

The Highland Park Press

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A COLUMN FOR THE USE OF EVERYBODY

WRITES ABOUT MR. JENSEN'S WORK

Prof. Jesse Lowe Smithe Gives Interesting Story of Accomplishments and Aims of Great Landscape Gardener

Letter from Prof. Jesse Lowe Smithe I wish to express my appreciation of the letter by Jens Jensen relating to the preservation of the native forests on the North Shore which appeared in the issue of the Highland Park Press for July 30, and shortly afterwards was published in the Chicago Tribune. This letter has attracted favorable comment in the columns of the Tribune and elsewhere which might well be re-echoed in the columns of the Highland Park Press. It was temperate and convincing and contained a very attractive appeal for the preservation of a "characteristic American landscape."

In the letter Mr. Jensen did not say anything that he has not been advocating for years but the danger of hopeless despoliation of our landscape is so pronounced that his letter comes in the nature of a timely warning. It is fortunate that we have Mr. Jensen's great influence in this work of arousing a more intelligent interest in the natural beauty of these North Shore uplands and ravines and in the forest cover to which most of this beauty is due. To us of Highland Park there is the added good-fortune that Mr. Jensen is one of our citizens and owns real estate here, and the fact that his interest in public improvements is that of a property owner as well as that of a nature lover does not detract from the value of what he says. It is natural to hope that we may be able to avail ourselves of his counsel in setting a proper value upon the resources we still have at our disposal and in planning for their conservation.

The suggestion for a careful survey of lands to be plotted and improved and the adoption and conscientious carrying out of the plan that fits existing conditions as brought out by such a survey is worthy of immediate consideration. Many of our Highland Park business men belong to the City Club and other Chicago organizations which are now giving a great deal of attention to the subject of city planning, with the welfare of Chicago in view. These men and others besides could surely be relied upon to take an active interest in city planning in Highland Park also where the results would be immediately tangible and could not fail to increase property value in general.

Everyone subscribes to the theory of conservation but all are not agreed as to its application. Some apparently are more interested in the conservation of the resources of Alaska than in those of their immediate vicinity. Mr. Jensen's enthusiasm is for the natural resources right at hand. He would keep for us, if possible, the wood path, the undisturbed vista, the pleasing contour of hill and slope, the ravines with their curving channels, their terraces and flood plains, and their suggestion of depth and mystery. He would have "the character of the forest and the topography of land considered as a motive for man's improvements." Thus "the motive of the woods" would have a place in the minds and imaginations of those who would plan our roads and walks and parkways and of those who would set about so refined a transaction as that of locating a house in a bit of untouched landscape and of utilizing the natural resources without seriously marring its beauty. This motive has prevailed in the treatment of the grounds about Mr. Jensen's summer home on Dean Avenue. Here on an area not at all extensive the house with the green sward and vegetable and flower gardens has displaced less than a fourth of the original native growth. Simplicity and admirable restraint are shown in the treatment of the natural features and yet all seem to be put to use and to contribute to the charm and privacy of a real home. There are garden walks and bits of green sward. There are leafy trails leading down into the ravine or along its slopes to a natural terrace where the campfires are held. There is a "players' green" with its symbolism of rock and spring, of compass plant and pointed firs. All of this apparently with a maximum of good taste and a minimum of expense.

Country Life in America for August (Continued on page 4)

CONCERNING COST OF STATE AID ROADS

EACH FARM ACRE PAYS THIRD OF CENT

Roads Designed to Aid Farmer Producer and Through Him the City Consumer but Farmer Pays Small Share

