

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1927

TELEPHONE H. P. 557-558

## HISTORY OF DEERFIELD IS TO BE COMPILED

### LEGION POST SPONSORS

Sketches of Early Pioneers to Appear in This Column; Story of George Rockenbach

If the sketches of a few pioneer men and women in this vicinity, which will appear in these columns before the publication of the larger work, "The History of Deerfield," appeal to the reader who has valuable information of annals of the countryside, the author will be grateful for any facts, written or verbal, which will assist in the compilation of the little volume, which will be published by the Deerfield Post of the American Legion. Credit will be given to each assistant.

An attempt will be made to follow the outline made by Mr. T. Arthur Simpson, Lake county superintendent, at the time of the Illinois Centennial in 1918 of schools under the following heads, organization of the town, its name, significance, first meetings and officers. First settlers, where they came from. Locations of first homes, roads, bridges, post office, church denominations, ministers, teaching posts, industries, mills, etc. Stories of trapping, hunting and animals. Organization of the school district, schoolhouses, how financed, furnished, heated, books, etc. Early pupils. Meetings of importance held. Indians, villages, camping grounds, mounds, etc. Railroads, doctors, nurses. Military service in all wars. Disasters, underground railroad activities. Contemporary history will also be touched upon.

The preparation of such a history would take at least a year to compile. The days and hours spent in collecting material on hand, and re-writing, are not adequate enough for a comprehensive study to be issued this summer.

If some written records of the early days had been preserved, or not destroyed by fire, they would be invaluable now. Twenty years ago there were more early settlers here.

Less than a month remains for writing the book, will you not assist in its formation?

Please send written or printed material to Box 596, Deerfield, which will be returned to owner, or telephone Deerfield 177-R.

To few men is given the privilege of long outliving the biblical span of life of "three score years and ten," to be able at the age of 86 to have possession of all of his faculties, lead an active civic life, and have a memory so keen as to be historical.

Such a man is our Mr. George Rockenbach, third of the family to bear the name, the oldest man in the vicinity, and who has lived in this locality since four months of age.

In April 1841, at the age of two months, with his brother, Philip, his father, George Rockenbach, Jr., and his mother, who was Salome Redlinger, his grandfather, Philip Redlinger, and an uncle Christian Redlinger, and three other families, those of Philip Wolf, George Lehler and George Lehman, left Gerstheim, near Strassburg in Alsace, to escape the crowded condition of their village, and to avoid military service in Germany. Their sailing vessel, the Deutschland, took thirty-six days in crossing. Their journey from New York was by canal to Buffalo, then by ox teams to Chicago.

After arriving in Chicago they remained for a week to rest at the home of Jacob Rehm, who lived near the waterworks and who had come to America with Andrew Meyer, who settled on section 31 in Deerfield township on government land in 1839. Jacob Rehm's wagon carried the women and children of the Rockenbach pioneer party from Chicago to Lake county. The men walked all of the way. The western and southern boundaries of Deerfield township were selected as farms.

From Judge Bradley, George Rockenbach, the father, bought a farm on Milwaukee avenue, near Wheeling, for which Bradley paid the government \$1.25 per acre, and sold for \$4 per acre. A crude log house on the farm housed part of the pioneers, and another on the Job W. Tripp farm held the young Rockenbach family. The Tripp school the children attended. Jacob Ott and his five sons, Jacob, Jr., Lawrence, Casper, John and Philip, and his two daughters, Salome, who became Mrs. Philip Brand, and Michaelena, who married George Escher, married and lived within a short distance of each other. The Casper Ott farm now belongs to Frank Siljstrom.

On September 3, 1864, George Rockenbach, the third, married Sarah Ott, daughter of Jacob and Ursula Riek Ott. The George Rockenbachs had eight children, all but one of whom are living. Their son, Ormond I. Rockenbach lived on the farm that had been in the possession of members of the Ott family since 1866. The Ormond Rockenbachs had six children, the Almon O. Rockenbach family had fourteen children. Ella Rockenbach who married William Flagg had six children, and Preston Rockenbach one.

