

The Highland Park Press

VOLUME XXIX

HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1939

NUMBER 30

Administration By ROBERT C. L. PRICE

Comments

The council meeting held last Monday evening was a routine affair, with practically no new or old business to discuss. The attendance of the councilmen was again perfect, but the audience was one of the smallest since the present administration took office—there being but 17, of which nearly one-half were employees of the city.

Mr. Prindle, superintendent of the water plant, disclosed that Ten million gallons more of water were pumped in the first 17 days of September this year than in the whole month of September last year. The torrid spell that we had last week certainly helped the water department. Mr. Sharp reported on the collection of the water bills stating that the collection on the last billing was good, but that he had received several calls in which people expressed the feeling that the administration was being pretty tough about the matter. He further stated that the city is not being tough, but that it is necessary for these collections in order to meet the payments on the bonds, which amounts to about \$50,000 this year, and the interest payments of 4% per cent. The new water bills come out November 1st and two payments are much more difficult to collect than a single installment.

Commissioner Swanson reported that the lumber has been ordered for the Waverly road bridge; that examinations are now being conducted for street department jobs by the civil service board; and that brighter street lights are being placed at the more important locations. Mr. Sharp brought up a discussion on the placing of a stop sign for south bound traffic on First street at Laurel avenue (at Larson Bros. garage). It was agreed that such a sign is necessary because of poor vision caused by the viaduct. Mr. Swanson and Chief of Police Moroney were instructed to check into the matter.

Commissioner Bowes stated that he, Mr. Morris and Chief Moroney had checked on and had removed many of the unlicensed signs in Highland Park.

The Mayor announced that he and other members of the council had received a number of calls and complaints about the bad odor from burning garbage. He stated that the foul odor complained of was not from garbage disposal but from

D.A.R. Card Party at Woman's Club Tuesday Afternoon

During the 46 years since the North Shore chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized, active interest in all community and civic affairs has been the object of the members. Work with the disabled veterans of the Spanish American and World wars; presenting to our fellow-citizens the Flag staffs on Central avenue and in Ravinia; presenting American flags as well as sets of "Flags that have flown over America" to our schools as well as framed "Correct Use of the Flag" codes; assisting one young woman to complete her education through the use of our Student Loan; publishing a History of Highland Park by Evva Egan Truax; maintaining for years a night school for foreign born are but a few of the contributions this chapter has made to our community.

On Tuesday, September 26, at 2 o'clock, a delightful card party and tea will be given by Mrs. Warren Danley, Regent, and Mrs. Walter Rice, chairman of the Ways and Means committee, to secure funds to carry on the work of the North Shore chapter. The party will be in the Highland Park Woman's club house.

Ed. Menke Talks on Electricity at Rotary Club Meet

The Rotary Club of Highland Park heard one of its own members, Mr. Edward Menke, district superintendent of the Public Service company, deliver an enlightening and forceful address before the club on last Monday at Hill's Tea Room.

"Your Electric Service" was the theme of Mr. Menke's presentation and in it he quickly traced the cycle of converting heat energy into electrical energy, and the extent to which the Public Service company has gone to insure the excellent electric service we receive here in Highland Park.

In his rapid fire talk, the speaker touched on many other phases of the utility industry which were of much interest to the audience of 45 members present.

In the year 1938 the average kilowatt hour used per customer in Highland Park was 1587 as compared to the national average of 845.

Narrator for Junior Programs



Martha Pickens, who will speak for cast of performers appearing in Pinocchio at Highland Park High School, Friday, Oct. 6th.

Ravinia Woman's Club Program to Open on October 11

Although the Ravinia Woman's Club ostensibly begins its year's activities with a meeting of the board, at the home of Mrs. Gilbert K. Hardacre, on the fourth of October, actually at least members of the program committee have been active for several weeks. Capably chaired by Mrs. Mason Smith, this committee, consisting of Mrs. David R. Clarke, Mrs. James A. Davis, Mrs. M. C. Fordtran, Mrs. W. J. B. Janisch, Mrs. Kenneth E. Kraft, Mrs. Harry K. VanOrnum and Mrs. B. A. Weber, has scheduled programs for the year that promise great appeal in broadly diversified fields.

