



STRICTLY LOCAL

by IVAN N. ADAIR

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SPONTANEOUS PATRIOTISM

One night last week when soldiers from the fort were working far into the night, it became evident to some of our Highland Park people that in the rush of work, someone had overlooked the need for feeding the busy workers. It was inspiring to see how the members of the service clubs, Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis and American Legion rallied to the need, called in their wives and other Highland Park women, and saw to it that 75 gallons of coffee and over a thousand sandwiches were prepared and fed to the soldiers. Foodstuffs were contributed by our merchants. Nick Young of the Service Club was in the hospital, but the loyal workers at the club kept its doors open all night, so the soldiers had a place to get a hasty bite and absorb some much needed warmth. It is such spontaneous outpourings of sincerely patriotic effort that indicate the real feeling of Americans.

WRONG GUESSERS

Japan's vicious attack on Americans and American ships and air equipment had a twofold purpose; one was of course to attempt to take control of the Pacific; the other was to so daze the American people here in the states as to paralyze defense efforts and destroy morale. Yet, visiting Highland Park stores this week, one finds Christmas buying going ahead at an accelerated pace. Shoppers wear a look of holiday cheerfulness . . . yet we find a grim certainty, too, that the war can end in only one way. Civilians, appreciating the meaning of the word "morale," are conclusively demonstrating their awareness by following their accustomed pattern of living. This nation once won a war with the slogan, "Remember the Maine;" the Japs have now provided us with another which will ring down through the years, and eventually sound the death knell of the Japanese—"REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR." It is evident that Highland Parkers have refused to be dazed by the war, and it is equally apparent that following our usually Christmas buying habits is the best possible demonstration of a high standard of civilian morale.

THANK YOU, GIRL SCOUTS

Last week a sweet little girl dressed in the green uniform of the Girl Scouts came in to see us, bringing with her a great ribbon-tied evergreen wreath. She said it was made for The Press in appreciation for the help given to the Girl Scouts by this newspaper during 1941. We want to make public acknowledgement of the magnificent gift, but more, we want to repeat again that an organization with the high ideals of the Girl Scouts, imbued with a spirit of SERVICE, must continue to be great, and to build in the minds and hearts of our daughters a character that will endure while life lasts. Merry Christmas, Girl Scouts, and again, thank you for your nice wreath and for yourselves and your organization.

WRAP YOUR HEART AROUND A CHILD

The movement under way in Highland Park to see that each child in an institution or in a family unable to provide a suitable Christmas shall not be neglected gains headway as the Yuletide nears. Dozens of Highland Parkers have phoned Mrs. Flinn at the Social Service to obtain data to enable them to purchase a suitable gift for one child. Folks take these gifts home, write nice little cards to enclose, then wrap the gifts thoughtfully. Just imagine the thrill a child gets, opening a gift chosen, wrapped and addressed just for him alone! Add a child to your Christmas list, you bighearted folks, and thereby add a full measure of the Christmas spirit.

INVITE A SOLDIER HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

On Christmas Day, and all during the holidays, it is likely that most of the service men will be going through their period of quarantine at the fort, and will be unable to come to Highland Park. Nevertheless, there will be several hundred well trained men, instructors and permanent staff men, who will be on leave for Christmas, but whose time will be too short to allow them to visit their homes. These men will in spite of themselves be lonesome and disconsolate, unless we here in Highland Park see to it that they are given a chance to share the Christmas spirit in our homes. If you are willing to extend holiday hospitality to a service man, telephone the Service Mens Club.

But Little To Say

I couldn't relate the story well
Unless I'd practised more
An' I tell you folks just lately
My talkin's mighty pore
Frum the day he jined the army
Packed up an' went away
His Mother an' me's been thinkin'
Tho we've had but little to say.

Somewh in tryin' to tell it
It 'pears at ever note
Of what I'd like to mention
There's a chokin' round my throat
With a hesitatin' feelin' like
His Mother's had each day
Since he up an' jined the army
An' we've had but little to say.

Need him? 'Course they need him,
Says he—A million more,
A million more just like him.
Says he—"We'll lick 'em shore"
But our eyes were dimmed that
evenin'
When "How long, Son, will you
stay?"
Was asked him by his Mother
An' he had but little to say.

