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METHOD OF TAXING THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BONDS, MONEY AND JEWELRY EXEMPT

Congressman Chas. M. Thomson Tells of the Unfairness of the "Half and Half" System Used at Our Capitol

By Chas. M. Thomson
In the bill which comes before Congress each year, making appropriations for the District of Columbia, a paragraph is always included, providing for a change in the existing system of taxation of the property in the District. It always involves a bitter controversy in the House and if it survives the attempt to strike it out there, it results in an equally bitter contest in the Senate, where its life is snuffed out.

The existing system of meeting the cost of conducting the affairs of the District of Columbia is known as the "half and half" system. That is, of every dollar paid out, fifty cents is raised by taxes on property here and the other fifty cents is contributed from the Federal Treasury.

There are many things about this system and the levying of taxes in Washington that the people of the country ought to know.

Tangible personal property such as household furniture is assessed at 15 mills on the dollar. There is no tax whatever on intangible property such as stocks, bonds, moneys and credits, and there is no tax on jewelry. There is not a single good reason why that class of property should not bear its just proportion of the burdens of taxation. As a result of this situation, a vast amount of hoarded surplus wealth has migrated to the beautiful city of Washington. There is probably no city in the United States of its size that has as much of this class of wealth as this city has. It is currently reported that there are two men who make their technical residence in Washington who have more than \$100,000,000 of this class of property in safety vaults in the banks of Washington. There is no possible defense of a policy that exempts that class of property from bearing its just proportions of the expenses of the local government. No nation or state or city that wants to be fair with its people will tolerate a discrimination that will tax the tools, teams or machinery of the man who uses them in earning his livelihood and exempt from taxation the wealth of men who get their living from the earnings of stocks and bonds in which they have invested their accumulated wealth.

Real estate in Washington is supposed to be assessed at one and one-half per cent on 66 2/3 per cent of its value, but as a matter of fact it is not. Some two years ago a committee of the House investigated this matter and found that a gross discrimination was practiced in the assessment of different kinds of real estate. They found that the class made up of small homes was assessed at about 75 per cent of its actual value; the property occupied by the middle classes at about 60 per cent of its actual value; that occupied by fine residences, at about 40 per cent of its true value; the business area, at about 45 per cent of its true value and that part which can be described as the suburban or speculative area, at about 45 per cent of its true value.

This situation is likewise indefensible and should not be tolerated in any city and particularly in the Capitol of the Nation.

The last appropriation bill for the District of Columbia contained a clause providing for the assessment of all real estate and personal property on the same basis of 15 mills on the actual full value and it further provided that the tax on personal property was to include intangible as well as tangible property.

A howl of protest went up from the people of Washington. The newspapers attacked and caricatured the leaders in both House and Senate who advocated the change. A committee of one hundred was organized who sent out millions of misleading circulars to the people of the Districts from which those letters came, to create a back-fire against them. Why all this rumpus about that provision?

They were shrewd enough to see that if the provision went into effect and all property here was assessed at 15 mills on its actual value, it would produce enough revenue to more than meet the needs of the District of Columbia, and consequently it would do away with the "half and half" system for there would no longer be any need of having the Federal Treasury contribute half the cost of conducting the local government. And they realized they would have no legitimate reason to advance against that result if such a tax was levied, the people

(Continued on page 4)

NEARBY NEWS ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST

LAKE COUNTY HOSPITAL COMPLETED

All Steel Cars for C. & N. W. Suburban Service. Lake Forest Home Damaged by Fire. Hospital Completed

Celebrates Ninety-Seventh Birthday
Samuel Greenleaf, who for seventy-five years engaged in the shoe business in Lake and McHenry counties, a record probably not equalled by any man in the state or country, Saturday celebrated his ninety-seventh birthday. Mr. Greenleaf is not only one of the oldest living residents of the county but was one of the very first white settlers in Waukegan.

City of Waukegan Healthy
That the city of Waukegan never has been so healthy as it is at the present time is the statement of health officials. They declare that there are few cases of sickness about the city and the cases of contagion could be counted on the fingers of one hand. This is attributed partly to the fact that there has been snow on the ground for the last several weeks. This prevents the spreading of disease germs and clarifies the atmosphere. That there be something to the theory is indicated from the fact that there is nearly always more disease in the city when there is no snow on the ground. It has been several years since the city has been so free from cases of contagion at this period of the year. As a rule there are usually a number of scarlet fever, diphtheria and measles cases during the winter but at the present time it is said that there are not more than two or three cases of the kind in the entire city.

