

# The Highland Park Press

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## A COLUMN FOR THE USE OF EVERYBODY

### ALD. FEARING WRITES OF ELECTRIC LINE

Corrects Slight Error in "Press" Report of Council Proceedings and Tells How Electric Road has Worst City

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter did not come to us marked "for publication" but it is such a concise setting forth of the alderman's view of the evils originated and maintained by the Milwaukee Electric that we feel it is news for the public and therefore print it without the usual consent. We do not, however, grasp his logic for we believe that the lack of a central depot is one of the "evils" which, as the alderman states, "should be settled—the sooner the better."

Gentlemen: You printed an article in your issue of July 16th in which you made the statement that the writer objected to the city using its influence to induce the Chicago & Northwestern Railway to allow the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railroad to build a passenger depot at the northwest corner of Central and St. Johns Avenues on property owned by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway "on the ground that it was business which should be attended to by the Electric Road officials."

This statement is not quite correct, and it does not represent exactly what I said. My statement was that I believed the time to attempt to obtain from the Northwestern, ground on which the Electric Railroad might build a depot, was inopportune. The status of the Milwaukee Electric, through Highland Park and other north shore towns, is not yet settled. Their franchises through Highland Park expires in 1917 and we have a great many matters to settle with them before a new franchise can be granted.

They are illegally occupying certain portions of St. Johns Avenue all the way from Ravinia Park north, to the exclusion of the public. In many places they have raised their tracks above the grade of our streets, this being contrary to law, and not in accordance with their rights under the existing franchises. (They have two franchises through Highland Park, one through Ravinia and one through Highland Park before Ravinia was annexed). Down at Ravinia they have raised their tracks so much above the grade of St. Johns Avenue that the balance of St. Johns Avenue is nothing but a "mud hole," and the public is absolutely and entirely excluded from the use of more than half of the street in some places, and in other places is totally excluded from the use of the street.

In Highland Park south of Laurel Avenue I understand the strip now occupied by their tracks was formerly paved, and I also understand that the Milwaukee Electric people tore up the paving so as to exclude the public from their tracks; and I have been unable to discover where they got their right so to do.

The conditions prevailing, with respect to the relations between the city of Highland Park and the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railroad, should not be tolerated indefinitely, and should be cleaned up as soon as possible. Mr. W. O. Johnson, receiver for this Road, is not responsible for most of the conditions prevailing—those having originated before the Receiver's term of office he has continued to exclude the public from parts of St. Johns Avenue, as aforesaid, and has caused the tracks of the Road to be raised still higher above the grade of our streets in some places.

For these reasons I did not believe, and I do not now believe, that the time is ripe or opportune for us to negotiate with the Chicago & Northwestern Railway for a piece of their property to be used for a depot of the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric. When the status of the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railway is more clearly determined, and when they obtain from the city a new franchise cleaning up some of the present intolerable conditions, I should say that then would be the time to do all we can to assist them and ourselves by either re-locating their tracks so as to provide a proper space for a depot or depots at certain important street intersections; or if this is not practicable try to get the Northwestern to assist.

The Milwaukee Electric situation is perhaps the most important matter now confronting the people of Highland Park, and it should be settled—the sooner the better.

Joseph L. Fearing.

## WOULD CUT DOWN MILEAGE EXPENSE

### THOMSON FAVORED LOWER RATE BILL

Describes in Letter Fight Between House and Senate on Bills to Lower Mileage Expenses of Members of Both Houses

By Chas. M. Thomson

The fiscal year of the Government of the United States begins July first and closes June 30th. Every annual appropriation bill should, therefore, be passed before July 1, the beginning of the year for which it makes appropriations. There are thirteen of these bills and out of this number six have as yet not been passed. All of them have been acted upon by the House, and the Senate has also passed all of them with certain amendments. The House has agreed to some of these amendments and disagreed to others and all of these six bills are now pending before Conference committees appointed by the two branches of Congress for the purpose of reaching some agreement on these points of difference.

The legislative appropriation bill carries appropriations for the salaries of all officials in the executive, legislative and judicial branches in the Government and sundry items incident thereto. This bill passed the House April 17th, and the Senate on June 15th and was sent to conference on the 18th of last month. The conference committee is dead-locked on two items, namely those appropriating the mileage for members of the House and the Senate.