Yes, we've young ones in the fam-
ily
He was our oldest boy, you know.
"It's fer them," say he. "I'm fight-
in'
Wherever I'll be er go"
"Just tell 'em when they're older"
An' now "I'm gettin' away"
Says he to me an' Mother
An' we had but little to say.

We drove all day to see him
In about three weeks er so
To a place they called the barracks
Where he said he thot he'd go.
We found it. Fenced an' guarded,
His reg'ment marchin' away
Their flag at distance wavin' back,
An' there wasn't but little to say.

Since then, we've had no message.
Our Boy! With a million more,
A million more just like him
Are out to lick 'em shore.
An' the flag that's floatin' o'er 'em
Forever and a day
Will wave to end the story
An' we'll have but little to say.

Joe McElwain, Deerfield

Red Cross Call to Service



YOUR RED CROSS NEEDS YOU!

The dramatic poster by James Montgomery Flagg is the first war poster of the new World War. It is an appeal for a \$50,000,000 American war relief fund to feed, shelter, clothe and give medical aid to American men, women and children bombed by the enemy. It is an appeal for funds to provide comforts for our American Army and Navy, and for welfare work for our troops at home and abroad, and their families on the home front. President Roosevelt asks you to give. Your dollars will serve humanity. Give through your local Red Cross Chapter.

Mmes. Vail and Lackner H. P. Red Cross Chairmen of Women's Gift Division

Hold Music Festival Christmas Eve At Community Center

The Community Center music committee, in cooperation with the Highland Park Music Club, is sponsoring a Christmas Eve program at the Center, under the direction of Mrs. V. C. Musser.

The program, which will be continuous from 4 to 6, contains some of the best of our local talent, and is well balanced as to popular and classical numbers.

The program is as follows:

1. String Quartet—
Morton Raff, first violin
Bonnie Pfanstiel, second violin
Louis Lyman, viola
Robin Gourley, cello
2. Music Club Chorus, directed by
Mrs. Lawrence Meyer, in a group
of French carols.
3. June Whitworth, classical piano
numbers
4. Mrs. Milo Dressler, contralto—
Christmas songs.
5. Dan Cobb—Songs
6. Andy Jacobs, piano—modern clas-
sics
7. Gasmine Sesso—accordion
8. Arlene Abernathy—tap dance
9. Mrs. M. Lewis Goodkind, soprano—
French Christmas songs

This program will be interspersed with and followed by community singing of carols, and will be broadcast by loud speakers up and down Central Avenue.

Accompanying the community singing are Miss Marian Bard and Mrs. Jessie Wood Sincere.

All Highland Parkers and service men are invited to join in the good fellowship of this communal celebration. Wassail bowl and cookies will be served in the afternoon. At 6 the Service Club Mother's will serve coffee and sandwiches to service men. Christmas record will be broadcast from 6 to 7:30 from the center.

LIONS CLUB

Arthur Wolters, dean of boys and vice principal of the Highland Park High school, was guest speaker at the meeting of the Lions club Thursday. Luncheon was served at 12:15 at the Open House. Dr. Samuel Banfield and Ray Molend were in charge of the program.

Legion Plans Xmas Program; Ask Public Aid

The urgent need to give suitable care to Highland Park's needy families during the Christmas season, plus the certainty that a Christmas program will be required for service men, is responsible for the decision of the Dumeresq Spencer Post of the American Legion to carry on its usual holiday activities.

Advised by the Community Chest that failure to raise the chest quota this year would prevent allocating funds for the Christmas program, the Legion determined to take its case to the public, and the following letter was mailed to members of the post and to public-spirited citizens:

December 17, 1941

Dear Neighbor:

This letter is of news importance because it presents a matter of the utmost interest to all in Highland Park.

It looks as though Christmas cheer for the needy of our city will have to be curtailed, if not entirely eliminated this year, because of very unfortunate circumstances.

As you probably know the American Legion for several years has administered a \$400 Christmas fund which has always been included in the Community Chest budget. As many as 500 children have received warm clothes, toys and some of the good things that make Christmas what it is. This work is done by the Legion in behalf of the Social Service agency without one penny of overhead expense.

This year as usual the Legion Christmas activity was included in the published list of Community Chest beneficiaries. When the Social Service pointed to the fact that many needy families still existed and the needs of thousands of our service men in our midst became evident, we knew we had an important job to do. Our plans were made accordingly.

