

By Lester B. Colby (Illinois Chamber of Commerce)

Until recently I supposed that in writing stories-"Rediscovering Illinots"-I was doing something original. Now I find that I am very late about it. John Regan did much the same thing something like three quarters of a century ago.

W. C. Regan, of Stronghurst, his grandson, loaned me a copy of the book that John Regan, "late of Ayrshire, now of Illinois," authorized far enough back so that the "second edition, greatly enlarged" was published in Edinburgh in 1859. It is called "The Western Wilds of America" although the book deals almost exclu-

sively with Illinois. John Regan, who brought his bride with him, settled on the Spoon river near Ellisville. The book is really a plea to the people of England and Scotland to break away from the conditions which held them in poverty, almost in bondage, and start anew in the new world.

He tries to point out how they can do it. One chapter he devotes to the building of his house. I quote:

"I will now give a statement of the entire cost of the structure, 18 feet long, 14 feet wide and 8 feet from floor to joists, roof 5 feet pitch, with a nice little garret, and back room eight feet by seven:

Builds House for \$60.00 Two days' hewing Carrying timbers to ground 600 feet studding, 4 in. sq. 200 feet scantling ... 400 feet oak sheeting for roof 4.00 2,000 black walnut shingles ...... 10.00 1,000 feet black walnut lumber, siding ..... 600 feet cottonwood planking, 21/2 pairs window sashes ..... 1.87 1/2 30 panes of glass at 4 cents ..... 1.20 Lime for building chimney ...... Nails, 20 lbs. at 4 c per lb... 1509 bricks for chimney and 2 doors, black walnut, inch and a half ..... 2 pair hinges, 35c, screw nails, .\$55.55 1/2

"Add to this, say six dollars for board, and thus for \$61.50 or about eleven pounds sterling-not counting our labor-we got up a pretty commodious building. Still it was only a shell and on the approach of winter required to be lathed and plastered inside which cost \$15 more."

Search fails to reveal the exact year of John Regan's arrival in Illinois. The book is apparently the result of a number of years of experience. Probably he came sometime in the 1840's or even before that.

In one place it is recorned, in 1851, while he speaks of the Oregon and California gold fever, that "Our farm wages are from 60 to 80 dollars per half year with board and washing. "Markets of late have been high for

most articles: Wheat, per bushel Oats, per bushel Castor beans, per bushel ...... 1.50 Flax seed, per bushel ...... 1.25 Smoked bacon, lb. ..... Butter, 1b. Eggs, per doz. .... 

Comment is made that among the nearby settlers there is very little drinking as public sentiment is against it. Apparently there was a servant girl problem even then. William Leighton, of Knoxville, Knox county, in 1851 wrote a letter to a friend in Scotland who proposed emigration in which he said:

"My wife wishes you to bring girls who will go out to work. They are much needed in this country, and, as you know, secure good wages. Do try to bring her one. You need not be particular about her looks for if she is good-looking she will be no time with us as they all get married. If she squints, or wants an eye, no matter-bring a girl."

Farm Prices Fluctuate Farm prices apparently fluctuated WHAT TO DO IF CAR a great deal. A chapter apparently written in 1846 records that, "The farmers being in general men of small When stuck in a mudhole or on a capital, an immense amount of grain sandy stretch, do not speed the enis thrown upon the market immedi- gine and attempt to "jump" the ately after harvest; and then, as a clutch, is the advice contained in a necessary result, the price rules low. bulletin issued by the mechanical first A shilling for wheat, sixpence for aid department of the Chicago Motor oats, fourpence for Indian corn are club. common prices then; whereas in Oc- This method will only cause the tober, February, March, April, May wheels to spin and dig deeper into and June, when navigation is open, the mud or sand, and may possibly the prices invariably rise and those strip a gear or burn out the clutch. who are able to hold on until then are Open the throttle slowly and just far

sure to obtain a good return."

The author records his amazement mies.

