

Esther Gould's Book Corner

JUST PARAGRAPHS

WHEN AMERICA WAS VERY YOUNG

"THE GREAT VALLEY"

By Mary Johnston
Little Brown & Co.

Mary Johnston's name on a book cover has become as definitive as a trademark. A trade mark of the "good old" historical novel, in which against a background of well drawn fact, fictitious characters do problematical things. It will be a relief to many, this return to the day when stories rolled smoothly from beginning to end, from youth to old age, instead of being worried about backward and forward and shredded and torn as one's best shoe in the teeth of a puppy.

There is a point in these historical romances at which all of the characters seem to be dead — all except one or two, let us say — but behold if we follow the one or two long enough we find the others again. They spring from the earth where they are supposed to be lying, miraculously as Jason's men. And we see them reunited and happy, and lay the book down, not baffled as by modern books or life, but quietly content.

Elizabeth Selkirk's family, when she was eleven years old, decided to leave Scotland and migrate to that vast New World to which their son Andrew had gone, into a part he called "Virginia." So they leave the little church, where John Selkirk is criticized for not being insistent enough upon Hell, and go to this wild country where most people are dissenters of some kind and there is room for all. They travel in a covered wagon, off over the Blue Ridge Mountains, past the "crowded" part where there is a log cabin every half day or so, into the real wilderness.

There a life of prosperity awaits them. Elizabeth grows up and marries Conan Burke, a fine young man, son of the richest man of that country. Then comes the war between France and England, and the French incite the Indians to violence and there is suffering and terror.

Miss Johnston has given an interesting picture of those times and in Elizabeth she has made a sterling character, one of the true type of pioneer women, with courage, resourcefulness and vision.

RIDICULOUS ROMANCE

"HONK"

By Doris F. Halman
Frederick A. Stokes Co.

It is easy to imagine waxing humorous over a motor trip in Europe embarked upon by three ridiculous people, Peter Van Kleck, professor of economics, adored by all the young ladies of his classes, and Riff and Raff, two old maids, the only ones of the weaker sex known to be impervious to his charms. This ill-assorted trio finds that by pooling their nest-eggs it will be possible to motor through Europe, a thing they have all been longing to do, thus escaping tourists and the beaten path and travelling in the highways and byways.

So in spite of the laughter and jeering of friends, they start out, buy a little French car, and after Peter has spent a week tramping the streets of Paris getting licenses and permissions and things, to embark on their much looked forward to adventure. The story is told by the slightly stilted, very conceited professor, and loses nothing in the telling.

It can easily be imagined what difficulties beset the way. We look at Europe through not only clouds of

ample, "Madrid was in sight when the fan belt broke." We hear a good deal more of the fan belt, little more of Madrid. One day in Spain, they tie handkerchiefs over their mouths to strain the dust and are mistaken for bandits. But worst mishap of all, circumstances foist upon them Phoebe Proctor, the most adoring and impudent of all these young lady students of whom Peter Van Kleck cannot think without a shudder.

And of course in the end the expected happens, romance creeps upon the heartless professor and bags him for her own. And they part, tragically, with the French car, and return to America, each having found even more than he or she anticipated.