—Waukegan Sun.

Thomson Candidate for Mayor

Congressman Charles M. Thomson of the Tenth District, whose residence is in the Twenty-fifth ward of Chicago and who at present is Lake County's representative in congress, is a candidate for the Progressive nomination for mayor of Chicago, but his decision to enter the race is due solely to a desire to further the fusion cause. Petitions bearing his name have been circulated by the members of the Progressive county committee who have supported the fusion movement, and they were filed Monday with other Progressive petitions bearing the names of the fusion candidates. It was explained by men in authority in the party that this action is to protect the rights of the majority in the organization.

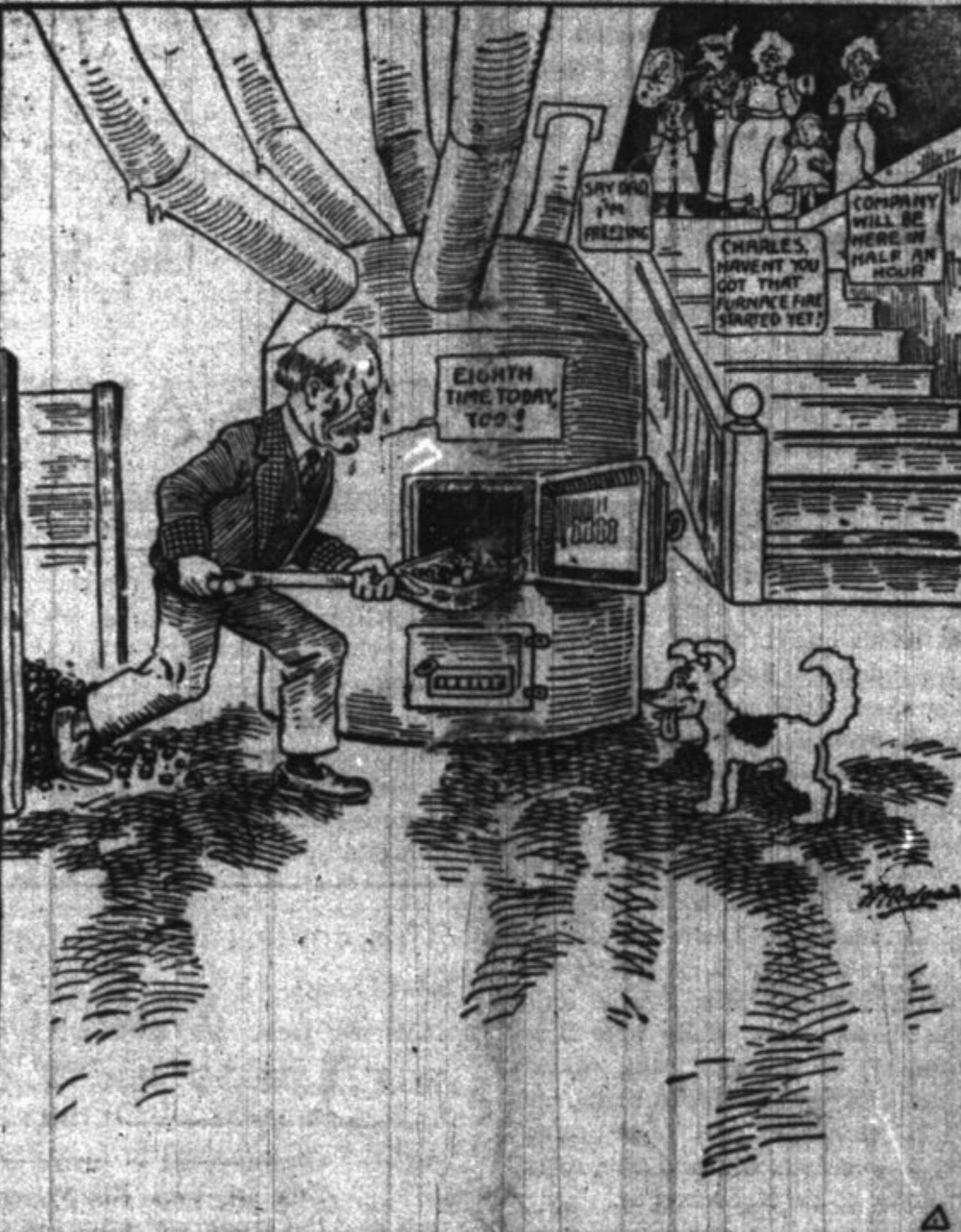
County Hospital Completed

The Lake County General Hospital, the fine institution which has been erected by the county at an expense of many thousands of dollars, is now completed, and on Monday the seventeen patients who have been staying in the infirmary and the small cottages scattered about the grounds were moved into the building and placed in the finely equipped wards. These patients do not include those who are suffering of tuberculosis.

