

# North Shore News-Letter.

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H. P. DAVIDSON, Prop.

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## EDITORIALS

### Highland Park Improvements.

One cannot go about the streets of Highland Park today without noticing a decided improvement in the general appearance of the city as compared with one year ago. The contrast is especially noticeable on some of the central streets. Nor is the improvement confined to streets. One who has been accustomed in the past to roam through our ravines will notice a decided cleaning up in many of them. No doubt the Highland Park Improvement Association has had much to do in inspiring these improvements. Articles that have appeared in the News Letter from time to time have probably helped along the good work. Much more can yet be done.

In last week's issue we mentioned the improvement of Fairview avenue in the fourth ward. Since then we have twice been over the whole length of Ravine avenue. With all due respect for the sentiments of residents or other streets we have always contended that Ravine avenue was destined to be the most picturesque and attractive thoroughfare in the city.

It has taken a long time to get it under process of improvement, so long in fact that the lake shore at the foot of the avenue has been despoiled of much of its natural beauty. In time nature will do much to restore it but it can never be as it was before. Twenty years ago, the lake front was a long wide belt of clean sand covered with pebbles and small stones, many of them studded thick with fossils. Most of this material has been hauled away for building purposes.

The contractor who is macadamizing the street informs us that with reasonable conditions of weather he can complete the street from St. Johns avenue to the lake in sixty days. From the foot of the hill strong cement retaining walls are being constructed to prevent floods from washing away the road-bed. Heretofore the tendency of the surface water during heavy rains to accumulate in the ravines and rush to the lake with such force as to sweep all before it lead some of the property owners on the street to favor abandoning the idea of keeping it open as a thoroughfare. This would have been a great misfortune if not indeed a disgrace. So far as we can see at this stage of the work our capable city engineer has laid out an excellent work and if the contractors faithfully perform their part we trust no one will begrudge the cost.

Personally we would have preferred a 25 foot street instead of one 20 feet wide. To have made the street one-fourth wider would not have cost one-eighth more than it will cost now. We believe it is a mistake to make our improved streets so narrow.

### Every Man Is Free To Do That Which He Wills.

Every man is free to do that which he wills provided he infringes not upon the equal freedom of any other man.

The last issue of the Champion of Fair Play liquor dealers organ prints the above quotation in large letters at the head of its first page and credits it to Herbert Spencer.

We are not prepared to say that Herbert Spencer never wrote it but it is safe to say he never wrote it without qualifying it or limiting its application. As quoted it is an absurdity in the fullest sense of the term. If the advocate of the liquor traffic are compelled to resort to such absurd assertions to bolster up their business they would better quit trying to defend the liquor traffic.

If the quotation were true then, a man would be free to get drunk on a crowded street and make himself both a nuisance and a menace. He would be free to practice any vice he pleased, so be it he did not hinder others from doing the same things. He might walk or ride stark naked along the crowded streets of the most crowded city. He might drive his horse at a gallop through crowded streets. But it is unnecessary to multiply illustrations.

The saloonists and their defenders are never tired of prating about personal liberty. On the contrary at least one edition of Blackstone (Christian's) denies the right of a man to get drunk on his own premises. Nor is such a position unreasonable, or unsound. Some years ago a man in Evanston went to the lake for the purpose of drowning himself. A policeman saw the man, noticed that he was acting suspiciously and crept near. Just as the man was about to commit the deed the officer sprang upon him and arrested him. Suicide is of course a sin. But that is not all, it is more. It is a crime. No man is the sole possessor of his own person. He belongs to the State. The State has a prior claim to him. Otherwise, it could not compel him to shoulder arms and march to the defense of the country. It is on the same principle that the State enforces or claims the right to enforce compulsory education. It has a right to demand that every citizen shall be an efficient and valuable citizen. It has a right therefore to say a citizen shall not squander his energies or waste his property, or live a life of vice or indolence whereby he may become a burden to the State, either in his own person or the person of any one legally depending on him for support. In some States when a man by drinking or practicing other habits whereby he or his family may become a burden on the State, the law appoints a conservator who may step in and take charge of the property in the same way a

guardian would manage the property of a minor. Away then with the whole business of legalizing a traffic which destroys manhood and makes families dependant on the public for support.

The liquor defenders are sharp enough to see the value of the license system. It legalizes that which has no standing in common law. Or perhaps it would be more accurate to say it appears to legalize it. For the Supreme Court of the United States said in the case of Stone vs. one of the states. No legislature has a right to barter away the morals of the people; the people themselves cannot, much less their representatives. But the saloonists themselves have always favored a license tax, for they are shrewd enough to know how prone the people are to favor any system which raises revenue in some other way there by direct taxation of property. They have always emphasized the idea of "personal liberty." Personal liberty has been their slogan morning, noon, and night.

