

# NORTH SHORE NEWS-LETTER

Vol. 1 No. 23

HIGHLAND PARK, Ill., Saturday, June 4, 1910.

Price Five Cents

Subscription, \$1.50 a year

## Highland Park News.

Please hand your News Items and Advertisements in by Thursday at noon

### Special Notice.

The Lake County Tag Day will be Saturday June 11. The money given will go to the Lake Bluff Orphanage, the Waukegan Hospital and the Tuberculosis Camp. Will any one kindly donate.

### HIGHLAND PARK A CITY OF HOMES.

In the beauty of our natural surroundings, and in the growth of her innumerable conveniences and institutions, our city has no peer among Chicago's suburbs. Our city is a mirror in which is reflected Chicago's wealth of resources and prosperity. The city has justly become noted as a suburb of elegant homes, broad acres and charming society, an unequalled place of residence, where educational and religious privileges await all to whom more material pleasure of environment does not alone appeal. As a busy mart of local trade, and as a beautiful and healthful town it has few, if any equals. The people of the Park are to a great extent permanent residents, nearly all own their homes, many of which are truly palatial. As a place of summer residence, our city is widely noted, and many Chicago people own and occupy luxurious summer homes. The famous Sheridan road passes through our city. This boulevard is for twenty miles along the North Shore considered the finest drive in the world, and is lined along its entire length from Lincoln Park to Ft. Sheridan, with magnificent residences and spacious grounds, which at no point more noteworthy than upon that portion of the boulevard within the limits of Highland Park.

#### Social Clubs

A busy town socially during the season, much of this social activity is due to the successful clubs and organizations which exist in our city. The most prominent of these, and a molding factor in our social life, is the Highland Park club, which includes in membership all the moving spirits of our city—men who have achieved success in their various callings, and who are fitted to direct the social life of our city. The Highland Park Club house occupies a most sumptuous and convenient club house and grounds, elegantly equipped with all the occasions to club life and entertainment.

#### Real Estate

Real estate is more greatly sought in our city than anywhere else along the North Shore, so that in the future as in the past, all judicious investments in

Highland Park will be profitable.

#### Character of Residents

From the inception of the town special effort has been exercised to prevent the entrance of an undesirable population, and sales of property have been so restricted as to effectually bar all things and persons classed as detrimental or disreputable. The utmost encouragement has been given to a high class of residents and home seekers. We have flourishing churches of all denominations, an educational institution of national repute, clubs, libraries, exceptional city government, municipal waterworks, electric cars, electric lights, magnificent streets, boulevards and avenues, many stores, but no saloons.

#### Religious and Moral Sentiment

The religious sentiment, the home intelligence and the integrity of the financial interests are the principal acquisitions of strength to our city. The moral tone has been the object of watchful regard by its citizens. It has a healthy school sentiment and a widespread religious influence radiates from its churches. Its social life is of the highest order, and its growth in population has always been in keeping with the ability of its business interests to meet the demands of its people.

#### Religious Life

Churches are the foundation stone upon which is erected the enduring edifice of civilization. In respect to the strength, wealth, sincerity and devotion to good works manifested by its church going public, the claims of our city cannot be truthfully exceeded by those of any American town of similar population. Our many church organizations are progressive, prosperous and spiritual. The total church membership is very large, embracing nearly every family. Ecclesiastical architecture has been lavishly drawn upon, and our church edifices are many, ornate and splendid. The religious life and sentiment of this community are ever strong and potent, and the results are seen in the high intellectual, sober habits and clean lives of our people.

Our clergymen are gentlemen of high purpose, scholarly attainments and forceful utterance, and the flocks under their watchful care show by their daily lives the faith that is in them. The following are the denominations represented in Highland Park:

- Trinity Episcopal church, Rev. P. C. Wolcott, rector.
- St. Mary's Catholic church, Rev. James O'Neill, pastor.
- First Baptist church, E. LeRoy Dakin, pastor.
- Evangelical Assn., Rev. Emgelger
- Presbyterian church, Rev. C. P. Goodson.
- First United Evangelical church, Rev. B. R. Shultze, pastor.

#### Public Library

The city owns and conducts a splendid public library, embracing over 2,000 volumes, which are fully accessible to all residents of the town.

