

The Highland Park Press

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Administration By ELMORE M. MURPHY *Comments*

In contrast with the December 4 meeting of the City Council when tension ran rather high at times over the incinerator problem, Monday evening's session was marked by a spirit of amity wholly in keeping with the holiday season. There was little in the way of jumpy nerves exhibited by the City Fathers as they dispatched the business at hand, the principle item of which consisted in formally accepting Community Service, Inc.'s bid of \$37,100 for the old City Hall property.

In paving the way for the acceptance by the council of the bid filed by Community Service, Inc. at last week's meeting, Mayor Roman read the results of an appraisal made on the property by the Evanston & North Shore Real Estate Board which placed on it a valuation of some \$37,075. While this sum is considerably under the \$90,000 once bid for the property several years ago and represents a considerable book loss on the city's balance sheet, the council felt that under the circumstances the sale was a wise and beneficial one. The reasons advanced for this conclusion were based primarily on the greatly decreased valuation of the property from the time the \$90,000 bid was received and secondly, the council felt that due to the beneficial use the property was going to be put by the purchaser the community would be well repaid for effecting its sale at this time. This latter point was particularly brought out by Renslow P. Sherer, president of Community Service, Inc. who was present at the meeting and who at the invitation of Mayor Roman gave a short resume of the history of the organization and the purposes for which it was founded. Mr. Sherer stated that the \$60,000 now in the organization's treasury was an outgrowth of a small sum of money originally collected by the Highland Park Women's Canteen during the first World War. As the result of astute investments made in local property this original nest egg grew to its present size.

Mr. Sherer stated that while Community Service, Inc., had hoped to start its Community Center on a more auspicious scale, it felt that the purchase of the old City Hall property was a real step in the right direction and that as additional funds were raised in the future, the more or less limited development planned for the present in time would be greatly expanded. He stressed the urgent need for a definite start to be made in providing for youth of the community a location and facilities in which to center its activities. Now that the initial step had been taken, Mr. Sherer believed that the ultimate goal of a Community Center, second to none, was well within reach of realization.

In outlining the organization's immediate plans, Mr. Sherer stated that \$8,000 of the fund's residue would be spent in outfitting and remodeling the property for its new purpose and \$12,000 would be set aside for operating expenses.

Considerable discussion was held at the meeting concerning Sunday bowling. The present city ordinance prohibits the operation of bowling establishments and pool halls on Sundays. The council was petitioned on Page 8

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"They Shall Have Music" to Be Shown on Alcyon Screen

The most fascinating family that ever strolled across a silver screen will be at the Alcyon tonight and Friday. So run over and welcome the charming Carletons in the gay comedy romance, "The Young in Heart." The outstanding cast includes Janet Gaynor, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Paulette Goddard, Roland Young and Billie Burke.

Capturing the behind-the-scenes romance, gaiety, adventure and excitement of life at the United States Military Academy, "The Duke of West Point" will make its screen appearance at the Alcyon on Saturday with Louis Hayward, Joan Fontaine and Tom Brown heading the cast. For everyone who appreciates first-rate film fare.

"They Shall Have Music" is an outstanding motion picture, powerfully enriched by the glorious music of Jascha Heifetz who makes his first screen appearance. The story is dramatically told, brilliantly directed and stirring acted. The cast which is featured in support of Heifetz includes Andrea Leeds, Walter Brennan and Joel McCrea. Heifetz plays several of the world's greatest masterpieces during the course of the film.

Ridgewood to Give Outdoor Xmas Party Sunday Evening

The 7th annual outdoor Ridgewood Christmas party according to Philip McKenna, president of the Ridgewood Park Asso. will be held Sunday, Dec. 17th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Aiston, 918 Ridgewood drive from five until seven in the evening and plans are being made to accommodate more than 200 grown-ups and children who are expected to attend.

Mrs. Bruce Parsons is general chairman in charge of arrangements and the special program to be given which will be around a big outdoor Christmas tree elaborately lighted and decorated for the occasion and which will be in addition to colored lights strung through the trees and special lighting effects by George Vetter.

The program according to Milton Souther, chairman in charge will include, outdoor movies, entertainment, singing around a big bon-fire, refreshments and will be climaxed by the personal appearance of Santa Claus who will bring presents for every child attending and whose appearance has been made possible through the good offices of Henry Hansen.