Indian Medicine Man

This story must go back for the Pottawatomies were all swept out in 1833, One day Naugh-a-choo-ma came to the Murphy home, looked at the family feast steadily for about in the forenoon of said day. ten minutes and then broke out: "White man, have you been sick?"

"Yes, very." "Have your children been sick?" Yes, we have all been very bad." "The white man complains-let him

blame himself." "How so? True for you. I have wrought hard since I came west and I know that the night dews and the bad airs from the damp grounds are hurtful; but what could I do?"

He works hard for his squaw and children. The Great Spirit sees it and is pleased. But the things that harm him most are now on that table."

"Go on, Naugh-a-choo-ma; tell me what's wrong."

speak in the language of today, told the 19th day of November, A.D. 1927, at the Dated Highland Park, Illinois, and spiced foods, to eat potatoes and | Court, in the County Court Room of said | Court, in the County Court Room of said | Court Room meat and live on plain stuffs and Objections may be filed to said application they'd all be well. They did, and on or before the hour of ten (10) o'clock in the forenoon of said day. were healthy and happy.

Perhaps the old Indian medicine men knew their onions pretty well after all. Naugh-a-choo-ma's advice \$ 1.50 will cost you nothing and save expenses if you want to try it. Mrs. Murphy, it is recorded, smoked a Nevember 3, 1927. corncob pipe with a clay stem.

Wages in Pioneer Days quotes the Peoria rate. Here are sam- Court Docket No. 313, and that application

Bricklayers, per day, \$2 to \$2.50. Plasterers, per day, \$2 to \$3. Housepainters, per day, \$1.75 to

Joiners, per month, \$36. Wagonmakers, per day, \$1.25 to

Cabinetmakers, per day, \$1.25. Blacksmiths, per month, \$25 to \$40. Founders (moulders) per month,

\$40 to \$50. Coopers, per month, \$18, Shopmen, per year, \$360 to \$800.

Steamboat engineers, per month, Steamboat hands, per month \$18 to

Canal men, per month, \$14 to \$18. Farm servants, per month, \$15. to

Some space is devoted in the book to the building of "pise houses." Pise was a brick made by ramming earth into a mould and drying it in the sun. Pise houses were more or less common in Illinois, apparently, in the prairie districts where other mater-

ials were lacking. Some settlers doubted the lasting qualities of pise but others thought houses made of it might last 300 years. Someone must have erred. Pise houses seem gone.

Primative Amusements A lady in England wrote John Regan to learn what the women in Illinois did to amuse themselves. He reminded her that it was "a joy to see the ewes grazes and the lambs suck; to hear the hens cackle and the ducks quack" and spoke of "a celebrated piano with one string called the spinning wheel that hummed at right he added:

"After a quilting is over, then the young lads pour in-the fiddle squeaks-the crockery is judiciously laid away, as being unfitted for the occasion and, though I will not say with Davy Crockett, that the next morning you might gather up handfuls of toe-nails, I have no doubt but that the fiddler's elbow and the young folks heels and the old folks sides are all a little worse for the wear-of course I have not said anything of

love-adventures." Oh, all you gray haired ones, who shake wise and worried heads at the gay youth of today and call them jazz-mad! I wonder and wonder.

IS STALLED IN MUD

enough to prevent the engine from Good cows when John Regan ar- stalling, then engage the clutch slowfor some years thereafter, ly. In this way the tires will take

Public notice is hereby given that the Board when he came into this new country to find how well the settlers lived. Their tables were loaded with jellies and jams, many kinds of meats, game, pies, butter without stint, fats and gravies. Tables literalgreases and gravies. Tables literal-ly groaned and there was cider and woodlands Subdivision, Highland Park Special other drinks - which leads to the story | Assessment of said Court Docket No. 815, of Patrick Murphy and Naugh-a-choo- and that application has been made to said ma, medicine man of the Pottawato- not the facts stated in said certificate are true. That a hearing will be had upon said application on Saturday, the 19th day of November, A.D., 1927, at the hour of ten (18) o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the County Court Room of said Court, in the County Court House, at Waukegan, in said

Lake County. Objections may be filed to said application on or before the hour of ten (10) o'clock BENJAMIN F. LEWIS, LYLE GOURLEY. W. J. BROWN.

