

Highland Park News-Letter

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RALPH I. LEE, Manager

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SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15th, 1906

Two Remarkable Men

A large part of the world regarded Mr. Russell Sage as a penurious man; and so he was, according to the modern spendthrift standard of life. But in such a judgement this modern spendthrift standard must at least share blame with Mr. Sage's habits. For he had a very clear philosophy of life—to make money. It is the same aim that a considerable part of our population has, even a considerable part of those who succeed ill where Mr. Sage succeeded amazingly well, and who criticise his personal habits. Yet they were the very personal habits a man ought to have whose chief aim is to make money.

There was this great difference between Mr. Sage and many hundreds of thousands of other men who have his aim—he resisted all soft, luxurious, and spendthrift temptations. He was strong and there was no humbug about him. He did not wish to make money in order to indulge his appetites or to lead a life of luxury. He is said to have worn a cheap straw hat for two seasons. He lived in very modest houses. He made no display. He had no conventional vices or extravagances. He had all the stern virtues of his hardy Connecticut ancestors. These imply a strong and positive character—not mere penuriousness. During his long life of ninety years, almost eighty of which were working years, the habits of almost all successful people in the United States changed from frugal and simple ways to ways of more or less luxury and display. But Mr. Sage did not change.

So completely was his life given up to making money that he did not undertake to distribute his vast fortune even by his will. It was practically all left to Mrs. Sage to dispose of, and it will surely go to educational and charitable uses.

The sum of Russell Sage's life work, then, was to collect from less able and resolute men than himself a large fortune which will be given to educate the people and to prevent suffering. Yet these purposes were not the main purposes of his life. After all, the cosmic forces of society do sometimes use men for the general welfare, and the individual is swallowed up in the larger economic or social movement.

II

The death in London of Mr. Alfred Beit, the South-African "diamond king," closed one of the most remarkable careers of our time and dissipated one of the largest private fortunes in the world. Mr. Beit was of German birth (he gave a foundation for a university to his native city, Hamburg); he became a British subject and spent the last years of his life in London; but his extraordinary career was worked out in South Africa. He "financed" the Jameson raid, which precipitated the Boer War. He was the partner of Cecil Rhodes and the cool, executive, commercial influence that worked with that conquering adventurer, through commercial organization, revolution, and daring continental development, toward the bringing of South Africa within the organized world. There is no more thrilling or romantic story in the long list of English adventures over seas than the achievements of

these two men.

A unique and characteristic act of Mr. Beit was the leaving of a very large sum to be used in furthering railroad and telegraph development in Africa, especially the Cape-to-Cairo road. As with Mr. Rhodes, his dominant impulse was the impulse of the "empire builder"; and the chief tool of these remarkable men was industrial development.

—The Worlds Work.

Council Meeting

Minutes of regular meeting of the City Council, of the City of Highland Park, held on Tuesday, September 4, 1906.

Minutes of meetings during month of August are read and approved.

Communication from E. M. Laing, concerning the paving of Laurel avenue in front of St. Mary's Church. Moved and seconded by Ald. Leaming, that the communication be referred to the Street and Alley Committee. Motion prevailed.

Communication from the Public Library Board, requesting that the sum of \$1,500 be appropriated to meet a deficit incurred in constructing the Library Building. Moved and seconded by Ald. Turner, that bonds in the sum of \$1,500.00 be issued to meet the deficit in the Library Fund, payable \$500.00 annually, until all of said bonds are redeemed and that the City Attorney be instructed to prepare ordinance providing for the issuing of said bonds, to be acted upon at the next regular meeting of the Council. Carried.

Communication from A. W. Bergmann, complaining of the unsanitary condition of the premises in the rear of his house in Ravinia. Moved and seconded that the communication be referred to the Sewerage Committee. Motion prevailed.

Communication from Kennet Cowan, requesting the Council to reconsider the matter of sidewalk on the west side of Linden avenue, near bridge north of Elm Place. Moved and seconded that the communication be received and placed on file. Motion prevailed.

Street and Alley Committee reported as follows: "Your Street and Alley Committee, to whom was referred the petitions for street lights on Central and Ravine Avenues, with power to act, have ordered an arc light on Central Avenue west, near City Limits, also two 30 candle power incandescent lights on Ravine Avenue between Linden and Forest Avenues.

