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Highland Park
PRESS

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**Highland Park
Welcomes Army and Navy
Y. M. C. A.**

By Herman A. Zische
*Chairman, Board Directors Highland Park
Army and Navy Y.M.C.A.*

We can all be proud. It is a signal honor that Highland Park has been selected as one of the key points in a national program of expansion, by the establishment of an Army and Navy branch of the Young Men's Christian Association.

I am happy to head a board of directors which is truly representative of the fine city in which we live. It is made up of rich and poor. Jew and gentile. Catholic and protestant. Men and women. In every sense of the word this new board is a cross section of our American democratic social fabric.

The first task of our new Army and Navy "Y", as discussed elsewhere in The Press, will be the operation of the Service Men's Club, until such a time as it comes under the jurisdiction of the U.S. O. Very probably, then, the Army and Navy "Y" will be commissioned to carry on this work under U.S.O. auspices.

In taking over this grave responsibility, in behalf of the board, I wish to pay sincere tribute to the members of the Highland Park Co-ordinating Council, whose 71 affiliates have contributed so effectively and generously to the success of the Service Men's Club up to now. And may I also take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the untiring service and unflagging zeal of our Army and Navy "Y" secretary "Nick" Young, who in the short time he has been in charge of the Service Men's Club has earned the affection and esteem of soldiers, sailors and citizens.

That our city is one of the very first to have such a club, is due to the initiative of our city administration and Mayor Ronan's Committee for National Defense, backed by the enthusiastic co-operation of every civic and religious body.

With such an auspicious start, we can all look forward with confidence to the time when our Army and Navy "Y" will play an increasingly important part in America's self-preservation National Defense program.

To this end Highland Park has undertaken to raise its quota of the U.S.O. National Defense fund. Our citizens have never yet failed in an emergency and we may rest assured that we will not fail now.

City Council

**YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT;
WHAT IT IS DOING**

"Safety or Scenery?" asks E. M. Murphy

The recent publicity calling attention to the community the danger to both pedestrian and motorist brought about by shrubbery in the parkways has evidently caught the public fancy. According to Commissioner Swanson, his department is being deluged with complaints concerning obstructive bushes and trees.

The latest cases of offending shrubs emanate from the Braeside and South St. Johns areas, but on the whole the condition of shrubs which have definitely proved to be a serious traffic hazard are pretty well spread throughout the entire city.

To date, unfortunately, little has been accomplished towards correcting this acknowledged evil largely because the council has been in disagreement as to what department of the city government is invested with the responsibility of seeing that the shrubs are removed. Monday evening's meeting the "buck of responsibility was passed around as gingerly as the proverbial hotcake and at the end of thirty minutes discussion on the subject the council was still a considerable distance from coming to any definite conclusions on the matter.

Up to Monday night's meeting the street department has been catching all the grief attendant with the subject but at that session the commissioner of that department went definitely on record as refusing to accept the sole responsibility of correcting the shrubbery evil. He contended that the affair was strictly a council matter and that his department would only act when and if it was given definite instructions by the council acting as a unit.

Commissioner Gourley was of the opinion that complaints concerning obstructing shrubbery should be first routed through the Safety Commission and then turned over to the Police Department for action if that recourse failed.

Commissioner Sharp believed that the matter could best be adjusted through the various neighborhood associations. He stated that he would personally take up the complaints originating in the Braeside area with the Braeside association. Commissioner Sharp felt that the members of the community would be more willing to cooperate if the problem was treated strictly as a neighborhood affair.

Personally, this writer can't see the reason for making such a fuss about a comparatively simple matter. The facts of the case are this. There is a city ordinance prohibiting the placing of shrubbery in parkways in such a way that they obstruct the view of either pedestrian or automobile traffic. That is the law and as such it should be enforced. It is inconceivable that this ordinance should be treated any differently than dozens of others that are on the city's books.

The reason that certain members of the council are rather bashful about enforcing this ordinance as individuals is that they are adverse of incurring the wrath of some neighbor who has put the scenic beauty of his property before public safety.

Frankly, there has been too much of this business on the part of members of the community running to the council to get their friends on that body to intercede for them every time they get into trouble. That sort of thing smacks too much of big city politics and in a city the size and make up of Highland Park there should be no room for monkey business of this type.

