

The Highland Park Press

VOLUME XXX

HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1940

NUMBER 27

Administration By ELMORE M. MURPHY Comments

It being some eight months since the Highland Park water works lost the Highwood contract your reporter though it opportune to drop around to superintendent George Prindle's office at the foot of Park avenue and ascertain what effect, if any, this loss was having on the plant's production figures.

Superintendent Prindle who gives one the impression that his work constitutes about ninety percent of his life was the very essence of co-operation in presenting the facts and figures concerning the plant's operation.

Broadly speaking, the loss of the Highwood contract has cut production at the Highland Park plant from five to six million gallons of water per month or about 70 million gallons per year. Pumpage of water for the first seven months of the calendar year is about 84 million gallons behind last year. However, less than half of this amount can be attributed to the loss of Highwood as a customer. Rainfall has been so plentiful this summer that demands of the city's water supply for watering lawns and other purposes have been considerably less than average. Production for the month of July amounted to 102.93 million gallons of water as compared to 126.71 produced in the same month a year ago. Comparison of figures for May and June of 1940 with the same months a year ago show similar or greater decreases.

While ascertaining production figures was perhaps the prime purpose of your reporter's visit to the waterworks, Superintendent Prindle's interesting and informative description of the plant's operation in particular and the history of water filtration in general, quickly relegated that idea to secondary consideration.

The father of water filtration was a man named Simpson who built a plant for the Chelsea Water company in London, England, in the year 1829. This plant used the simple system of filtering the water originating in the Thames river through sand and beds of gravel of varying coarseness subsequently to be drained off through ordinary tiles. Treatment of water in these early days was for clarification purposes only. The phenomena of bacteria and its removal from water through chemical treatment was unknown at that time.

Constant usage of this first filtering bed gradually built up on its surface a highly efficient filtration agency so that as far as clarification alone was concerned results obtained compared favorably with those of today. Its chief drawback in this respect was its slow rate of filtration. Today's processes which combine the use of aluminum sulphate as a coagulating agent to gather up suspended particles in the water and the use of sand and gravel filtration clarify the water thirty to forty times faster than the original method as used in London over a hundred years ago.

With the development of the science of bacteriology in the last quarter of the past century the thoughts of the scientific world began to turn to the possibility of removing harmful bacteria from water through treatment by chemical processes. After the turn of the century the treatment of water through filtration and the addition of chemicals as it is known today developed rapidly. Chlorine gas and amonia were found to be the best agents in destroying harmful bacteria.

While clarification was obtained from the use of aluminum sulphate and filtration and bacteria was removed through treatment by the addition of chlorine gas and amonia still the water drinking public was not satisfied. Residents of Highland Park will recall the time a year ago when the water literally smelled to high heaven. This odor was caused by the presence in the water of minute forms of plant life which gave off an odor in much the same way as land flowers and weeds.

Unpleasant odors in water are removed or lessened through the addition of carbon. The carbon feeding machine in use at the Highland Park plant at that time was installed in 1932 when the treatment of water by this process was still more or less in an experimental stage and wholly unfitted for the city's needs. At Mr. Prindle's recommendation a new machine was purchased and installed and since that time complaints of water odors have been negligible.

Lack of space prevents your reporter from going into any great detail into the operation of the city's water plant. The reader may accept his word that his source of water
(Continued on Page 8)

Schools Open With Large Enrollments

All Highland Park schools opened this morning with a full enrollment and altho no complete tally was available it is more than likely that the figure will exceed last years enrollment in all districts.

The approximate enrollment at Highland Park high school is estimated as 1,334 against 1279 in 1939, making an increase of about 55. Whether this figure will increase within the next few weeks is problematic.

Three hundred and sixty-five freshmen trekked to high school this morning to familiarize themselves with their classrooms and teachers, and to get assignments. Upper classmen will report tomorrow (Friday) morning.

The enrollment of kindergarten pupils in the grade school was unusually large, but there are no doubt many more who will enroll within the next few days.

Increased home building in Highland Park has increased the number of children to be enrolled in the public schools.

All schools have undergone improvements during the summer months and several new teachers have been added to school staffs.

A full account of the opening will appear in next weeks issue of the PRESS.

Navy Films To Feature Meeting Of C. of C. Tuesday

The Highland Park Chamber of Commerce will resume their monthly dinner meetings next Tuesday evening at 6:30 at Open House Tea room.

Through the courtesy of the U.S. Navy their new official sound motion pictures, "Navy Wings of Gold" and "Submarines at Sea" will be shown.