Continued on page 6

## DEERFIELD MAKING GREAT STRIDES AHEAD

Population Increases 300 Per Cent; Many Improvements Made; Plan New Projects

The time of change in Deerfield from that of a small country hamlet dates back to about 1822, at which time the general trend of development all along the North Shore commenced. The building of the Highland Park-Deerfield road was also undertaken at this time. This road gave access to a better schedule of transportation, it also united the two towns. Since then the growth of the entire North Shore has been steady; Deerfield gaining probably more rapidly in population than any other town in this whole general vicinity. The future demanded from the town that it modernize itself by building a complete and efficient sewer system, better equip its water works, pave its streets, install a proper lighting system, together with the organization of civic organizations to develop the morale of the town so that the village of Deerfield take its place among the leading towns in the North Shore district.

Now in 1927 the following accomplishments have occurred:

The population has increased approximately 300 per cent, new business blocks have been erected, the business district has promise of being one of the best of its kind, the sewer and water system have been completed, a lighting system equal to or better than any on the North Shore is a reality; considerable paving has been done and a good portion is in progress, the erection of a water tank has insured complete fire protection; building of new homes is progressing at a very satisfactory rate; subdivisions are being laid out and sold in quick time. The assured completion of the Deerfield road from the Waukegan road to Saunders road west, opens up all the western territory clear through to Milwaukee avenue, which makes the future possibilities for the town almost without limit; the country through which this road passes is very choice home-site territory.

Deerfield is the proud possessor of a very efficient fire department, with a modern auto-truck engine. A library that has a very well selected and large number of books, together with attractive quarters in the school building on Deerfield road east. Post No. 738 of the American Legion, active and 100 per cent of the ex-service men in the village are members.

The Chamber of Commerce is active and representative of the business interests of the community, endeavoring to further proper community spirit throughout the town; responsible for Deerfield Day, which last year was one of the gala affairs of the North Shore and this year promises to exceed last year's wonderful day. In co-operation with the village authorities (who are all progressive business men with the community interests at heart) the Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the purchase of a site for a high school; tentative plans are being worked up for a community building, together with a site for a new park.

Deerfield, with its modern improvements which have been designed with a view of taking in additional territory, and blessed with its very high-class individual communities (such as the Bannockburn development) on its borders, and which will undoubtedly be a part of Deerfield within a short time, offers to the home-loving American people a wonderful place to live in, and educate their children.

### GOOD PROGRAM GIVEN BY DEERFIELD BAND

Selections played by the Deerfield band in Jewett's grove Saturday evening were: St. Julien, Stars and Stripes Forever, Gloria, Red Diamond, The Albanian, El Capitan, and Quality Plus Marches, and Arcadia, Superba, Enchantress, and Blue and Gray Patrol overtures, the Old Timers Waltz, and the Star Sangled Banner.

So popular are these concerts given by our well trained band that seats should be provided for the hundreds who attend.

### BAKERY SALE JULY 16 BRIAR SWEET SHOPPE

The Parent-Teacher association of the Wilmet school will have a bakery sale, Saturday, July 16, at the Briar Sweet Shoppe from 2:30 to 6 o'clock.

During the coming year the scientific study for the children will be birds.

The P. T. A. has a good chance to get some nice birds for study and this sale is to raise a fund to pay for the mounting of them.

### NEW OFFICERS ELECTED BY PROGRESSIVE CLUB

The following officers were elected at the meeting of the Progressive club of the Wilmet school, which was held last Wednesday afternoon: Mrs. Leslie Berens, president; Mrs. Harry Whitcomb, vice-president; Mrs. Earl Frost, secretary, and Mrs. Laura Mailfield, treasurer.

## DEERFIELD DAY TO BE AUGUST 26-27

WILL BE BIGGEST HELD

Committees In Charge; Many Prizes to Be Given Away; Chamber of Commerce Meets July 22

On August 26 and 27, 1927, Deerfield will celebrate its annual Deerfield Day. Plans have been made on a rather large scale for this occasion, committees have been appointed, and are now working toward the successful conclusion of this day. The help of every resident is most urgently needed.

