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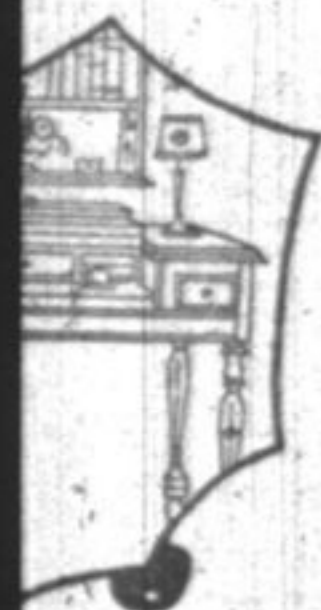
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### REGION PLANNERS MEET IN CHICAGO

DISCUSS MANY PROBLEMS

Land Subdividing, Zoning, Public Health Programs Outlined and Basic Surveys are Described

Regional planning had the floor last week at a two day meeting at the Hotel Sherman, which began with the startling announcement that the counties around Chicago have quietly been acquiring mile after mile of wide rights of way for a system of wider highways and without one cent of cost to the citizens at large. "The subdivider is now required to provide highways 100 feet wide at least on all main roads, and every cross road a mile apart when he plats the land," said Commissioner Frederick W. Penfield of the Cook County board. "We have already acquired 40 miles of this wide roadway as a basis for the regional highway scheme of wider pavements for this area."

Henry G. Zander reported the full support of the subdividers, not only in carrying out these provisions but in going even further to maintain adequate space for our future pavement needs by providing for set back of new buildings on all main roads already fronted by subdivisions which have not given the wide thoroughfares.

#### Around Milwaukee

Milwaukee county's experience in regional zoning was described by E. A. Howard and suggestions were made to develop the same control of used lands outside city limits in other parts of the region. Eugene Taylor, manager of the Chicago Plan commission insisted that the completion of the city plan comprised only the first step in carrying it out.

Mayor W. H. Alford of Kenosha told how Kenosha started carrying out certain parts of the major street plan by requiring owners to build new buildings with widening in mind, even before the balance of the plan was completed. "In Michigan City," said C. E. Arnt, chairman of the plan commission, "We are fitting our city plan into the regional plan as a part of the larger broader scheme."

#### Health Angle

For the first time in the history of city and regional planning there was a direct tie up with the public health angle of such planning. Led by Col. C. C. Pierce, senior surgeon for this district of the U. S. Public Health service, more than 100 public officers from the suburban towns and the counties of Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, attacked the subject of co-ordinated health work as a vital part of the regional plan for this area.

"There are parts of three states, twelve counties and two hundred and fifty cities and villages within a radius of fifty miles from Chicago," said Col. Pierce, "and each of these political units has health laws and officers to enforce them all for the common purpose. Never before have these men and women attempted to study their common problems as a regional unit—which is really the logical way to do it."

"In Cook county and four adjacent Illinois counties there are 237 separate and unrelated boards of health," said Illinois State Health Officer, I. D. Rawlins. "Because these boards don't get together as a regional unit city and country communities alike, the disease prevention efforts of one are often checkmated by the inactivity across an imaginary boundary line."

#### Testing of Milk Cows

For Wisconsin's part of the region, Dr. C. A. Harper, state health officer, pledged support particularly in testing of milk cows, and Dr. W. F. King, state health officer of Indiana told of plans to co-ordinate northern Indiana disease prevention with northern Illinois.

Pollution of natural water supplies was condemned by Langdon Pearse, chief sanitary engineer, Chicago Sanitary district, and the problem of supplying clean water to the suburbs not adjacent to Lake Michigan was described by C. B. Burdick an outstanding water supply engineer.

Testing cows for tuberculosis, as a regional policy was approved by this health congress, and the fight led by Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, commissioner of health for Chicago, gained many strong advocates.

#### Map of Region

The first session revealed the fact that the region is being carefully mapped from up-to-date data, and that this accurate base map will be available by April 1 at the latest. Co-operating in this work are the U. S. Geological Survey, the Illinois Geological Survey and corresponding departments in Indiana and Wisconsin, and the actual drafting work is made possible by the Chicago Commonwealth club and the University of Chicago.

#### Population Estimates

Estimates of the 1950 population of the Chicago region run from 6,000,000 to 12,000,000. To get actual facts the regional planners are bringing together the estimates of the many agencies which have made them, and are preparing maps showing where and how great the population will probably be at the next three census years, 1930, 1940 and 1950.

Dr. J. Paul Goode startled a new audience with his intensely interesting geographical description of why Chicago is here and how great it will soon become.

## Our Christmas Tree



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