

# City Council

# Calendar

By ELMORE M. MURPHY

It looked like "Old Home Week" at Monday evening's city council meeting when for the first time in many a moon the City Fathers answered the roll call with a one hundred per cent attendance record. While most of the meeting was taken up with routine business affairs, there were several subjects brought up for discussion of more than passing interest to the local citizenry.

From the reports of Mayor Ronan and Commissioner Swanson, augmented by remarks rendered by Chief of Police Rex Andrews and Gene Pfister, it appears that the long awaited landscape improvement project around the railroad station is going to emerge from the realm of fancy into the state of fact. This project, started several months ago by a committee of public spirited citizens working in cooperation with the city, has been delayed while the Police Department has been conducting experiments on ways and means of eliminating the traffic tangle on the east side of the station during the morning rush hour.

After considerable thought and experimentation the Police Department has come to the conclusion that the present method of directing the flow of traffic from the North to the South with the center gateway used for the exit of vehicles entering at Central and for the entrance of vehicles from St. Johns passing out the exit at the South end, thereby making two complete circuits has proved the most efficient and workable plan under present conditions. Hence, this method has been adopted as standard and the landscaping program will be developed accordingly. Marshall L. Johnson has been retained as landscape architect and it should not be long before actual work is started on this project.

With the traffic problem on the east side of the station solved, Chief Andrews is of the opinion that it will not be much of a job to lessen the congestion on the west side of the station during the evening rush hour. However, in the latter case the Chief pointed out that the problem has been largely aggravated by the lack of sufficient men available for traffic duty at this time. While the solution of the east side traffic problem is largely an engineering one, the west side is a question of personnel—or rather the lack of it.

Mr. Gourley in his report as Commissioner of Public Health and safety asked the council to authorize the request of bids to supply materials for the water main extension along Green Bay Road, south of Deerfield Road to Edgewood Drive. This new sixteen inch main will greatly enhance the water supply in the south and south east section of the city. Following Mr. Gourley's suggestion, the council authorized the call for bids to be issued and set April 28 as the date for them to be opened.

Commissioner Gourley also asked the council to approve the installation of equipment to halt the corrosive action now taking place in the water department's Sunset storage tank. Up to a few years ago corrosion in water tanks was usually eliminated by the painting method. Recently, however, a more economical and more efficient way was discovered to do the job. This method which is based on the theory of passing an electrical current through the water, not only removes corrosive material already formed, but also prevents corrosive action from taking place. Although the initial cost of the equipment is rather high, the operation cost is low, running around one dollar per month.

Commissioner Swanson reports that the gravel roads in the outlying sections of the city are in bad shape and in constant need of repair. Lack of snow during the past winter and the resultant heavy frost in the ground has had a ruinous effect on most of these roads. The street department has poured load after load of gravel on them with little effect. The roadbeds appear to be bottomless and twenty-four hours after the gravel is put on it disappears.

Commissioner Sharp issued another plea for the prompt payment of water bills. It appears that more than the usual amount of money will be required to pay for contemplated improvements during the Spring and coming Summer and unless John Q. Public comes through with his water stipend the city will not have the where-withall to pay the bill.

Commissioner Sharp also asked for more cooperation on the part of the public in keeping the incinerator property free from debris. The commissioners' department plans to shortly start work on cleaning up the incinerator grounds and its task will be a hundred per cent easier if the public uses discretion in dumping refuse.

At the instigation of Commissioner Swanson the council gave a vote of thanks for the services rendered in the past by John Sweeney of the water department who shortly is scheduled to be inducted into the United States Army.

The report of the building department as read by City Clerk Musser reveals that the long awaited building boom in Highland Park is well under way. The figures show that activity in this department during the first three months of the year was one hundred and forty-six per cent greater than a year ago. As building is one of the prime indices of prosperity it appears that the "good old days" are back with us again.

After ten months of work in developing the Community Center and a program of extensive activity, the Board of Directors announces the following plan for memberships:

(1) The yearly general membership fee shall be \$1.00 for adults, 75c for high school age, 35c for grammar school age.

(2) There is also a contributing membership of \$10.00 or more which

gives a general membership to each member of a family.

(3) The membership cards are now ready for distribution. Those who are already entitled to cards will receive same in the near future.

