

The Highland Park Press

Number 46

HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1915

Volume 4

HIGHLAND PARK'S FINANCIAL CONDITION PERFECTLY SOUND

ELM PLACE PRIMARY ANNEX IS COMPLETED

WILL MOVE INTO NEW BUILDING FRIDAY

Reception to Upper Grades Tomorrow. Building to be Thrown Open to Public Thursday Evening, January 21st

The new primary annex is at last completed. Four groups of pupils, including grades 1B, 1A, 2B, 2A and 3B, under Miss Esther White, Miss Louise Boswell, Miss Lulu Behrens and Miss Irene Jones, will move into the new building tomorrow noon. They will celebrate the occasion by giving a reception to all the upper grade pupils. Each room will receive two visiting groups at one time and entertain with songs and stories and "explanations" of their work, and at the end of fifteen minutes the guests will go to another room and two new groups arrive, to be entertained in a similar way.

On Thursday evening, January 21, the Board of Education will throw open the building to the general public and will entertain informally with the assistance of the Elm Place Division of the Parents and Teachers' Association.

The primary annex was planned with great care and after close study of several of the best school buildings in and around Chicago, and while the Board has been limited in its expenditures it has been able to secure for District 107, one of the best planned and equipped primary school buildings to be found in this part of the country.

There has been excellent cooperation on the part of architect, contractors, and Board members in general, and as a result the district is receiving unusual value for its expenditures.

Except in toilet rooms and vestibules, all the floors are laid with battle-ship linoleum. There are no desks in the building to be fastened to the floor. The primary pupils are seated at Moulthrop desk chairs. There are no basement toilet rooms for pupils. In addition to the two larger toilet rooms there is a small one for each sex of the kindergarten cloak room. All toilet rooms are laid with composition flooring.

The interior woodwork of the whole building is of oak and has a dull finish, and all the new furniture has been given the same finish, painted lighted brown and light buff. The walls and ceilings are in smooth finish and are painted light brown and buff. The blackboards are dark brown.

The office looks out into the ravine. Opening off it on the one hand is a small dressing room and the other side is a complete kitchenette. The office has one blackboard space to make possible its use as a small recitation room.

In addition to the exit through the corridors, each class room has an outside exit of its own provided with a panic bolt. It will not be possible to open these doors from outside, but they will never be locked within, and a child resting its arm on the bolt will release the latch and open the door. The stone balustrade on the front of the balustrade is equipped with concrete urns of artistic pattern.

Later the front of the building will have terra cotta medallions in fac simile of two of Della Robbia's bambinoes, these to be faithful copies in color of the originals which are in Florence.

The primary annex faces the south. The kindergarten room with its large casement windows looks out on a terrace and is flanked by the two entrances. The class rooms are on each side of the kindergarten room and separated from it by corridors, and they extend beyond it, the space between the two north rooms being occupied by the office and two toilet rooms. The only basement room

(Continued on page 5)

ELEVEN PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN COUNTY

Report Forwarded to Superintendent Blair by T. Arthur Simpson. Total Enrollment 2,607 Pupils

County Superintendent of Schools T. Arthur Simpson Saturday forwarded to State Superintendent of Schools Blair a report showing the number of parochial and private schools in Lake County. The report follows, complete in every respect with the exception of one school:

Number of parochial schools in the county, 11; number of men teachers, 31; number of women teachers, 56; number of boy pupils, 1,423; number of girl pupils, 1,184; total enrollment 2,607.

The schools are: Zion City private school, Allendale school at Lake Villa, Polish school, North Chicago; Lake Bluff Orphanage, Fremont Center school, Veto Parochial, Immaculate Conception, Highland Park; Northwestern Military and Naval Academy, Highland Park; Longgrove Parochial, Fairfield Parochial school, and Lake Zurich school.

