

TAXPAYERS MEETING HELD FRIDAY NIGHT

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ing last Friday and introduced the speakers. Mr. W. F. Brecheisen, president of the Waukegan Taxpayers' association, was the first speaker and he outlined, briefly, some of the work accomplished by that organization in Waukegan. Mr. Axel Lonnquist, prominently known in the real estate circles of Cook county, and a resident of Kenilworth, presented some interesting facts relative to our antiquated revenue laws, the inequalities of assessments between real and personal property and other abuses which have grown up in our taxation machinery which was designed for the "horse and buggy" era.

Mr. D. F. Wentworth, attorney, who has been busily engaged in Lake county taxation matters, outlined the objectives to be gained by close cooperation of organized groups of taxpayers locally, in the county and in the state. Other speakers from various sections of the county expressed the belief that relief from excessive taxes can only be obtained through organized effort of taxpayers.

As expressed by Mr. Denzel, temporary chairman, it is not the aim of this organization to foster any taxpayers' strike such as Cook county is now experiencing, but to acquaint the taxpayers with necessary facts and information relative to public expenditures so that the necessary demands may be made upon such tax spending agencies and force a more economical government wherever possible.

Some of the objectives of the Taxpayers association are summarized as follows:

Objectives

1. To maintain a non-political, independent organization for the

study of taxation problems and the seeking of a remedy therefor.

2. To promote, urge and force the adoption of practical business principles, efficiency and economies by all tax-spending bodies and in all public offices.

3. To procure the equalization of taxation so as not to have an unfair burden on any taxpayer.

4. To make and maintain a check on tax-spending and tax-collecting bodies and officers.

5. To serve in the nature of a taxpayers clearing house, whereby ideas as to tax problems may be exchanged and tax interests organized, coordinated and amalgamated and marshalled to the benefit of all taxpayers and tax organizations.

Any taxpayer interested in the objects as stated above and desires to become a member of the Deerfield Township Taxpayers association is requested to fill out the application blank printed as an advertisement elsewhere in this newspaper.

Following is chairman Denzel's address in opening the meeting.

Mr. Denzel's Address

Fellow Taxpayers, ladies and gentlemen; for the last month, since the tax bills arrived, we hear complaints all around us, about high taxes.

Some of us banded together and called this meeting to find out what the taxpayers wishes really are.

At the outset I wish to say that I do not blame any one person in particular for this state of affairs. I do not blame Mr. Ringdahl, our assessor; I think he tried to be as fair as anyone could be. I do not blame our present city administration. I think they are an honest body of men. I do not blame the different school boards. In fact I do not blame anyone of the taxing bodies in our wonderful City of Highland Park. — Believe me, I am proud of this city. I do not think there is any better city than ours anywhere.

We are all to blame for the existing conditions. We have gone through prosperous years and when money was coming easy we did not mind the taxes. Most every bond issue that came up was approved at the polls by the voters. We voted for the bond issues, at least the majority of voters did, and now we are in duty bound to pay the bonds and interest thereon.

Now comes a time when the patient taxpayers income has decreased to a great extent. He is still willing to pay a fair amount of taxes, but we must request the different tax levying bodies, by that I mean the city, the schools, the parks, the county, the state and the government at large, to curtail their expenditures as low as possible. I do not mean 10 per cent, but possibly a 30 or 40 per cent reduction. Some will say, "That is not possible." I say it is, for we can do lots of things if we have to, and now is the time we have to do it.

I hope the governing bodies will give their earnest attention to this matter, as we do not want to get into the same condition as our large neighbor city to the south. I hope I have not offended any one, as that is not my intention.

Now, my fellow taxpayers, I do not know that we can change the taxes for the year 1931; but, if we band together I think we should be able to obtain a substantial reduction for 1932.

The City club, of this city, which I think is quite an able body, but an article in yesterday's Press, which gives a number of facts; one of which is, that the value in Deerfield township was raised \$1,300,000, while most other townships decreased.

In Lake Forest, our neighbor to the north, the city and bond tax levy was \$1.51; Highland Park, city and bond levy was \$1.41 for the year 1931. Lake Forest schools levied, in 1931, 60c per \$100 valuation. Highland Park's school levy for District No. 108 was \$2 per \$100 of assessed valuation, and I understand from the newspaper that they ask to raise it to \$2.30 per \$100. If I am mistaken in these figures I wish to apologize for my error.

Now, we all want schools, but we must keep their expenditures in line with our pocketbooks.

Ladies and Gentlemen, to help our situation, I can only see that we must band together; for "In Union There Is Strength." I hope that we can do this all peacefully, and, if our Tax Levying bodies co-operate with the taxpayers we can do it easily.

I think we should form a strong organization, meet from time to time and take such action as is deemed necessary. But we must have an organization to carry our wishes to the polls if necessary and elect people who will spend our tax money carefully.

The necessities of life such as butter, eggs and fruit, and many other things have come down to the very lowest. Butter was offered the other day for 22c, eggs for 12 and 15c and potatoes at 60c per bushel. A few years ago eggs sold for 65c and potatoes at \$2.50 per bushel.

Our unemployed must be taken care of. I do not object to taxes for them.

Our other tax spending bodies can greatly reduce their expendi-

tures, and must do so to relieve the present situation.

Is there any one in the audience who would like to express himself on this subject? We will be glad to hear from anyone but ask you not make any false accusations or jump at conclusions. This is a friendly gathering and we wish it to retain that atmosphere.

WOMAN'S CLUB HAS ANNUAL MEETING

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bills paid and a substantial balance to the club's credit but the club loyalty and club interest is in a splendid condition and the members are ready and willing to take up the duties of a new club year. Much of this fine spirit and true interest is due to the leadership of the president, Mrs. Carleton A. Harkness who has endeared herself to the club members by her fine co-operation, her friendship and her deep interest in the club's work. Mrs. Harkness has been an inspiration to her fellow workers.

All of the reports were concrete evidences of accomplishments and all deserve special mention and sincere gratitude.

Mrs. Werner A. Wieboldt, chairman of Revisions presented two revisions that are worthy of attention. They relate to a change in the financial requirements for members during the next club year.

Attractive Dances

At the close of the business meeting, Miss Polly Gerts gave a number of attractive dances. Miss Gerts is an artist pupil of Adolph Bohm as well as of Alexandra Maximova of Chicago. In addition, Miss Gerts has studied under Almeria Escudero of Paris and also under Otero of Seville.

Miss Julianna Holmes accompanied Miss Gerts in a most delightful manner and played several artistic piano solos between the dances.

Mrs. Charles G. Mason, the program chairman has given the club members many worthwhile afternoons during the year and Miss Gerts and Miss Holmes were a delightful pair of artists to end the club season.

Mrs. Harkness thanked the club members for their work and interest and adjourned the meeting, to meet in October.

Officers Elected

The following officers were elected:

1st Vice President, Mrs. Arthur Raff; recording secretary, Mrs. Milton Souther; treasurer, Mrs. Harry Paul; chairman home and education, Mrs. Jacob Weinberg; chairman social service, Edwin Murfey; director, Mrs. Charles Tyson.

Lake County Bankers Met Tuesday Evening

The Lake County Bankers association met Tuesday evening in Deerfield. A four course dinner, served family style, was prepared by the Dorcas society at the Deerfield Presbyterian church. A fine program followed the dinner.

MILD SPRING DAYS

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