From the standpoint of the individual members of the council it is hard to see why they should even tolerate the suggestion of going to bat for any neighbor who has stepped over the line. The worst that can happen is that they will make a few enemies that in the long run won't amount to anything, anyhow. Again, if it is their political future they are worrying about, we can't see why this factor should cut much ice either. The time and effort spent on running the affairs of Highland Park far exceeds the value of the small compensation attached to the job. To this writer's way of thinking they have everything to gain and nothing to lose by playing the shots as they lay.

From the remarks of Commissioner Sharp at Monday night's meeting it appears that not all of the city's scavengers are of a mood to fully cooperate with the city in living up to the rules and regulations covering their business. Mr. Sharp stated that two of the parties collecting refuse in Highland Park have not paid their license fee and from all intent and purposes

Calendar

Highland Park Events for Coming Week

THURSDAY, JUNE 19—

- 12:15—Highland Park Lions club meets in the Sunset Valley Country club.
- 7:15—Red Cross first aid class meets in the Highland Park YWCA.
- 7:30—Highland Park Boy Scout Troop 33 meets in Lincoln school.
- 8:00—Chess club meets in Community Center.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20—

- 4:00—Sunset Terrace Improvement association picnic in the Sunset subdivision.
- 7:30—Campbell Chapter No. 721 O.E.S. meets in Masonic Temple.
- 8:00—Highland Park Community Choral club presents concert at Elm Place school.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21—

- 9:00—Art Crafts club and Beginners' Airplane club meet in Community Center.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22—

- 9:00—Highland Park members of the North Shore Hiking club meet at corner of St. Johns and Central avenue.
- 8:00—Senator Burton K. Wheeler speaks for America First Committee, High school.

MONDAY, JUNE 23—

- 10:00—Highland Park volunteer production unit of the Red Cross meets in the parish home of Trinity Episcopal church.
- 12:15—Highland Park Rotary club meets in the Sunset Valley Country club.
- 2:00—The Highland Park Garden Guild meets in the home of Mrs. Ralph M. Cleary. Musart club, Highland Park, meets.
- 6:30—Highland Park Kiwanis club meets in the Sunset Valley Country club.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24—

- 9:00—Arts Crafts club for school boys and girls, Community Center.
- 10:00—Table Games club for school-age children, Community Center.
- 7:00—Hiland Planesmen meet in the Highland Park Community Center. Boy Scouts of Highland Park Troop 324 give beach party.
- 7:30—Highland Park Boy Scout Troop 30 meets in Elm Place school.
- 8:00—Community Choral club of Highland Park rehearse in Community Center. Philathea class of the Highland Park Bethany Evangelical church meets in the Dubbs Memorial room of the church.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25—

- 9:30—First aid class meets in the Highland Park Community Center.
- 7:15—Choir rehearsal in the Highland Park Presbyterian church.
- 8:00—Midweek services in the Highland Park First United Evangelical church, Bethany Evangelical church and First Church of Christ, Scientist.

do not intend to pay it. Commissioner Sharp in his statement to the council and to the press has delivered an ultimatum to the effect that unless the recalcitrants see fit to reform their ways and pay their license fees, the city will see to it that they will be put out of business.

From the tenor of Commissioner Sharp's remarks it would seem that the city has just about exhausted its patience in trying to work out an equitable agreement with the private scavenger collectors and is about ready to take over the operation of this duty itself. The refusal of some of the scavenger companies to toe the line has just been about the last straw. Unless they do a complete about face very shortly, it is this writer's opinion that Highland Park has seen the last of refuse collection by private scavengers.

Commissioner Swanson reports that he has encountered numerous complaints from plumbing concerns over the fee charged them for permission to tap in on the city's storm sewers. Commissioner Swanson pointed out that this fee goes to help defray the cost of Superintendent of Street, Alex Rafferty's salary. He stated that every time a permit is issued to tap in on the city's storm sewer system, Mr. Rafferty has to make anywhere from one to six trips to the site of the job.

At the suggestion of Commissioner Swanson, Mayor Ronan is calling a meeting of the Police Magistrates and Justices of the Police operating in the city, for the purpose of getting together with the council for an exchange of views on fines and penalties connected with violations of the various city ordinances.