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Administration By ELMORE M. MURPHY Comments

Although nothing transpired at Monday evening's City Council meeting of a controversial nature nevertheless numerous items of interest to the community came up for general discussion and action. It is more than a year now that the current administration has had the operation of the city's government in their hands and the council as a whole with each passing session is reporting on its varied activities with a dispatch born only of experience.

The taxicab stand problem that has irked both citizen and council for many years past is nearing a solution satisfactory to all concerned. As reported a week ago the council passed a motion to allot space for the city's cabs on the west side of St. Johns avenue, north of Central street. Loading and unloading facilities were discussed and provided for at Monday evening's meeting. To further facilitate access to the newly designated stand and relieve congestion in this area the council voted to prohibit parking on the east side of St. Johns from Central to Park avenues. Additional parking facilities were made available to the public by throwing open the space between the North Shore and North Western tracks formerly occupied by the cabs to private vehicles. However, parallel parking only will be permissible in this area.

An echo of the incinerator problem heard when the council at the motion of Commissioner Sharp voted to appropriate \$53,152 for the complete construction of that project. This item includes the base price of \$52,195 submitted by the Pittsburgh and DeMoines Steel Company, low bidders, \$457.00 for the heating system, \$450.00 for an oil burner and the remainder for architects fees.

Work on the new incinerator will start shortly and the readers of this column will be advised from time to time on the progress made.

In passing let it be said that the council misses the attendance at its meetings of the Berkeley road "Crusaders" who fought so hard and so successfully to keep the incinerator off the city garage property and it hopes that this group's interest in civic affairs will not be confined to its own problems. It is interesting to note that attendance at council meetings is in direct proportion to the number of individuals who have a "bone" of some sort or other to pick with the administration. If these various individuals would devote a little of their spare time to the problems of the city as a whole it would make for a far better Highland Park.

Mayor Ronan reported that to date \$850.00 more has been collected in dog license fees this year than in 1939. This represents 250 more dogs licensed this year than last year. While the mayor expressed himself as much pleased with these figures, he estimates that only about one-fifth of the dogs in town are licensed. If this increase is not substantially advanced the council threatens to hire a dog catcher and remove all unlicensed dogs to the pond.

In the discussion of dogs Commissioner Swanson brought up the point that it was impractical for the

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Four Outstanding Hits on Alcyon Screen Next Week

Bing Crosby shares honors with his youngest co-star, little 12-year-old Gloria Jean, in the comedy hit, "If I Had My Way," playing at the Alcyon on the double-feature program for Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Infectious laughter is the delightful product of the contagious comedy, "The Doctor Takes a Wife." Loretta Young appearing in her first all-comedy role with Ray Milland as her dashing co-star, the story is a sure cure for the blues.

Completely off the beaten track of accustomed film fare, "Strange Cargo," story of a group of desperadoes who escape a tropical prison, will be presented at the Alcyon next week Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. A cast headed by Clark Gable and Joan Crawford, as though inspired by the theme and subject matter of its script, plays "over its heads" to etch every characterization deeply into the minds of its audience. On the same program we may see a lighter brand of movie in "The Ghost Comes Home," starring those inimitable comedians, Frank Morgan and Billie Burke.

Body Of Evanston Man Missing Two Weeks, Found Here

The body of James B. Jones, owner of several Evanston Beauty shops, was found early yesterday afternoon, in his parked car in the dense woods south of Priarie ave. and west of the St. Paul railroad tracks. He had been missing for the past two weeks.

The locked car was discovered by Ray Rudolph and George Sticken, employees of the Mosquito Abatement district, who were working in this district. Finding the car in this deserted district they started investigation and found that the body of a man was slumped in the front seat. The car bore an Evanston license plate. They notified the police, who got in touch with Evanston police.

Jones who was about 40 years old, resided at 2516 Ridgeway ave., Evanston. He had been missing from his home since June 19th. An estrangement between he and his wife was believed to have been the motive for his act.

At the inquest Tuesday evening, his wife, Mrs. Flora Jones, said that the last time she had seen her husband was on June 18th, when he had come to her pleading for a reconciliation. When he failed in his attempt, he disappeared and it is believed that he drove to this deserted spot west of Highland Park and ended his life.

A garden hose had been attached to the exhaust pipe of the car and brought up through the trunk into the rear of the car. All windows and doors were locked. He had been dead for several days, when found.

A verdict of suicide by carbon monoxide gas was returned by a coroner's jury at an inquest held Tuesday evening at the Kelley mortuary on N. Sheridan road.

Independence day

Thursday, July 4th

"Americanism" was founded July 4, 1776, with the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

This is the only "ism" America needs or wants. Let us remain Independent with "Americanism."

Albert Spalding Pays Tribute To Russian Composer

Nicolai Malko's Tchaikowsky cycle will be brought to a close at the Ravinia Festival on Saturday evening, when Albert Spalding, distinguished American violinist, will play the great violin concerto of the Russian composer whose 50th anniversary is being marked this year by music lovers.