Mrs. W. Carado and Mrs. Wm. Hammond are in charge of the children's gifts that Santa Claus will present and among those who will assist and serve on the refreshment committee are: Mrs. Norman Hoag, Mrs. Clifford Moran, Mrs. Albert Lillie, Mrs. E. Harvey, Mrs. Wm. Blessing, Mrs. Jos. Webster, Mrs. Philip McKenna, Mrs. Whit Schultze, Mrs. Robt. Spahr and Mrs. H. B. Aiston.

Mr. McKenna under whose auspices the party is being given advises that there will be no charge and that everyone residing in the Ridgewood Park district is cordially invited to attend and bring the children to meet Santa Claus and enjoy an old fashioned Christmas celebration.

Christmas Play To Be Held Friday At Elm Place School

"Christmase in Merrie England" will be presented by the 8th grade pupils of Elm Place school December 15th (Friday) in the Jesse Lowe Smith auditorium at 8 o'clock. Tickets for the play may be purchased at the door.

Based on the "Bracebridge Hall" sketches by Washington Irving, the play is rich in historical customs and traditions which flourished in England hundreds of years ago.

One of these age-old customs portrayed in the play is the bringing in of the Yule log with attendant ceremony and jollity. In the old days, a great log, chosen for the festival, was dried weeks before Christmas. During the course of the celebration it was dragged by chains and ropes into the large central hall amid great cheering, while the revellers pulled it about, and many attempted to bestride it to secure good fortune for the coming year. Frequently the fairest lady of the manor was enthroned upon it. Finally the log was lighted with a charred brand saved from the log of the previous year.

The ceremony of the Boar's Head Processional is stately and beautiful. Borne aloft by the butler, who is accompanied by his attendants, the boar's head is triumphantly brought before the squire to the singing of the "Boar's Head Carol." This particular custom is followed every year at Christmas time at (Continued on page 8)

Annual White Gift Service Sunday December 17th

The annual White Gift service at the Highland Park Presbyterian church will be held this year on Sunday afternoon, December 17 at 5 o'clock. This custom of bringing of White Gifts has become a tradition among the members of the church, Church school and friends of the community.

The tableaux, scripture, songs, carols, and music tell the story of the "First Christmas." Members of the Church school will share in the presentation of White Gifts which will be used for boys and girls of Laird Community House and Association House of Chicago.

The music, under the direction of Helen Abbott Byfield, will be furnished by the choir, soloists, organist, and instrumentalists.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Prophets: Lewis Hutchinson, Daniel, J. D. Zook, Hosea, Bob Vinyard, Joshua, H. Murphy, Mary, Margaret McCroxy, Angel of the Annunciation, Jean Miles, Joseph, Charles H. Nixon, Shepherds: Dr. Baker M. Hamilton, William Hawes, David Maley, Wise Men: James Rankin, Leslie Rankin, Ray G. Steiner, Angels: Winifred Curry, June Dean, Joan Dean, Joan Ann Frable, Elaine Kaufman, Marilyn Kugel, Ethyl Swanson, Dorothy Wright, Cherubs: Barbara Barone, Carol Grady, Judith MacCorquodale, Janis Tupper, Dianne Weeks, Carolers: Leonard Balsamo, Barbara Franzen, Ross Harrington, James Estton, William Hawes, Shirley Lauridsen, Gloria Linari, Betty Lindsay, Margery Macche, Ann Mills, Soloists: Edith Musser, Ray G. Steiner, Harrington, Violinists: William Hawes, Instrumentalists: Barbara Franzen, Ross Harrington, violinists: William Hawes, autist, Electricians: Robert W. Schneider, Traver Hamilton, Richard Markel, Dean Tjaden, Costume and Make-up Aides: Mrs. Ben S. Buckmaster, Mrs. Henry C. Hawes, Miss Katherine Block, Miss Helen Boyce, Miss Patricia Haynes, Miss Jean Vetter, Miss Irene Ely, Miss Catherine Davis, Miss Madge Hawkins, Stage: Mr. R. L. Hudson, Decorations: Mrs. Frederick B. Carpenter.