Even though the city of Columbus, O., is under guard of 4,000 members of the Ohio National guard, the 300 striking street railway conductors and motormen continue to cause trouble for the Columbus Railway & Light company. Cars were stoned and 15 persons injured.

With a big hammer concealed about him, John George Samson Schubell, a religious crank, tried to see President Taft at the Burgess Point cottage. James Sloan, Jr., the secret service operative, saw the man first and handed him over to the Beverly police, who have him locked up awaiting examination as to his sanity.

Brooklyn, N. Y., has an unique public official in its commissioner of "weeds," who completed his first three months in office by presenting a report which showed that in 230 streets the weeds were extensively in evidence.

Louis Restell of Quincy, Mass., who shot down five persons, two of whom died, succeeded in eluding the searchers who hunted him all night, and is still at large.

The Carolina and Northwestern railway shops at Chester, S. C., were burned, loss \$100,000.

John Junkin, was hanged at Des Moines for the murder of Clara Rosen. As he went to the scaffold he reminded the sheriff that a medical university was to have his body.

Following the arrival of two members of the Rusk Mount McKinley expedition at Seward, Alaska, it was reported that the American Geological society's expedition under Prof. Herschel Parker also failed and has turned back.

Hundreds of delegates from all parts of the civilized world were present when the eighteenth International Peace Congress opened in Stockholm, Sweden.

At the conclusion of a conference between King Alfonso and Premier Canalejas, it was announced that the Marquis Emilio de Ory, Spanish ambassador to the Vatican, had been recalled. At the same time the opinion was expressed that a rupture with the Vatican was inevitable.

Jurors at the inquest over the body of Ira Rawn, the late slain president of the Monon railroad, at Winnetka, Ill., returned a verdict finding that he was killed by a bullet fired "from his own revolver, held in his own hand," and that circumstances in connection with the death made the theory of suicide seem probable.

Edwin Johann Wiler, the \$25-a-week cashier who admits having stolen securities to the value of \$680,000 from the Russo-Chinese bank's agency, where he was employed in New York, was arrested and committed weeping to the Tombs in default of \$25,000 bail.

Senator W. Murray Crane of Massachusetts has been requested by President Taft to take a trip through the west to the Pacific coast to make a confidential report to the president upon political and other conditions of importance to the administration.

Cholera is raging in 42 provinces and districts of European Russia.

Summer guests made hurried exits when the Merrill hotel at South Harpswell, Me., was destroyed by fire.

Thousands of dead fish floating in from the scene of the practice meet off Staten Island are threatening to put a temporary stop to bathing at neighboring beaches.

To shield a girl friend seven years old who playmates say, accidentally shot him while all were "playing soldier," George Pelham, six years old, of Yonkers, N. Y., told hospital physicians that he wounded himself. He is dying.

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Chicago butchers plan to start independent abattoirs and promise to cut meat prices in half.

Fire destroyed the business district of Herrell, seat of Campbell county, S. Dak., causing a loss of \$75,000.

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## HAPPENINGS OF A WEEK

Latest News Told in Briefest and Best Form.

### PERSONAL.

John G. Carlisle, secretary of the treasury in President Cleveland's cabinet, who had been critically ill for the past two days, died at his apartments in New York of heart failure, accompanied by oedema of the lungs.

Reuben Todd of Drybrook, Ulster county, N. Y., better known as Rip Van Winkle to photographers and artists the country over, is dead. He was found drowned in Dry Brook stream.

George Westinghouse, inventor and capitalist, for many years prominent in the world of electrical invention and of finance, was deposed from the presidency of the great corporation which bears his name. Edwin F. Atkins of Boston was elected to succeed Mr. Westinghouse.

May Yohe, formerly Lady Francis Hope and later wife of Captain Putnam Bradley Strong, is going on the stage again.

Ex-Secretary of the Treasury John G. Carlisle, who for several years has been practicing law in New York city is seriously ill at the Hotel Wolcott.

Theodore Douglas Robinson, nephew of former President Roosevelt, who two weeks ago announced his candidacy for the Republican congressional nomination in the Oneida-Herkimer (N. Y.) district, was beaten by the regular Republican organization.

Dr. Frederick L. Graves, eminent physician of Bridgeport, Conn., committed suicide by drinking a compound of every poison contained in his medicine case.