NICOLAI MALKO

On Sunday, Malko will end his week as guest conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, by directing a special young people's concert, with Paul Leyssac as commentator and narrator. The feature of the program will be Prokofieff's

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State Action To Cut Death Toll On Skokie Started

In an effort to remove a blight of death and destruction from the five million-dollar Skokie superhighway, the state is conducting an intensive traffic law enforcement campaign along its entire length from Chicago to the Wisconsin line, according to Charles P. Casey, director of the Department of Public Works and Buildings.

"Chief Walter Williams has assigned permanent details for 24-hour patrolling on the Skokie road, in order to see if its tragic accident toll cannot be reduced through strict enforcement of all motor vehicle laws," Mr. Casey said. The state does not propose to make the highway a driver trap," he pointed out. "On the contrary, six-foot signs warning motorists that the highway is patrolled and urging them to drive safely will be posted at regular intervals."

In the last two years, traffic statistics show, 286 serious accidents have occurred on the Skokie highway, despite the fact that railroad grade crossings have been eliminated, four lane pavement has been provided for the entire distance and traffic control devices are operated at all intersections.

State traffic engineers, after studying the accident rate, reported to Casey last week that one-third of the accidents recorded were rear-end collisions, "indicating excessive speeds, reckless and drunken driving." This, combined with a high percentage of angle-type collisions and accidents caused by running traffic lights, is prompting the state's first intensive enforcement campaign along a designated stretch of highway. The Illinois law does not provide for rural speed zoning, but motorists who operate too fast for traffic conditions may be prosecuted, Director Casey pointed out.

The highway, marked U. S. 41, is the most ambitious super-road project yet undertaken by the state. It comprises thirty-nine and one-half miles of four-lane pavement which daily carries more than 495,000 vehicles miles of swift-flowing traffic between Chicago and the Wisconsin state line.

Completed early in 1938 at a cost of \$5,250,046, Skokie embodies ten railroad grade separations and three highway separations where it intersects Deerpath avenue north of Lake Forest, Route 176 west of Lake Bluff and Grand avenue west of Waukegan. At all other major intersections, traffic signals are in operation.

The road begins at the north limits of Chicago, at Devon and Cicero avenues, and extends 46 miles from Milwaukee southeast.

A single forty-foot pavement has been built for the twelve miles immediately north of Chicago. For the balance of the distance to the Wisconsin line, divided pavement with wide center parkways has been provided.

Robert Cecil Platt Victim of Plane Crash

Highland Park friends were deeply grieved to hear of the passing on of Robert Cecil Platt when his soaring plane crashed at New Port News, Virginia, recently. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Platt, former residents of Highland Park and was well known here, having graduated from Deerfield-Shields High school.

In 1931 he received his degree in Aeronautical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and since then has been engaged in aeronautical research in the laboratories of the National Advisory committee for aeronautics at Langley Field, Virginia, about 3 years ago he was transferred to the Washington office of the N.A.C.A. in the capacity of technical secretary, but had returned to the laboratory to work on some special projects.

For several years past he has attended in an official capacity the meetings of the Soaring Society of America held each year in July at Elmira, N.Y. He became deeply interested in the Science of Soaring and the building of soaring planes or gliders and was devoting much time and thought to the phase of air activity.

He held a private pilots license and a soaring pilot's license and had but recently received an advanced rating as an aeronautical engineer.

Robert Cecil Platt was a young man held in high esteem by his superiors and associate workers, and by all who knew him. His loss is particularly lamentable at this time when young men of vision, enthusiasm, and ability are so greatly needed in a field of ever increasing importance in the present world crisis.

After visiting with Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Raymond of Wade St., Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Platt have left for Berkeley, California, where they will spend the summer.

American Legion Four Day Festival Is Now in Progress

Despite the cold weather, the four day festival sponsored by Dumaresq Spencer Post of the American Legion opened Monday evening in Sunset Park. The attendance Monday and Tuesday evening was not as large as anticipated, due to the change in temperature, but in spite of chilly evenings, the American Legion expects to surpass all previous year's records, to make this one of the greatest festivals in the history of the organization.

Leslie McCaffrey, commander of the local post, is in charge of arrangements, and George Abernathy is co-chairman. Miller Schreiner, commander of the tenth district of the Legion, heads the committee on general arrangements and is assisted by Joe Peddle; Ed Benson, Dewitt Manasse and Harry Aiston. Paul Webb is chairman of the special awards committee of which Ted Arnsward, Harry Earhart, Robert Fiala, Max Ekelman, James Thomson, John Olson, Arthur Montgomery, S. D. Shanafelt, George Abernathy, Philip Cole, Ray Wilcox, Harney Hopp, Matthew Maiman, Donald Bernardi, Edwin Gilroy, William Hart, Miller Schreiner, Forest Burnett, John Guthie and Edmund Eitel are members.

