

Civic Improvement

By O. C. DOERRIER
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Another landscape architect of note has chosen Highland Park as the favored spot, and made this city his home. Mr. O. C. Doerrier writes the following illuminating article on landscape gardening for The Press:

Ever since the war the people have turned their minds to the fine arts, and at no other time, has there been so much civic improvement, garden-making, and planting, as there is today.

For us in the United States there should be only one garden style, and that style is the American. The French, Italian, and Japanese gardens are all very well, and often beautiful, but, for sheer and absolute beauty, give me the American flower garden!

When Baron Eugene Haussmann rebuilt Paris under the Second Empire, he projected and executed a system of public works which transformed Paris into a new city. True, he did this at a cost of over five billion francs, but his work included the improvement of the Bois de Boulogne, the lengthening of the Rue de Rivoli, the construction of the Boulevard de Sebastopol, expanding and developing more than twenty boulevards in the old parts of the city, improving various public gardens, squares, barracks, new prefecture of police, more than twelve bridges, numerous hospitals and asylums.

The American Master Landscape Artist, the late Frederick Law Olmstead, has done the same in this country. His beautiful public parks and civic works of various kinds will stand monumental in his memory, more lasting than marble.

A community like Highland Park (what a fine name for a suburb!) may easily forge ahead by voting funds for parks, playgrounds, the preservation and foresting of the Skokie, and the creation of forest preserves. The citizens themselves can, and do, greatly assist in beautifying the entire area by producing fine gardens of their own.

In laying out our gardens, however, it is as necessary that we employ a trained architect for this artistic work, as that we build our dwelling under the direction of a man acquainted with the laws of line and form, and all the component knowledge which makes for ultimate symmetry and beauty.

And let no one forget that the natural and logical garden is the best garden. The American style is the only style for America. Who likes or admires an imitator? An Italian garden, or perhaps a replica of the Versailles garden is very fine, but, after all, it is more than a copy.

What then, is the American garden? It is a combination of a great many styles, but in the main, it follows the natural way of planting and planting green. It consists of trees, shrubs, and perennials that are indigenous, with the addition of such nursery grown-stock as may be found necessary for a good color effect.

The good landscape architect will always be bold in his skylines, entrances, and color schemes, assuming always that his taste is careful and discriminating.

We have here in Highland Park a great many lovely gardens, created by very fine artists in their line. Such gardens are a source of pleasure and recreation to their owners and all who come in contact with them. But the possibilities of the small garden are often overlooked, and for that reason, deserve a special pleading. In erecting the small garden it is necessary to draw up a plan on paper, and thus develop it year by year, always following the lines indicated by the designer.

A garden club is one of the finest things a town can have, as it stimulates intelligent planting and care of growing flowers. Prizes should always be given for the best garden because it spurs the members into a wholesome and friendly competition. Rose and flower carnivals, horticultural shows, and the like tend to give a town an added aesthetic value, a value which never fails to attract prospective builders of desirability.

And what is finer than to bring up one's children in an environment of flowers, and birds, and trees! One may travel far and wide before he finds a town so happily situated, so blessed by nature, as Highland Park. It has the Lake, the ravines, the Skokie valley, the oak forests, and all the alluring topography left by the glacier period. It is clayey soil, if properly handled, will produce the finest trees and shrubs, its perennials will exhibit the intensest colors. With such a background it is not too ambitious for me to hope that I shall see the day when Highland Park will be classed as the most artistic little city in the United States.

Y. W. C. A. NEWS

The Christmas party for the Y. W. C. A. younger girls and their mothers will be held on Friday evening, Dec. 19. The Girl Reserves, the members of the Junior dancing classes, and their mothers, are invited. Santa Claus will be there to distribute the boxes of candy, which are the gifts of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Goelitz.

A short two act play, "The Sorrows of Santa Claus," or "How Christmas Was Saved," will be given by the Second and Third Corps of the Girl Reserves. The characters are Santa Claus, Mother Goose, Jennie Wren, Jack Frost, Dame Gossip, William Tell, Lo, the Poor Indian, Pocahontas, Robinson Crusoe, Friday, Captain Kidd, Robin Hood, the Man in the Moon, and the Clerk of the Weather. The play is a very clever one, and promises to be most entertaining.

The younger girls will give Christmas dialogues and recitations and will sing Christmas carols. Five dances will be given by members of the Junior dancing classes.

The evening promises to be one full of enjoyment for the children and their mothers.

