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PROPOSED AREAS FOR CO. FOREST PRESERVE

SUITABLE FOR RECREATION

Waukegan Flats, the Fox River
Fox Lake and Grass Lake
Districts are Suggested
as Preserves

In a preceding article the proposed Lake County Forest Preserve and the territory of the Des Plaines river and the Skokie Marsh, both suggested as a part of the area, have been described.

Other areas suitable for recreation and preservation for the public are the Waukegan flats, the Fox river district, and Grass Lake.

For the Waukegan area, a portion of the beach plain north of the city, and known as the "Waukegan Flats," has been suggested for reservation. This plan recognizes the importance of saving for public use and enjoyment for all time to come a portion of Lake County's valuable frontage on Lake Michigan. From the southern boundary of Lake County northward to Waukegan, only a narrow strip of beach lies between the foot of the bluff and the shore line, but from the south limits of Waukegan northward, the bluffs swing away from the shore, and the beach plain rapidly broadens until it is nearly a mile wide continuously to the state line. This is really an ancient terrace corrugated by sand ridges which represent sand bars of the glacial lake whose waves lapped against the cliff walls and spread out the materials for the beach plain of today. For much of its extent this sandy beach is bordered by low but more or less active sand dunes which form a belt sometimes one hundred yards wide. Behind the dunes the terrace for several miles is more like a marsh broken by low sand ridges. Sloughs or lagoons of more or less stagnant water alternate with these ridges while occasional water courses drain at high water into the lake. Dead River is one of the largest of these sloughs, and into it the overflow from Dead Lake pours. It should be added that these names are distinctly libelous and should be suppressed.

Native alders and birches occur in this area with a creditable showing of tamarack and white pine, and there is a scattered but interesting grove of introduced pines which represent a nursery experiment undertaken many years ago by Robert Douglas of Waukegan. There are many delightful spots suitable for camp sites here, and it is easy to imagine what this area with recreation facilities developed might in time come to mean to the inhabitants of the near-by manufacturing city alone, especially as it grows in size and density of population.

The flora of the Flats has many of the features that characterize that of the more widely known sand dunes at the southern end of Lake Michigan. Certain plants such as the buckbean, the alder, bog willow, dwarf birch, trailing juniper, tamarack, and kinnikinnik give it a rather northern aspect, while the prickly pear cactus and false wormwood suggest the arid and the related sagebrush of the western plains. Hosts of water-loving plants grow here and prairie-like expenses display coreopsis, and the turk's-cap and Philadelphia lilies in abundance and prairie perichs, such as calopogon and the rose pogonia. The royal fern and other members of the fern family flourish here, and here and there are fields that display fringed gentians and purple gerardias in season. Black oaks grow on the higher ridges and shrubs such as ceanothus, St. John's-wort, pentstemon, sand cherry, high bush cranberry, and red osier dogwood are abundant.

A great variety of bird life resorts in this region, but owing to the activities of persons with firearms the actual summer residents probably represent a very small proportion of the bird life that would maintain itself here if the area were protected. In winter northern visitors are likely to appear here first—the Snow Bunting, the Longspur, the Pine Siskin, the Redpoll, the Pine and the Evening Grosbeak, the Crossbill, etc. The more conspicuous summer residents include the prairie birds such as the Meadowlark, and Bobolink, the Red-winged Blackbird, the Marsh Wren, the Yellow Warbler, Maryland Yellowthroat, shore birds such as the Belted Plover and Ralls, Grebes, etc.

It remains to refer briefly to two other areas in Lake County that have been suggested for preservation. The one to include the loop in the Fox River valley suggests the use that might well be made of the river itself. From recreation centers here canoe trips up and down this charming valley would easily be made.

The other proposed area, that of

Grass lake and its environs, also suggests recreational activities on or about the water. This lake is a little more than two miles long and a mile or more wide. Fox River flows into the lake midway of the western shore and emerges through a broad channel at the south end of the lake. The lake is saucer-like in its shallowness and the gentle current through it has permitted rich silt to accumulate and furnish anchorage for the roots of plants that flourish in the ooze. Tall grasses flourish here, including the wild rice, the most beautiful of all the grasses, and here is a splendid colony of the American lotus or water chinquapin. These lotus beds attract hundreds of visitors during August when the blossoms are open. A few years ago the plants occupied more than half of the area of the lake. There were literally millions of blossoms in sight at one time. Later on the extent of the colony was greatly reduced by natural causes, these including probably the upheaval of roots by the ice when a severe winter found an unusually low water level in the lake, but the area occupied is again increasing.