Mrs. Willis Salyards and Mrs. J. H. Halbermann head committees of the auxiliary which are cooperating with the legion in arrangements for the affair and which will preside at a booth sponsored by this group.

Boy Scouts will be stationed on the grounds to assist in handling the crowds and to give first aid treatment in emergency cases.

Hospital Auxiliary Meets Wednesday

The regular meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Highland Park hospital will be held Wednesday, July 10, in the parish house of the Trinity Episcopal church at 10 a.m. Luncheon will be served.

It is hoped that all who attend will come since the dressings used by the hospital are the sole responsibility of the Auxiliary members and there is an urgent need for dressings.

Everyone is asked not only to attend the monthly meeting at the church but whenever possible the weekly Wednesday morning meetings at the hospital.

HELP! HELP!

Community Center's Game Room needs at once Games and Game Room equipment of all sorts for the game room. Items as games of all sorts, table radio, sturdy small tables, ping pong equipment, checkers, chess and settle. We would like to wear out your donations. Call Mr. "X", E. P. 2442.

500 Present At Dedication Of New Civic Center

After 23 years of careful consideration and planning, Highland Park's dream for a Community Center was finally realized, with the dedication Sunday, of the remodeled old city hall building, which was recently purchased at a cost of \$55,000. About 500 interested citizens attended the dedicatory ceremonies.

James L. Martin acted as master of ceremonies and presented former Mayor Samuel M. Hastings who gave the principal address of the afternoon. In his talk, Mr. Hastings praised the city for its progressive spirit enumerating the opportunities which are offered in the way of schools, churches, library, hospital and civic buildings which tend to make this one of the leading North Shore communities.

Renslow P. Sherer, president of the Community Service group which purchased the building gave a brief historical sketch of the founding of this enterprise following the close of the last World War.

In presenting a symbolic key to the building to Mayor Frank J. Ronan, Sherer said that the building is dedicated to recreation, pleasure constructive use and gave the mayor credit for bringing the building, which formerly housed Highland Park's city offices, to the attention of the Community Service.

In accepting the building for the residents of the city, Mayor Ronan expressed the hope that the new center will end "drugstore corner loafing," as the youth of the community now has a place to gather.

Members of the Libertyville Legion post took charge of the color raising ceremony.

On Saturday afternoon, 151 Highland Park civic leaders were entertained at a tea and reception in the new Community center. It was a very interesting gathering for it portrayed the interest which is being manifest in this new civic enterprise.

Aside from the board of directors who have been instrumental in acquiring and remodeling the building, there are those who have played a very important part in the planning and dedication services. They are: Miss Adele Everett, Mrs. George R. Jones, Mrs. O. L. Olesen, Mrs. Thomas Marks, Mrs. Harry Earhart, Mrs. J. Sigurd Johnson, Mrs. Poyntz Murray, Mrs. Charles Rubins, J. B. Garnett, J. L. Martin, Daniel J. Davitt, Harry Earhart, Harry Aiston, A. C. Houser and Elmore Murphy.

Perhaps some of the older residents should not be overlooked, for had it not been for their foresight and efforts during the past 23 years, Highland Park might not today, be fortunate enough to have a Community Center. Although this is not a complete list, the following were instrumental in achieving this project: Mrs. W. A. Alexander, Miss Gertrude Chandler, Mrs. Henry Mason, Mrs. George Allen Mason, Mrs. Blanche Mason Tellis, Mrs. O. Lawrence Olesen, Mrs. E. J. Grundy, J. B. Garnett, John L. Udell, and Albert Larson.

Activities will be limited during the summer months, but with the coming of the fall season, it is indicated that the new project will become the hub of the town. It is hoped that all groups and organizations will make the Community Center their headquarters. This is for the use of all citizens and should not be considered a "private club." In the very near future it is planned to build an addition on the site now occupied by the Fire station. This new addition will house a gymnasium and other features.

Hundreds of communities all over the United States maintain Community buildings, which are the very nucleus of activity. Highland Park can make this center a success by participation of every citizen in its progress.

Auto Salesrooms Adopt New Schedule

Highland Park auto salesrooms will adopt a new operating schedule during the months of July and August. Beginning this week they will close Saturday evening at 6 p.m. and will remain closed all day Sunday.

The following salesrooms will adopt this new schedule:

- Cadillac-LaSalle Motor Sales corporation.
- Floyd Koon Motor Sales.
- Marchi Bros. Pontiac Sales.
- North Shore Buick Co.
- Nelson Motor Sales.
- Purnell & Wilson, Inc.
- Rivers Motor Sales.
- Van Guilder Motor Sales.
- General Auto Repair Willys Sales.
- Wm. Rueli & Co.
- Studebaker Sales and Service.

PRESENTS KEY TO MAYOR RONAN



Renslow P. Sherer, president of Highland Park Community Center, presenting Mayor Frank J. Ronan with the key to the new building, who accepts in behalf of the citizens of Highland Park. Looking on are former Mayor Hastings, Commissioner Jerome B. Bowen and Commissioner Nathan Sharp.