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The Social Side of Life
Local Affairs of the week

By the Observer

Mrs. B. E. Schwalbe was hostess on Sunday evening at a real Dutch supper, consisting of frankfurters, potato salad, etc., in compliment to the members of the Ravinia Opera Company who lived at Highland Hall during the summer. Speeches of all sorts were enjoyed and each honored guest did some sort of a stunt. Later the merry party adjourned to the ball room and enjoyed dancing.

Mrs. H. S. Vail and her daughter, Miss Cecile Vail of Laurel avenue, gave a nine-table bridge party on Wednesday in compliment to the Misses Ethel and Gladys Spencer of Wade avenue. At the same time Miss Cecile Vail announced her engagement to Mr. Merrill Follansbee of St. John's Place.

A pageant of history, music and dance to represent the growth of Chicago from the time of Pere Marquette's explorations until the present day will feature a great festival to be given by the Ravinia Club at Ravinia Park Friday and Saturday, September 11 and 12. The pageant in six episodes will be presented three times, once Friday and twice on Saturday.

Those people in the French Gavotte are: The Misses Helen and Leonora Hoyne, Mary Pie de, Marjorie Follansbee, Helen Rosenfield, Edith Rosenfield, Eileen Kelly and Flora Coffin. Messrs. Allen Jones, Thomas Glass, Chester Williams, Robert Hussey, Paul Grunwald and Ellis Faxon. Those in the Indian Episode are, the Misses Cecile Vail, Marjorie Loudon, Dorothy Schofield, Lois Williams, Kathleen Bergen, Mildred Swigart, Margaret Cushing, Marjorie Small and Margaret Deming.

The first episode will depict the arrival of Marquette and Joliet, their reception by the Indians and the departure of the white man. The next episode will represent the establishment of the first French settlement and the occupation of Illinois in the name of Louis XIV.

The remaining episodes will picture old Fort Dearborn, the birth of the city, the fire of 1871. Chicago of today will be represented by art, literature, science, commerce, industry and music.

Arrangements for the presentation of the pageant are in charge of Mrs. Frank McMullin, president of the Ravinia club; Mrs. Geo. M. Reynolds of Lake Forest, Mrs. Lorenzo Johnson of Winnetka and Mrs. W. A. Alexander of Highland Park.

Those who entertained at dinner on Saturday evening at Exmoor were, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Glidden, Mr. and Mrs. John Glass, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Egan, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Burridge, and Miss Everett.

Those who entertained at dinner on Labor Day were: Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Payne, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Mavor, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Seeman, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Esmond, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Canfield, G. W. Blossom, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. John Glass, Miss Swagart, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Skellen, Mr. and Mrs.

D. S. Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Merriam, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wardrop, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Spades, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Carr, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Collan and Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Colter.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zahnle announce the marriage of their daughter, Ellen Zahnle to Mr. Benjamin Shifflett of Harrisonburg, Va. The ceremony took place Wednesday evening at half after seven o'clock in St. Mary's Rectory. Rev. Dr. J. D. O'Neill officiated. Miss Jane Zahnle attended her sister while Michael O'Dea served the groom as best man. After a short honeymoon trip, Mr. and Mrs. Shifflett will make their home in Highland Park.

Deerfield News Items

Rev. Bosold accepted a call to the Evangelical Lutheran church of Mokena, Ill. Misses Esther and Edna Bosold will attend the Joliet High School and Mr. Julius Bosold will be a freshman at the University of Chicago.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church gave a picnic for forty boys from the Bohemian Settlement House of Chicago in the Ringdahl Grove Wednesday afternoon. The boys were accompanied by their physical director, Mr. Sauer, who directed their games. Many of the children had never been in the country before and some had never ridden on a railroad train.

Miss Gladys Cowlin of Elgin was the guest of her cousin, Miss Ruth Reichelt.

Mrs. Seaman and two sons and Miss Angeline Seaman of Cross Plains, Wis., were the guests of the Karch family last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Karch left for Portage, Wis., Sunday to attend the funeral of Mr. Karch's sister.

The Teachers' Training class which has met every Monday evening during the past year at the home of Mrs. Reichelt, Jr., did not meet Monday evening on account of the lawn social which was held the evening of Labor Day. The object of the handkerchief and ice cream sale being to raise money to buy a piano for the Sunday school of the Presbyterian church.