The present law provides that each member of the Senate and House shall receive a sum equal to twenty cents per mile for the distance traveled from his home to Washington and return, for each session of Congress.

There is a contest over the appropriation for mileage every year. This year in the House the Appropriations committee reported the bill carrying a provision changing the law and giving members such an amount for mileage as would pay their actual traveling expenses from their homes to Washington and return for each session, including the dependent members of their families. An attempt was made in the House to amend that part of the bill by restoring the provision of the present law, namely twenty cents a mile. I voted against that amendment for I believe the present law works out very inequitably in a number of ways. The amendment was lost and the bill, as to these items, passed the House, as the committee on appropriations had reported and recommended it.

When the bill reached the Senate, both these items were promptly put back to twenty cents a mile. When the bill came back to the House for action on the Senate amendments, the House changed the provision as to members of the Senate from twenty cents a mile to five cents a mile and refused to agree to the Senate amendment as to House members. So the bill went to conference, the Senate insisting on twenty cents a mile for members of both Senate and House and the House insisting on actual expenses for members of the House and dependent members of their families and as to Senate members either the same or a rate of five cents a mile, and the bill has been hung up on those two items for a month. The conference committee has reported a disagreement several times but both Houses have declined to yield. The last time the committee reported a disagreement I voted in favor of the motion for the House to recede and concur in the Senate amendments. I believe we have made a real effort to reduce these items. It is proposing a change in existing law and as the Senate refuses to agree to a change, I believe the House proposing the change should be the one to give way, after a dead-lock of a month.

It is possible to get a vote on these two items separately I would favor giving the Senate the twenty cents a mile of which they insist and reducing members of the House to actual traveling expenses for themselves and their families.

However, those who have charge of this bill in the House always insist that these two items shall be considered together. If they must go up or down together, it will probably be up, as I do not imagine the Senate will agree to come down.

P. S. Since writing this letter the House has receded and concurred in the Senate amendments on these items and the bill has been passed.

### Nearby Locals

Failing to collect the wheel tax, from all the owners of vehicles in their town, the Whitette village board has issued a statement that suit will be brought against those failing to pay at once.

Mrs. Scott Durand of Lake Forest sold 14 head of highbred young cattle this week for the sum of \$5,000.

## The New Elm Place Primary Building



THE PRESS has the pleasure of presenting the above half-tone reproduction of a watercolor study of the Elm Place Primary school now in process of construction. It congratulates District 107 in advance of the completion of what promises to be an unusually beautiful and interesting building. The front of the building facing Elm Place is shown in the illustration with the two entrances, one on either side of the terrace which is reached by a short flight of steps. The three large windows opening out on the terrace represent the south view from the kindergarten room. These are casement windows coming to the floor level and swing open so that the terrace and the kindergarten has a continuous floor. This, and the southern exposure will make the kindergarten a suitable open-air room for mild weather.

## SUPERVISORS DECIDE TO BUILD HOSPITAL

### \$14,000 STRUCTURE PROVIDED FOR

Will be Erected on Portion of Site Occupied by Sanitarium. Board also Gives \$1,000 to Orphanage Addition Building Fund

Having acquired a fresh air sanitarium the Lake County Supervisors are now going to add a hospital to the county's facilities for caring for those unable to care for themselves and for the purpose appropriated the sum \$14,000 at their meeting last Thursday. The plans have been drawn by C. W. Webster and provide for a two-story and basement structure to be erected on part of the land occupied by the sanitarium, which is located on Grand Avenue about three miles west of Waukegan.

The walls of the building will be of hollow tile with the exterior of stucco finish. The foundation will be of concrete while the roof will be of tile. The dimensions of the structure will be 60 feet by 55 1/2 feet. The first floor will contain the following quarters: office of hospital physician, ward for men, ward for women, two private rooms, operating room, sterilizing room, dressing room and diet kitchen. The dimensions of the ward rooms will be 19 feet by 25 feet. The second floor will contain linen rooms and quarters for the attaches of the hospital and the basement, tubercular dining room, tubercular pantry, recreation room, hospital employes dining room and the laboratory.