With country-wide attention being focused on military training and problems of national defense, these two reels will show the training of aviation pilots and cadets at the Pensacola Naval Air station, proudly boasted by the Navy as the finest training school in the world. The submarine picture will show the training of men of the under-seas squadron and the highly interesting operations of submarines at sea. This program should have a natural appeal to all members. A short business meeting will follow.

Marion Anderson Opens North Shore Series on Oct. 27

Anticipating a post-Labor Day rush for season subscriptions, the sponsors of the North Shore Series this week urged North Shore residents who wish to obtain good season locations for this series of concerts to obtain tickets as soon as possible. The Series, which will be presented in the auditorium of the Highland Park High school, will again bring to the suburban community an outstanding group of five world-famed concert artists.

Marian Anderson, whose glorious contralto voice has made her the most popular figure on the concert stage today, will open the series on October 27. She will be followed by the original Jaroff Don Cossack choir, that unique group of male voices whose colorful program has been presented in every part of the world. Third attraction on the Series will be Mischa Levitzki, the amazingly versatile pianist, who will appear on January 28. The fourth concert of the series will bring to Highland Park a perennial favorite among lovers of fine music, Mischa Elman, dean of concert violinists, who will present his recital March 4. Concluding the series will be Ezio Pinza, the most famous basso of our day, whose concert appearances rank in brilliance with his distinguished performances with the Metropolitan Opera company.

Season subscriptions to the Series assure patrons of the most favorable locations for all performances, in addition to affording a substantial saving over the price of single admissions. Tickets may be obtained at the Treasure Chest, 390 Central avenue, Highland Park, or by mail from Box 584, Highland Park.

Kiwanis Club To Hear Chief Andrews

The Highland Park-Ravinia Kiwanis Club will hear Chief of Police Rex Andrews at their regular meeting on Monday, September 16. "Modern Police Administration" will be his subject.

New Squad Cars' Two-Way Sets Are Now In Operation

That Highland Park police can more adequately serve the public is evident with the installation of a new Motorola radio communicating system which has just been installed in three new squad cars. This system supplants the one way hook-up which has been in operation since 1932.

A representative of the HIGHLAND PARK PRESS who witnessed a demonstration of the new two way radio Wednesday was deeply impressed with the new improvement which brings the efficiency of our police department up to a par with neighboring communities.

Chief Rex Andrews explained the benefits involved and demonstrated the speed of service. Traveling at 70 miles an hour along Skokie highway the squad car contacted police headquarters on a possible car theft and within 30 seconds complete information on the car involved was relayed back to the squad car.

The new equipment which operates on a frequency of 35-900 has in inter car range of about ten miles. This permits contact with the sheriff's office and other police departments within the ten mile range.

The installation of this new equipment in the three new Ford squad cars which are equipped with Mercury engines, will give more efficient service to the Highland Park police department and added protection to the citizens of this community. Not only can officers communicate with their station, but can also converse with other squad cars, altho in many cases, they use only code in signalling one another, other.

Alcyon Presents Latest MacDonald-Eddy Musical Film

The first Jeanette MacDonald-Nelson Eddy film in more than a year was well worth waiting for. "New Moon" starring these two singing favorites will be on the Alcyon screen this Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. "New Moon" is one of the most enjoyable musical romances to hit the screen in some time. It is a picture which can be safely recommended to the entire family as a decided entertainment treat. Another set of popular characters will transfer themselves from the printed page to the screen in "Joe and Ethel Turp Call on the President," concerning Damon Runyon's famous Saturday Evening Post story.

Plenty of rhythm, loads of laughs and romance with a spice to it, all combine to make "Ladies Must Live," which the Alcyon will present on the double-feature program for next week Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, lively film entertainment that should please audiences young and old. Preston Foster, Ellen Drew and Andy Devine appear in the historical action melodrama "Geronimo." This motion picture has lots of human appeal with all the action, thrills and romantic interest necessary to make an unusual bit of entertainment.

Announce Dates of Interest to Public

The Committee To Defend America By Aiding The Allies announces the following dates of great interest on the international situation:

Sept. 13—Edgar Ansell Mower will speak for the Council of Foreign Relations in Chicago. The public is admitted for a small fee.

Sept 18—A mass meeting will be held at the Coliseum in Chicago at which Dorothy Thompson and others will speak.

Information and literature can be obtained at the local office of the William Allen White Committee at 359 Central avenue, Highland Park. Telephone 5119.

Modenese Society To Picnic Sunday

The Modenese Mutual Aid society will hold a picnic Sunday, Sept. 8, at Santi's Grove, four miles west of Highwood on Route 22. Games and dances will be included in the day's entertainment, with many prizes being awarded. Free transportation from Highwood will be available to those who have no other means of getting there.

