

MR. LEWIS EXPLAINS PROPERTY PURCHASE

Open Letter to Press Clears up Matter Misunderstood by Many

Editor, Highland Park Press, Highland Park, Ill.

Dear Sir:

A rumor has come to me from a number of sources that misinformation is being given the citizens of Highland Park about the acquiring of the land for the new city hall and the new public library.

May I say, in the beginning of this letter, that I am confident this is not coming from our opposing candidates, but is being circulated by others who are maliciously trying to embarrass the present administration.

The city paid \$110,000 for the property at St. Johns and Hazel avenue, this being all the money which we had on hand for the purchase of land. The library board then appealed to us to purchase an additional 50 feet for their new building adjoining the old library property. The property wanted by them was being held at \$50,000, and the Highland Park East Park District having offered to help us acquire this civic center, offered to buy part of the city hall property for \$50,000. The sale of this property was advertised in accordance with the statutes of the state of Illinois, and the only bidder on the property was the Highland Park East Park District, in the amount of \$50,000.

We therefore sold the property and received their check for that amount. We then immediately took that check and purchased part of the property on which the new public library now stands, for the amount of \$50,000. That left still unpurchased the corner piece of property on Laurel and St. Johns, which was desirable to fill out the entire block for a civic center. The Park District offered to purchase that property and hold it in their name, and this they did.

The charge being made is that the same piece of property was paid for twice, but it will be seen from this explanation that that charge is absolutely erroneous and could be easily proven so by anyone who would be fair enough to take the time to look into the city records. Surely no fair-minded person would believe that the city administration would dare to pay for any property twice, and not even the most baseless enemy would charge such a thing to this administration. The records of the city are open to everyone, and always have been. All negotiations for this property were carried on in open council meeting, and there has been no secret whatsoever as to the method of acquiring.

This is only one of a great many baseless rumors, and may I repeat that we are not in any way charging these rumors to any of the present candidates, as I personally know that they are much too honorable to make any such statement.

I will appreciate space in your paper for the publication of this letter, as I believe it is due not only to the administration but to the good name of Highland Park.

Sincerely yours,
BENJAMIN F. LEWIS.

Salvation Army Drive Here Making Progress; Meeting to Be Held

The Salvation Army board of Highland Park report good work being done and a fine spirit of co-operation in the interests of the Salvation Army support.

Those who have not contributed to the Salvation Army are urged to do so promptly directly to the treasurer, William Dooley at the North Shore Trust Company bank. This will save a personal call from the members of the board.

A meeting of the Women's Division (preparatory for appeal work) was held at the Y. W. C. A. Monday, April 13, at 3:15. Mr. S. A. St. Peter addressed the group and distributed appeal material for advance solicitation.

As the division increases in numbers (a hundred women are needed) all members should be registered with the secretary of the board, Mr. Belmont, at the Chamber of Commerce. Names, addresses and telephone numbers are required for all workers.

The board will entertain the Women's Division at luncheon Friday, April 17 at 12 o'clock at the Green Tea Pot. Kindly let the secretary, Mr. Belmont, have the registrations as early as possible before Friday noon.

The invitation is extended to all ladies who will give two hours time to this very worthy work.

It should be remembered that the support is asked for the unfortunates constantly being served from this county and that inadequate money has been received to pay for the free cases sheltered for several years.

The Salvation Army work is that of a permanent rehabilitation character, thereby differing from other rescue work, which is largely of a temporary nature, according to the reports of work done. The Army's cost of operation should also be borne in mind—the lowest of any philanthropic organization seeking the help of the public.

Mr. S. A. St. Peter says "Highland Park never fails to make good and we shall not fail the Salvation Army now," but much earnest work is still to be done in the coming week to put the budget over the top. Promptness is essential.

Friendship Club To Hold Dance Tonight

The Friendship club of the Y. W. C. A. is having their annual dance, this evening, April 16. Tickets may be had from club members or may be purchased at the door. Betty Worth's Highlanders five piece orchestra will play. Dancing from 8:30 to 12:00 o'clock. The public is most cordially invited.

Dr. Israel Bettan Speaks Next Sunday

Dr. Israel Bettan will conduct the services next Sunday morning, April 19th, at 11 o'clock, at North Shore Congregation Israel, Lincoln and Vernon avenues, Glencoe. The subject of his sermon will be: "The Open Life."

All are welcomed.

Milton J. Hardacre Elected President of East Park Board

President Everett L. Millard of the park board relinquishes the office to Milton J. Hardacre at the board meeting on Wednesday, thereby terminating nine years of active service as president. During his presidency the greater part of the park districts development has taken place.