On Friday evening, July 22, a general meeting of the Deerfield Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Masonic temple. Every member is urged to be present.

The following committees will be in charge:

**Finance**—Charles C. Kapschull, chairman, Arthur E. Ender, Paul E. Dietz, Theo. Knaak.

**Advertising**—Arthur Ender, chairman, Paul Hunter, William Barrett, Charles C. Kapschull, Burr Kress, Francis O'Connor.

**Refreshments**—Jack Meyers, chairman, R. A. Nelson, M. D. Lencioni, Jack Frost.

**Concessions**—Harry Olendorf, chairman, Clarence Huhn, W. W. Geary, Sol Shapiro, W. L. Soukup, Wm. Desmond.

**Registration**—W. W. Geary, chairman, Paul Hunter, Harry Muhle, Frank O'Connor, John O'Connor, Peter Duffy.

**Decorating**—Theo. Knaak, chairman, Archie Antes, Wm. Desmond.

**Parade**—Hon. James J. Hood, chairman, Paul Hunter, P. E. Sundstrom, James O'Connor, Elmer Clavey.

**Buildings**—John Huhn, chairman, Alex Taylor, Mike Segert.

**Public Safety**—Fred Labahn, chairman, Chief Henry Peterson, Sergt. P. McLaughlin, Chester Wolf, and others.

**Dance**—Dr. O'Connell, chairman, Wm. Barrett, Alvin Meyer, Frank Russo, Bruce Blaine, Arthur Ender, Alvin Knaak.

**Prize Drawing**  
Prize auditing—Geo. Engstrom, chairman, Wm. McDonald.

Prize drawing—Some sweet little youngsters.

Sports—Ed. Jacobson, chairman. Miss Deerfield—The American Legion Post 768.

Tickets—Hon. James J. Hood, chairman.

A beautiful Chrysler sedan, washing machine, sewing machine, string of pearls, gold watch and many other valuable prizes will be given away at the big Deerfield Day celebration to be held on August 26 and 27.

Let's go everybody and make these big days for Deerfield.

### SUMMER BAZAAR WILL BE HELD AUGUST 4

A lovely assortment of hand-made fancy goods will be offered at an unusually low price at the summer bazaar which will be held at the Presbyterian church by the Dorcas society on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 4. In addition you can secure delicious home-made cakes, pies, cookies, doughnuts and other home delicacies.

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Would you convict on circumstantial evidence? Do you do your own thinking — or do you let the small minds of those who jump at conclusions influence you?

Have you been a party to "group conviction" which has ruined a life or lives — right here in Highland Park?

Are you experienced enough or have you seen enough of life to know that "truth is stranger than fiction"?

Perhaps you will criticize Edison Forbes for permitting himself to be sent to prison.

Then again — maybe you will see the bigness and the kindness of his soul — despite one small mortal weakness.

You can study these questions if you read "Cedar Swamp" — a new serial from the pen of Michael J. Phillips which starts in this issue of the Highland Park Press.

## "OPPORTUNITY FUND" TO BENEFIT ORPHANS

Deerfield American Legion Meet Monday Evening; Found Junior Living Flag

Fourteen members attended an interesting meeting of the Deerfield American Legion auxiliary which met at the home of Mrs. Philip Scully Jr., on Oak avenue on Monday afternoon. The business meeting included the appropriating of money for the "Opportunity Fund." This fund is being created for the benefit of the orphans at Normal, Ill., and to be used when they are leaving the home.

A Junior Living flag in connection with the Americanism work will be founded in memory of Louis Schultz, a Deerfield boy, who was killed in service.

Through the efforts of the American Legion auxiliary three groups of Girl Reserves have been organized at the home at Normal this year. All girls over twelve years of age not yet in high school were invited to join. Sixty girls in all signed up and they have been very enthusiastic over the organization. It is customary for the Girl Reserves in the other local schools to go to the Y. W. C. A. camp near Bloomington for one week's outing each summer.

The Deerfield unit voted to send a check which will enable one girl to enjoy a week's outing.