Business Section Improvement Now Under Construction

Property owners in the E. Central avenue and N. Sheridan road business district have cooperated with the city in installing a much needed improvement in this district which will not only be a benefit to the city at large but will facilitate parking in this locality.

New sidewalks are being laid from Huber's parking lot to the Treasure Chest on the south side of Central avenue, and along the east side of Sheridan road from Park avenue to the North Shore radio shop.

The center parking site on Central avenue is being done away with and sidewalks narrowed. This will add about eight feet to the width of the street.

The following property owners are cooperating with the city: Earl Purdy, Howard Huber, Wm. Pearl, Hill and Stone, Iredales, Brand's Studio, F. M. Terry, J. A. Blomdahl, H. P. Postoffice and Ben Freberg.

It is also planned to install four new light poles with the approval of the city, as to style and design.

Work is being done by Mr. Steenhill under the supervision of City Engineer Philip Cole.

A meeting of the Business Men's committee to consider new lighting for the business district is planned for the near future.

Highwood Child Killed Saturday By Railroad Tie

James Belmonti, six year old Highwood boy, was killed instantly Saturday afternoon when some railway ties on which he was playing became dislodged, and struck him on the head. He was taken to the Highland Park hospital by a police squad car, where he was pronounced dead from a skull fracture.

The youth with his brothers Eugene and Donald Belmonti and three cousins, Louis and Robert Belmonti and Harold Lowe, all of Highwood were playing on a pile of new ties along the right-of-way south of Washington ave.

As a tie started to slide, James who was scampering on the top jumped off, but it was too late. The heavy block of wood crashed down upon his head.

A verdict of accidental death was returned by a coroner's jury at an inquest Sunday morning in Kelley's funeral home, 26 N. Sheridan rd.

James who resided with his mother Julia, and two brothers at 233 Washington ave., Highwood, was the son of the late James Belmonti who was fatally injured two years ago in a car accident on Sheridan rd., south of the Great Lakes training station.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. at St. James church, Highwood. Burial was in Ascension cemetery.

H. P. Choral Club Plans Fall Program

The Highland Park Choral Club is again planning its fall program. Several new and interesting projects are being undertaken this season. The time and place of the first meeting has not yet been definitely decided but will be announced shortly. Anyone interested in joining the group please call membership chairman, Mrs. Harold Simpson, Tel. 1560.

Mrs. Davis Joins Staff of American Music Conservatory

The American Conservatory of Music, Kimball Hall, Chicago, announces with pleasure the addition to its piano faculty of Ethel Marley Davis. Mrs. Davis will divide her time between her own school—Marley School of Music—in Highland Park, and the conservatory.

Resume Evening Services at Bethany

Evening services will be resumed at the Bethany Evangelical church on Sunday evening. The young people will meet at 6:45 p.m. for an hour of fellowship and instruction. The evening worship service will start at 7:45 p.m.

Men's Garden Show Sept. 7-8 To Prove Value of Club to City

FACTS ABOUT HIGHLAND PARK MEN'S GARDEN CLUB SHOW

Date
Next Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 7 and 8.

Place
Community House (old City Hall) Central Ave. and Green-bay Rd.

Time
8 to 9 p.m. Saturday.
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Admission
25c for adults; 10c for children. Proceeds for benefit of Community Center.

What You Will See
More than 70 exhibits of flowers, fruits and vegetables, all grown by men in Highland Park gardens. Bird houses, bird baths, tools and novelty features.

What You Will Learn
How to grow flowers—how to display flowers—how to enjoy flowers—how to cooperate with your neighbor to develop a beautiful floral community.

Why You Should Attend
Because this is a local enterprise sponsored and conducted by local people for the greater good of our city.

H. P. Police Chief Speaks Monday At Police Convention

Highland Park's new chief of police, Rex Andrews, has been invited to address the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which convenes in Milwaukee, Wis., from September 9th to 12th, at its opening meeting in the Schrader hotel, in that city, Monday. This is not only an honor to the Chief, but to the city of Highland Park as well, as this meeting will be attended by outstanding police representatives from all over the world. Chief Andrews will speak on "One Man As a Car Patrol Unit."

J. Edgar Hoover will also speak on Monday's program, while other prominent speakers are Lieut. Kreml and Hugh C. Clegg, assistant director of the F.B.I. Topics for discussion will include "Traffic," "Sub-service Activities and National Defense" and "Narcotic Problems and Enforcement."

The convention is divided in two sections, for cities over 50,000 population and for cities under 50,000.

