

YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT: WHAT IT IS DOING

By Elmore M. Murphy

Monday evening of this week found all members of the council on hand to take part in that body's regularly scheduled session. Perhaps the most important note struck the whole evening was a short announcement by Commissioner Sharp stating that he was arranging a meeting between the city council and States Attorney Harry Hall on Thursday of this week to go over the local delinquent real estate tax situation with an eye towards taking definite steps to bring some of these long past due funds into the coffers of the various taxing bodies.

Commissioner Sharp's announcement was short and to the point but anyone who was present at Monday evening's meeting could not help but read between the lines and gain a clear idea of what is about to transpire. There is no doubt in this writer's mind that the time has come for talking to cease and action to begin. By the same score it behooves every delinquent real estate tax payer in Highland Park to scurry about and raise sufficient funds to give himself a clean bill of health when the collector comes knocking at his door.

As the old saying goes, forewarned is forearmed. Those who find themselves in arrears might as well start now in raising the necessary funds if they want to escape legal action. There will in all probability be a short period of grace before the axe begins to swing but if this writer is any judge of the temper of those in charge of this particular subject the period of moratorium will be minute at best.

Traffic Report

Another encouraging sign that action is beginning to replace mere words was found in the report of the Traffic Commission as read to the council by City Clerk Musser on Monday evening. This report, signed by the Commission's chairman, Edwin C. Gilroy, outlined the activities of the body during the past sixty days. Subjects that came up for investigation by the Commission and that were duly reported on included the following: 1. The School Patrol System; 2. The Removal of Obstructive Shrubby; 3. The Problem of Lights on Parked Vehicles; 4. The Bicycle Ordinance; 5. The Raising of Funds for Traffic Signs for the Business District and 6. Miscellaneous Subjects concerning Local Traffic Problems.

Cut Shrubby

As reported at the council meeting held last week, action on the removal of obstructive shrubby is scheduled to get under way on the first of November. Considerable work has also been done on the subject of school patrols. All in all, every indication points to the fact that the Traffic Commission is really getting under way in a highly satisfactory manner. The least that the rest of the citizens

of the community can do is to cooperate with it and its enforcing agency, the Police Department, in every way possible.

Leaf Raking

In his report Commissioner Swanson brought up a subject that is gradually becoming an annual headache to the Department of Streets and incidentally to the whole community. The fly in the ointment at the moment is the habit of certain members of the local citizenry of raking leaves off the parkway into the gutters and leaving them there to stop up the sewers or worse still to burn them in the streets and thereby injuring the paving surface. Commissioner Swanson states that he simply does not have enough men to keep the streets clear of piled up leaves. He also pointed out that there is an ordinance forbidding this practice.

After a short discussion Mayor Roman pledged the cooperation of the Police Department in seeing that this ordinance is enforced. Here again is an excellent opportunity for the astute home owner who has been violating this ordinance to change his ways before he finds himself telling his story to the Judge.

In discussing the subject of leaves clogging up the gutters, Commissioner Swanson paid tribute to the Police Department whose members on more than one occasion have stepped out of their prescribed roles to clear out leaf cluttered drains.

Adopt Resolution

At last Monday's council meeting the resolution leasing the ground to the Federal government for the new Servicemens' building which had been tabled the week previous, was officially adopted. The way is thus cleared for an immediate start on this important project. The terms of the lease call for a five year term with an option to renew it for another five year term.

The Country Club Estates subdivision petitioned the council for permission to construct a water main in that area to be supplied with water by the Lake Forest Water Department. After the council was assured by the subdividers that the city of Highland Park would be protected in every necessary manner, the petition was granted with the proviso that the main would be built according to the city's specifications and that the rate would be acceptable to the city's water department.

The coming skating season came in for its share of discussion when the council upon the request of Commissioner Gourley granted the Braeside and Ravinia skating committees permission to run inch and a half water lines off the city mains to further facilitate the flooding of their ponds.

Book Fair At Elm Place School November 10

The Hall of Pictures at Elm Place School will again feature an array of books suitable to all ages and tastes when the annual book fair is held the week of November 10 thru 14. Besides the mothers who always act as salesmen, students from the seventh and eighth grades will be on hand to help purchasers make selections.

Mrs. Horace Vaile is this year's chairman, with Mrs. Edward Loewenthal acting as co-chairman. Except for November 11, when school is closed, the Elm Place School Book Fair will be open daily from 9:00 to 12:00 Noon, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., and from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. All profits will go toward the school's library fund.

Service Men's Club Calendar

Highland Park U.S.O. Program
Nick T. Young, Executive Director

Saturday, November 1

Football game at High School Athletic Field—2 p. m.

Sunday, November 2

3:30 p. m. to 5:30 p. m. Fellowship Program featuring Marion Sanford & Mary Casarios.

Monday, November 3

Dance for 30 soldiers at Rebecca Lodge—21 North Sheridan Road.
Free Dance lessons at the U. S. O. Club.

Tuesday, November 4

8 p. m.—Mens Smoker at U. S. O. Club featuring "Winning Baseball" National league picture. Also meeting with American Legion men and Highland Park citizens.

