

As far as the wet and dry question is concerned, 1930 looks like the year of the big wind.

Prof. Nicholas Murray Butler condenses the crims commission report. Well, this ought to just about settle it.

Our idea of the last word in punishment would be to be shipwrecked on a desert isle with a couple of saxophone players.

Cheer up! The robins are singing in the Adirondacks and this is said to presage an early spring.



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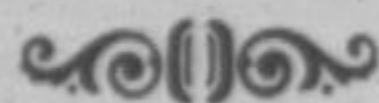
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Wreck Emphasizes Need of Grade Separation on North Shore Is Belief

Agitation in the North Shore suburbs for depressions or elevations for pedestrians and motor traffic at railroad crossings has been increased by the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee train wreck in Kenosha recently, in which eleven died and 100 were injured.

Kenilworth, Glencoe, Winnetka and Highland Park have supported for more than a year a "north shore grade separation committee" which has before the Illinois Commerce Commission a petition asking that the railroads be ordered to raise or lower their tracks.

Mrs. H. A. Bush, president of the Wilmette Woman's club, revealed last week that her organization has submitted to the village board a resolution urging that Wilmette join its neighbors in the movement. Similar action is being urged in Lake Forest, it was reported.

North Chicago has battled long for relief from the bad crossing at Twenty-second street and have a petition for either raising or lowering the railroads at this point, but so far no action has been taken. There has also been some fight for elevation through Waukegan.

Coroner A. B. Schmitz of Kenosha said last week that all testimony leads to the conclusion that Norman Shinnars, driver of the automobile which was struck and caused the overturning of two trains, tried to cross the tracks ahead of the freight and failed to see the passenger train coming from the opposite direction.

Sir Esme Howard says that the war game was never worth the cost. Exactly so. But if the other fellow leads trumps and you haven't any of your own, you're liable to be in bad shape before the game is over.

HIGHLAND PARK HAS LARGEST PARK AREA

Leads All Chicago Suburban Towns; Comparison With Population

A survey recently finished by the Chicago Regional Planning association, showing what 84 towns in the vicinity of Chicago are going to provide parks and playgrounds for their citizens, gives Highland Park the blue ribbon for having a park space average of 38.2 acres per 1,000 population. Waukegan ranked low in the scale with 4.1 acres.

Zion, with 214 acres of park land, offered an average of 30.6 acres per 1,000 for second place among the 84 cities listed. Lake Bluff, with an average of 25.2 acres, placed high in the survey standing. Wauconda, with 14 acres of park space for 600 people, average 23.3 acres per 1,000, also ranked high in the standing. Lake Forest has 26.2 acres per 1,000.

Other Lake county towns listed include Lake Villa, with an average park acreage of 8.7; Barrington, 1.2; and Deerfield, 5.2. The Regional Planning Association recommends 10 acres of park area for each 1,000 people, and that of each 10 acres approximately three acres be devoted to playground purposes. The survey showed that several of Chicago's "ritzy" suburbs, including Evanston and Oak Park, have lower averages than Waukegan. Chicago itself has 1.4 acres per 1,000 population, a low average even among large cities.

Chicago Business Looks for Progress in the Coming Year

Chicago wholesalers look upon the record retail purchasing of the recent holiday season as the best sort of a basis for the reconstruction program sponsored by President Hoover, according to trade observers of the Chicago Association of Commerce. "Right now store shelves all over the country are so empty that retailers must buy," said one prominent Chicago distributor. "While hand to mouth purchasing is extremely pronounced, the number of orders for immediate delivery has taken a big spurt during recent weeks with some interest in future contracts."

The most encouraging reports come from the clothing and allied industries. With the women of the country won over to the new fitted and "below the knee" styles, sales of corsets, hosiery, lingerie and fabrics have shown a marked increase. This is in contrast to conditions a few months ago when uncertainty regarding fashions hurt the dress goods concerns badly. Under the new styles, it is expected that the corset industry will enjoy a much needed rejuvenation.

Ready-to-wear garments are also being bought rather heavily. Concerns specializing in men's garments also are extremely optimistic.

Sales by Chicago clothiers in California in recent weeks have been the best on record, the Association of Commerce finds. This has been accompanied by a steadily growing interest among consumers in Southern states.