J. H. ZIMMER. Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park

Deted Highland Park, Illinois, November 3, 1927.

Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, has filed in the County Court of Lake on Saturday, the 19th day of November, A.D. County, Illinois, a certificate that the following improvement has been completed, and that it conforms substantially to the requirements "The white man has a warm heart. of the original ordinance for the construction of the same, to-wit: The construction of a system of water mains in Richfield Avenue, Castlewood Road, Hillcrest Avenue, Briargate Drive, Westgate Terrace and Ridge Road, Highland Park Special Assessment of said Court Docket No. 320, and that application has been made to said Court to consider and determine whether or not the facts stated in said certificate are true. That a hearing And the Indian medicine man, to will be had upon said application on Saturday, him to chunck out the jellies and jams said day, at the County Court Room of said November 3, 1927.

> J. H. ZIMMER, W. J. BROWN. LYLE GOURLEY, W. REAY,

Board of Local Improvements City of Highland Park

Highland Park Special Assessment of said Lake County.

Canton Clothes Dryer

This gas heated laundry appliance dries

your clothes the modern way. You do not

have to lug a heavy clothes basket to the

back yard or basement drying room, for

the CANTON CLOTHES DRYER may be

installed in the same room in which your

they are exposed to dirt floating in the at-

mosphere. Particles of dust cling to the

wet clothing - and while the washing may

appear to be spotless when it is taken down

for ironing, it cannot be absolutely clean.

The CANTON CLOTHES DRYER -

Dries - Bleaches - Sterilizes. Your

clothes come in contact with pure, radiated

heat. This threefold action of the dryer

quickly prepares your washing for the iron.

made in sizes small enough for the bun-

galow and commodious enough for the

largest apartment or institution.

The CANTON CLOTHES DRYER is

You may secure your gas appliances eas-

ily through our budget plan. This system

has been devised for your convenience. Visit

the North Shore Gas Company office in

your neighborhood and have it explained

When your clothes are hanging on a line

washing is done.

been made to said Court to consider and determine whether or not the facts stated in said certificate are true. That a hearing will be had upon said application on Saturday, the 19th day of November, A.D. 1927, at the bour of ten (10) o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the County Court Room of said Court, in the County Court House, at Waukegan, in said Lake County.

Objections may be filed to said application on or before the hour of ten (10) o'clock Dated Highland Park, Illinois, in the forenoon of said day. BENJAMIN F. LEWIS. LYLE GOURLEY, J. H. ZIMMER. W. J. BROWN. W. REAY,

Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park Dated Highland Park, Illinois, November 3, 1927.

Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, has filed in the County Court of Lake County, Illinois, a certificate that the following improvement has been completed, and that it conforms substantially to the requirements of the original ordinance for the construction of the same, to-wit: Paving a system of streets in the Southeastery portion of Highland Park, Highland Park Special Assessment of said Court Docket No. 300, and that application has been made to said Court to ecnsider and determine whether or not the facts stated in said certificate are true. That a hearing will be had upon said application forenoon of said day, at the County Court Room of said Court, in the County Court House, at Waukegan, in said Lake County.