Milton J. Hardacre, who was elected president, has been a commissioner since January 1925 and shared in the work of development of the park district. Mr. Millard in retiring stated he would at all times aid Mr. Hardacre in giving him the result of his experience. Mr. Hardacre, in accept-

ing the responsibility of the office, stated that he desired the support and advice of Mr. Millard at all times. A resolution was passed commending Mr. Millard on the able manner in which he conducted the administration during the long term her served.

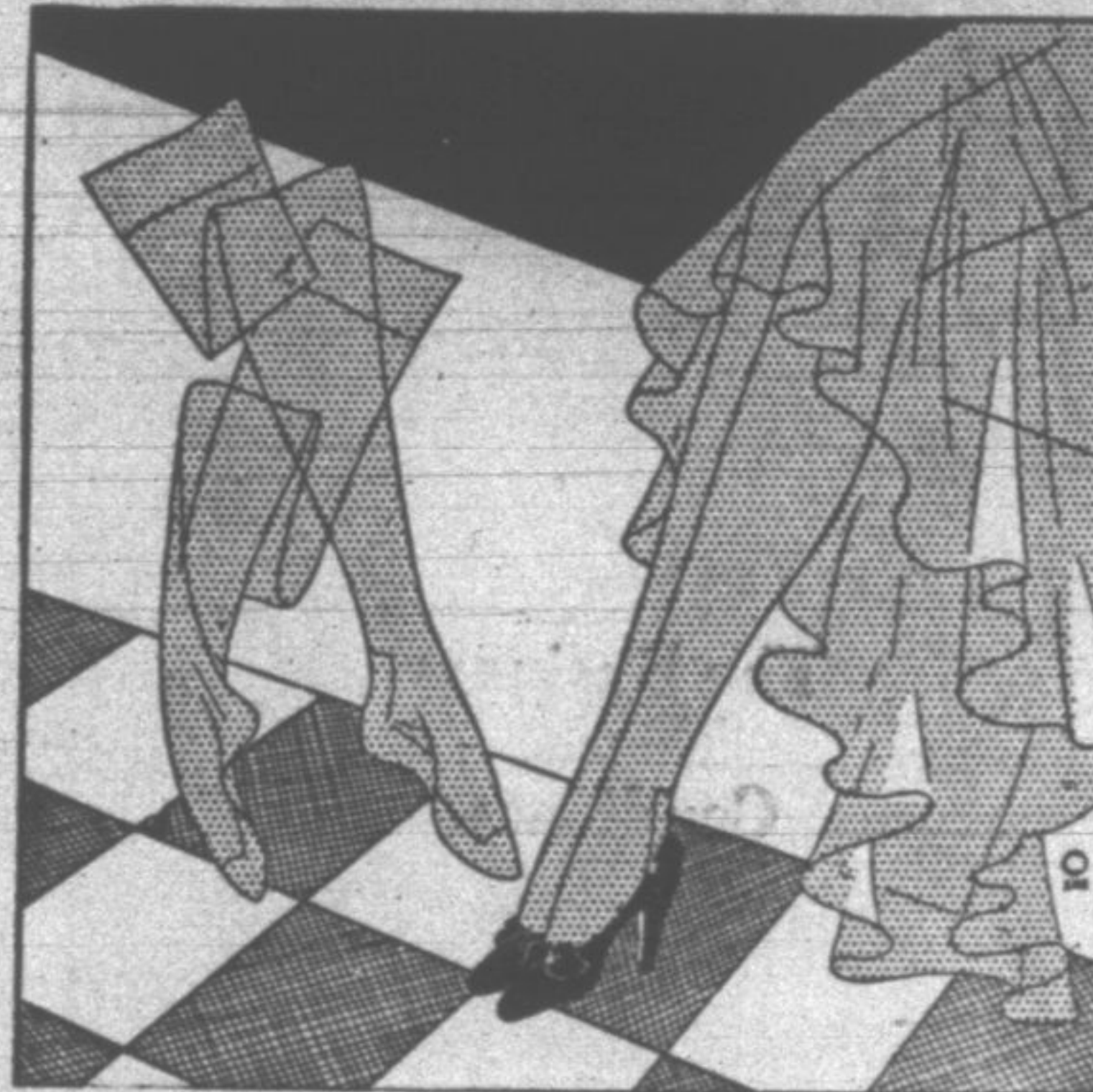
Other officers elected were: John L. Udell, vice-president, Charles F. Grant, treasurer, and Edward M. Laing, secretary.

Give Dance April 18

The Italian Woman's Prosperity club will sponsor a dance Saturday, April 18, at the Oak Terrace school. Music will be furnished by El Sheridan's orchestra. An invitation is extended the public to attend.

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