Rev. Creswell preached a Labor Day sermon in the Presbyterian church Sunday morning. Rev. Evans of Avondale church occupied the pulpit in the evening. Christian Endeavor and preaching services which were discontinued during the month of August have been resumed.

Mrs. Harry Boles was the week end guest of her brother, Mr. Meyer of Pullman, Ill.

Miss Anna Petersen is spending her vacation in Washington, D. C.

Miss Edith Pettis spent the week end at Lake Geneva.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the United Evangelical Church was entertained at the home of Mrs. J. A. Stryker Tuesday afternoon. The topic for the afternoon was "European Elements Coming to America." A China letter was read by Mrs. Goodman and Laurel Stryker gave a reading entitled "Careless Daughters."

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Frey and family and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Geiske and family of Wheeling, Ill., were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Wessling Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Mat Perry and son of Chicago were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Perry last week.

The Mu Sigma Chi club will hold their monthly meeting at the home of Miss Mildred Whiting Friday evening.

Mrs. Lampe and Miss Mary Wrapp of Chicago were the week end guests of Mrs. J. C. Wolf.

Miss Grace Schlie is visiting relatives in Chicago this week.

Mrs. F. Browder of Morton Grove was the guest of Miss Mayme Karch Monday.

Miss Sadie Galloway entertained a number of her friends Monday evening in honor of her birthday anniversary.

Mr. Stuart and Mr. Kennedy of Chicago were entertained at the home of Miss Clara Pyle Sunday.

Mrs. E. V. Morrison and Mrs. David Crawford were guests of Mrs. Walter Beecham last week.

The Misses Sybil Anderson, Esther Anderson of Half Day and Miss Gertrude Kellilia of Wilmette were entertained at the Carolan home Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Foster and daughter Ruth of Chicago were the guests of Mrs. W. E. Beecham Sunday.

Miss Tessie Dawson and Miss Lucy O'Connor left last week to attend school in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. McHugh and son Paul of Chicago and Sam Kell of Davenport, Iowa, were guests of Mrs. S. S. Love last week.

Mrs. Brockhaus, Mr. and Mrs. J. Schack and son of Chicago were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ender Sunday.

LETTER FROM CLARENCE W. DIVER

continued from page 1

stead of representing the best interests of its citizens too often represent private interests. Galveston was no better or no worse than many other cities plodding along under the aldermanic form of government which has been confessedly a failure for many years. Students of municipal affairs had pointed out the defects in that form of Government and city leagues had planned the improvement of conditions but it remained for Galveston in the midst of her desolation to seize the opportunity to inaugurate this new form of municipal government. The results in Galveston have more than justified the highest expectations on the part of those who were skeptical as to how this new form of government would work out. The City's credit was redeemed; the famous sea wall was constructed and the grade of the entire city raised together with two thousand one hundred and fifty-two buildings and other improvements aggregating the sum of Five Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars. A canal two and a half miles long, three hundred feet wide and twenty feet deep was also constructed.

Since Galveston's Commission Form of Government went into effect many other cities, many of them victims of gross misgovernment have adopted the Commission Form. Des Moines has made a wonderful record under this system and it might be well to state here that the Illinois law is largely a redraft of the Iowa law under which the City of Des Moines operates. It contains a number of additional features which make it superior to the Galveston charter, namely the initiative, referendum, recall and non partisan primary.

Perfection is never fully realized in this world in government or in anything else but unprejudiced students of municipal affairs admit that the Commission Form of Government provides more efficient machinery by which the citizens can control their own affairs than the aldermanic system can provide. It is well to make it plain here that the best form of government devised will not operate to the greatest success if the people are not careful in their choice of officials. Eternal vigilance is the price of good government. Municipal functions are 90 per cent executive and only 10 per cent legislative, hence good executives are desired rather than officials who will ornament deliberative assemblies.

I will mention here a few reasons why the Commission Form of Government appears superior to the old system.

The law by providing a non partisan primary and election eliminates party politics. It demands a sworn publication of campaign expenses on the part of those elected to office. It provides for a council of Executive heads which have various departments in charge.