In a letter from Chest officials received December 12th, it was stated that it will be necessary to withdraw the community Christmas benefit allocation. This economy step, it is stated, has been forced by the inability of the Chest to raise its full quota of \$50,000.

The Legion shares the regret of Chest officers that such a small amount as \$400 cannot be made available for the needy and our service men. We know that you too will feel a sense of disappointment.

But we hope it is not too late to adopt emergency measures. If you will join that group which never lets a worthy cause down, by making a modest donation quickly, you can help us keep faith with our community.

Yours in the Spirit of Christmas,
Harry E. Eichler, Commander
P. S. Make checks payable to Raymond L. Erskine, Treasurer, and mail to Community Christmas Fund, First National Bank, Highland Park.

Xmas Mails

Extra clerks have been put on at the local post office, so that there will be little waiting at the windows.

The Highland Park Post Office will be open evenings every week day until Christmas, Saturday afternoon until 6 p.m. and Sunday afternoon until 5 p.m. for the accommodation of those who wish to buy stamps and mail Christmas parcels and cards.

Sunday, there will be a delivery of gift parcels and on Christmas Day, all Christmas parcels received will be delivered.

Defense stamps may be bought at the post office at all times. Albums for saving Defense stamps are free. They come in denominations of 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00 and \$5.00. The albums are so arranged that when full, they may be exchanged at the post office for Defense Bonds, which bear 2.9% interest, may be cashed after 60 days and reach maturity (face) value in 10 years. Both the Defense stamps and bonds make ideal Christmas presents this year.

Daniel L. Cobb,
Postmaster

ROTARY CLUB

Colonel Frederick C. Rogers, Post Commander at Fort Sheridan, addressed members of the Highland Park Rotary club at their weekly luncheon-meeting Monday, held at Hotel-Moraine-On-The-Lake. Edward Menke was in charge of the program. Members of the Deerfield-Northbrook and Glencoe Rotary Clubs were guests of the local club.

Fellowship Chairman Howard Moran is in charge of the Christmas party meeting next week.

Service Club Dedication December 22

Construction is being pushed in Highland Park, on the USO recreation building, in order that soldiers and sailors from Fort Sheridan, and the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, may be able to enjoy Christmas in the new center.

Lieut. D. C. Lamoreaux, officer in charge of construction of the Highland Park and Highwood USO recreation centers, from construction division of the Quartermaster Corps, said that work on the new structures would be completed by December 22, 1941.

Lieut. Lamoreaux stated that the Highland Park USO recreation building is being completed in record breaking time. The project was turned over to the United States Army September 30, 1941, and since that time bids, plans, specifications and construction have been accomplished.

A program for the flag raising ceremony is being prepared to take place at 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. December 22, 1941. Officers, enlisted men from the United States Army and the Navy, and prominent local people will be present.

The recreation center was constructed to comfortably seat four hundred people in the auditorium, which has been wired for sound movies, broadcasting and amplification of phonograph music and contains a large stage.

Spacious lounges, club rooms, ladies' powder rooms, check rooms, offices, soda bars and kitchens, shower rooms, locker rooms, have been provided for the convenience of the service men at the center, Lieut. Lamoreaux stated.

Highland Park Civilian Defense Plans to Be Announced January 1

Following a meeting of all mayors and chiefs of police of cities within a 50 mile radius of Chicago, held last week, plans are being formulated by Mayor Frank J. Ronan and the city commissioners to launch a civilian defense program in Highland Park.

Details of the project will not be released until January 1, according to Mayor Ronan, who is ex-officio chairman of the local defense body. This will combine every organization in the city. In the meantime he is gathering plans, specifications and instructions, to serve as an organization guide, and midnight oil is being burned in the city hall these December evenings. The last detail will be worked out when the civilian defense plan is released.

"This program," Mayor Ronan emphasized in a preliminary statement following his return from the Chicago meeting, "is simply a form of life insurance dictated by common sense to protect ourselves "in the clutches" what with possible saboteurs and fifth columnists in this area.

"In the meantime the finest thing we can do to demonstrate our confidence and high morale is to carry on in the spirit of the Christmas season. Let us keep business rolling by doing our normal Christmas shopping. Our merchants deserve our fullest support. "Nothing can nonplus the enemy so much as an overwhelming demonstration that the American public is unafraid."

SANTA SAYS



Press Staff Photo

Only six more shopping
days before Christmas