From the State Highway Commissioner It is to be regretted that in some sections of the State farmers object to the system of road improvement, as provided by the Tice Road Law. They seem to be of the opinion that these roads are being improved for the special benefit of the auto owners, and that the cost will far exceed the benefit; that the big burden of this tax, if it is a burden, will heavily rest upon the farm lands of this State. It seems to me a careful investigation of the new Road Law and its application to the highways of Illinois, will dispel any opposition and unite all citizens, especially the farmers, in an earnest advocacy of a State wide system of road improvement. The roads to be improved have been selected by the Boards of Supervisors, in counties under township organization and by county commissioners in counties not under township organization. The State Highway Commission has approved these maps with few exceptions, usually where changes were made it was done to make proper connections with the adjoining counties. After these maps are made, the local boards designate the place of beginning. Ninety per cent of the members of the boards of supervisors, and an equal proportion of the members of the county commissioners of this State, are farmers, and of course, should and no doubt do control and dictate the action of these boards. Thus the farmer names the road to be improved, and designates the place that this improvement shall begin. The law comes to the farmer's assistance and says every foot of the State Aid Road must be outside the limits of any city, village or incorporated town. Automobile owners have been taxed for the privilege of operating their autos on the highways of this State. Every hundred thousand dollars of the money derived from this tax has been turned into the State Road Fund, and in addition, \$300,000 is taken from the general fund. This \$300,000 is the only money that is raised by direct taxation for road improvement. The farm lands pay less than thirty per cent of the State tax; therefore the 34,000,000 of land in this State pay less than \$90,000 of the \$300,000 raised by direct tax and yet every dollar of the \$800,000 under the Tice Law must be spent in improving the roads outside of the limits of the cities, villages and incorporated towns. Thus it will be readily seen that the farm lands of Illinois pay less than one third of one cent an acre into the State Road Fund of \$1,100,000. Under the law the counties must raise a like sum and of this sum the farm lands must pay their proportional share, which varies in the different counties, in proportion to the value of lands. In the State the farmers' share of both the county and State fund does not exceed forty per cent of the whole. Hence of the 2,200,000, the farmers would pay on their lands \$880,000, or little more than two and one-half cents per acre.

Under our present system \$7,000,000 a year is spent on our roads and the better is of a temporary nature. Seven million dollars a year for twenty years under the Tice Law will build a ten-foot concrete road on all the State Aid Roads, as today marked and these roads when improved will carry eighty-five per cent of the traffic.

TEACHERS TO MEET AT WAUKEGAN Local Paper Praises Miss White who Will Conduct Primary Department

Lake County teachers will meet in Waukegan the week beginning August 24. Mr. W. H. Elson for several years the superintendent of schools in Cleveland, Ohio, and now connected with one of the normal schools of Pennsylvania, will give lectures each day on reading, arithmetic and school management. Miss Esther White will have charge of the primary instruction. Of Miss White the Waukegan Sun has the following to say: "Miss Esther White of Highland Park is the instructor in music and games. Special emphasis will be placed on instruction in penmanship. Mr. Faust of Chicago, who has been supervising this work in the county for the past four years will spend all the week at the institute, beside conducting his classes he will be ready to give individual instruction.

REGULARS WIN BUT CRESCENTS DROP GAME BOTH PLAYED ON WAUKEGAN GROUNDS Regulars Take Second of Series 1 to 0. Crescents Lose First 10 to 3, Potter Being Badly Out of Form

By "Crescent Fan"

The Crescents lost the first game of their series with the Waukegan city team last Sunday by the count of 10 to 3 at the latter's grounds. Potter, the Highland Park hurler, was away off color. His pitching was far inferior to the article with which he has delighted Highland Park fans in other games. The Crescents fielding, too, was below par, but considering the test it was put to, it was no worse than that of the Waukegan. Neimeyer's twirling gave the men behind him less to do, while the frequency with which the home team gained access to the bases through hits and walks made the task of the Highland Park defense much harder. Considerable disappointment is being voiced over the work of Potter last Sunday. Of course Potter's work was disappointing. But hasn't he on other occasions, come through with some of the best hurling ever seen in these parts. Potter, like every other ball player, has his good days as well as his bad days. And when he is right he certainly pitches a grand game, as we all know. On the other hand, when he is not right he works poorly. All ball players, even the big leaguers, have the same ups and downs. It certainly is not fair to forget all the good work a man has done just because, while in a slump, he performs poorly. Like so not Ralph will come back next Sunday and twirl one of the brilliant games for which he is noted, and then everybody will again be heaping praise upon him. In this connection a few statistics concerning the slab work of Potter since with the Crescents may be of interest. This is his record per game omitting last Sunday's: Hits allowed, 5.3; walks permitted, 1.5; strike-outs, 12.3; earned runs allowed, 1.6. Of the four games that the Crescents lost while he was attending to the twirling only last Sunday's is traceable to his poor work. The loss of the Pirate game a week ago Sunday was not principally due to Potter's work, for had his support been as good during the two innings in which the Pirates did all their scoring as his pitching was in the remaining seven innings, the Crescents would have won. In another game brilliant twirling went for naught because his team mates did not hit, and in another his support failed him. Next Sunday the Crescents meet Waukegan in the second game of the series at Crescent Park. Flinn and his men are determined not to let Waukegan take two in a row. The week's rest will give Potter ample time to recover his form and a real hurling duel ought to result unless Neimeyer is out of kilter.