Nearly Suffocated in Lake Forest Fire

Harvey A. Beilgard, manager of the Lake Forest garage and also secretary of the Lake Forest Business Men's Association, together with his wife and child nearly perished in the flames after they had been all but suffocated when their home at Lake Forest caught fire from an overheated furnace at an early hour Monday morning. The Beilgard's had been out for the evening and when they returned home late they found that the fire in the furnace had nearly all burned out. Mrs. Beilgard and the child went to bed, while Beilgard proceeded to build a new fire in the furnace. The fire he had built was larger than he thought. About two o'clock the overheated pipes set fire to the woodwork and in a short time the lower part of the house was all in flames. The fire created a dense smoke. Some time between two and three o'clock that morning Beilgard awoke with a sense of oppression. He tried to move but it seemed as if he was held down by a weight. He struggled into a partial realization of the circumstances and found the room filled with dense smoke. He was so nearly strangled that it was with great difficulty he could move. The thought of the danger in which his wife and child were placed, however caused him to make a supreme effort. He succeeded in awakening them and helped them out of the house. A few minutes more and it would have been too late. He went to the home of a neighbor where he and his family were taken in. The fire department was summoned and after a quick run, arrived on the scene. They made a good fight and succeeded in saving the property from complete destruction.

SINCE THE ALLIES HAVE TAKEN THE OFFENSIVE HEAVY FIRING WILL CONTINUE



ICE PLANT WILL START OPERATION NEXT WEEK

MACHINERY AND PIPES BEING TESTED

Tri-Sodium Phosphate Will be Used in Filtering Water. Capacity of Plant 12,000 Tons a Year

The Purity Ice and Refrigerating Co., are planning to open their new plant on Deerfield Ave., and start operation next week. Their equipment, which makes it one of the most modern and up-to-date raw water plants in the country, is now entirely installed and is being tested this week. They have installed a Greer Chemical Filter for softening and purifying the water which is done through a chemical called Tri-Sodium Phosphate. This is a white crystal and is very soluble in water, is non-corrosive in its action, and being non-volatile, will not vaporize and pass off with the steam, therefore it can not effect products cooked with live steam or effective in manufacture from condensed steam. This is the only chemical, so far known, that will change incrusting materials such as sulphates of lime and magnesia into phosphate which are then in suspension and can be removed from the water by passing through the filter the same as mud and silica, producing a soft water, free from all impurities.

The plant will have a yearly output of 12,000 tons of ice, nearly all of which has been contracted for by the wholesale trade.

The officers of the company are J. A. Raabe, president; C. G. Rosenow, vice president; Edward F. Stuenkel, secretary and treasurer.

ELM PLACE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

To be Held in School Auditorium Friday Evening. Fourteen to Receive Diplomas

The annual mid-year exercises of the eighth grade of the Elm Place Grammar school, will take place in the school auditorium Friday evening, January twenty-ninth at seven forty-five. There are fourteen in the class who are Arthur R. Bleisch, John G. Bodner, Benjamin F. Botker, Russel S. Gilbert, Arthur Raymond Keech, Raymond J. Simmers, Sylvan M. Moses, Anna Bloomfield, Barrett B. Sleeman, Raymond F. Seiffert, Catherine B. Card, Edith B. Fyffe, Margaret L. Gieser, Sarah E. Titlebaum.

The program is as follows:
Chorus, "The Earth is the Lord's," by Eleanor Smith; Invocation; Boys' chorus, "The Gypsy," an English Folk Song, "The Song of Robin Hood, and His Huntsmen," Old English Ballad by Reginald DeKoven; Address; Girls' chorus, "The Angel," by Rubinstein, and "Greeting," by Mendelssohn; Mixed chorus, "Desert Song," by Henry Hadley; Presentation of Diplomas by the President of the Board of Education; Benediction.