THE NEST

By Anne Douglas Sedgwick
A notable collection of short stories revealing the delicacy and finesse that characterized "The Little French Girl."
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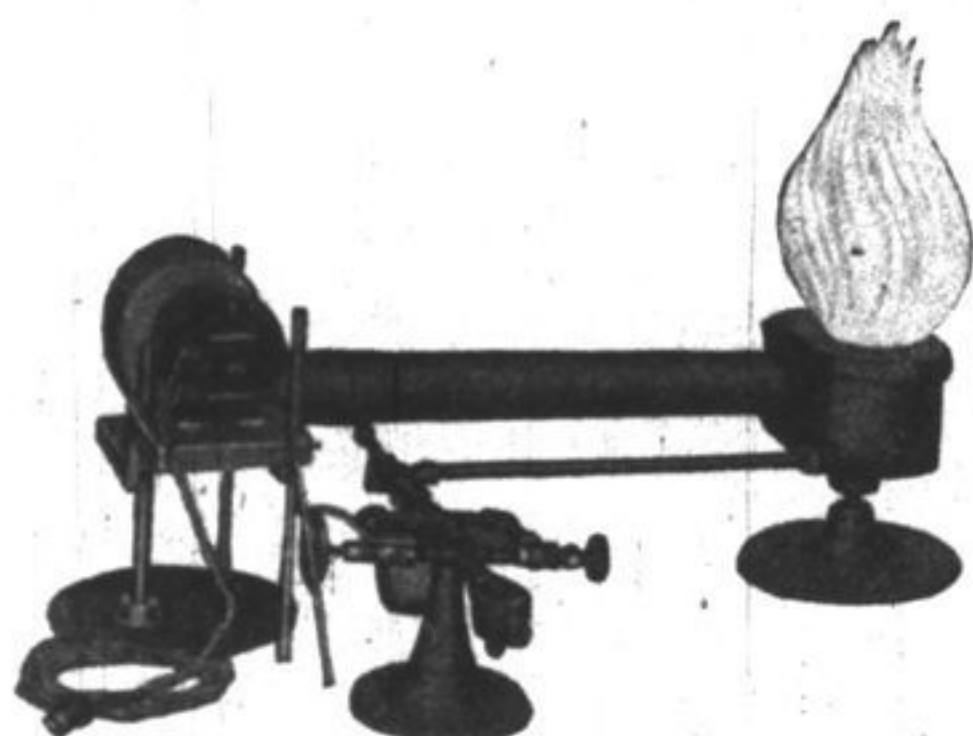
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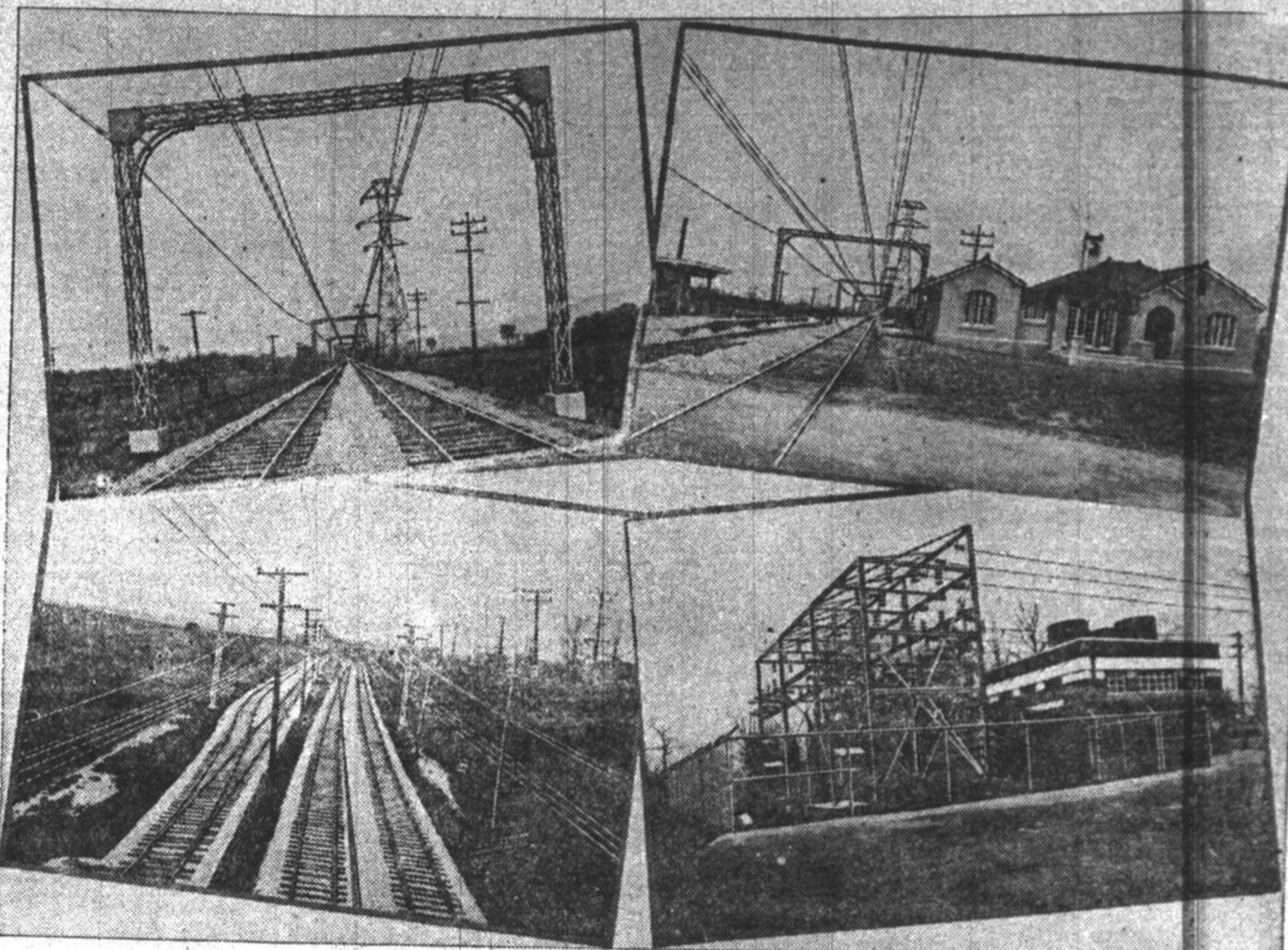