LOCAL REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS Property Exchanges Recorded During Past Two Weeks

F. E. Matthews and wf to C. H. Holmes, lots 2 and 3, Benson's sub, Highland. W. D. \$10.50.

MILK PRODUCERS TO HAVE DAY AT FAIR

COUNTY ASSOCIATION SELECTS SEPT. 3

Only one of Many Organizations Which will Attend. Officials Arranging to Care for Greatest Crowds Ever in Libertyville

For the first time in its history the Lake County Fair Association will have a special "Farmers Day" during the fair at Libertyville, when on Sept. 3rd of this year, the Milk Producers' Association will hold a special program of much interest to all farmers. In a number of the counties in which the Milk Producers' Association is represented, the members of the organization hold annual picnics or other gatherings, thus stimulating local interest, strengthening the association and having a royal good time. Such a picnic was proposed for Lake County this year, but was decided against and a "Fair Day" picked. By adopting such a course the members have made it possible not only to get together for a good time, but also to gain much information and insight into various branches of agriculture through the numerous high class exhibits that are assured for this year. The day chosen for the Milk Producers' Association is Thursday, Sept. 3rd, the big day of the fair. On this day the different exhibits will be awarded the prizes, the attractions will be at their best, the racing at its swiftest, in fact the fair will be at its height. The committee in charge urges each and every farmer, whether a member of the Milk Producers' Association or not, to attend the fair on this date, Sept. 3, and is sure that the event will be a huge success. Plans are now under way whereby the program will begin at 10:30 a. m. and will be concluded in time for all to visit the entire lot of attractions on the grounds. Special efforts are being made to secure extra strong speakers for the occasion, men who not only understand their subject but who are heart and soul in the great work that is being done by the Milk Producers' Association. The official buttons now being issued by the organization, will be given out to all members as soon as they apply at the booth that will be used for that and other association purposes. County Chairman C. G. Small will preside during the program. Among those who are expected to speak are: President S. J. Fellows of St. Charles, Secretary W. J. Kittle of Crystal Lake, County Secretary and Director N. E. Gatzert of Libertyville, and others. Farmers are urged not to forget the date, Thursday, Sept. 3, 1914, and the committee wants each and every dairyman to be present to help make this Lake County's banner event.

NORTH SHORE TENNIS TOURNAMENT Monday, August 24th. Loving Cups will be Awarded

On Monday, August 24th, the second annual North Shore tennis tournament opens to all players between Chicago and Milwaukee on the high school clay courts. The tournament will be managed by a committee and supervised by E. C. Mellick. All entries must be in the hands of Mr. Mellick by eight o'clock Monday morning, August 24th. The entry fee for each event will be \$1.00 and the entrants' name must accompany each entry fee. The following events will take place: Mens singles, mens doubles, ladies singles, ladies doubles, and mixed doubles. Loving cups will be awarded for firsts, seconds and consolations.

WAR RELIEF BENEFIT On the Grounds of Mrs. Singer at Winnetka, August 29th

On Saturday, Aug. 29th, from 2:30 until 5:00 p. m., there will be a garden party on the grounds of Mrs. Singer, Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, for the benefit of the War Relief Fund for Germany and Austria Hungary. There will be a splendid musical program arranged by Mrs. Harry Swartz of Glencoe. Bridge tables on the veranda will be in charge of Mrs. George Pick and Miss Amy Rothschild, and the cake booth will be under the supervision of Mrs. Emil Rudolph. Classical dancing will be another attractive feature. Admission to grounds 50 cents. Automobiles will be at the Winnetka station to take passengers to the grounds for 10 cents.

MYSTIC WORKERS PICNIC Proved a Success Both Socially and Financially

Even though the weather was threatening several hundred people enjoyed the second annual picnic given by the Mystic Workers of the World at Lake Front Park on last Thursday. Pritchard's Orchestra kept the dancers delighted throughout the entire evening. Members of the lodge wish to state their appreciation for the cooperation of their many friends. Much credit should be given Edwin E. Larson, Perfect of the local lodge, who managed the picnic so successfully.

OBITUARY Little Elmer Allen Scheskie, the six-months old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Scheskie, died Aug. 12th of pneumonia, after an illness of two days. Funeral services were held Friday, Aug. 14th in the Deerfield Lutheran church, interment being in the North Northfield cemetery.