VAUDEVILLE AND MINSTREL A SUCCESS

High School Auditorium Filled to Capacity Friday Night

The vaudeville and minstrel show held at the high school Friday evening in the assembly room was a decided success. The room was filled to overflowing which plainly showed the need of a new auditorium. The program started with selections from the orchestra, namely, Medley of American Home Songs, The Olive Branch, An Overture and the Snow Flake. The minstrel show followed this, when the boys, twelve in number, came from the back of the room gayly attired in negro costumes. Those having solo parts were Joseph Gibson, Norris Pitt, Raymond Geer, Robert Sholz and Frederick Spencer. A quartette composed of the following boys, Clayton Yonker, Paul Barker, John Moon, and Joseph Gibson, rendered beautifully several numbers.

There were very funny jokes and stories told about the local merchants which were original and very amusing. Twelve senior girls arrayed in dresses of red and white with caps, gave a military march to the tune of "Tipperary." The flute solo by Mantie Siljstrom, was very well done and much applauded. "The Reveries of a Bachelor," in the form of a tableau was skillfully done by Clayton Yoker, assisted by a number of senior girls. The Flora Dora Sextette and Colin Campbell Sanborn's magician "stunts" were both very clever and appreciated by the audience. Much credit must be given to Luther Sandwick and Colin Campbell Sanborn who wrote the minstrel show. If a large audience spells financial success the class of 1915 should be able to purchase their picture machine soon.

DEERFIELD ALUMNI REUNION

Annual Dance to be Held in new Gymnasium Friday Evening, February Twelfth

Again the Deerfield-Shields Alumni Association is before the public, an association worthy of note, a real live factor in school affairs. All loyal graduates of Deerfield feel a just pride in their association, the only one of its kind on the North Shore. Just at this period there is a great outburst of enthusiasm, stirred up by the opening of the new high school buildings. Every alumnus has cause to be proud when he looks on the "New Deerfield." If he does not feel a stronger interest, a renewed loyalty and school spirit, he is not worthy of the name. Stirred by this enthusiasm, and a desire to get together and rejoice over its existence and its new home, the Association has planned a great homecoming. The new gymnasium will be open to welcome the Alumni and friends who so often gathered in the old. Each Alumnus will find his classmates encamped under their own class tree. The reunion and dance Friday, February twelfth, the only festivity of the greater Deerfield should be an epoch making event in the history of the Association.

Oh! all ye Alumni and friends, come forth and show by your numbers that Deerfield can sustain a real, live enthusiastic and loyal Alumni Association. CONTRIBUTED.

CANDIDATES FILE PETITIONS FOR MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR HAWKINS DECLINES TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION

The Commission Form of Government Organization, Which Showed its Power Last Fall, Will be Active in Coming Campaign for Good Government

Although Mayor Hawkins has time and again stated that he would not be a candidate for re-election, his many friends have held out hopes that he would reconsider the matter. He has, however, handed in his final refusal to be a candidate, which we print below:

EDITOR, HIGHLAND PARK PRESS:
In order to free any friends from embarrassment, who may desire the nomination for mayor, I wish, thus early, to give notice that I am not a candidate. So that as far as I am concerned, the field is clear. May the best man win.
FRANK P. HAWKINS.

Following the final refusal of Mayor Hawkins to run, friends of Mr. Samuel S. Hastings have prevailed upon him to be a candidate for mayor, instead of the office of commissioner for which he intended running. His petition was filed this morning together with petitions for the following commissioners:
Mr. Edward G. Huber, Mr. Ward W. Willis, Mr. Paul L. Udell and Mr. Howard H. Hitchcock. The announcements of these prominent men are the first results of the Commission Form of Government, toward the elimination of politics and ward lines from our city government. It is rumored that other petitions are being circulated announcement of which we will probably be able to make next week.

CATHERINE BOOTH-CLIBBORN TO SPEAK

At the Presbyterian Church Sunday Evening at Eight O'clock. Public is Cordially Invited.

Mrs. Catherine Booth-Clibborn, "La Marechale" will speak Sunday evening at eight o'clock on the great war in Europe with its lessons for America at the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Catherine Booth is an unusually interesting speaker and Miss Frances Willard was correct when she said of her: "She is the greatest woman preacher that has been raised up." When Mrs. Booth was attracting thousands of London's fashionable residents from the West End to her meetings, her eldest daughter was at her side in training as her natural and spiritual successor in the Gospel ministry. When in her early womanhood this same daughter crossed the Channel to untire the flag of the Salvation Army in the worst section of infidel Paris and later in Scotland, she knew not that bonds and imprisonment awaited her. The persecutions and triumphs of those years read like the Acts of the Apostles.