Objections may be filed to said application on or before the hour of ten (10) o'clock in the forenoon of said day. BENJAMIN F. LEWIS. W. J. BROWN. LYLE GOURLEY. J. H. ZIMMER. W. REAY, Board of Local Improvements

City of Highland Park

NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Balance on hand March 31, 1927 Illinois, has filed in the County Court of Lake County, Illinois, a certificate that the following improvement has been completed, and that it conforms substantially to the requirements of the original ordinance for the construction of the same, to-wit: Paving Burton Avenue, Pleasant Avenue, Broadview Avenue, Alvin Place, Crawford Place, Bellevue Place, Highland Place, Washington Place, Blackstone Place, Flora Place, Northmoor Road and Roger Williams Avenue, Highland Park Special Assessment of said Court Docket No. 310. Public notice is hereby given that the Board and that application has been made to said Peoria semes to have been one of of Local Improvements of the City of Highthe main towns in the time of John
The main t Regan's researches. He mentions County, Illinois, a certificate that the follow- application on Saturday, the 19th day of Chicago once or twice as a promising ing improvement has been completed, and that November, A.D., 1927, at the hour of ten village. But when he devotes space of the original ordinance for the construction the County Court Room of said Court, in the to the salaries paid "artizans" he of the same, to-wit: Paving Golf Court, County Court House, at Waukegan, in said 6 Objections may be filed to said application

on or before the hour of ten (10) o'clock in the forenoon of said day. BENJAMIN R. LEWIS. W. J. BROWN. J. H. ZIMMER LYLE GOURLEY. W. REAY.

Board of Local Improvements City of Highland Park

November 3, 1927. STATE OF ILLINOIS.

County of Lake, ss.

TOWN OF WEST DEERFIELD Office of Town Supervisor The following is a statement by James O'Connor, Supervisor of the Town of West Deerfield, in the County and State aforesaid, of the amount of public funds received and expended by him during the fiscal year just closed, ending on the thirty-first day of March, A.D. 1927, showing the amount of Nov. public funds on hand at the commencement of said fiscal year, the amount of public funds received and from what sources received, the amount of public funds expended and for what purpose expended, during said

fiscal year, ending as aforesaid The said James O'Connor, being duly sworn, doth depose and say, that the following statement by him subscribed is a correct statement of the amount of public funds on hand at the commencement of the fiscal year above stated, the amount of public funds received, and the sources from which received, and the amount expended, and purposes for which expended, as set forth in said statement. JAMES O'CONNOR.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 1st day of April, A.D. 1927. PETER J. DUFFY.

Justice of the Peace Funds Received and from Date 1926 What Sources Received Amount Amount of public funds on hand at the commencement of the fiscal year, commencing the first day of April, A.D. 1926 May 14 Received from

Ira Pearsall, County Treas. June 30 Received from Rent of Town Hall July 13 Received from Ira Pearsail, County Treas.

Sept. 3 Received from Ira Pearsall, County Treas. Oct. 29 Received from Ira Pearsall, County Treas.

Total Receipts Less Expenditures

April 15 To W. H. Steffes, for services as judge of election. To John Reichelt for services as judge of election To P. J. Duffy for services as judge of election To Ed Yore for services as judge of election To Fred Selig for services as judge of election To Theo Frost for services as judge of election To Mrs. A. Willman for services as clerk of election To Mrs. Julia Peterson for services as clerk of election Mrs. Floyd Stanger for services as clerk of election Mrs. Gus Klemp, for serv-

ices as clerk of election

Miss Mary Karch for serv-

To Mrs. L. Dietz for serv-

ices as clerk of election

ices as clerk of election 19 To Geo. Rockenbach for fire insurance To Ed. Bleimehl for use of polling place 8 To Geo. Rockenbach for fire insurance 28 To Highland Park Press for supplies 7 To Peter Leist for services as Thistle Commissioner 251.62 To Ed Selig for services as Assessor To Elmer Clavey for services as Road Commissioner To Julia Peterson for services as Town Clerk To James O'Connor for committee work To P. J. Duffy for services as Auditor To Ray Clavey for services as Auditor 26 To Highland Park Press for printing and publishing re-March 29 To P. J. Duffy for services as Auditor To Ray Clavey for services as Auditor To Julia Peterson for services as Town Clerk To James O'Connor for committee work To Elmer Clavey for services as Road Commissioner 756.00 To James O'Connor for services as Township Treasurer 214.02 Total Expenditures \$2,710.59