At the first general meeting of the club, on October 11, Mrs. Frances Coates Grace, originator of "Cameo Operas," will present "Peter Ibbetson." This meeting will also be the occasion of the annual autumn luncheon. November 8 is the date chosen for the one evening meeting of the year, to which members' husbands are especially invited. The selection of Mr. Perry Rohrer of Cook County's Criminal Court Clinic, assures an interesting evening to conscience-free members of his audience. Appropriately the subject of the lecture at the December meeting will be "Comparative Religions," presented by Dr. A. Estace Haydon of the University of Chicago.

(Continued on page 8)

Miss Ruth Scott Announces Schedule for Y.W.C.A. Dramatic

Miss Ruth Scott, new member of the Y.W.C.A. staff, has announced her dramatic schedule for the coming year. Children from 6 to 8 will meet from 9:30 to 10:30 on Saturday morning, beginning Sept. 30.



Those between the ages of 8 and 12 will meet from 11 until 12 o'clock, also beginning on Sept. 30.

The course consists of 10 lessons. Registrations will be accepted this week and next. Phone either Miss Scott or Miss Walbridge at the Y.W.C.A. for details.

Miss Scott received her training at Rollins college, in Winter Park, Florida.

Fire Chief Warns Citizens Dangers of Grass Fires

The following warning from Chief Hoskin regarding unreasonable demands upon the Fire Department is timely and may help relieve a bad situation:

"I am writing with the hope that citizens will see the danger which they are exposing themselves and their neighbors to by starting grass fires. Hot weather and lack of rain has dried out the fields and vacant property and created a dangerous situation. There has been a tendency on the part of home owners to set fire to grass and weeds when the wind is in the right direction to remove all chances of endangering their own homes, but are not concerned about the danger that their neighbors are subjected to. Put yourself in this neighbor's position and you can see the injustice of starting these grass fires. There is another reason and a very serious one. There have been times when alarms have been sounded with such frequency, that very piece of equipment is out of touch with the alarm system perhaps in extreme parts of our city, thereby leaving the city in danger of a large fire taking place before the department can be reassembled. This is a serious matter and I hope you will cooperate and assist in safeguarding our city against a serious fire."

EDWARD C. HOSKIN,
Fire Marshal.

Community Chorus Reorganizes Sept. 27

Now that cool evenings are here to stay, the members of the Community Chorus are eager to gather together for their interesting hours of music. The opening meeting of the season will be held in the "Y" assembly room on Laurel avenue, Wednesday, September 27, promptly at 8 o'clock. Mr. Louis Palmer, the talented and enthusiastic leader of last year, will again conduct the rehearsals, and Miss Helen Taylor, will ably assist him as accompanist. Mr. Palmer is the conductor of the orchestra and band at Lake Forest college.

It is earnestly hoped that all the members of last year's chorus will come to the opening meeting of this musical group, and new members of the community and any others, men or women, who possess good singing voices will be heartily welcome. An election of officers will be held, some simple singing indulged in, and refreshments will be served.

H. P. Music Club Meets September 27

The first meeting of the Highland Park Music club will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at "Wooded Knoll," the beautiful home of Mrs. Harold Van Steenderen, eleven miles west of Half Day on Route 22. Members will bring a box lunch to be served at one o'clock after which there will be an informal music program. Anyone wishing transportation, please call Mrs. L. E. Meyer, H. P. 3214, or any other member of the board.

Presbyterian Church Receives Memorial Gift for New Chancel

Sit Down Actress Speaks For Cast of Silent Performers

A pretty titian-haired young lady who stands alone in the theater as the only actress to speak as many as twenty roles a performance on a stage filled with others who say nothing, will sit down and act in Highland Park on October 6 when the Junior Programs Ballet company, featuring Edwin Strawbridge, comes hereto give its performance of "Pinocchio," sponsored jointly by the Deerfield Township P.T.A.'s. The production will be given twice before an audience of children and adults on October 6 at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Highland Park High School Auditorium. It is urged that as many adults as possible attend the evening performance, thus leaving room for the younger children to come in the afternoon.

Martha Louise Picken may be certain in her acting career that she will never be "typed"—in other words be a performer who merely acts herself, speaking lines in a role suiting her character by the fortunes of fate and playwriting. She has so wide a range in voice and manner as to amaze not only her audience, but even theater-wide critics of the Metropolis. The variety of her characterization in a single performance exceeds even those of Ruth Draper and Cornelia Otis Skinner at times.