### Donation for Orphanage

The board also subscribed \$1,000 toward the building fund for the \$35,000 addition soon to be erected at the Lake Bluff Orphanage. In a letter to the board Miss Judson, superintendent of the orphanage, stated that they now have \$8,000 in the bank and \$19,000 in subscriptions. The board members feel that as there are 78 Lake county children, more than one-third of the total, quartered at the institution for the care of which the board pays annually only \$2,000 that the \$1,000 is deserved.

### CARRIED MUCH INSURANCE

\$8,000 Carried by W. E. Bersch, Who Was Drowned in Canal

An inventory of the effects of the late Wm. E. Bersch, who met death by drowning in the Chicago Drainage Canal last Wednesday reveals the fact that he carried insurance policies to the amount of \$8,000; \$2,000 life in the Pacific Mutual, \$1,000 life in the Prudential, and \$5,000 accident in the American Bankers. Most of our readers were informed of the fact shortly after the body of Mr. Bersch was recovered Thursday afternoon at 3:45 through the line printed across the front page of last week's paper but we were unable to make this reach all. Before the news was telephoned this office by the Chicago police and by Albert Larson, who was one of the Business Men's Association's volunteer searchers. THE PRESS was printed and in the postoffice. In order to get the news to our readers that night it was necessary to have the papers returned and to print the red line across the face of them.

## LOCAL BALL TEAMS WIN POOR GAMES

### VISITORS NO MATCH IN EITHER CASE

Teams had Expected to Play Together but Negotiations Fall Through. Both go Out of Town Next Sunday

By "Crescent Fan"

The Crescents downed the Twilights in a one-sided affair last Sunday at Crescent Park by the count of 18 to 4. It became apparent after the first couple of innings that the visitors were no match for the fast local nine. The home team scored at will and could easily have whitewashed its opponents had it chosen to do so.

After the third inning Potter just lobbed the ball to the batters so as to give the players behind him fielding practice. The Crescents began the game with all the players at their regular positions, but before the contest was over Tom Cronin had taken a crack at twirling, Potter at catching, Chambers at first basing, Frank Cronin at second basing, Heilman at third basing, Schmidt at shortstopping, and Jimmie Duffy, Richards and Dussie Duffy at outfielding.

The Crescents regret that they were unable to book better opponents for last Sunday. As it was, they were fortunate in getting a game at all. Several attempts were made earlier in the week to clinch a game with the Regulars, but nothing doing. It is hoped, though, that a series of games can be arranged between these two teams later in the season.

Next Sunday the Crescents journey to Waukegan where they play McCann's team in the second of their three-game series. This game will be played at McCann's new park on Marion Street. The electric line runs right past the grounds, Browning Avenue being the getting-off station. The Crescents copied the first game of the series and the Waukegans are out to even up matters, so a desperate encounter is in prospect. As the Regulars will also be out of town next Sunday, the local fans will have a fine opportunity of seeing these two arch rivals on the ball field in a slam-bang battle at a grounds easy of access.

By "Regular Fan"

Regulars 14—Franklins 3  
The Regulars finished on top again Sunday at Central Park by hitting the ball safely fourteen times and accumulating as many tallies. The Franklins of Chicago were the victims. Two swats for three bases and one for two bases shows the hitting power of Hutchinson, Wohlbruck and Duffy, respectively, when right. Christenson connected twice, Hapke got two and Greenslade hit safe twice as did Geo. Glader; the rest managed to hit one on the nose for safe drives, making a total of fourteen. Ten stolen bases in one game is the record the feet footed Regulars accomplished Sunday. If its speed your looking for, well, this record speaks for itself. The game really was a farce Sunday but one cannot hold the manager for booking such teams, as his knowledge regarding the strength of the Chicago teams is limited. Further, he was very fortunate in being able to get the Franklins to come out as he failed to arrange a game at the meeting Monday evening, hoping to look up with the Crescents again, but somehow it went amiss. It is hoped that the Regulars and Crescents will play another series and arrangements will probably be made in the near future for a series at the end of the season. Sunday, July 26th, the Regulars journey to Glen View to play Harry Hoffman's strong Glen View team. This team has a double victory over the Crescents as have the Regulars and this certainly should prove to be a rattling good game.