## CALLS BY TELEPHONE ACROSS OCEAN TIMED

The timing of transatlantic calls originating in the United States is done in New York rather than in the town or city where the call origi-

The operating method for transatlantic calls provides for an operator in New York and an operator in Lon-1,108.59 don, with communication with each other by means of the radio chan-2,710.59 nel. These operators are called circuit operators and it is their duty to pass and receive calls, reports and 6.00 orders over the New York-London channel and to start conversation when both subscribers are ready.

In addition, however, there are the 6.00 report operators whose duty it is to 6.00 record calls and deal with subscribers and other operators in giving and 6.00 receiving reports and getting sub-6.00 scribers to the telephone at the proper time for the start of the conversation. When the transatiantic connection is 6.00 made, these operators in New York 6.00 time it and then quote the charges to the operator at the office where the call originates.

## A Luxuriously Warm Kitchen at Breakfast Time

heating appliance that radiates plentiful

Get a \$12.50 allowance on your old stove for a modern A-B Unified Gas Range. Our easy monthly payment plan at your service

Don't shiver while you are preparing the

For Your Clothes' Sake morning meal before the furnace has had time to warm your home. And your family doesn't have to huddle around the table in a cold breakfast room. For the A-B UNI-FIED GAS RANGE is an ideal auxiliary



An A-B UNIFIED GAS RANGE - performs double duty for you. And it does this without any additional cost while cooking. For the same fuel consumed in cooking is utilized to heat your kitchen or breakfast room. There are times, also, besides morning

when you need additional heat in the kitchen. With an A-B UNIFIED GAS RANGE at your service, this warmth may be had easily and economically.

The Sign of a Modern Home



Just as you find pleasure in your home itself-you can enjoy the additional comforts afforded by gas appliances marked with the Blue Star Seal. A gas appliance bearing this stamp is your assurance of its reliability; for every piece of gas equipment that has passed the stringent tests of the Testing Laboratory of the American Gas Asso-

ciation is marketed under this seal. Experts in the American Gas Association Laboratory know from long experience just what should be expected of a gas appliance. The Blue Star Seal is a badge of merit placed by them on an appliance that performs with smooth efficiency and at a minfmum of cost. The seal is not a name but a

Wherever You Find Radiantfire You Find Comfort



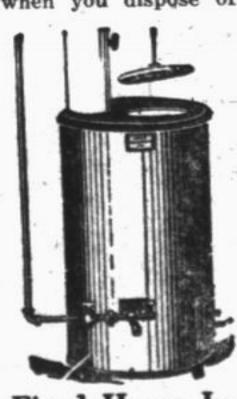
Hand in hand - inseparable companions - go RADIANTFIRE and COMFORT. Why endure that aggravating chill, that has taken possession of your bedroom during the night, when you get up in the morn-

Why miss the pleasure of fireside warmth on fall and winter evenings? Summon Radiantfire, and Comfort will

come with it. There is nothing better for your disposition and health than quick, clean heat when and where you want it. RADIANTFIRE leaves no ash - no dirt

-no muss of any kind. A Few Ashes

are all that remain of your garbage and rubbish when you dispose of them in a



Gas Fired Home Incinerator

the modern appliance for the prevention of fires caused by accumulations of trash and of disease resulting from the old fashioned,

unsanitary garbage can. The GAS FIRED HOME INCINERATOR will burn rubbish or garbage wet or dry, and will reduce a full load to a pint of ashes

in a few hours. The air tight compartment in which refuse is burned gives objectionable odors no

chance to escape. Wipe out the fire and disease hazards in your home with a modern GAS FIRED HOME INCINERATOR,

The Logical Place to Buy Economical, Convenient Gas Appliances

North Shore Gas Company

PHONE HIGHLAND PARK 194