

## 50 Years of Growth for North Shore Gas Co.



First Plant of North Shore Gas Company in Waukegan.



One of the modern gas making plants now operated by the North Shore Gas Company.

A half century ago a small, but hopeful, company was organized to bring Waukegan, and its immediate vicinity, a service entirely new to residents of this city. A small plant was erected, equipment installed, and customers solicited. This enterprise was the old Waukegan Gas Light Company, the predecessor of the North Shore Consolidated Gas Company which subsequently became the North Shore Gas Company.

During a period of about 15 years, the Waukegan Gas Light Company succeeded in surviving the pioneering obstacles which few new businesses escape. Gas service was not new to other parts of the country, notably in the east where gas companies had been doing business since early in the 19th century. But in 1885 there were few companies in the middle west. Light Company needed to familiarize practically every potential user with facts not only concerning advantages of using gas service but also facts about this new fuel itself. Slowly, however, customers were acquired and the new service was definitely established.

Just prior to 1900 a new group purchased the Waukegan Gas Light Company and proceeded not only to improve the plant and distribution facilities in Waukegan but to extend gas mains to Highland Park. Plans to distribute gas in Highland Park from the company's plant in Waukegan necessitated the use of a high pressure gas line, the first in the middle west. Low pressure transmission of gas over a long distance was impractical, and the high pressure medium came at an opportune time to solve this distribution problem.

One of the early activities of the North Shore Gas Company, which enabled it to show the benefits of gas cooking, was a series of cooking schools conducted by a nationally known home economics worker. These cooking schools were held in the spring of 1902. During the intervening years since that date the company has held regular cooking schools to acquaint its customers with the latest culinary methods and newest recipes.

Following installation of gas in Highland Park, the company continued to expand its area of service. In 1903, gas mains were laid as far as Roger Williams avenue in Ravinia. Glencoe was the next community to have gas service, receiving it in 1905. By 1908 Winnetka also was included in the communities the company was serving. Gas mains also had been extended to Libertyville in 1903 and to Deerfield in 1908. These were the years in which the company began developing a greater scope of service. Where only Waukegan had been receiving gas up to the turn of the century, after 1900 many other communities were added to the company's roster of towns served. Today more than 25 communities have service supplied by the North Shore Gas Company, with something over 500 miles of gas main being required to reach its customers.

When the first gas trunk lines were laid, one factor was not taken into consideration. This later was to make it necessary to enlarge many of the distribution lines. The overlooked factor was the steady increase in gas consumption. The gas generating plant also was found to be inadequate to provide sufficient gas to meet growing demands. So in 1900 newest gas manufacturing methods were investigated and a new plant erected. Since 1911 the company has made

several additions to its gas producing facilities and has kept its equipment modernized for greatest gas making efficiency.

At the beginning of the present century gas was used chiefly for illumination. Some customers, in addition to using gas for light, took advantage of its usefulness for cooking. It was not until several years later, however, that the majority of the company's customers began using gas for cooking. Then, as gas service became firmly established as a household necessity, many other uses for it were developed. Gas service today includes every use for which fuel is required. Enlarging gas service to this degree of usefulness is one of the reasons homes now provide more comfort than at any other time in history.

In addition to supplying homes with gas, the North Shore Gas Company, since the early nineteen hundreds, also has supplied bakeries, restaurants, hotels and many industries. The accuracy with which gas may be regulated provides dependable temperatures which commercial cooking and many industrial processes require.

During the years that the North Shore Gas Company has been serving the north shore, this area has grown into one of the most desirable residential districts in the country. The population is many times the size it was 50 years ago. In order to supply the steadily mounting demands for gas, and to provide service of the highest order, the company has continued to in-

vest large amounts of money in increased manufacturing facilities. Additional gas storage equipment also has been provided with the erection of a 2,000,000 cubic foot gas holder and compressor station at Deerfield. This holder enables the company to assure an adequate supply of gas in Highland Park, Winnetka and Glencoe. Gas is carried through trunk lines to the Deerfield holder from the company's plant in Waukegan.