The fame of the lotus beds in Grass Lake is equalled by its name as a place to shoot water fowl. As a possible sanctuary for bird life, the whole region appeals greatly to all interested in birds.

Lake County has great opportunities in the way of preserving the primitive beauty of its landscapes. The progress of the movement looking to this end will be watched with interest in other counties of the state.

The Germans are reported singing the Star-Spangled Banner, but not with the same enthusiasm with which they toasted the men who drowned the women and babies on the Lusitania.

Political "harmony" which is considered so desirable, usually means that the politicians have fixed up an agreement for dividing the dough.

Although industrial harmony very often means that employer and employee have worked up a deal for sticking higher prices on the public.

An experienced subscription solicitor says they could at once dispose of the Liberty bonds without difficulty if they would offer with each bond a 98 cent alarm clock that will break in a week.



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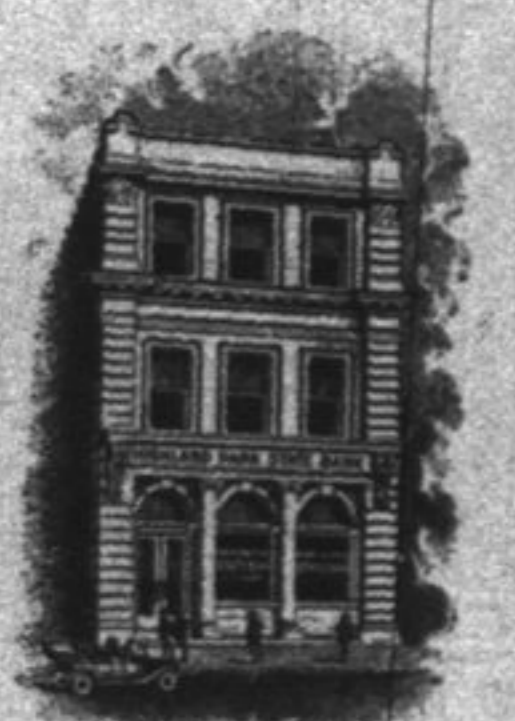
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LINCOLN SCHOOL

When Oliver Hinsdell, the actor, just returned from service overseas in the United States Navy, was called upon recently for some anecdote reminiscent of either the stage or the war, he said he was reminded of a story about both a stage and a war hero.

As many people know Joe Jefferson was distinguished by his absolute forgetfulness of the names of the countless men with whom, in the course of his long public career, he came in personal contact. He knew faces—or thought he did—but could seldom apply the appellation to which the face belonged. According to Lawrence Hutton, the dramatic critic and close friend of Jefferson he was fond of telling of what he considered his worst lapse of memory of that kind.

One day, a good many years ago, he had occasion to go to the top floor of one of the sky-scraper office buildings in lower New York to attend to a matter of business. Entering the elevator he found himself face to face with a man who greeted him with cordiality, with whose face he was perfectly familiar but whose name he could not remember. He was struck by the fact that the man was a stranger to no one else in the elevator; that all the passengers appeared to look upon him with a certain friendly respect.

Mr. Jefferson noticed, also, that neither the man's hats nor his boots were brushed; that his clothes were not well cut nor well made; and that at the bottom of his trousers hung certain tape strings with which his underclothes should have been securely tied but which had gotten loose from their moorings and were dangling at his heels. The stranger extended his hand and said:

"Mr. Jefferson, you don't remember me."