Cooling refreshments were served by the hostesses, Mesdames, Philip Scully, Jr., and Philip Scully, Sr., and Miss Louise Tuhn at the conclusion of the meeting.

### KEITH PRESTON DIES; DAILY NEWS CRITIC

Well Known Humorist and Paraphraser Passes Away Last Week

Keith Preston, literary critic, author and humorist whose sparkling column in the Chicago Daily News has been read by hundreds of thousands, is dead. Death came last Thursday night, after a three days' illness at the Evanston hospital. He was taken to the hospital Tuesday after having been operated upon Monday for an infection of the ear.

This was followed by complications which developed into pneumococcal meningitis. Mr. Preston was Literary editor of the News and conducted the "Hit or Miss" column. He was 42 years old. He was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1905, and at times served as Latin instructor at Indiana, Princeton and Northwestern universities. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Etta S. Preston, 729 Emerson street, Evanston, his mother, a sister and a brother.

### DEERFIELD BOOSTERS DEFEAT HIGHWOOD TEAM

The Deerfield Boosters won a well played game from Highwood Indians by a score of 7 to 1 last Sunday. The game was close up to the eighth inning when the Highwood pitcher weakened and the Boosters made four runs. The Deerfield boys played a fine game, only two errors being chalked up against them, neither being costly.

Sunday, July 17, the Boosters play Northbrook there and this promises to be a battle as each team has won one game to date. Deerfield is booked for July, after which they are open for games. Teams desiring games call Deerfield 126-M between 5:30 and 6 and ask for Slim.

### FORMER MINISTER GOES TO JAMESTOWN, N. D.

Rev. Jerome Earl Webber, minister of the Deerfield Presbyterian church from 1909 to 1911, who has been in the Royal Oak, Michigan, Presbyterian church for fifteen years, has resigned and will have charge of the Jamestown, North Dakota, Presbyterian church, where Jamestown college is located.

Mr. and Mrs. Webber and their four-year old daughter, and Mrs. Cornman of Sturges, Michigan, were the guests of Mrs. Reichelt, Jr., Saturday.

Mr. Webber preached in the Fullerton Avenue Presbyterian church Sunday.

### TWO GARDEN WINNERS IN TRIBUNE CONTEST

There were two prize-winning gardens in this locality in the Chicago Tribune's Garden contest. In district four, Mrs. L. J. Crisman who lives on Clavey road and Briar lane won seventh prize, \$15, and Mrs. Clarence J. Bartelme of Northbrook, (who was Jean Gordon) won \$5, ninth among the ten prizes in the six districts.

Mrs. R. W. Farmer of Bannockburn, and Mrs. C. C. Brackett, of Wilmet road were two of the four judges in district one.

### PROGRESSIVE CLUB GIVE CARD PARTY

The Progressive club of the Wilmet school will give a card and luncheon party at the Wilmet school on Friday evening, July 15, which will start promptly at 8 o'clock. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served.

## GLENCOE MASONS TO PLAY AT BRIERGATE

"Take it away from them," is the challenge which has been sent to golfers in connection with the eighteen-hole medal play for the J. Fred McGuire cup at the annual Glencoe Masonic tournament tomorrow, July 15.

The coveted trophy is now held jointly by Arthur Harrison and Earl Dean, who won it with tie scores last year. That it should change hands is the idea expressed by the committee in charge of the tournament, who say in their announcement: "But they can't enjoy it jointly. Whose buffet does it adorn most of the time? It hasn't done the cup any good to travel back and forth between two homes. Who proudly display it to admiring friends and forgets to mention 'jointly'? These are embarrassing questions. All in all, it's high-explosive situation that must be put right at once."

### GARDEN CLUB TO TOUR GARDENS SOON

The Deerfield Garden club is in the midst of its summer activities. During the next two weeks a tour of their gardens will be made. This is a yearly feature and is very instructive and pleasant. This week Mrs. Warner's rose arbor covered with pink climbers is a picture also Mrs. Brachets formal garden with its stately array of Madonna lilies and delphiniums. The object of the club is to stimulate gardening. Weekly reminders are planned to help beautify our vicinity.

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