(4) Membership is open to all Highland Park citizens and their children and to out of town residents who are employed here.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 10

- 12:15 p.m. Lion Club Luncheon at Sunset Valley Club.
- 2:00 p.m. Regular meeting of the D.A.R. at home of Mrs. Gsell.
- 8:00 p.m. American Legion meeting in Legion Hall.
- 8:00 p.m. Young Men's Club meeting at Community Center.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 11

- 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Red Cross meeting at Trinity Church.
- 8:00 p.m. Saturday Evening Club at Y.W.C.A.
- 8:00 p.m. Campbell Chapter O.E.S. meets at Masonic Temple.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 13

- 4:30 p.m. Vesper service at Bethany Church.
- 4:30 p.m. Vesper service at Y.W.C.A.

## MONDAY, APRIL 14

- Schools resume work after week's spring vacation.
- 9:30 a.m. Woman's Club Board meeting, Highland Park Woman's Club.
- 9:30 a.m. Woman's Association Board meeting, Presbyterian church.
- 6:30 p.m. Kiwanis Club Dinner, Sunset Valley Club.
- 7:00 p.m. Meeting of Park Board at H. P. City Hall.
- 7:45 p.m. Meeting of School Board, District 108.
- 8:00 p.m. City Council meeting at City Hall.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 15

- 2:30 p.m. Annual meeting of Highland Park Woman's Club.
- 8:00 p.m. H. P. Hospital Board meeting.
- 8:00 p.m. H. P. Choral Club meets at Community Center.
- 8:00 p.m. Briergate Community Club.
- 8:30 p.m. Highland Park Lodge No. 1362 B.P.O.E.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

- 9:30 - 12 H. P. Hospital Auxiliary, Hospital.
- 10:30 a.m. Highland Park Music Club Board.
- 10:30 a.m. League of Women Voters Board, Y.W.C.A.
- 1:15 p.m. League of Women Voters Luncheon, Y.M.C.A.
- 3:00 p.m. Elm Place P.T.A., "Dr. Josselyn" School.
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner Men's Club, Trinity church, "Dr. Clark Kubler."

## THURSDAY, APRIL 17

- All day Rummage Sale at Woman's Club.
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery school of Y.W.C.A. Spring term opens.
- 12:15 p.m. Lions Club luncheon, Sunset Valley Club.
- 12:30 p.m. Friendship Club Y.W.C.A. bus trip.

## Zion Passion Play Now in Progress

"Oberammergau of America"  
To Be Presented Until  
June 29th in Zion

The 1941 season of the Zion Passion Play will begin Sunday afternoon, April 6, in the Zion Auditorium, Zion, Illinois and continue until June 29th with presentations every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, Chicago Time, and on Thursday evenings, June 12 and June 26 at eight o'clock, Chicago Time. Zion Passion Play was presented in 1935 and has been given every year since with the exception of 1938 when there were no presentations because of the destruction of Shiloh Tabernacle and consequent loss of all Passion Play equipment the year before. During the five seasons in which the Passion Play has been given it has grown from an ordinary church production to a Passion Play of international importance having become known in that time as the "Oberammergau of America," so named by those who have seen both productions.

The Zion production was written and directed by a young minister of the Christian Catholic Church, Reverend Jabez Taylor of Zion, Illinois, who is the scenic artist and property designer as well. In 1935 Reverend Taylor traveled in Palestine, Syria, and Egypt studying the actual scenes where the Bible story was made and the scenery of the Zion Passion Play was painted by him from sketches and photographs made on this trip thru the Near East. The costumes also were designed with an eye to the

greatest possible authenticity. The cast of the Passion Play is made up of men, women, and children, members of the Christian Catholic Church, who come from all walks of life. The butcher, the baker, and the candlestick maker as well as the housewife, the switchboard operator, and the preacher are all found in the Passion Play in some capacity.

The moulding of this group of diverse personalities into the personalities of the Gospel story has been under the direction of Madam Sophia Swanstrom Young. Since 1935 Madam Young has coached the Zion Passion Play cast in dramatic interpretation and to her is due much of the success of the presentation. To the members of the cast the Passion Play is a religious service and though the presentation is entirely objective it is, nevertheless, in the final analysis—A Great Sermon.

The production takes three hours to present and the twenty-six fast moving scenes portraying the life of Jesus of Nazareth hold the audience in the grip of intense interest. For the duration of the production the present is forgotten and the drama of 2000 years ago holds the complete attention of the spectator.

Tickets to all presentations are now available. It is the policy of the Passion Play management to issue complimentary tickets to ministers and their wives. Children under sixteen years of age are admitted at half price and there are special reductions to groups of twenty or more.

For further information write to Zion Passion Play, Zion, Illinois.