Vesper Service

Vespers will be held again next Sunday at 5 p. m., and an interesting meeting is being planned. The Christmas Spirit is the subject for the next meeting. Mrs. George Greene led the meeting last Sunday, and eighteen girls heard her very beautiful presentation of "The Shepherd's Psalm." The girls also enjoyed the service of song, and the social hour which followed the beautifully told story.

Friendship Party

All members of the Friendship club who are giving Christmas gifts to poor children met at the Association rooms Wednesday evening, Dec. 10, and spent a social evening together. The girls planned their gifts for the children. They joined in playing games and dancing and refreshments were served.

Aster Club Meets

The Aster club met Thursday evening, Dec. 4, to work on their Christmas gifts for the children at the Dorcas home. They will meet again on Thursday, Dec. 18. Almost the entire membership was present, and a great deal of enthusiasm was manifest. The girls will hold their annual Christmas party on the evening of December 22.

Dix Amies Give Shower

The members of the Dix Amies club gave a miscellaneous shower for one of their members, Miss Grace Blackstead, at the Association rooms one Tuesday evening, Dec. 9.

Rainbow Club Completes Sewing

The members of the Rainbow club have made a complete outfit for a small Assyrian girl at the Deerfield orphanage. It included several dresses, a sweater and cap, a large number of under garments, a warm bathrobe and a knitted blanket. They have dressed a doll for her, and are preparing other Christmas gifts.

The girls met at the rooms for their bi-weekly meeting Tuesday evening.

Girl Scouts and Girl Reserves

The volunteer leaders and other young women who are interested in becoming leaders met Miss Edna Beardsley, National Girls' Work Secretary, on Wednesday afternoon, December 3. Several hours of discussion resulted in a number of splendid plans for carrying on the work among the teen age of the community.

The Girl Scout organization, the Girl Reserves, and the organized Sunday school classes were represented, and plans were formed for a closer cooperation between these three forms of work, which have the same aims and purposes. The Girl Scout slogan, "For a Better Womanhood," typifies the spirit of all these organizations.

Mrs. Ralph Bard and Mrs. Malcolm Vall, the Girl Scout leaders, the Misses Emma Evans, Priscilla Noerenberg, and Marian Moseley, Girl Reserve leaders, the Misses Lois Dick of Highwood, Helen Moses, and Orva Stein were present at the conference and all received a great deal of benefit and inspiration.

Ten of the young women were entertained at the Blue Triangle cafeteria, and formed a closer acquaintance with Miss Beardsley and with each other there.