#### Educational

As befits a residence town of the highest class, the utmost care has been given to the upbuilding of an efficient and effective public school system, which is already remarkable for its high character and the results accomplished. One of the most important features of our community is its public schools, for they, above all else, indicate and mold the character of local society. People in search of homes invariably shun those localities known to be deficient in school advantages, no matter what else they may have to recommend them. Highland Park possesses educational advantages to a remarkable degree. Our public schools have long ago reached a high state of perfection. Every modern and approved method and system of education and school architecture have been promptly passed upon and adopted by those in charge of our city and township schools. The school boards are composed of well-trained men of affairs, who

are in touch with progress and who are keenly interested in the best solution of every problem which arises in school matters.

Our three school buildings are examples of the best architecture of their kind. They are presided over by thorough and enthusiastic educators, who are assisted by a corps of earnest and effective teachers. The township High school is a model of its class, its results being of the highest order. A high standard of scholarship pervades every department of public school life, and our graduates are abundantly prepared for active careers, or the pursuit of higher education.

#### City Government

The city government of Highland Park is and has always been highly creditable and effective. There has been a welcome absence of party politics and our officials have ever striven for the best welfare of the city. The splendid system of waterworks enables our effective volunteer fire department to laugh at conflagration and the absence of saloons and criminal population makes the work of policing the city an easy task.

The following are the officers of Highland Park.

- Wm. Dooley, mayor.
- J. Finney, city clerk.
- Wm. Maroney, city treasurer.
- T. Dooley, city collector.
- A. E. Dorsey, police judge.
- G. Krueger, superintendent of waterworks and sewers.
- J. Sheahan, city marshal.
- Wm. Witten, fire marshal.
- J. Hart, foreman of street works.

#### Business Houses

In our next issue will be found the different branches of business carried on in our city.

The North Shore Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution will give an illustrated lecture in the library audience room, June fourteenth at eight o'clock p. m. Subject, Land marks in History. All are cordially invited to attend this celebration of the one hundred and thirty-third anniversary of the adoption of the flag of our country. Patriotic music will be a feature of the evening.

A surprise party was given on Mrs. A. Wheeler of Wheelerville, on Thursday of last week when thirty of her Highland Park friends drove out and spent the day with her.

The German Evangelical Church will give a strawberry and ice cream festival Wednesday evening June 8, 1910, Green Bay and Homewood.

Miss Rowina Bastin is confined to the house with german measles.

Prop. Arnold of the University of Chicago, will conduct a class in Ravinia during the summer months.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Charles Thompson was hostess at a reception in honor of Mrs. Arthur Moore, Mrs. Clyde McMahan and Miss Floyd Robinson. Mrs. Thompson was assisted in the dining room by Miss McCord, Miss Knapp and Miss Whitney.

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Seward spent the week end at the Exmour.

Miss Helen Barnhart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Barnhart of Grand Rapids, was married on Wednesday to James Everett, son of F. D. Everett. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence A. Mills, Jr. Mr. Charles Everett and Miss Adele Everett attended the wedding.

Mrs. John Buckingham and her two daughters Misses Alice and Harriette and her niece Miss Casselberry, of the Moraine, will sail for Europe June 14.

Mrs. Frank L. Wean and her daughter Miss Evangeline Wean sailed last week for Europe where they will travel for several months.

### ASSESSMENT RULING DUE

#### Protect on \$4.20 a Foot for Boulevard Was Decided Tuesday

Whether or not \$4.20 a foot for converting Ravine avenue in our City into a boulevard is an excessive amount to assess property owners, was decided last Tuesday in the County Court in favor of the property owners.

Property owners along the proposed boulevard were notified that they would each be assessed the amount for the work and claiming the assessment the highest ever recorded in the history of the North Shore town, a number decided to test the assessment in court. The case was called two weeks ago, but owing to the absence of City Attorney G. A. Mason it was postponed.

P. S.—Since the above was reported to the News-Letter, we learn the City is trying to justify the matter

### WOMEN WORK FOR SUBURB

Officers and members of the Highland Park Improvement Association, recently formed by society women, are being praised for the work done in the last fortnight. The association was formed to better physical and sanitary conditions of the city. More than a dozen improvements that have been made are due directly to the association. A contract to sprinkle the streets during the summer months was recently let; the fountain in Central avenue, long an eyesore to our residents, has been painted; rubbish has been removed from the vacant lots and more than 200 trees and shrubs have been planted about town.