In "Pinocchio" Miss Picken combines the exercise of an ancient and novel theatrical technique, that of the Narrator, which was employed in the Classic theater of antiquity, was discarded for a few millenniums, and has now been adapted for use in the new Dance-Play form used in the Junior Programs production. All the action is interpreted in dancing and pantomime by the various characters, and Miss Picken, sitting on one side of the stage, speaks the lines for every character. Her phenomenal skill never fails to arouse wonder in her auditors.

(Continued on page 8)

Family Pays Tribute To George M. Bard Deceased

An announcement of very general interest was made at the Highland Park Presbyterian church Sunday, in a meeting of the congregation following the morning service. Dr. Louis W. Sherwin, the pastor, announced a memorial gift of \$10,000 to provide a new chancel for the church.

This chancel, to be known as the Bard Memorial Chancel, is being given by Mrs. George Morris Bard in memory of her husband, and by her three sons, Francis Norwood Bard, Ralph Austin Bard, and Roy Emerson Bard, as a memorial to their father, who passed away in December 1932. Mr. Bard was for years a faithful member of the Highland Park Presbyterian church and a member of the session of the church. A very stalwart Christian character, he was deeply interested in everything that pertained to the church, the spiritual welfare of the community and many forms of philanthropic work. This splendid gift will be not only a fitting tribute to his memory but it will also serve greatly to enrich the services and promote the welfare of the church.

During the time while the new chancel is being installed the pews of the church will be arranged in order to form a fitting center aisle for this house of divine worship. It is contemplated that the work will be completed and the chancel dedicated at Christmas time.

E. T. Skidmore & Son Start New Business

A new real estate and general insurance association known as E. T. Skidmore & Son has recently been formed in Highland Park. The members are Mr. Elmer T. Skidmore and his son, Harry, former Northwestern university baseball star. Both are well known in this territory, the former having resided here the past 35 years and Harry having lived here all his life.

Mr. Skidmore was at one time connected with a large real estate firm in Chicago prior to entering a general manufacturing business. For the past two years he has been specializing in taxatoin, accounting, and accounting system work as well as working in the real estate field. Under the Federal Housing Act, it is possible for individuals to maintain low costs and yet buy their own homes, and Mr. Skidmore is now offering assistance to those who have such needs or wish to lower their apartment rentals.

Since graduating from Northwestern university in 1938, Harry Skidmore has been employed by Hobart & Oates, General Agents in Chicago for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee. He was recently appointed to represent this 81 year old company in this territory. Harry has made an intensive study of the insurance field and is well qualified to conduct a general insurance business.

Both members of the enterprise, who are licensed brokers, are anxious to serve their clients and look forward to their future work in Highland Park and the surrounding territory.

Daughters Courageous at Alcyon Theatre

The Bumsteads are back having a wonderful time in the great open spaces, where there's more room to get into trouble! They're raising the dickens amongst the cows and chickens. In effect, the third of the sensationally hilarious "Blondie" comedy series comes to the Alcyon on Saturday. It's "Blondie Takes a Vacation" and the slap-happy Bumsteads continue to be played by Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake and Larry Simms.

"Daughters Courageous," comedy of domestic life which the Alcyon will present on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, could be termed a first cousin to the highly successful "Four Daughters," but it is not a sequel to that picture. There are the same four daughters in this family and again they are played by Priscilla, Rosemary and Lola Lane and Gale Page.

"Susannah of the Mounties," the famous story of the old Northwest, provides thrilling entertainment at the Alcyon next week Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with Shirley Temple as its star. Romantic honors are shared by Randolph Scott and Margaret Lockwood.

Richardson Wright Garden Authority To Speak Here

Richardson Wright, nationally famous garden authority and senior editor of "House and Garden," will lecture in this city on modern garden problems Saturday evening, Sept. 23, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Highland Park Woman's club. The general public is invited. Admission will be nominal.



Mr. Wright, who is chairman of the board of the Horticultural Society of New York and of the International Flower Show, is being presented by the North Shore Garden club in collaboration with the Men's Garden club of this city.

Mr. Wright is the author of numerous books on gardening and flowers; the most recent of which are "The Gardener's Year Book," published in 1938, and "Grandfather Was Queer," published this fall. He has also edited numerous books for "House and Garden," including their Book of Color Schemes and the Portfolio of Flower Prints.

Members of the two garden clubs presenting Mr. Wright are invited to attend this meeting free of charge. Non-members may purchase tickets at Gaele's Drug Stores in Highland Park and Ravinia, according to Larry Abt, program chairman of the Men's Garden club. Tickets will also be on sale at the door, Mr. Abt stated.