

### Hendee Is Re-Elected at Ottawa Convention

Lew A. Hendee, county clerk, was elected vice president of the Illinois Association of Supervisors, County Commissioners, Probate and County Clerks and County Auditors at the state convention held last week in Ottawa.

Ross C. Adams, of St. Clair county, was elected president; J. C. Kellarstrass, Peoria county, recording secretary; and Charles Lowry of Kane county, treasurer.

The Illinois clerks and recorders voted to break away from the other organization and to hold a meeting next year in Edwardsville.

Hendee was also named on the legislative committee.

Probate Clerk John R. Bullock, County Treasurer Jay B. Morse, and

Supervisors J. D. Thomas, Zion; Harry Stratton, Lake Villa; Paul Udell, Highland Park, and Charles Herschberger, Prairie View, also attended the conference.

### Little Girl Injured When Struck by Truck

Incia Poyhonen, 9 years old of the Central hotel in Highland Park suffered a broken leg and bad cuts on her face and head Friday night when she stepped into the path of a Ford truck driven by Donald Bernardi of Highland Park at St. Johns avenue and the Northwestern depot. The girl was taken to the Highland Park hospital. Bernardi was not detained.

Some people say they can't tell which is the road to success, but anyway it never leads down hill.

### RAVINIA OPERA HAS \$98,394.27 DEFICIT

#### Liability Shouldered by Mr. and Mrs. Eckstein, Report Says; To Continue

Having concluded "the most successful season in its history," and that statement speaks volumes because of past achievements, Ravinia opera is already looking forward to next season over a net deficit of \$98,394.27, guaranteed and assumed by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Eckstein. The 1929 deficit is included in a statement just issued by Scovell, Wellington & Co., public accountants, to Mr. Eckstein, president of the Ravinia company.

In a statement to Ravinia subscribers Mr. Eckstein says:

"Deficits are the unvarying rule of opera and symphony. Nor is it possible to reduce them without drastic change in the policy of Ravinia. The public expects of Ravinia the greatest artists of the lyric stage. Having had them and enjoyed them for many seasons, its patrons will never be content with less, nor will the management contemplate any sacrifice of the splendid standards that have caused it to be acclaimed the Bayreuth of America. Indeed, to maintain those standards, costs must be increased; and with the need of increasing costs to maintain the Ravinia standard comes, also, the need of increasing the guarantee fund."

Figures are outlined.

The figures for the 1929 season include receipts from admissions, seat sales, program advertising and refectory, \$408,930; expenses of operation, with no charge for rental of property or buildings of office rents and clerical force in Chicago or New York, \$614,917.86. This leaves a net loss of \$206,887.66. Deducted from that amount is \$108,493.59 guaranteed by others than Mr. and Mrs. Eckstein, leaving the guarantee assumed by Mr. and Mrs. Eckstein the \$98,394.27 already stated.

Mr. Eckstein's report says further: "Artistically, Ravinia has been credited by the press of Chicago with producing the finest opera to be seen on any lyric stage of Europe or America. The response of the public has greater than ever before. It has been the rule, rather than the exception, that the free seats and standing places have been filled at every performance, as well as the reserved seats.

"In the relatively brief season—ten weeks and three days—there were given thirty-three operas. Two were entirely new to Chicago—Puccini's 'La Rondine' and Respighi's 'La Campana Sommersa.' Two were important revivals—'La Vida Breve,' by De Falla, heard only at Ravinia and the New York Metropolitan, and Wolf-Ferrari's 'The Secret of Suzanne,' a little masterpiece, too long neglected.

Ravinia Continues Series "Ravinia has continued its fine series of popular, national and children's concerts, the latter, especially, affording a training school for future lovers of symphony and constituting a vital contribution to education.

Fortunately, the summer was ideal for opera and symphony performances in the open. Had the weather been unfavorable the inclosed financial report, as submitted by the public ac-

countants who audited Ravinia's books, would have been far different. Art pays dividends in beauty. It can not be expected to pay in material things."

### Fear Gas Tax Likely to Be Held Invalid

Fear that the state gasoline tax, which calls for three cents on the gallon, is an invalid measure and will fail to survive the Sangamon county circuit court, was expressed generally at the annual convention of the Illinois Association of Supervisors, County Commissioners, Probate and County Clerks, and County Auditors that closed last week at Ottawa, according to County Clerk Lew A. Hendee.

The feeling of the county officials was, he pointed out, that the law still discriminated.

Illinois lost its first gas tax, one for two cents on the gallon, two years ago, when the court held it invalid.

Much of the coming roadwork in the county is dependent on the validity of the gas tax measure. The board of supervisors will consider the completion of the highway program at the December session in the event the courts have ruled by then.

Modern education is trying to fill the children up with knowledge, when what they want is thrills.

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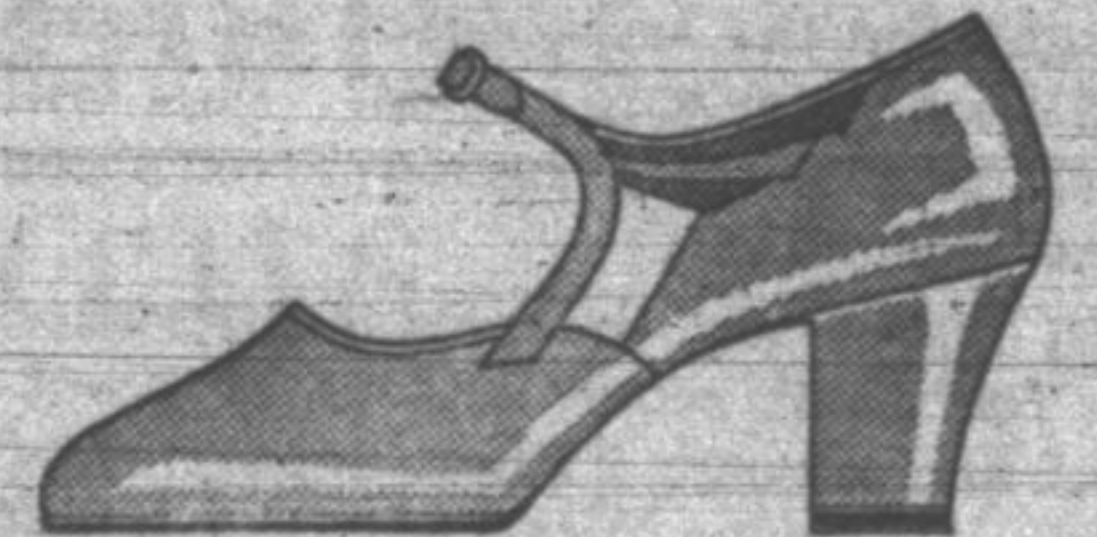
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