

Blackout In Illinois



The League of Women Voters has labored long and successfully to "push" needed legislation. The list of its achievements is significant and reassuring. An immediate problem, to which the league is bending every effort, is the program, in Illinois, of aid to dependent children.

The January issue of the Illinois Voter was entirely devoted to an examination of existing conditions in Illinois, and it is hoped that every League member carefully studied the facts brought out.

Briefly, this is the situation: Illinois DOES GIVE AID to dependent children in the form of a Mothers' Pension. Ours was the first state to devise a program which enabled mothers to keep their children at home even though the bread-winner of the family was gone.

Certainly it was a good program as far as it went. But time marches on! The acuteness of the relief situation makes it increasingly urgent that we take advantage of Federal funds available under the Social Security Act.

Today, Illinois is one of eight lone states which, in the care of dependent children, receives no Federal aid. Not only that, we pay taxes which help furnish ADC to forty states—without receiving a penny in return for our own needy children.

In five counties, where the need is most apparent, no Mothers' Pensions were paid at all last year, because only counties which impose a special levy for Mothers' Pensions receive state aid.

Illinois can obtain Federal aid under the Social Security Act, providing (1) its program is state-wide, with every county participating. (2) There must be a single state agency to supervise the administration of the ADC program. (3) It must provide for fair hearings before the state agency, for protection where aid has been denied or withdrawn. The Federal government contributes half of whatever the state pays, up to a combined total of \$18 a month for the first dependent child—\$12 a month each for other children in the same homes to 16 years of age, or 18 if still in school.

Today about 17,000 children are

benefited by the Mothers' Pension. Seventy thousand needy children, under Social Security, would be eligible. At present, only children under the mothers' care receive help. Under ADC, those living with relatives other than the mother, are eligible.

A committee of State Board members has just completed a tour of local leagues throughout the state, discussing means of getting Federal aid in Illinois. Mrs. Maurice Pollack and Mrs. Raymond S. Simons of our local league are working on this committee, and have addressed League groups in other counties, seeking to arouse public interest in a bill to make Illinois eligible for ADC.

For its 70,000 eligible children, the state would receive about \$6,300,000 a year from the Federal government (under the Social Security Act) providing the state paid a like amount.

We can do our bit by thoroughly acquainting ourselves with the facts and doing all we can as individuals to stir up interest in everyone with whom we come in contact. Later on, the League hopes to develop local groups to interest other organizations, and to "sound out" legislators on ADC. For the present, let's talk it up!

"On Your Toes" To Be Featured This Week At Deerpath Theatre

Nick Carter, most beloved and most-read of any detective character in history, comes to life in a thrill-packed romance, with Walter Pidgeon as the screen personification of the master sleuth in "Nick Carter, Master Detective," a drama of thrills by air, land and sea, coming Thursday and Friday, February 15 and 16, at the Deerpath theatre. The story deals with the machinations of an international spy ring stealing secrets of the builders of secret new war planes. Players include Rita Johnson, Henry Hull, Stanley C. Ridges, Donald Meek and Addison Richards.

Greer Garson, whose memorable performance as Kathie opposite

Robert Donat in "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," made her the most talked of screen newcomer of the year, in her first American film, "Remember"? romantic comedy of modern married life, with Lew Ayres as the third member of a romantic triangle. The picture will be presented at the Deerpath theatre Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, February 17, 18, 19 and 20. Taylor and Miss Garson have been ideally teamed in "Remember"? with roles perfectly suited to their talents for fast-moving comedy. Billie Burke heads a notable supporting cast which also features Reginald Owen, George Barbier, Henry Travers, Laura Hope Crews, Richard Carle, Sara Haden and Sig Rumann.

Zorina, the exotically lovely dancing star of the Broadway hit, "I Married an Angel," has her first screen starring role in "On Your Toes," the first big musical treat of the new show season which will be presented at the Deerpath theatre Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, February 21, 22 and 23 Eddie Aubert, the engaging youth who was such a comedy sensation in "Brother Rat" has the male lead opposite her and the cast is rounded out with such comedy talent as Alan Hale, Frank McHugh, James Gleason, Leonid Kinskey, and Erik Rhodes.

Young Democratic Club Holds Public Meeting February 22

On Thursday night, February 22 (Washington's birthday), the recently organized Young Democratic Club of Highland Park will hold its first public meeting. The members feel they are fortunate in having secured as speaker for the occasion Mr. William Erby Smith of Chicago. Mr. Smith is an outstanding public speaker who has been active in the national organization of Young Democratic Clubs.

The members of the club have already held several successful and interesting meetings. The following officers have been elected: Frank Sordyl, president; John Cortesi, vice-president; "Bud" Moon, treasurer; and Frank Amendola, secretary. The place of the meeting will be announced in next week's HIGHLAND PARK PRESS.

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Community Choral Club Dinner, Success

A hundred people drove or plodded through last Thursday's snow storm to partake of the Choral club's dinner at the Y.W.C.A. Candle lighted tables and splendid food repaid these venturesome friends of the chorus. A program of community singing and a reading by Miss Dorothy Westbay concluded a very pleasant evening. A goodly sum was added to the club's treasury. The regular rehearsal will be held Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 8 p.m.

Present Two Short Plays Friday, Feb. 16

Two comedy plays will be given at Grace Methodist church Friday, Feb. 16, at 8 o'clock, sponsored by the Council Aid. If you are blue and moody, your blues will disappear when you have a good laugh at some of the stunts done by the members.

Besides the plays, arrangements have been made for some musical numbers. The public is invited to attend.

Fifth Bingo Party At Labor Temple Next Tuesday Night

Tuesday, February 20, is the date set for the fifth bingo party to be given by the Parents' Club for the benefit of the Highland Park-Highwood Drum and Bugle Corps. This party will be held at the Labor Temple, 387 North avenue, Highland Park.

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Twenty-five games of bingo will be played, door prizes awarded, and refreshments will be served. The committee assures an enjoyable time to all those attending.

Parish Birthday Party

The annual Parish Birthday Party of the Bethany Evangelical church will take place Friday evening of this week at 7:45. A program of "home talent" will be presented. A good time is assured all who attend. Refreshments and a fellowship period will be the final part of the event. All members of the family, young and old, are invited.

Philathea Class Meets

The Philathea Class of the Bethany Evangelical church will meet at the home of Miss Edith Hanson, 126 S. Greenbay road, Tuesday evening, Feb. 20, at 8 o'clock.

Science studies strange possibilities of human hibernation. Weird tale of aging Vermont men and women deliberately frozen through the Winter so they would not need to eat and thawed out in the Spring in time to work on the early planting, links up with the new, wholly scientific freezing treatment for cancer and other experiments on how much cold we can stand and benefit by it. Read this interesting article in The American Weekly, the magazine distributed with next Sunday's Chicago Herald-American.

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