INTERESTING NEWS OF COUNTY SCHOOLS

SHOWN IN SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Figures Show Number of School Age Attending, Number of Teachers, Number of Buildings and General Facts

According to the report of County Superintendent of schools Simpson there are in Lake county 22,274 people under the age of 21, 14,926 between the ages of 6 and 21. There were enrolled in the schools of the county 8,481 children, the number in each of the different grades from 1 to 8 is given. In the high schools there were enrolled 1,052, the number in each of the years from 9th to 12th is given. There are 108 districts in the county, the average length of the school year is 8 2/3 months and the average number of days is 173. Two hundred forty-three boys and two hundred fifty-two girls were promoted last June from the grades to high school. Fifty-two boys graduated from high school as compared with 96 girls. Forty-nine men were employed and 295 women of this number 63 were graduates of a college, 64 of a normal school, 93 of a high school, 43 had attended college, 63 a normal school and 18 a high school. The average salary of the men teachers was \$1139, of the women \$599; average for all \$676. It might be interesting to note the term of service of these 344 teachers, in the schools in which they were employed last year the terms of service follow:

1 year	134
2 years	66
3 years	36
4 years	21
5 years	18
6 years	12
7 years	16
8 years	7
9 years	7
10 years	11
11 years	4
12 years	5
13 years	3
14 years	4

There are 122 school buildings, the total value of them is \$1,334,012. To support the schools last year there was levied \$436,395, bonds to the amount of \$306,200 were sold.

These are some of the items of expenditure:

Teachers	\$ 216,232
Supplies	10,974
Janitors	24,731
Fuel, water, light	30,464
Repairs, maintenance	30,103
For grounds and buildings	141,226

A dozen or more items will bring the grand total of expenditures of \$566,568.86, more than half a million dollars. There are 82 1-room schools in the county attending these last year there were 913 boys, 885 girls, a total of 1,797, making the average attendance of the rural schools 22; these schools averaged nearly nine months of school each, and from them were promoted to high school 27 boys and 45 girls. There were but 4 men teachers in these schools their average salaries were \$515, the average salaries of the women teachers were \$432.

THOMSON EXPLAINS BILL JUST PASSED

Congressman Says Amendment to Civil Service Law Gives Politicians Chance to Throw out Present Assistant Postmasters

By Chas. M. Thomson The principal bill passed by the House this week was the so-called Moon bill. The title of the bill says that it is a bill "to amend the postal and civil service laws, and for other purposes." It is what I call a double-barrel bill for it contains legislation on two very different subjects.

The Civil Service part of the bill requires all applicants for the position of assistant postmaster in offices of the first and second classes, "including those now in office," to take a competitive examination under the civil service law, and provides that all appointments to these positions shall be made under the civil service law, following these examinations.

Although this looks like favoring civil service it is actually designated to upset the civil service status of assistant postmasters by means of this law.

There are 2560 assistant postmasters now in office. These were carried into the classified service by executive order several years ago. Since that order many of these officials have taken examinations caused by charges of incompetency brought by some one who wanted the place for themselves, and having passed the examination they have retained their places.

The Moon bill provides for original examinations for all these positions. This provision has but one purpose and can have but one result. Its purpose is to turn the 2560 assistant postmasters out of their positions that have been supposed to be under the Civil Service and to make them available for a like number whom it is desired to reward politically, and that will be its result. This is how it will work: A. is now the assistant postmaster in a given town. The examination called for under this proposed law is held. A. takes the examination and so do half a dozen others who are in line for political rewards. Let us say they all pass the examination. The

NEARBY NEWS ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST

ABANDON LAKE FOREST HORSE SHOW

Officials Give War as Reason. James B. Hobbs, one of Founders of Lake Bluff Orphanage Died Last Thursday

Founder of Orphanage Dies James B. Hobbs, who, with his wife, Marilla Hobbs practically founded Lake Bluff Orphanage and, ever since its establishment did more for its support and expansion than any other individuals who assisted financially in the work, died in Portland, Maine, Thursday, August 13th after an illness of two weeks from pneumonia. He was 84 years old.

Abandon Lake Forest Horse Show For the first time in 12 or 14 years, there will be no open-air horse show on the Onwentaia grounds at Lake Forest. The following explanatory statement was sent out Tuesday: "Feeling that a gay spectacle would be unbecoming the trying times the world is passing through, the Lake Forest Horse Show Association has decided to hold no gymkhana this year. In order, however, that the Alice Home Hospital at Lake Forest may not be deprived of its usual income from that source, a committee of 12 ladies has been formed to solicit from former boxholders the sum they have been in the habit of paying for a box."

Gives City Tree Spraying Outfit Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick has presented the city of Lake Forest a complete tree spraying outfit, consisting of a tank, gasoline engine and pump, mounted on a wagon. All the necessary spraying nozzles accompanied the outfit. During the past week the city has had a couple of men using the machine spraying the trees along the parkways that are effected by the cottony maple scale. If owners of property where trees are effected by the scale would now spray their trees it would be possible to largely reduce the ravages of the pest and save many of the trees.—The Lake Forester.

NEW LAW A MENACE TO CIVIL SERVICE

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