### Realty Agent in Statement Made To-day Bastes Gen. McArthur and Unnamed Officer of the Army.

#### Says That Red Tapeism on Part of Officers Has Deprived Him of Rights in Ft. Sheridan Deals.

Smarting under the sense of what he alleges to be a gross injustice, the chances are that J. S. Prall of Highland Park and the north shore will kick up a lively muss in regard to his claim for \$10,000 for alleged services in helping the government extend Fort Sheridan by making property deals.

In a statement issued today he roundly basted General McArthur and an unnamed army officer for alleged red tapeism and alleged misrepresentation as follows:

"The assitant comptroller has disallowed the claim of J. S. Prall of \$10,000 as compensation for services rendered and \$1,000 for expenses incurred in securing title to land adjacent to Fort Sheridan, Ill. General Arthur McArthur, who was in command of the department of the lakes at the time of the enlargement of Fort Sheridan reservation, informed the comptroller that Prall was interested in the matter as an owner of the property and as a real estate agent, but that no contract was made with him involving any idea of compensation from the government.—Army and Navy Register, April 9, 1910.

#### What Prall Says

"The above lemon was handed me after confiscation of my property and refusal to pay an agreed and arranged compensation for services by the best government on earth in consequence of the misrepresentations of two army officers.

"I did at the request of General MacArthur, unsolicited, enter into negotiations with the eighty owners of the 'adjacent lands' for a purchase of their holding by the United States, and it was only on a promise to the owners that I would make no charge for commissions or expenses that the

variable prices could be secured.

"All of which can be demonstrated.

#### Report of Facts

"I reported the results of my investigations to the general and specifically mentioned the amounts required for expense, taxes and commissions, all of which was embodied in a report and forwarded to the secretary of war by General MacArthur with his recommendations.

"Soon after (March, 1903) General MacArthur left the department of the lakes and admittedly knows nothing of the transaction since its first conception in June, 1902. The negotiations were carried on under orders and instructions of other United States officials for more than three years.

"The United States government paid upwards of \$250,000 for the property. "Prall received less than \$12,000 for his interest from the United States, which shows to what extent "Prall was interested in the matter as an owner of the property." I have heretofore regarded the word and promise of a gentleman to be relied on. Apparently the word of a man tied hand and foot in army red tape, unsupported by any evidence, takes precedence to the sworn statement of a person who prides himself upon his honor, integrity and fair dealing.

#### J. S. PRALL.

### DEATHS

In the death of Levi M. Comstock last week, Ravinia and Highland Park have lost one of their most venerable and respected citizens.

Born at Chautauque, N. Y., February 1st, 1832. Mr. Comstock was more than 78 years old and had been a resident of Ravinia for 36 years. He began his business career at Allegan, Michigan, where, in the year 1859, he was admitted to the bar after practicing at Allegan for three years. He moved to Milwaukee and there continued in his profession for fifteen years. In 1881 he moved to Chicago, and on June 12th, 1884 he married Mrs. M. Livingston, who survives him as do also a son and daughter by his first wife.

Mr. Comstock was a man of forceful character who stamped his individuality upon the community in which he lived and among whom he was a leader. From 1892 until he died he was Justice of the Peace for the City of Highland Park, and until a few years ago had an office in the Fletcher block. He was also, for years, a member of the Deerfield School Board and was actively interested in many civic matters.

During the last ten years of his life Mr. Comstock, finding his health impaired, gradually withdrew from the practice of law and took up building and carpentry. In this he was quite successful. Among numerous buildings erected under his supervision are the Evanston Elevator, the Highland Park Opera House, and the church at Ravinia, now used as a dwelling, and a large number of residences on the North Shore.

Mr. Comstock had been confined all winter to his home in Ravinia by an illness which rendered necessary his removal early in May to the Augustana Hospital in Chicago. After consultation with the best surgeons in Chicago and Highland Park it was decided that an operation should be performed and from this Mr. Comstock failed to rally as it was hoped he would and he passed away very peacefully on Wednesday afternoon May 25th.

Funeral services were held at his late residence on Carey avenue, at 9:30 a. m. last Sunday, the Rev. P. C. Wolcott officiating. Services were also conducted at the Lake Forest Cemetery by A. O. Fay Lodge No. 576, A. F. and A. M. of which Mr. Comstock had been a member since 1891.

It was at Mr. Comstock's own special request that his brother Masons officiated in this way. Those who acted as pallbearers were—D. M. Erskine, James Grant, Fred Schaefer, Sewall Roebing, James Bowden and J. L. Fearing.

The heartfelt sympathy of a host of friends goes to the widow in the great loss she has sustained.

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