Gifts

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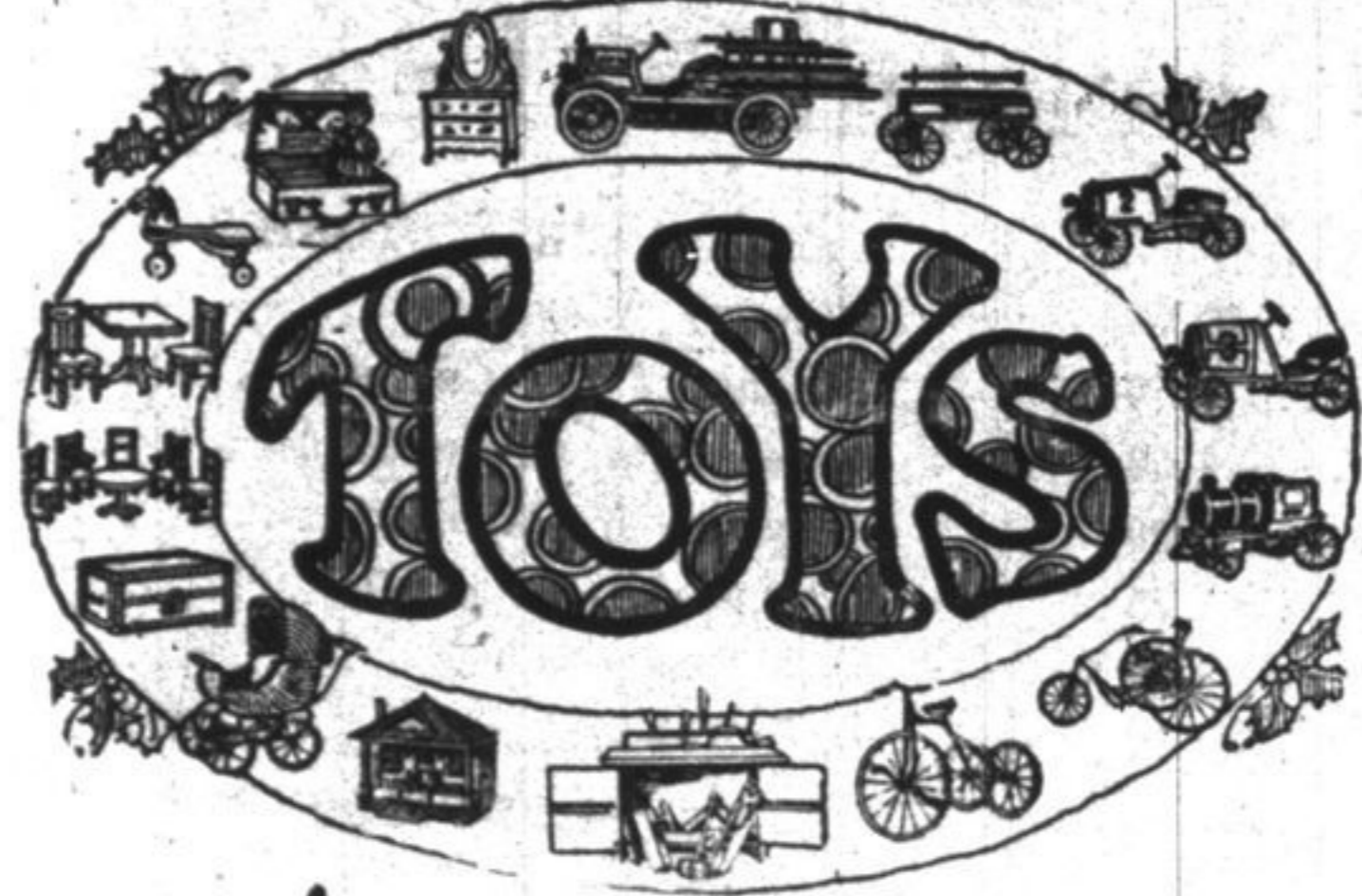
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She will appreciate this beautiful White Toilet Set (mirror, brush and comb) in white with a beautiful design on each article, only

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Heavy Wool Sweater... **\$6.50**
Beautiful Cravats... **65c up**
Heavy Flannel Shirts... **\$2.50 & up**
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- Large size Beach Baby Doll..... **\$1.25**
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 - Electric Set, consists of large motor, gear box, rheostat reversing switch, a very substantial instructive set..... **\$5.00**
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 - 2-Game Combination Board India and Checkers..... **50c**
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 - The Bird Boys and Boy Scout Books for boys, each..... **55c**
- Miscellaneous Gifts**
- Beautiful Rocker with Arms..... **\$7.50**
 - Three-in-One Combination Chair..... **\$7.50**
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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Wm. Herbert Johnson bought 2 lots on southwest corner Sheridan road and Linden avenue, from John M. Hungate for indicated \$4,000.
Northmore Country Club bought the Herman J. Koller farm of 60 acres in SE quarter, Sec. 35, Deerfield, west of Ravinia, for \$36,000.
Central Trust Co. to A. E. Moras, deed \$5500, lot 8 Clark's Re-Sub. of

block 54 of Highland Park.
H. W. Whedon and wife to J. E. McGuire and wife wd \$10 E 20 acres SE quarter NE-quarter Section 18 Deerfield Twp.
W. H. Johnston and wife to Fred D. Clavey, wd \$10, E 20 acres SE quarter NE quarter Sec 35 Deerfield Twp.
H. C. Gavitt and wife to C. L. Har- der, wd \$1; lot 4, block 9 and lots 2, 3, 11 and 14, block 12, Port Clinton,

Highland Park.
L. A. Kelly and wife to Cornelia B. Rasmussen, warranty deed, \$10; lot 3 (exet north 25 feet) subdivision of lot 299, Lake Forest.
In Lake Forest
Roy S. Wells and wife bought a lot on south side, Woodland avenue, opposite Rose Terrace from George C. Lawrence, et al, for indicated \$2500.
Charles J. Holmberg and wife

bought the J. F. King place on East side, Oak Avenue, for indicated \$3,000, and gave back trust deed for \$40,000.
J. Howard Taylor took title to the North Shore Fuel and Supply company property on Western avenue, for \$17,557.56.
Charles Edward Brown bought the Charles L. Harder property on North side, Woodland road, just west of Sheridan road for indicated \$11,000.

PHONES
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