HIGHLAND PARK TAXES TO BE LOWER THIS YEAR

FIGURES FURNISHED BY JAS. HEPBURN

City of Highland Park Rate Shows Decrease of 62 Cents and the City Bond Rate a Decrease of 97 Cents

Highland Park taxes will be lower this year according to figures furnished THE PRESS by James Hepburn. Instead of an increase as was expected by tax payers on account of the high school bond issue and the North Shore Sanitary district assessment, the rate will be \$2.67 less than the year of 1913 exclusive of district school. The following are in the figures in detail:

State	1913	1914
County	.70	.48
Town	.51	.54
Road & Bldg	.05	.00
High school	.31	.37
City	.96	1.24
City bond	1.20	.58
City library	1.50	.53
City park	.12	.06
N. S. S. Dist.	.27	.03
		.12
	5.62	3.95

District School:	1913	1914
107	2.92	2.94
108	2.27	.64
109	3.00	3.00
111	2.26	2.16

It will be noted that while the high school rate shows an increase of twenty-eight cents the City of Highland Park rate more than offsets this by a decrease of sixty-two cents and city bond by a decrease of ninety-seven cents. The library and city park tax also show a decrease this year—the library of six cents and the park of twenty-four cents. The state tax has been decreased twenty-two cents; the county tax increased three cents. No material changes have been made in school districts with the exception of school district 108, which rate has been decreased by one dollar and sixty-three cents. The valuation for the county this year is twenty-three million, four hundred ninety thousand and sixty-five dollars. Highland Park has four million, twenty-four thousand, seven hundred ninety-six dollars of this. The township of Deerfield values four millions, four hundred ninety thousand, five hundred four dollars.

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STATE BANK ELECTS OFFICERS

Report Shows Bank to be in Prosperous Condition Notwithstanding Business Depressions

The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Highland State Bank, was held at its banking room on Saturday, January 9th, 1915, there being represented 465 shares in person and by proxy. President A. C. Morgan in his annual report said in part:

"Notwithstanding the general depression in business conditions the year 1914 was a prosperous one for the bank. The increase of capital voted by the stockholders at the special meeting last March \$30,000 to \$60,000 was duly consummated as was also the authorized purchase of the bank building from the Highland Park Safety Deposit Co.

The bank's records show regular monthly meetings of directors with full attendance, indicating that your representatives on the board have been faithful to their trust.

Out of the bank's undivided profit, dividends were declared and paid, aggregating 6% on the capital stock; the surplus fund was increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and a contingent fund was created.

The following exhibit of averages for the year should prove of interest: Average loans carried \$251,000.00; Average bonds carried 236,000.00; Average deposits 545,000.00; Average Reserve maintained 22.2-10%.

PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN AND PRIMARY ROOM

SPECIAL ELECTION CALLED FOR JAN. 23

Board of Education of School District No. 107 Submit Kindergarten Plan to the Vote of the People

The approaching completion of the Elm Place Primary Annex with a beautifully designed Kindergarten room as a conspicuous feature, has caused much inquiry as to the opening up of a public kindergarten. For many years, Highland Park has had a private kindergarten and this has helped to create and maintain an interest in kindergarten work. Eight or nine years ago when Elm Place School was enlarged, one unoccupied room was labeled "Kindergarten," but within a year it became necessary to put third grade pupils in that room. Since then there has been no room that could be spared for a kindergarten. So while Lake Forest, Glencoe, Winnetka, Kenilworth, and other neighbors to the south have for years been maintaining a public kindergarten, Highland Park has been without one.

While providing a kindergarten room in the new building, the Board of Education for District 107 had made no definite plan for putting a kindergarten into operation before September 1915, but a movement originating independently of the Board has been in progress for some time looking to the establishment of a public kindergarten for the remainder of the current school year. It has been frankly recognized that there is a financial reason why many people cannot avail themselves of a private kindergarten, and that for this reason, during all these years, only the comparative few in Highland Park have been enjoying kindergarten privileges. It has been thought, too, that under the management of the Board of Education there would not only be a kindergarten course, but there would be given sub-primary work preparing for entrance into primary grades. This latter would be of great advantage to all children that had kindergarten work, whether they should get it in the one under the control of the Board or in the private kindergarten, which will doubtless continue its work in Highland Park as before.