H. P. Music Club Meets Wednesday

The Highland Park Music Club will meet on Wednesday, December 20, at the home of Mrs. Ralph A. Bard, 531 N. St. Johns avenue. Mrs. Bard and Mrs. Donald Boynton, duo pianists, and Mrs. Laurence E. Meyer, contralto, will present the following program:

Three Bach Transcriptions, Now Comes the Gentle Savior (transcribed by Pierre Lohsbuht), Sielienne (transcribed by Guy Maier), Prelude in E from the Sixth Sonata for Violin (transcribed by Saar), Mary Spear Bard and Winifred C. Boynton, Sketches of New York, Kathleen Lockhart Manning, Along the East River, Street Scene, Tenement Windows, Greenwich Village Nights, Fifth Avenue, The St. Regis Roof, Ruth W. Meyer, Romance, Kathleen Lockhart Manning, Grieg, The Blue Danube Waltzes, Strauss-Chains, Mrs. Bard and Mrs. Boynton, Margalen at Michael's Gate, Liza Lehmann, O. Mary, Where Is Your Baby, Kennedy from "Mellows" arr. by Kennedy, Velvet Shoes, Don Malin, Rain Has Fallen, Samuel Barber, Dawn, Ernest Charles, Mrs. Meyer, Mrs. Cloud Wampler will be the accompanist for Mrs. Meyer.

Braeside School to Hold Christmas Program Monday

The Braeside school will present its Christmas entertainment on Monday evening, December 18, at 7:30 in the school auditorium. There will be singing and the play, "Why the Chimes Rang." The children's Christmas party will be held the following Wednesday afternoon at the school.

Only 8 Days Left to Complete Your Christmas Shopping

Highland Park stores are alive with activity the past few days, for Christmas is "just around the corner," so to speak, for only eight more shopping days remain.

Santa as usual has made his appearance in the toy department of one of the dry goods stores, and everywhere there is a note of Christmas activity.

The attractively lighted trees which were placed in the business district by the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce and business men, lend a most inspiring sight and in spite of the lovely spring weather we have been experiencing tend to offset any doubt as to whether this is December or May.

Beginning tonight, the local business houses will remain open evenings until 9 o'clock through Saturday, December 23. This year Christmas shopping will have to be completed two days before Christmas, for Christmas eve falls on Sunday evening.

Local business houses are vibrant with their attractive stocks of merchandise. Practical household necessities and furniture, useful clothing, handkerchiefs, perfumes, novelties, plants, flowers, and even food are offered in a variety of price ranges. One can spend hours in the business district browsing over the attractive displays, and getting ideas for their gift lists.

It isn't too late to get Christmas cards either, but the deadline for these will be set in a day or two.

For the convenience of their patrons, the Highland Park post office will remain open evenings until 8 o'clock, beginning this evening. The office will also be open all day Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m.

Don't forget that only a few days remain until Christmas, and it's the early bird that gets the best selection.

Ravinia Woman's Club Plans Annual Holly Hop Dec. 28

The second annual Holly Hop will be held Thursday evening, December 28, in the Ravinia Village House. This dance, sponsored by the Ravinia Woman's Club, is planned for members' sons and daughters of high school and college age and their friends.

Music will be furnished by the Colonial Club orchestra, the same hot band that played at the recent Turnabout.

Dancing will commence at 9 o'clock and continue until 1 a.m. Tickets may be obtained by calling Mrs. Claburn Jones, Highland Park 714, or Mrs. J. M. Murphy, H.P. 1916.

Get your date lined up now for this brilliant holiday social affair.

Holds Full Suit in Two Bridge Games

They say it happens once in a lifetime, and yet, Dr. James A. Butterworth claims that he held two perfect bridge hands in two weeks.

Butterworth, who does not like cards and only plays as a matter of courtesy to his host, was enticed into a game of bridge November 30 at the home of Charles L. Kluss, 879 Ridgewood drive. He was dealt a hand containing 13 diamonds. Again on Saturday evening of last week, while visiting friends in Chicago, he was urged into a game of cards, and this time was dealt 13 spades.

Old City Hall Property Sold By City For Community Center

At last Monday's Council meeting, the Mayor and Commissioners unanimously accepted the bid for the Old City hall and Fire station property which had been made at the previous Council meeting by the Community Service, Inc., and placed on file for public inspection. As reported

throughout the past 20 years, was in reality a gift to the city inasmuch as it would all be used in the citizens interest-part in the purchase of real estate and part in improving the property and providing the facilities. "This should not be looked upon as a mere real estate transac-



in last week's issue this offer of \$37,100 was the only bid received. It was in excess of the valuation of \$37,079 placed upon the property by the Valuation committee of the North Shore Realty Board.