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Views Of Completed Skokie Valley Route



Here are four interesting views of the new \$10,000,000 Skokie Valley Route of the Chicago North Shore and Milwaukee Railroad—the North Shore Line—which will be placed in operation on Saturday, June 5. (Upper left) A stretch of straight-away track, showing catenary bridges, trolley wires and supporting messengers, telephone cables, and completed track and roadbed. The big tower in the right rear supports the power transmission lines of the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, which parallel the Skokie Valley Route. (Upper Right) One of the nine Spanish style passenger stations on the Skokie Valley Route. (Lower left) View of North Shore Line right-of-way looking east from Green Bay Road. (Lower right) One of the five automatic electric power substations on the Skokie Valley Route.

EARLY ARCHITECTURE IN ILLINOIS TOPIC

STUDY OF IT PROPOSED

Survey of Ancient Examples of Building Efforts in State To Be Made; Many Have Disappeared

(By Thomas E. O'Donnell, Supt. of Architecture University of Illinois)
When the subject of early American architecture is mentioned, the average person thinks immediately of the old Colonial architecture of the Eastern States. The Middle-West is thought of as being too young to have anything that is of historic architectural interest. Few realize that Illinois has had an architectural development of historical value and worthy of study.

Illinois has a primitive architecture that is as ancient, perhaps, as any in the United States,—that of the Mound-builders. Also, she has some slight remains, or at least direct influences, coming down from the early French settlers. But the early architecture most worthy of study in our State, is that left us by the hardy pioneers who settled here between 1800 and the Civil War period.

Many Have Disappeared
Many of the old structures erected by these pioneers have already disappeared, and most of those remaining are in danger of destruction. Many have been preserved through the commendable efforts of historical societies and other organizations, and there is at present a great interest being shown for the historic monuments of our State.

When historic old structures cannot be preserved intact, then the next best thing should be done, that is, to place them on record by means of photographs, measured drawings and published accounts. It is surprising how little there is now on record concerning the great bulk of the early structures of Illinois. Except for scattered accounts, the student can find very little of the history of these early buildings. There is urgent need for a source book of historic information covering this phase of the history and development of Illinois. To produce such a source book, a complete architectural survey must be made of the entire State, in order to locate all buildings of historic interest and to gather complete data concerning them. Surveys of this character have been made in other Middle-west states. The writer has recently completed such a survey of the State of Ohio and now proposes to make a similar survey of the State of Illinois.

Early Settlers
The majority of the early settlers in Illinois came from the New England and other Eastern States, and from Kentucky, where the Colonial, Georgian and Classical Styles of Architecture were extant. When they came to Illinois they built their houses and other structures in the manner they had been accustomed in their home states. They thus introduced into Illinois, the Eastern styles, which were modified to meet the conditions in the new State. It is these and the many other outside influences that will be gathered and recorded in the survey.

Expressive of Life

It is generally accepted by historians that the architecture of a people is an expression of the life and thought of their time. The story of the early settlement and development of Illinois is an important one and a study of the architectural remains of that period will afford a variety of documentary material upon the history and character of the early settlers. A study of the old houses, taverns, churches, court houses, schools, industrial buildings and other public buildings of Illinois, will bring to light much of historic interest and value.

The proposed architectural survey of Illinois will bring together all of the historical information concerning these early structures, and make it available to the people of the State.

LATE PROCEEDINGS IN PROBATE COURT

Action Taken in Settlement of Estates; Docket Entries and Orders Recorded

Margaretta Burnap, Lake Forest, left personal property valued at \$25,000 an inventory in the probate court last week indicated. Cases coming before Judge Martin C. Decker were: Margaret J. Billig, insane. Letters of Conservatorship issued to Olive J. Phelps. Bond of \$2,000.

Rockwell E. Abbey, Waukegan, Final report approved, estate closed. Henry T. Dusenberry, Waukegan. Report of Distribution filed and approved. Estate closed.

George Ramsour, North Chicago. Letters of Administration issued to Gus Ramsour. Bond of \$300. Proof of heirship taken. Inventory approved.

Minnie Brandt, Zion. Will admitted to probate. Estate valued at \$8,000 given to Carl Brandt, adopted son, except \$100 each to Ella Krock, Lottie Krock and Christian Assembly of Zion. Bond fixed at \$400. Proof of heirship taken.

Margaretta Burnap, Lake Forest, Will admitted to probate. Estate valued at \$25,000 personal. All chattel property given to daughter-in-law, Luciele W. Burnap, \$250 to grandson, D. Arkell Burnap and balance to son, William L. Burnap, of Winnetka, formerly of Lake Forest. Bond of \$50,000. Letters issued to William L. Burnap, executor. Inventory and appraisal bill approved. Executor authorized to sell certain stock.