Assisted by her gifted husband, Mr. Arthur Booth-Clibborn, the Marechale spent twenty-five years on the Continent, the record of which makes religious romance more fascinating than fiction. It was here that she came to be known as "the Marechale," and a Marshal indeed she was of an ever increasing force of trained officers and daring soldiers. After withdrawing with her husband ten years ago from the Salvation Army, Mrs. Booth-Clibborn determined to devote herself to the work of general Church Evangelism and the following testimonials in some degree honor her work in recent years among the churches.

"There is the flash and energy of the old General, her father, in her voice and gesture and whole attitude as she speaks. Her story of her work in France and Switzerland, and of her imprisonment in the latter country, is one of the most thrilling it has been our privilege to hear. She interprets the word in a natural and simple way, and then drives its message home with most appealing logic and moving force."

"She is an exceptionally gifted woman. She lives in close fellowship with the Saviour and has an adoring love for Him which enables her to present Him in very attractive guise to others. She is a powerful speaker, who is able to cast the spell of her personality over her hearers, and establish a rare understanding between herself and them.

She has a style of her own, perfectly simple, natural and sincere."

The public is cordially invited to attend.

LOCAL REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Property Exchanges Recorded During Past Two Weeks

Henry Merriman and wife to W. E. Merriman, lots 8 to 11 and part lot 12 and strip of land adj blk 1, in village of Deerfield. Q. C. D. \$1.00.

W. R. Beisel and wife to A. E. Bingham, lots 17 and 18, blk 70, Highland Park. W. D. \$1.00.

Sarah Nugent to Margaret Watson, N. 50 ft., E 175 ft., lot 48, Highwood. Q. C. \$1.00.

Geo. Fitzgerald and wife et al to Margaret Watson, N 50 ft., E 175 ft., lot 48, Highwood. Deeds \$3.00.

KINDERGARTEN TO OPEN MONDAY

Children Entering Must be Five Years of Age or Within a Few Months of that Age

I am authorized by the Board of Education of District 107, to announce that on Monday morning, February first, a kindergarten class and a beginning primary class, will be organized at the Primary Annex of the Elm Place school. The kindergarten, as well as the primary class, is, of course, open without charge to all children living in District 107. It seems necessary to require at the present time, that children entering the kindergarten class, be five years of age or thereabouts. Children entering the beginning primary class must be at least six years of age or if under that age, their sixth birthday must occur before the first of April next. Parents of children of kindergarten age are invited to accompany the children to the opening session on Monday morning and to assist the undersigned in making necessary arrangements for the safe conduct of small children to and from the school.

JESSE L. SMITH,
Superintendent of Schools.

OPEN MEETING OF MATERNITY SOCIETY

Held at the Home of Mrs. George R. Jones, Wednesday Afternoon

An open meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Chicago Maternity Society was held Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. George R. Jones. There was a large attendance and every one felt well repaid for coming. Miss Jessie Horn, principal of the Hahnemann Training School, spoke very interestingly on the work that has been done by this society and also about what they are hoping to do. They have had such splendid success during the four years since they started that they look forward with great confidence to the future. Miss Horn went over the individual cases that has been cared for and made it very clear to every one how great the need of such work is. The society is growing rapidly in membership, and because of the showing of much good work already accomplished, is well worthy of support.

HELD TO THE GRAND JURY

Another Man Arrested on Charge of Vagrancy and Given 75 Days in County Jail

The two men arrested last week by the local police on a charge of vagrancy, were held over to the grand jury Monday on a \$2000 bond, on charge of burglary.

A man giving his name as James Murphy, who has been "loafing" around Highland Park for several days, was arrested Sunday on a charge of vagrancy, and given 75 days in the county jail by Police Magistrate Boylan.

SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

To be Held Tomorrow Evening. Receiver of C. & M. Electric to be Present

At a special meeting of the City Council tomorrow night, steps will be taken to reach an agreement with Receiver W. O. Johnson, of the C. & M. E., regarding the lowering of tracks, and the paving of St. Johns Avenue.