Mrs. Dorothy Wink Opens Real Estate Office in Evanston

Mrs. Dorothy E. Wink, former Highland Park resident who has been active in residential real estate on the North Shore since 1921, announces that she will open an office at 3101 Central street, Evanston, known as "Dorothy E. Wink, Real Estate Investments." The new office will be ready the latter part of September. Mrs. Wink, who is a member of the Evanston-North Shore Real Estate board, has been engaged in the real estate business between Evanston and Highland Park specializing in residential property.

Dr. Louis Sherwin Back from Vacation

Rev. Louis W. Sherwin, D.D., minister of the Highland Park Presbyterian church, has returned from his vacation and will be back in the pulpit this Sunday, Sept. 8, in the 11 o'clock morning worship. The sermon subject will be "The Friend of Man." Mr. George Grammer-Smith, baritone, will sing two solos.

Church school for beginners and primary is being held at 11 o'clock and dismissal promptly at 12 o'clock. This program will continue until September 22, when the full church and church school program will be resumed.

Many friends will be glad to welcome Dr. Sherwin and his family back from their vacation.

Principia Luncheon September Ninth

The Principia Mothers club will open the 1940-41 season on Monday, September 9th, with luncheon at Mandel's in Chicago. After a brief business meeting, "Flags that have flown over America" will be presented by Mrs. Erastus K. Phelps who will give their history and describe the development of our "Star Spangled Banner." This collection is the property of the North Shore Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Now that Highland Park is to have a garden show under exclusively masculine auspices at the new Community Center September 7 and 8, many local people have been asking what this organization is, who belongs to it and what is the excuse for its existence.

The answer to all of these questions were provided during the past week by Irving Meyerhoff, secretary of the Men's Garden Club.

"In a community such as Highland Park," Mr. Meyerhoff said, "it was only natural that some such organization as the Men's Garden Club should come into existence, if for no other reason than that men who love to grow things, like to talk to each other about their hobby. Of course, every movement of this kind takes form through the energy and enthusiasm of a few individuals who cheerfully sacrifice time and effort in order that their plans may crystallize into action.

"The human dynamo in this particular situation was C. Eugene Pfister, whose recreation is growing roses. In a men's garden club Gene saw an opportunity to harness a hobby as a powerful force for civic welfare. Only a little more than a year ago, a handful of men banded themselves together and secured a charter from the Mens Garden Clubs of America, a national organization. The idea caught on at once and from a relatively few members the organization has grown until today we have 130 names on our roster. Proof that the club is truly civic in character is found in the fact that Mayor Roman and all four of the city's commissioners are affiliated with us, not only as amateur gardeners, but as community boosters, which is our major objective. Our membership includes rich and those in modest circumstances; owners of huge estates with greenhouses and a staff of gardeners, as well as typical suburban householders whose gardens are limited to a city-size lot. All, however, are drawn together by a common love of Mother Earth.

"I think most people will be gratified to know that the Highland Park Men's Garden Club is actuated by a sincere desire to do a real service to our community. First we want to help make our city a happy place to live in, by contributing to its rich natural beauty. We want to instill in our young people an appreciation for our native trees, shrubs and flowers. The real art of gardening, we think, does not consist of creating foreign, exotic settings, but in making use of our natural assets, of which we have a vertiable treasure chest.

"Take the Skokie Valley, for instance. We believe that this can be either a community garden spot or a disgraceful eyesore. So we have instituted a movement, which we hope every civic minded person will support enthusiastically, to convert this section into a park and wild-life refuge, similar to that now nearing completion to the south of us in Cook county.

"Our first annual garden show is simply a means of informing our neighbors and fellow townsmen of our plans and objectives. We hope everyone will enjoy it and benefit from it. The small admission fee will help to defray expenses and yield a needed contribution to our new Community Center."

The garden show will be replete with surprises, according to J. David Dickinson, in charge of properties. The ball room of the Community House, which occupies the old city hall site, will be converted into a veritable garden paradise, with walks, shrubbery and a riot of blooms, interspersed with fountains, sundials and outdoor furniture.

The club room of the center will be devoted to novelty exhibits, including arrangements of weeds, garden implements, bird houses and feeding stations, as well as fruits, gourds and vegetables. There will also be an exhibit of full color kodachrome illuminated transparencies, in charge of William H. Savin, well known Ravinia artist and advertising man. Bert Leech will be in charge of a surprise nature exhibit, which will include the major garden pests, with information on how to blitzkrieg them with poison, gas and soap.

One point President C. E. Pfister puts emphatic emphasis on, is that this show will be radically different in purpose and content, from conventional exhibitions in the same category.

"We are going to prove to the public," Gene states, "that it's a man's world, even in the garden."