A further offer of \$2,900 from Community Service, Inc., (making a total of \$40,000 in all) was placed on record for any furnishings of the Old City hall and the right to the use of the Fire station property within six months after the delivery of title to the property.

In presenting to the council the desirability of this sale in the public interest, Renslow P. Sherer, president of Community Service stated that the property would be promptly put in shape for a Community Center and that every effort would be made to make it interesting and attractive - particularly for the youth of the community.

Preceding the Council meeting, former Mayor Hastings had pointed out that the location was ideal for a Community Center, the valuation a generous one and that all citizens were benefited by making constructive use of the property for community purposes.

Mrs. George Jones also emphasized the fact that the trust fund of \$60,000, carefully conserved

"but of permanent value to the city itself in view of the great need of providing interesting, constructive use of the leisure time of our young people."

After the bid was accepted Mayor Roman stated that while he realized that \$40,000 was a fair price under all the circumstances, the city had hoped to obtain \$5,000 to \$10,000 more because of its need of funds. "But," he added, "because of the splendid use to which this property will be put and to which it lends itself so well, the Council feels more than justified in making its contribution to so important a permanent institution for the good of the community as a whole."

George Scheuchepfug (Mr. X) secretary and recreation director of Community Service, stated that much help would now be needed both in obtaining equipment and furnishings as well as in various activities later on and that he would welcome offers of help and suggestions. Mr. X is located in the Old City hall building (phone H.P. 4000). "For the time being," he stated, "the least possible interference will be made in the activities of the Social Service and supervisors office. Further announcement will be made on this matter later."

Boy Bicycle Rider Escapes Injury When Hit by Car

Donald Loesch, 12, of 427 Glencoe avenue, Highland Park, escaped injury Sunday when the bicycle he was riding was struck by a car driven by Mrs. F. J. Nosek, 144 Sunset avenue, Highland Park, in front of St. James church in Highwood. The bicycle was demolished. Mrs. Nosek told Highwood police she was forced to the curb by another automobile.

Women of Moose Announce Christmas Party For Thursday

The Women of the Moose, Highland Park Chapter No. 806, will hold a business meeting and Christmas party at Witten hall, 360 Central avenue, Thursday morning, Dec. 21, at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. A. E. Tadney of Greater Chicago Chapter will be the guest of honor. All members are invited to be present.

High School Music Departments Give Concert Sunday

The music loving public is eagerly awaiting the High School concert to be given in the auditorium of the Highland Park High school Sunday, December 17, promptly at 3 o'clock. Everyone who enjoys good music rendered by young and enthusiastic musicians will delight in hearing the band, orchestra, chorus and some exceptionally gifted soloists in the following program:

ORCHESTRA
Mr. Harold Finch, Conductor
Symphony No. 5 in C Minor Beethoven
Allegro con brlo
Fidelio Overture Beethoven

BAND
Mr. Harold Finch, Conductor
Bravada, Pasco Doble Curson
Symphony in C Minor Williams
Larghetto
Pavanne from 2nd American Symphonette Gould

Loehengrin Wagner
Introduction to Act III

CHORUS
Mr. William Fischer, Conductor
Ouet - Cantique de Noel Adam
Chorus - Three Traditional Carols
a - Christmas Bells
b - Glory to God
c - Silent Night

Solo - Come Unto Him (Messiah) Handel
Pauline Blume
Girls' Ensemble - Turn Ye to Me Piteher (arr.)
Daniel Cobb, Jr.

Chorus - Joyous Christmas Cong. Gungert
Hospodi Pompilui Lvovsky
Early this week the attractive invitations printed by Mr. Schneider at the school were distributed to the upper grade pupils in the 11 grade schools in the district by the following members of the Music Committee of the High School P.T.A. under the chairmanship of Mrs. Arthur Raff, Mrs. Harold Bingham, Mrs. Robert Bryant, Mrs. Daniel Cobb Sr., Mrs. J. E. Flanagan, Mrs. Lee Supple, Mrs. Karl Wagner, Mrs. Ernest West, and Mrs. Henry C. Hawes, and Miss Minnie Buzard, ex-officio.

Posters made by Vivian Shelk, George Koller and Clifford Nail were put in the larger schools and in prominent places in Deerfield and Highland Park.

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Highland Park High School Band of 1939



The above organization will participate in the annual concert being given Sunday afternoon at the local High School. Full details will be found in story elsewhere in this paper.