G.S.O. meeting at Community Center.

Wednesday, November 6

Games Tournament night, featuring checkers and chess.

Thursday, November 8

8 p. m.—Soldiers Chorus.
8 p. m.—Deerfield Play "Milky Way."

Friday, November 7

8 p. m. to 11 p. m.—Dance for 60 men at Y. W. C. A.
8 p. m. to 11 p. m.—Dance for 75 men at U. S. O. Club (Chicago G.S.O. Chapter).

Mrs. James Frome, Richmond, Cal., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Emil Lauridsen, 374 North Avenue.

The Serbian Singers, under the direction of Nicholas Vasilieff, will present a concert Sunday evening, November 2 in the Winnetka auditorium. The concert is being sponsored by the North Shore Sunday evening club.

School Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

That the election will not be entirely uncontested is indicated by an editorial appearing in last week's issue of "The Lake Forester", under the heading of "Lake Forest's Position": "The Board of Education of Deerfield Shields Township High School which governs policies and operation of both Highland Park and Lake Forest High Schools has asked for an increase in the maximum tax rate for educational purposes. This increase is from \$1.00 to \$1.50 and if passed will make the maximum tax rate for the district \$1.87 1/2, as a 3 3/4 cent rate for building is also provided. Members of the board state that they will only levy and use that portion of the tax rate that is necessary to provide adequate educational facilities and to maintain the standards demanded by residents of this district."

"Here are some facts about Lake Forest and its share of taxes for the High School District. The reduced assessed valuation of Lake Forest (this includes Shields, Deerfield and West Deerfield townships) is \$11,728,099.00. The present tax rate is \$1.27. Applying tax rate to assessed valuation we find residents of Lake Forest paying \$148,946.85 to the High School District. The present appropriation of Lake Forest High School is \$131,995.00 so it appears that Lake Forest residents alone more than provide for the operation of Lake Forest High School, and Lake Bluff residents pay taxes also. Lake Bluff's assessed valuation is \$1,854,757.00, which, when the present rate is applied, shows that Lake Bluff residents pay \$23,554.41.

"The situation may be explained in this manner: Lake Forest and Lake Bluff residents pay approximately 40 per cent of the total revenue of the district, while the Lake Forest High School uses less than 33 per cent.

"The recent reductions in assessed valuation have done much toward equalizing the tax load, as for many years Lake Forest' share was well over 40 per cent and local young people attending High School numbered only about 200 in a group of more than 1,200, or 16 per cent of those attending.

"In summing up the situation we find Lake Forest and Lake Bluff faced with the problem of contributing toward the education of all High School children in the district, or making some effort to divide the district and provide only for Lake Forest and Lake Bluff children—the national and international view."

19 Soldiers Ate Supper In Local Homes Sunday

The Ravinia Women's Club and League of Women Voters extended invitations to nineteen soldiers last Sunday, through the Highland Park U. S. O. Home Hospitality Committee, for supper.

Persons who opened up their homes are as follows:

- Ravinia Womans Club
- Mrs. Richard F. Drake 2
- Mrs. Clifford Makelin 2
- Mrs. Frank Venning 3
- Mrs. Dr. I. M. Greenberg 2
- Mrs. Phillip Ringer 4
- League of Women Voters
- Mrs. Geo. B. Hart 2
- Mrs. M. A. Pollak 2
- Mrs. Paul Kuhn 2

Officers Re-Elected To Hospital Foundation

President J. Mills Easton, and all officers of the Highland Park Hospital foundation were re-elected for a year at the annual meeting held Monday night at the hospital.

Other officials are: H. Earl Hoover, Mrs. Roger S. Bail and Lewis H. Sinclair, vice presidents; Frank Selfridge, secretary and Herbert E. Holt, treasurer.

Mrs. Vail and Sinclair were re-elected assistant secretary and treasurer, respectively.

Highwood to Play Evanston Sunday

Held to a scoreless tie by Northbrook last weekend the strong Highwood football team hopes to return to winning ways against the Witte Hawks at Boltwood field, Evanston, Sunday. Game time is 2 p.m.

Last Sunday Highwood pushed Northbrook all over the field just failing to score several times. Coach Jim Bernardini attributes this to the lack of co-ordination which another week of practice should take care of.

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COME AND SEE US!

GUST

SERVING Breakfast Luncheon Dinner

Mrs. James A. Turner's Father Dies In Florida

Charles Frederick Mather-Smith, retired chairman of the board of Bradner, Smith and Co., Chicago paper manufacturers, died Monday at his estate, Edgegrove, in Oakland, Fla. He was 77 years old and a member of a Chicago pioneer family. He had lived in Florida for the last

35 years, but spent his summers in Highland Park. He was one of the founders of the Chicago Club and the Chicago Golf club near Wheaton.

Surviving are a son, Charles Mather-Smith II, Honolulu, T. M., and three daughters, Mrs. James Allen Turner, Highland Park, Mrs. Harry Clavin, Winnetka and Mrs. John Fishbeck, Honolulu. Private funeral services will be held in Florida.



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