In order that there might not be a delay of a half of a year, because of any temporary financial embarrassment of the Board, those most active in this movement, have practically pledged the salary of the teacher for the remainder of this school year, provided the Board will assume control of the kindergarten and throw it open free of charge to all children of the required age. This proposition was submitted to the Board at the regular meeting on Monday evening of this week. The school laws of Illinois specify that before a kindergarten is opened up, it must be formally authorized by popular vote. Accordingly, the Board of Education decided to issue a call for an election for this purpose. Notices have been posted up setting the time of the election for Saturday, Jan. 23rd, between the hours of two and five P. M. The election will be held in the kindergarten room of the primary annex.

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ROBBERY AT MORAINES A NEWSPAPER STORY

REPORTERS ANXIOUS FOR SENSATION

Mr. Cushing Believes Article Missing was Misplaced. Story Originated from Detective Agency in Chicago

The great robbery at the Moraine Hotel, that was so heralded in the Chicago afternoon papers on Tuesday last, reports not to have been such a very serious affair after all. The facts are these: On New Year's day Mrs. Cushing missed a velvet neckpiece with a diamond buckle that she had worn the evening before. A search failed to locate the article which has no doubt been misplaced and will turn up in due time. On Monday Mr. Cushing, wishing to take ordinary precaution, telephoned into a private detective agency in Chicago asking them to send a man out to get a description of the lost article and asked him to look through the pawn shops in town on the chance that he find it. The detective, whose name is not Sherlock Holmes, went around to the detective headquarters and reported the loss so as not to get the benefit of the organization of the city not knowing that there is a law that requires all such reports to be placed at the disposal of any reporter who may happen around. In this way the City Press Association got hold of the report and seems to have considered it as important that of the sinking of a war ship, and the hotel has received a lot of very undesirable publicity. One of the lady guests seeing the scare head across the top of The Post announcing that "Thieves Loot Moraine Hotel," came rushing home to see if her jewels had been taken in the clean-up while others felt rather nervous over the affair and all because a lady lost an article of jewelry two weeks ago and an amateur detective did not know his business.

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PUBLISHED REPORTS REGARDING CITY'S FINANCES NOT TRUE

DEBT FOR FIRST TIME IN YEARS UNDER LEGAL LIMIT

Present Administration Deserves Great Deal of Credit for the Successful Manner in which the Finances of the City have been Handled During the Past Two Years

Editor, Highland Park Press, Highland Park, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—Several articles printed in the Chicago Newspapers last week reflected upon the credit of the City of Highland Park and therefore seem to call for an answer. The writer, as chairman of the Finance Committee has gone over the situation very carefully with out city clerk and comptroller, Mr. E. A. Warren, and begs to hand you herewith a communication from Mr. Warren dated January 12th, 1915 which every tax-payer of Highland Park should read and is as follows:

Mr. J. L. Fearing, Chairman Finance Committee, Highland Park, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—In reply to your inquiry dated January 9th, 1915 beg to advise as follows: The corporate bonded debt of the City of Highland Park on May 1st, 1913 was \$77,500.00. Since that date, payments amounting to \$15,000.00 have been made and the corporate bonded debt of the city has been reduced to \$62,500.00.

A further payment amounting to \$16,000.00 was provided for in the 1914 tax levy. Said amount will be in the hands of the city treasurer on or before May 1st, 1915 and can be applied immediately toward the payment of bonds which will reduce the corporate bonded debt of the city to \$46,500.00.

The total amount chargeable as a debt of the city of Highland Park, in all active special assessment accounts, as appears of record January 2nd, 1915, is as follows:

Amount assessed at city's portion for Public Benefits (Principal and Interest)	\$ 5,477.50
Amount assessed as city's portion in Supplemental Assessment proceedings	1,591.99
Small deficiencies in various assessments that the city should assume	5,366.45
Total amount due January 2nd, 1915	\$12,435.74

Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1916 \$1,024.06
Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1917 3,872.26
Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1918 3,470.86
Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1919 2,804.01
Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1920 1,936.71
Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1921 624.91
Public Benefits due January 2nd, 1922 385.10 \$17,177.91

Special Assessment Debt \$29,553.65
Corporate Debt 62,500.00
Total \$92,053.65

Respectfully submitted,
E. A. Warren, City Comptroller.