Mary Jane Rafter. Hearing on petition for probate of will continued to June 21.

Johanne Hewitt, Waukegan. Will admitted to probate. All property given to son, Irvin C. Hewitt. Real estate valued at \$2,000. Letters testamentary issued to Irvin C. Hewitt. Proof of heirship taken. Inventory approved.

Frank N. Tomlinson, North Chicago. Petition for letters of administration filed. Bond fixed at \$3,000. Proof of heirship taken.

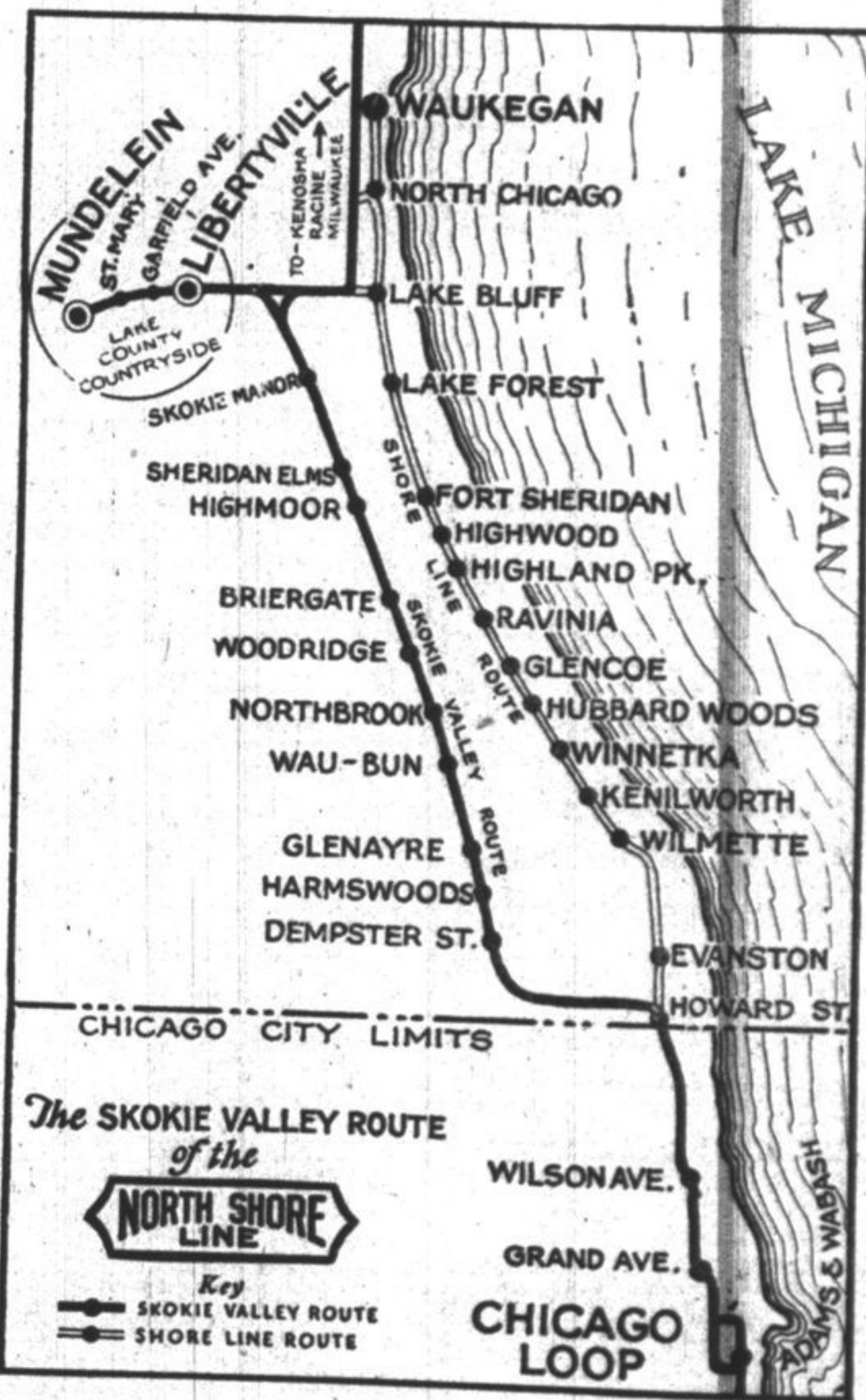
Christopher Dillon, Wauconda. Inventory approved.

Oscar F. Bell, Highland Park. Inventory approved.

Fred D. Welch, Waukegan. Inventory approved.

Carrie L. Owen, Waukegan. Will admitted to probate. Estate valued at \$3,000 personal given to husband, except \$1.00 to each of her sons and daughter. Letters Testamentary issued to Richard R. Owen. Bond of \$6,000.

North Shore Line Showing Skokie Valley Route



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