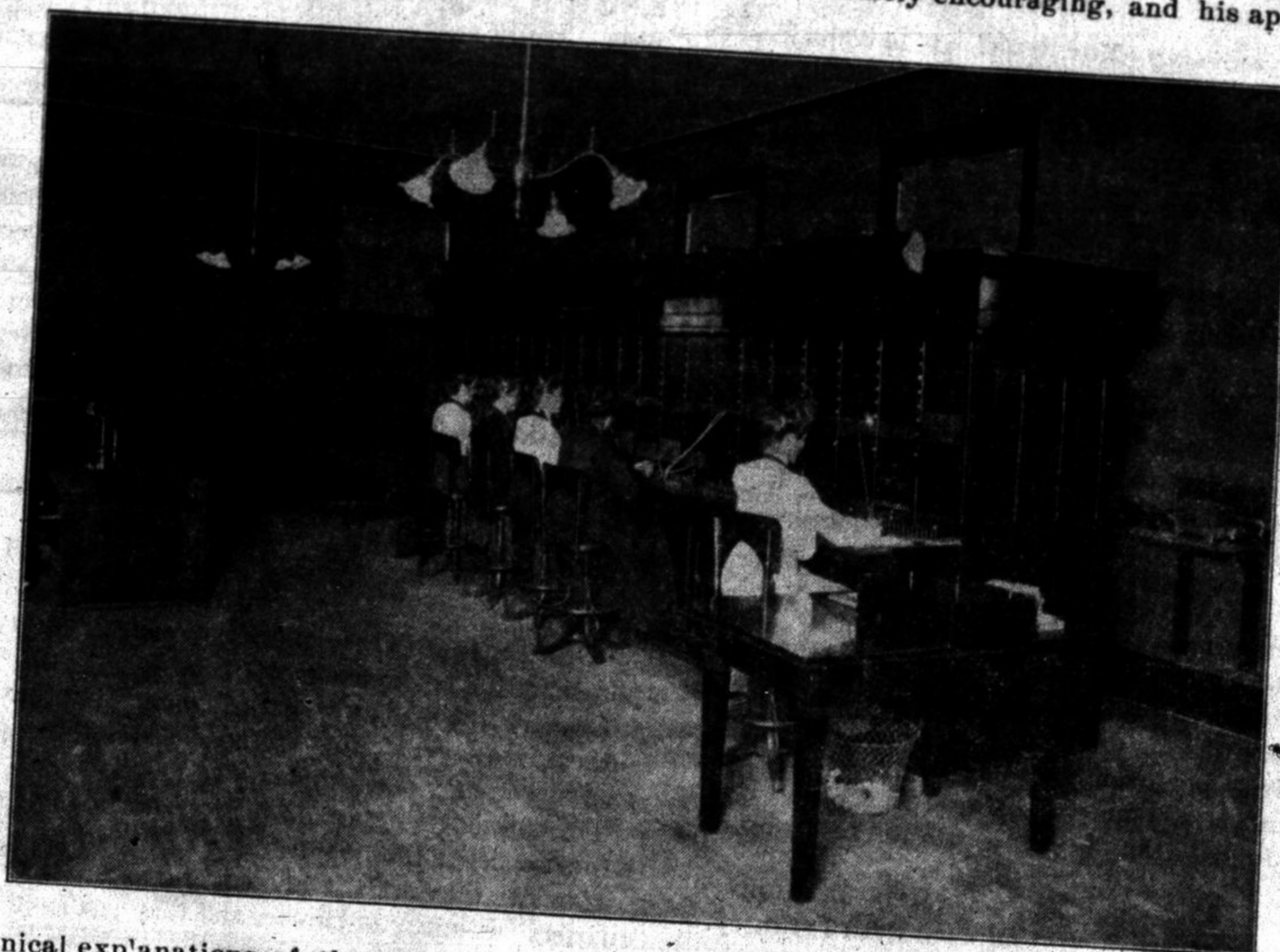
connections with other exchanges. Subscribers using the long distance service have probably already noticed a marked betterment of this service.

There has been a remarkable increase of the patronage in the Highland Park exchange during the past five years. In 1895 the first toll station was established, but in 1900, Mr. Ford took the management of the business, there were but 133 subscribers. As the service became more efficient the number has increased until today no business house or residence is complete without the telephone connection. Because of the added facilities for giving an efficient and satisfactory service, it is predicted that the list of subscribers will be largely increased within the next few months.

Ravinia Park

Tonight at Ravinia Theater Mr. Ernest Thomson Seton, will deliver his lecture on "The American Indian." Mr. Seton's talk is bound to prove of special interest to the children. Aside from the Indians Mr. Seton will tell about the different characters in his wonderfully interesting stories on animal life. His lecture will begin sharp at eight o'clock in order to give the children ample time to retire at an early hour.

The advance sale for Mr. Seton's lecture has been extremely encouraging, and his appearance



Technical explanations of the value of the new apparatus would be unintelligible even to telephone subscribers. It probably suffices to state that the multiple switch board is now in use. On this board each girl can make a connection between any two telephones in Highland Park. Under the old system it was necessary for one girl to hand a call to another and in this way seconds were lost. This delay is avoided under the new system.

Another change of particular interest to the girl operators is the rest room with which the present quarters are equipped. Magazines, story books, easy chairs, supplemented with fresh air and sunlight, make this room a pleasant place in which to spend a quarter hour. No girl is allowed to work for a greater period than two hours in succession. At the close of this period she is given a quarter hour in which to seek rest and recreation among the magazines or the delightful surroundings in the rest room. There was no similar provision for the comfort of employes in the old quarters.

In still another department the modern equipment is probably of particular interest to telephone users. At the toll desk, or the place at which interurban calls are handled, are many new devices to increase the accuracy and rapidity for making

promises to be a phenomenal success both financially and artistically.

Next Tuesday evening Nov. 28th, the Theatre De L'Alliance Francaise, under the direction of Madam Petit will present Le Fiance Malgre Lui, at Ravinia Theatre. The play is a comedy in three acts by A. Sylvane et A. de Fargress. It deals with parisian society and is the story of a young lady and her finance, who after many farcial mishaps are allowed to marry and live happy ever after. The principal parts will be played by M. M. Leon Aubel, Gaston Block, Mlle. Lucie Valcourt and Mlle. Marguerete Coulen.

Tickets for the L'Alliance Francaise are now on sale at Ravinia Park. The prices are 50 and 75 cents.

- Hester Stanley's Friends, Spofford. jSp6h.
- Hester Stanley at St. Marks, Spofford. jSp6he.
- We Four Girls, Darling. jD249w.
- Winning his "W," Tomlison. jT59wi.
- Book of Girls, Fuller. jF959.
- Bernardo and Laurette, Bouvet. jB66b.
- Sylvia's Burden, May. jM454.
- Ruth Lovell, May. jM454r.
- Brownie Sanford, May. jm454b.
- Nellis Miltons Housekeeping, May. jm454n.
- Red Fox, Roberts. jR54r.
- Rhyme and Reason, Carroll. 821 jC23r.