It will be seen from the City Comptroller's statement that the total debt of the city as of today, is \$92,053.65. It also shows that of this amount, there is only \$12,435.74 due at this time, for the payment of which, arrangements are being made.

The balance of the debt being spread over a series of years. It will also be noted that when the funds provided for in the 1914 Tax Levy become available on the first of May next, this debt will be reduced to the extent of \$16,000.00, making the total debt of the City as of May 1st, 1915, \$76,053.65.

The legal debt limit in Highland Park (5 per cent of the Assessed Valuation) is \$95,000.00. Therefore, it will be seen that the city is now well within its legal limit and will be \$19,000.00 below such limit in a few months.

The tax-payers of Highland Park have for several years known that the Special Assessment Accounts of the city were not in good shape and they have also known that the most earnest efforts have been made to straighten out the tangle. Of course, there have been some differences of opinion as to the proper method of handling situations that have had to be met from time to time, but the work of unravelling the tangle has progressed steadily until it is possible to assure the tax-payer of Highland Park that the city's financial condition is good and all talk to the contrary is not founded upon fact.

As a member of the City Council for the last four years and as chairman of the Finance Committee during the past two years I have been in a position to know about the faithful and intelligent efforts that have been put forth by our present respected Mayor, Frank P. Hawkins, and by our city clerk, E. A. Warren, as well as all of the members of the City Council. Whenever a matter has come up that has been vital to the financial interest of the city, it can truthfully be said that the Council has stood as one man.

It is also a matter of record that during the past two years the administration has maintained the credit of the city and has accomplished the following results:

- 1st. Where improvements have been made and public benefits assessed against the city, such public benefits have been paid in cash.
- 2nd. The city has met the interest on all improvement bonds when due.
- 3rd. When there have been funds available in Special Assessment Accounts and the amount was insufficient to take up the bonds in full, partial payments have been made, this reducing the interest charges against the tax-payer and tending to satisfy the holders of the bonds at a time when they did not feel as easy about the city's credit as they do now.
- 4th. The annual cost of lighting the streets of the City has been reduced over \$2,000.00.

When uninformed persons make statements and start rumors questioning the credit of the city at a time when our finances are in a healthy and sound condition, particularly when our debt is, for the first time in many years, under the legal limit, it is necessary that a true statement of the facts should be published.

Very truly yours,
Joseph L. Fearing, Chairman Finance Com.

POLITICAL POT WARMING UP

Rumors are Heard that Several Prominent Citizens are Considering Candidacy

It is rumored that influence is being brought to bear on a number of prominent citizens, urging them to become candidates for mayor and commissioners at the coming election. If this influence prevails the success of the city under the Commission Form of Government, is assured.

We hope that the citizens in question will give their consent and that we will be able to announce their candidacy in the next issue of THE PRESS.

LOCAL REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Property Exchanges Recorded During Past Two Weeks

W. C. Hatley and wife to W. G. Hatley, lot 1, Hatley's sub in blk 26, Highland Park. W. D. \$4200.00.
W. L. Wilson and wife to Kathryn L. Horigo, lot 74, (except W. 100 ft). Ravinia. W. D. \$10.00.
I. R. Smart and wife to Nellie M. Seyfarth, lot 25, in resub of part blk 72, Highland Park. W. D. \$10.00.
Julia A. Phillips and husband to James Griffin, 10 acres in S. W. 1/4 sec 30, Deerfield Twp. W. D. \$7500.00.

ROBERT LEONARD IS ILL

The Master Key Will not be Shown in Theatre Tomorrow. The Story will not Appear in The Press

Owing to the illness of Robert Leonard, who is playing the leading masculine role in "The Master Key," the tenth installment will not be shown in the Highland Park Theatre Friday night, and the tenth and eleventh chapters will not appear in this issue of THE PRESS.

Alderman Fearing's statement establishes the fact that the City is solvent. We advise the man with the hammer to throw it away

DON'T KNOCK -- BOOST