"Your Committee have carefully considered the street light question and would recommend as follows:

"One 30 c. p. light on Ravine place. One Arc light at corner of Midlothian and Homewood Avenues. One 30 c. p. light on St. Johns Avenue north of Moraine Road. One 30 c. p. light on Forest Avenue bridge. One 30 c. p. light on St. Johns place North of Vine Avenue. One Arc light corner of Bloom and Logan Streets. One 30 c. p. light on Linden Avenue between Elm Pl. and Vine Avenue.

"We recommend the vacating of Deerfield Avenue and Green Bay Road, provided the City is reimbursed for all expenditures for special assessments etc., and the City is permitted to maintain sewer and water line.

"We recommend the grading and graveling of the County Line Road, in conjunction with Cook County Commissioners as per profile made by City Engineer."

Moved and seconded that the report of the Committee be accepted and approved. Carried.

Ald. Shields reports that he received a letter from the Fort Sheridan Authorities in answer to the one he wrote them concerning the disposal of sewerage at Fort Sheridan, and that said Authorities report that the matter will be taken up at once.

The Fire and Water Committee report that Marine Diver Falcon would charge the City \$150.00 for

cleaning the strainer at the outer end of the intake pipe, and that it is questionable with the Committee whether the strainer needed cleaning or not, from the fact that the diver employed last year to investigate, reported that the strainer was in good condition.

Moved and seconded, the adoption of an ordinance repealing an ordinance providing for the construction of a concrete cement sidewalk on the easterly side of Ravine Place, from the northerly terminus of said Ravine Place, in the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois. Carried.

Moved and seconded, the adoption of an ordinance vacating part of Highland Avenue, in the City of Highland Park. Carried.

Moved and seconded, the adoption of an ordinance vacating part of Bloom Street in the City of Highland Park. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the matter of sewerage for McDaniels Avenue be referred to the Board of Local Improvements. Motion prevailed.

Adjourned.

JOHN FINNEY
City Clerk.

New Books Entered in the Public Library

August and September 1906.

Fiction

Wacousta, a tale of the Pontiac Conspiracy	Richardson	R303
Diplomatic Adventures	Mitchell	M69di
Fenwick's Career	Ward	W21f
Throwback	Lewis	L58t
Coniston	Churchill	C47co
Lady Betty across the water	Williamson	W6751
Tonin, son of the Sierras	King	K581to
Tracer of lost persons	Chambers	C35t
Household of Sir Thomas More	Manning	M31h
Captain Singleton	Defoe	D36c
Channings	Wood	W85c
Lucy of the Stars	Palmer	P181
Mayor of Troy	Couch	C83m
Colonel of the Red Huzzars	Scott	Sc084
Breakers ahead	Barbour	B233
If youth but knew	Castle	C27i
Scholars daughter	Harraden	H23sc
Way of the Gods	Long	L85w
Garden, You and I	Wright	W93g
Awakening of Helen Richie	Deland	D37a
Robert Orange	Hobbes	H65r
Out of due time	Ward	W219
Lady Baltimore	Wister	W768la
Return of Sherlock Holmes	Doyle	D77re
House-boat on the Styx	Bangs	B22
Jungle	Sinclair	Si62j
Tides of Barnegat	Smith	Sm5ti
Dawn of a tomorrow	Burnett	B93d
Susan Clegg and her neighbors' affairs	Warner	W242su

Classed List

Animal and plant correspondence	Kip	570 K62
Mind and body	Kip	570 K62in
New International Encyclopaedia	20 vols	031 In1
Voyages of Discovery	Cook	910 C772
Journal of the discovery of the source of the Nile	Speke	916.2 Sp31
Historical memorials of Canterbury	Stanley	726 St2
Essays in literature and history	Froude	824 F93
Characters of Shakespeare's plays	Hazlett	824 H33
Glory seekers	Brown	973.3 B81
From a Cornish window	Couch	824 C83
Cicero in Maine	Dunn	814 D92
Childhood		372 B53
Alterations and adaptations of Shakespeare	Kilbourne	822 K55
Canada, the new nation	Whates	917.1 W55
Guide to the Opera	Singleton	780 S16
	Juvenile	
Peter the whaler	Kingsley	jK619p
Concerning Paul and Flammitta Harker		jH225
Young O'Briens		jE141
Chronicles of England, France and Spain	Froissart	940 jF925