George Westinghouse, president of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company, resigned his position because, he claims, he was being "frozen out" of the firm's business.

### GENERAL NEWS.

The annual international convention of the Knights of Columbus began in Quebec, Canada, and at its close a number of members will start on a pilgrimage to Rome and Genoa.

Eminent lawyers, statesmen and others, from all over the civilized world, gathered in London to attend the twenty-sixth conference of the International Law association.

Following a pitched battle between negro farmers in the vicinity of Palestine, Tex., in which at least 300 blacks took part and three companies of state militia from Houston and Galveston and a detachment of state rangers fought for hours, it is said, that 18 negroes have been killed and three white men.

Upon the arrival of the steamer Montrose at Father Point, Canada, Dr. Hawley Harvey Crippen and Ethel Clare Leneve, wanted in England for the murder of the actress, Belle Gibson, were arrested by provincial officers and taken to Quebec for a hearing.

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car on a grade crossing. Twenty were injured, several fatally.

Following the purchase of the so-called Pearson syndicate's holdings of securities in the Rock Island, Lehigh Valley, Wabash, Denver and Rio Grande and Western Pacific systems, the new combine, made up chiefly of American interests, will soon put into operation the coast to coast railroad. This scheme in transportation involves over 40,000 miles of railroad and total capital aggregating \$3,000,000,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Melville Brooks and Mrs. C. H. Thoring were killed a mile east of Etna Green, Ind., when a fast Pennsylvania freight train, east-bound, struck the automobile in which they were riding. Mr. Thoring was severely injured, but not dangerously hurt.

Not a single complaint by the police of the illegal sale of liquor in New York city on Sunday was recorded during the twenty-four hours ending at midnight. This condition is unprecedented and is the climax to three months of the operation of Mayor Gaynor's plan for enforcement of the excise law.

Rioting by Grand Trunk strike sympathizers at South Bend, Ind., was resumed when a crowd of from 1,500 to 2,000 men and boys attempted to burn a freight car. After the car had been burning 20 minutes the fire department extinguished the flames.

A new bread trust, suspected of having close relations with the National Biscuit company, was launched under the laws of Delaware. The name of the new concern will be the Federal Bakers company. It will start with a capitalization of \$20,000,000.

Moving pictures of prize fights, hangings or other scenes calculated to influence the morals of youth are prohibited in a law passed by the lower house of the Texas legislature in extraordinary session at Austin.

Theodore Douglas Robinson, nephew of former President Roosevelt, who announced his candidacy for the Republican congressional nomination in the Oneida-Herkimer district of New York against Congressman Charles S. Millington, has been defeated in Herkimer county primaries.

Mob attacks on a freight train, ending with the ditching of the entire train of six cars, and an unsuccessful effort to kidnap the non-union members of a passenger crew were the chief happenings at South Bend, Ind., in the strike on the Grand Trunk railroad.

August Ropke, assistant secretary and bookkeeper of the Fidelity Trust company of Louisville, Ky., is believed in ten years to have embezzled \$1,140,000, the entire surplus of the concern, according to a statement made by John W. Barr, president of the trust company.

### A Misunderstanding.

A lady from South America, possessed of a decidedly quick temper, arrived in Philadelphia, with a very incomplete knowledge of the English language. At her hotel she rang for the chambermaid. But a waiter came instead. Having ascertained that the name of the chambermaid was Susan, the lady marshaled her meager knowledge of English in a desperate effort to make the waiter understand that he should call the chambermaid. What she said to him, however, was:

"Call me Susan!"

The waiter leaned against the wall much alarmed.

"Call me Susan!" shouted the South American.

The waiter became appalled.

"Call me Susan!" roared the lady, her eyes flashing furiously.

"Susan, then—if you will have it!" exclaimed the poor waiter. Then he fled precipitately.

### Delight.

The superintendent of a Texas town in the course of his professional rounds, called a class of small colored children before him to examine them in sentence writing.

After several successful trials on words of one syllable, he chose the word "delight" as a further test of their powers. For a few moments the entire class was paralyzed, and presented a row of puzzled little ebony faces, almost rigid with bewilderment, and silent as the sphinx. Finally, however, the silence was broken by a little fellow at the foot, standing near a window damaged by a violent windstorm the day previous.

Glancing at a shattered pane near him, his face became radiant with inspiration.

"I kin," he shouted, frantically waving his hand.

"All right, go ahead," said the superintendent.

"De wind blowed de light outen de window," was the triumphant statement.

—Magin Dupree.