Viz: Department of Public Affairs, Department of Accounts and Finances, Department of Public Health and Safety, Department of Streets and Public Improvements, Department of Public Property. The heads of these departments are under bonds. Their deliberations when assembled in Council are given the utmost publicity the law demanding that a pamphlet be issued every month containing an itemized statement of the financial condition of the City and the proceedings of the Council. The law also stipulates that three per cent interest shall be received on all City deposits from the depository bank or banks. It provides for competitive bids in contracts of over \$500.00, the sealed bids to be opened to public inspection for forty-eight hours before the award is made. Another provision is that City

officials shall not be interested in City contracts. Grants and franchises of all kinds must be voted upon by the people at an election called for that purpose. The initiative allows the people to instigate legislation. The referendum compels all ordinances proposed by the Council to be submitted to the people upon proper petition being filed, and under certain conditions a recall of any Commissioner may be had on the filing of a Petition containing 55 per cent of the voters of the last municipal election.

The abolition of the ward system tends towards city unity and prevents log rolling in the Council on the part of the electors from certain wards. In short the merits of this system are many. It creates a new and better spirit in the community. It centralizes responsibility so that it cannot be avoided. It provides salaries sufficient to attract officials prepared for responsibility. It establishes a short ballot and simplifies elections. It brings about economy. It facilitates and expedites the transaction of public business of all kinds. It makes efficiency the principal requirement for public office, it takes the police and fire department out of politics. It provides intelligent and efficient municipal accounting and an annual audit.

During the time the Commission has supervised the municipality of Waukegan no municipal bonds have been issued. A new concrete viaduct has been placed across the ravine at Genesee street at a cost of about \$80,000.00. A city yard has been purchased and a ware house erected thereby housing all of the materials of the street department and furnishing a storage place for oats, hay and other supplies bought in quantity; a sub intake has been constructed costing about \$10,000.00; the hypo chloride system for treating the water supply has been installed, thereby eliminating typhoid fever. The city's bonded debt has been reduced thirty thousand dollars and its floating indebtedness reduced about twenty thousand dollars. The income of the City from its sources of revenue has been increased about \$17,000.00 a year. Many streets have been paved under the direction of the Board of Local Improvements. The department of Forestry has been added to the municipal departments and is not only planting new trees but trying to protect the fine old shade trees from infection. A central fire station and police station has been erected at a cost of about \$20,000.00. An ordinance has been enacted restricting the saloon limits of the city and taking the saloons off Market street. Another provision of this same ordinance is the raising of the license fee. The Health Department has inaugurated greatly needed inspection of milk and food supplies for the City. Drinking fountains have been installed in various localities. The streets are cleaner than they have been in previous administrations. In short efficiency has been the watch word of the new Commission and there has been a desire to apply business principles to the various city departments. With the exception of the disgruntled politicians and people who received special privileges under the old form of Government or those who have been compelled to observe the laws and ordinances which heretofore they violated with impunity, the rank and file of the citizens seem well pleased with the progress the city has made under government by Commission.

With the hope that the matters contained herein will be of value to those who are interested in Commission Government, I remain
Yours very truly,
Clarence W. Diver.

NOTICE
Supplemental Special Assessment
Notice No. 151.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the City Council of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, having ordered that a supplemental special assessment be levied to pay the deficiency of the cost of the work and interest for grading, curbing, draining, paving with macadam and other improvements Central Avenue from the easterly line of Green Bay Road easterly for a distance of eight hundred fifty-three feet, which improvement was provided for by an ordinance passed heretofore on the seventh day of July, A. D. 1908, and the lawful expenses of such proceeding, the ordinance for said supplemental special assessment being on file in the office of the City Clerk of said City, and having applied to the County Court of Lake County for an assessment of the costs of said improvement, according to benefits, and a supplemental special assessment thereof having been made and returned to said court, the final hearing thereon will be had on the 17th day of September, A. D. 1914 or as soon thereafter as the business of the court will permit.

Said supplemental special assessment is payable in one installment. All persons desiring may file objections in said court before said day, and may appear on the hearing and make their defense.

James C. Boylan,
Officer appointed to make said assessment.
Dated at Highland Park, Illinois,
Sept. 3rd, A. D. 1914. 27-28

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