Through all of the years it has served the north shore, the North Shore Gas Company has endeavored to make its service impeccable. High standards have been maintained both in quality of the gas itself and in its distribution. Today's service and that of 50 years ago reveal a vast difference. For the company has made every effort to make its service meet changing and more exacting demands.

### Install New Equipment at Highland Park Hospital

Installation has been completed at the Highland Park hospital of a new operating table and operating lamp, the purchase of which was made possible by a bequest from the late W. A. Alexander of Highland Park.

The table and lamp are the very latest and most efficient type of hospital equipment available and are regarded as a most important addition to the facilities of the hospital.

### Benefit Street Dance in Deerfield August 24th

The Deerfield Woman's Club will sponsor a street dance on Westgate Road, Deerfield, Saturday evening.

A good orchestra has been engaged and those who attend will be assured of a pleasant evening.

The money realized at this affair and in future such events will be put into the fieldhouse fund. The public is cordially invited.

### Deerfield Churches to Begin Union Services

For the next three Sundays the three Protestant churches in Deerfield will hold joint services.

Churches participating are the Bethlehem Evangelical, St. Paul's Evangelical, and the Presbyterian.

The first of the series of three union services will be held Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at St. Paul's Church, with Dr. W. F. Weir, minister of the Presbyterian, in the pulpit.

The sermon will be "Triumphant Christian Living in an Unfavorable World."

The envelope offerings will be sent to the respective churches for which they are designated and the free will offering will remain in the church in which the service is held.

Deerfield Presbyterian Church  
Rev. W. F. Weir, Minister  
Church school at 9:45 a.m.  
Union service at St. Paul's at 11 a.m.

### U. S. Navy School of Music to Open

In an endeavor to increase the present efficiency of the U. S. Navy bands, the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., has authorized the establishing of a U. S. Navy School of Music at the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. This school will be under the direct supervision of the leader of the U. S. Navy Band, Washington, D. C.

Applicants must be native-born or fully naturalized citizens of the United States and from eighteen to twenty-five years of age. Character reference and birth must be furnished. A short statement of proficiency under some previous employer is required of all applicants.

Enlistment will be for a period of six years, two of which will be served at the school.

Upon written request to the Navy Recruiting Station, new post office building, Chicago, Ill., application blanks will be furnished.

### John Stratford Dies From A Heart Attack

John Thomas Stratford, 68, 656 Chicago avenue, Highland Park, died at his home on Saturday at 3:30 p.m., from a heart attack. He is survived by his wife, Sarah Anne, three sons, Albert, William and Reginald, and a daughter, Georgina. A gardener by trade, he had lived in Highland Park for more than 25 years.

Funeral services were held at the home Tuesday at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Christoph Keller of Trinity Episcopal church, Highland Park, conducting the services.

Rebekah Lodge Meeting  
The Sheridan Rebekah lodge No. 801 will hold a stated meeting on Monday evening, August 19 at 8 o'clock at which they will observe Friend's Night.  
The members are urged to attend this meeting.

### Artillery Team Beats Fort Sheridan at Polo

Aided by an allowance of three goals on handicap, and artistic "feeding" by Herb Lorber, the 124th Artillery polo team defeated Fort Sheridan, 6 to 4, last Sunday at the fort.

Lieut. Larry G. Smith starred for the army team, while W. R. Blair substituted in three chukkers for Capt. W. G. Duncel.

An attendance of 1,500 set a new record. Summary:

124th Artillery	Fort Sheridan
McAnulty No. 1	Greiner
Everett No. 2	Caplan
Lorber No. 3	Lade
Schuh Back	Smith
Doherty All	Rhineland

Score by chukkers:  
124th Artillery 4 0 1 0 0 1-4  
Fort Sheridan 1 0 1 0 1 0-4  
Goals—Everett, 2; Lorber, 1; Greiner, 2; Lade, 1; Smith, 1.

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