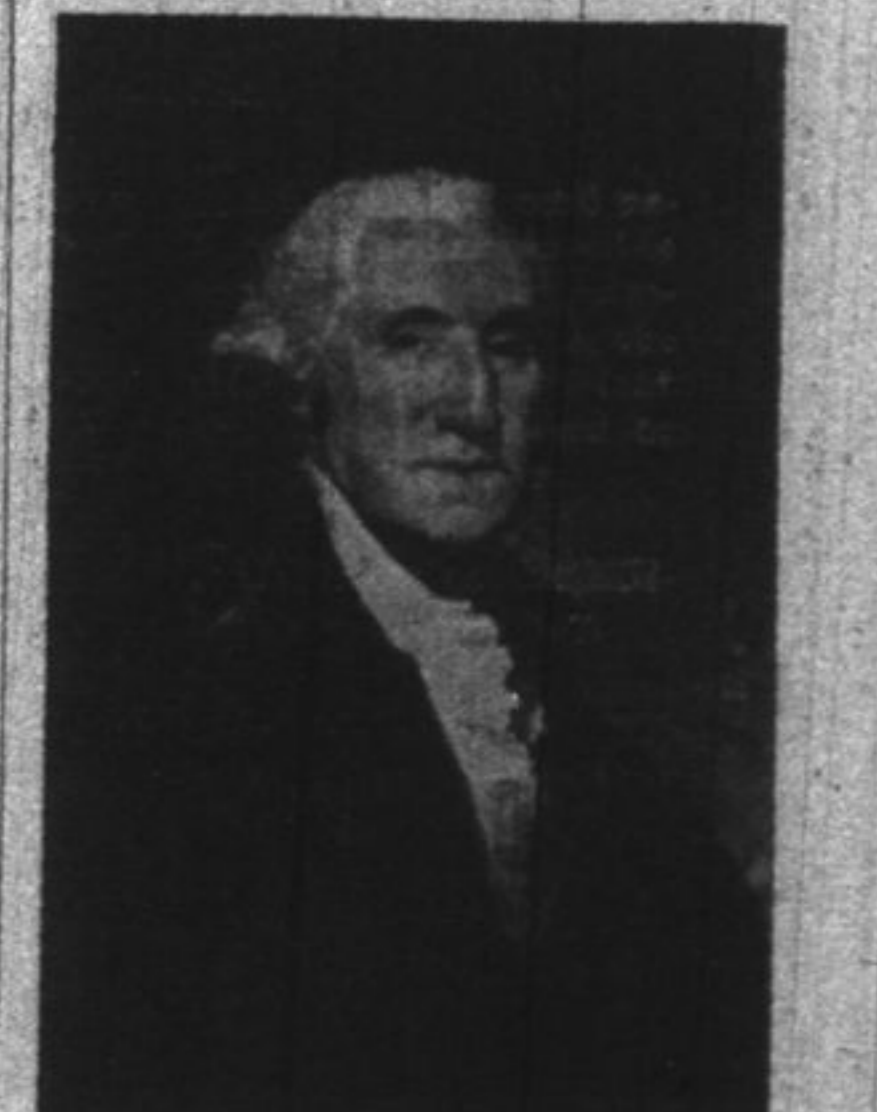
"Oh, yes, I remember you perfectly," replied Mr. Jefferson. "The last time I saw you was in the West—the far West—but I—really—can't recollect your name." After a momentary pause, the stranger replied:

"I am General Grant."

Later when Jefferson was regaling some of his fellow-actors with the grim humor of the experience, one of them asked, "What did you do then, sir?" He replied with the famous twinkle of his eye: "I got out of the car at the next stop and walk-

ed to the ground floor for fear I might ask the general if he had ever seen active service in the war."

Mr. Hinsdell is to give a dramatic reading at the Lincoln School, Saturday evening, May 3, at eight o'clock, assisted by Miss Ruth Helms, a promising young soprano of Chicago.



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HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

Deerfield has a dual meet scheduled with University High. Saturday afternoon at two o'clock, on the high school field at Vine Avenue. Dave Kimball is expected to take a first place in the high jump, and his brother is depended on for a first in the hurdles. Bolan and Bell should place in the half mile, and the former in the mile also. McIntosh and McIlwain will hold up their end in the two twenty and the four forty with a possible first in both. Stewart, Mason, Ritter and Laling are expected to cop most of the places in the dashes. In the weights we will be represented by W. Kimball, Lauridsen, Sheridan, McDonald, and C. Morgan. Pole vaulters are D. Kimball, Sheridan, and Dobbins. All told we have an excellent chance for taking everything, so come out and help us.

The above meet is a sort of preliminary to the big meet here May 2 for the meets at Lake Forest College, and Illinois University. Remember—Two o'clock Saturday.

DEATHS

Grace Elizabeth Smith, nine years of age, daughter of Howard S. and Mary Lewis Smith, died Sunday morning, April 27th, after a short illness. She was born in Chicago, but had lived in Highland Park eight years and attended the Elm Place Grammar school. Funeral services were held Tuesday at 3:00 p. m. at the residence, 203 Prospect Ave., Dr. Wolcott officiating. Interment was made in Lake Forest cemetery.

If 3-4 per cent government bonds paying one per cent less than the Victory issue, had been offered only three years ago, they would have all sold without sending out a single solicitor. If so, what is the real value of 4-4 per cent bonds to-day?

After settling the affairs of 1,000,000 people, it will be some considerable time to Mr. Wilson to have to return and listen to the rival claimants for the postmastership of Lonesomehurst.