Owing to both the Regulars and Crescents having scheduled out of town games, accommodations for round trips to Glen View are being made and busses will probably leave the depot at one o'clock for Glen View. Better make arrangements to see this game before Sunday. The Regulars will play a charity game on Saturday, August 1st, with the Mandels.

### TROOP B ON PRACTICE MARCH

Will Leave Fort July 28 on Trip to Indianapolis

Troop B of the Fifth cavalry, stationed at Fort Sheridan, will leave on July 28 for a practice hike to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Ind. In the neighborhood of sixty-five men will make the trip. The departure of Troop B will leave only two troops at Fort Sheridan.

## ADJOURNED MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

### RAVINIA SIDEWALK CAUSE OF DEBATE

Appropriate \$10,000 for New Boilers and Addition to Pumping Station. Special Policeman for Ravinia. Other Business

Members of the city council and a delegation from Ravinia furnished considerable amusement, at the meeting Monday night, for those spectators not particularly interested in the matter under discussion by staging a spirited debate over a sidewalk now being laid in Dean Ave. It appears that the contractors are laying the walk in curves in order to save trees and please a few property owners and that other property owners object. At one time the lie direct was passed and at another one alderman returned a book entitled "The Revised Ordinances of the City of Highland Park," which had been handed him in order that he might read up on a certain law, in such manner that it appeared that the book was thrown at rather than handed to the donor. Altogether it was a rather childish exhibition, some of the aldermen even wanting to take their dolls and go home. Following is the result of the battle as it appears on the council records:

Ald. Sheahan moved, seconded by Ald. Stevens, that the petition presented by Carl Hoermann, W. C. McCowan, and others relative to sidewalk on the east side of Dean Ave. between Rogers Williams Ave. and Bronson St. be referred to the street and alley committee with power to act. Motion carried.

Ayes, Aldermen Sheahan, Moses, Obee and Stevens.

Nayes, Aldermen Nichols, Buckley, Ald. Fearing not voting.

Ald. Fearing moved, seconded by Ald. Buckley, that the meeting adjourn. Motion lost.

Ayes, Aldermen Nichols, Buckley and Fearing.

Nayes, Aldermen Sheahan, Moses, Obee and Stevens.

### Appropriation for Pumping Station

When the aldermen finally got down to business they annexed a lot of it before they adjourned to take a vacation until the first Tuesday in September. The matter of most importance probably was the appropriation of \$10,000 made for the purpose of building an addition to the pumping station, installing new boilers and erecting a new smoke stack. This matter has been before the council for some time, the state inspector having ordered new boilers and Superintendent Krueger having reported the necessity of an addition several months ago. At the meeting two weeks ago Ald. Buckley, to whose committee the subject had been referred, gave a comprehensive report on the needs of the station stating that \$10,000 would be necessary to properly supply them, providing a new stack were built. This report was referred to the finance committee which Monday night recommended the appropriation. The recommendation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

### Other Business Transacted

The petition presented by A. A. Moses and others for sidewalk on Sheridan Place was referred to the city attorney, with instructions to prepare an ordinance for same.

The Chicago Telephone Company's request for permission to rebuild the present vault located at the northeast corner of St. Johns and Central Aves. was referred to the street and alley committee with power to act.

Repealed an ordinance providing for the paving and otherwise improving of Rice St.

Passed an ordinance providing for a supplemental special assessment to pay the estimated deficiency of the cost of the work and interest for the construction of certain main and lateral sewers with manholes, flush tanks, house connections, and a sewage purification works with an outlet pipe therefrom, also creating a sewer district therefor, which improvement was provided for by an Ordinance passed theretofore on the first day of September, A. D. 1908.

Passed an Ordinance granting to the North Shore Gas Company, a Corporation the right to extend a gas main, in, upon and along Burtis Place from its intersection with Green Bay Road to Elm Pl.

### Extra Policeman for Ravinia

A majority report of the finance committee signed by Aldermen Fearing and Nichols, Ald. Moses being the other member, recommended that \$235 be appropriated from the miscellaneous and contingent fund for the purpose of hiring a policeman for Ravinia. A motion to adopt was lost, the vote standing. Ayes, Aldermen Nichols, Fearing and Buckley; Nayes, Aldermen Moses, Sheahan, Obee

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